

Hall of Flame

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News



Museum Receives Donation of a Perfectly Restored 1977 American La France Century Series Fire Engine



Early in 2016 the Worthington family of Saint Charles, Illinois donated a fully restored 1977 American La France Century Series fire engine to the Hall of Flame. The rig was purchased in 2000 by Mr. Michael Worthington, a newly retired executive who in his youth had been the fire chief of a Small North Carolina town, and now wanted to acquire his own fire engine. He purchased the rig from the South El-

gin, Illinois Fire Department and invested over \$150,000 for a frame up restoration. Completed in 2003, Mr. Worthington drove the engine at local events and parades. Mr. Worthington died in 2015. He asked for the engine to be donated to the Hall of Flame. It has been on display at the museum since February of 2016. It is the most modern rig in the collection.

Hall of Flame

The Century Series was arguably the best engine built by American La France in its long history. Based on the cab forward design that revolutionized fire apparatus in the 1940s, the Century Series took advantage of improvements in design with the 700, 800, 900 and 1000 models that preceded it. The Century Series has a complete suite of accessories and cutting edge equipment. It uses a 1,500 gallon per minute American La France single stage pump, a 350 horse power Detroit Diesel V-8 diesel motor, an Allison automatic four speed

transmission, a 750 gallon booster tank, aluminum ladders, 6 inch hard suction hoses, 6 hose outlets, a Federal Q siren, American La France bell, a Stang deluge gun, searchlights, and room for 3,000 feet of 2 ½, 1 ½ and 1 inch hose. The South Elgin Fire Department paid \$80,000 in 1977 for the 40,000 pound rig.

Mr. Worthington fully equipped the rig with a complement of tools, air tanks, an exhaust fan, hose and fire extinguishers.



The rig sports a complete set of lights, including the Chicago style of red and green lenses, a Mars Light, Federal Q siren, bell, soft suction with front suction fitting, and Michelin radial tires.

The engineer panel is completely restored. The wheels, panel and running board and accessory box are chrome plated. Even the tips of the suction hoses are chrome plated.



Crown Firecoach Restored, on Exhibit

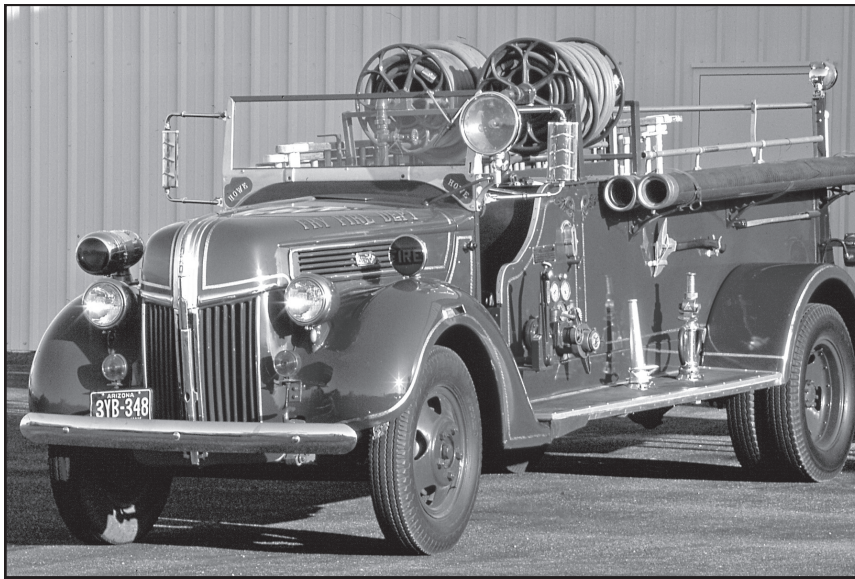


In 2013 retired LA County firefighter Dave Barron donated a 1972 Crown Firecoach triple combination fire engine used for over twenty years by the fire department of the City of Orange, California. Dave's father, a City of Orange firefighter, drove the rig for twenty years. Dave purchased the truck and drove it to his home in Arizona. At the museum the rig was repainted and many of the accessories as well as the bumper were rechromed. The Cummins 380 Horse-

power diesel motor is in excellent condition, as is the Waterous 1500 gallon per minute pump and 400 gallon water tank.

Crown apparatus are almost as highly sought by collectors as Ahrens Fox rigs. During its production years from 1954 to 1987 the vast majority of rigs in California were Crowns.

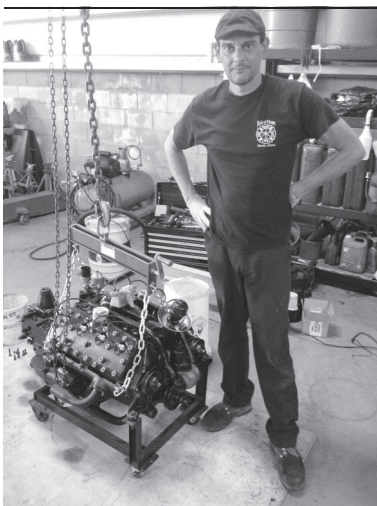
1941 Ford / Howe Fire Engine Gets a New Motor



As his last project for the Museum before moving to Mexico, contract mechanic Pablo Garcia rebuilt a 1941 Ford flathead V-8 motor from the study collection, removed the 1964 Ford Thunderbird V-8 motor from the museum's 1941 Ford/Howe fire engine, and installed it in the Ford. The project involved a new radiator, water pumps, alternator, belts, and an entirely new electrical system. The museum acquired the engine from the fire department of Sierra Vista, Arizona in 1988 and used it for demonstrations, parades, and other events until about three years ago, when the Ford Thun-

derbird engine, installed around 1975, totally failed. The rig was built by Howe on a Ford chassis as part of a contract for several hundred engines for the Navy and Marine Corps in World War II and sold as surplus to Sierra Vista.

As the photos at the right and below show, it was a major job for Pablo. By early 2016 the job was done, and the Ford is back on the road.



Left: the engine is finally reassembled, with new valves, valve guides, pistons, rings, oil pump, and distributor. Pablo also rebuilt the clutch and transmission.



Right: ready for install.

1910 Brush Chief's Car Returns to Exhibit

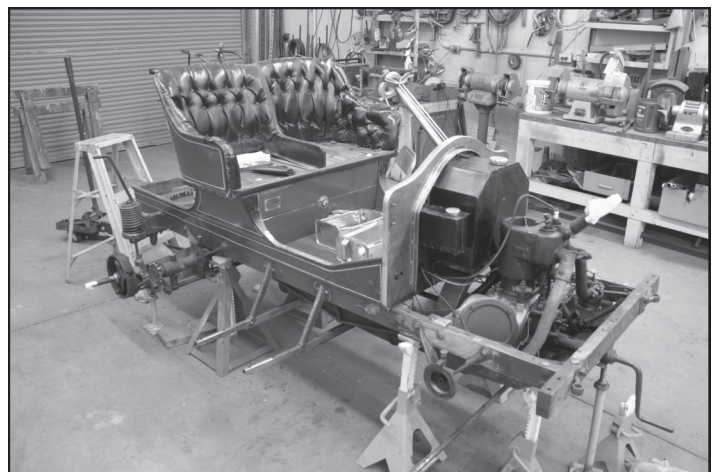
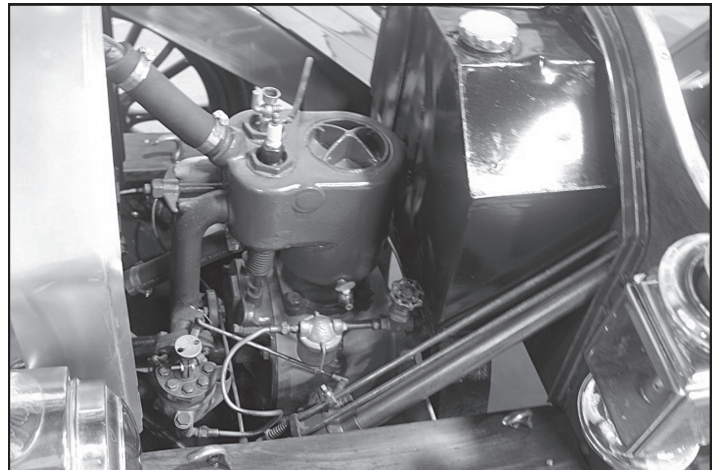
The Hall of Flame's only automobile, a 1910 Brush Runabout once used by the Chief of the Owensville, Indiana VFD, was returned to permanent exhibit in Gallery 2 after an absence of over three years. The museum's Restorer, Don Hale, began its disassembly and preparation for painting, but his declining health made it impossible to continue with the project. Following Don's death in early 2016 the museum's mechanic, Pablo Garcia, made the necessary mechanical repairs and re-assembled the car. Local restorer Barry Norman



trailed the car to his shop and began its transformation to its original color. Brush painted all of its cars with the same color by year of manufacture. Our Brush was built in 1910, when all of the cars were painted a deep red, almost maroon. Since it was the Chief's private vehicle it was not lettered or striped. Consequently it has received no striping or lettering. In June it was returned to the exhibit floor.

Pablo and Barry overhauled the car's single cylinder gasoline engine. It lacks an oil pump, water pump and starter and is built on a wooden frame with wooden axles. It uses dampers instead of shock absorbers. Despite these drawbacks the car starts easily and dries its chain driven rear sprockets at up to ten miles per hour, although the gravity fed oil system generates a fair amount of smoke. Brush built over 10,000 of its runabouts between 1908 and 1912. The minimalist design kept manufacturing costs low and allowed the car to function well for local driving, although a Brush was driven by two boys from New York City to Oklahoma city as a publicity stunt.

Our Brush was retired in the 1920s when the Chief bought a Model T. The museum acquired it in 1965.



Over a Thousand Visitors Attend 2016 Open House

The annual Open House was a great success, with over a thousand visitors. Rigs from fire departments all over the Valley were available for boarding, as well as a life flight helicopter. Phoenix firefighters helped kids to play a line onto the museum's burning house target. Museum volunteers manned four Hall of Flame pumpers and provided rides for hundreds of visitors. Inside the museum there were games, rides, face painting, a silent auction, and visits with the Tonto National Forest's Smokey Bear. Firefighters from Luke Air Force Base showed kids how to use a fire extinguisher.

The entire event was planned and carried out by the Hall of Flame volunteers.



Engraved Bricks Now Available for Display in the Hall of Heroes



The Museum is offering individuals the opportunity to purchase a brick engraved with the name of an individual which will be placed in the floor of the National Firefighting Hall of Heroes, as shown in the photograph at the left. Over a hundred bricks are now in place with the names of firefighters, Hall of Flame members, friends of the Hall of Flame, and Hall of Flame volunteers and staff members.

Each brick costs \$100, which includes up to three lines of text. Revenue is applied to the costs of operating the Hall of Heroes. They are available by calling the museum and placing an order paid for by credit card.

Thanks for your membership support!

New and Renewed Members

Associate Members — \$25

Troy Blevins	Edwin Lammel
William Clarke III	Dell Lindstrom
Alvin Cooper Jr.	Vic Massenkoff
John Gebert	Melvin Musson
Andy Fish	Sam Ramirez
Charles Goddard	William Page
Harland Gove	Don Stankevich

Black Helmet Brigade — \$60

Norman Arend	Pam Merryman
Steve Buettner	Peter Munro
Dennis Cheney	Stephanie Nuttall
Charles Dahlberg	Bernard Punte
Jim Daub	Richard Reinard
William Davidson	Tad Robins
Paula Franklin	Paul Rostan
Roger Freely	Philip Taska
James Johnson	Norman Trela
John Kohlman	Magdalena Warecka
Ron Maciejewski	Eric J. Wieser
Joseph MackInday	Roma Wittcoff

Red Helmet Brigade — \$100

Paul Abe	Paul Latimer
Lawrence Bohling	F. Richard Leininger
Skip Carney	Conrad Marcione
Steve Cloutier	Don Marsh
Michael Dillon	Fred Mills
Thomas Elliott	Earl Moy
Thomas Etter	Alan Nielsen
Gordon Fowler	Neil O'Brien
Gene Gehrt	Dean Pedrotti
Eve Gerome DVM	Thomas Steely
Don Grejczyk	Michael Stemmler
Ellen Hand	Gary Thurston
Joe Hinkle	Jonathan Umbdenstock
David Jasie	John Van Dyke
Lydia Kolsch	Morgan Wuertz

White Helmet Brigade — \$250

Diane Eckstein	Patrick McDonald
Steve Rossi	

Contributing - \$500

Peter M. Molloy

Benefactor — \$1,000 — \$5,000

Jeff Trevas	Rhett Butler
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Life Member — \$3,000

Battalion Chief Thad Dahl
 Ron Saeger
 The Trail of Painted Ponies
 Captain James "Curly" Kirkpatrick

Family Members — \$35

Amy Hamper	Don Pipho
Crystal Hancock	Albert Poinsett
Dawn Hand	Kim Pruden
Nathan Harrison	Lawrence Quinn
R. Hayball	Dennis Rapata
John Hedberg	Charlie Robinson
Jane Held	Darin Rogers
Stephanie Henry	Philip Saba
David Hinds	Elye Sackmory
Brian Hirsch	Vivian Sarsam
Mark Hodge	Brian Scott
Charles Holbert II	Paige Shevid
Keshet House	Honor Siemann
Rae Anne Hsu	Michelle Smith
Tim Irwin	Christopher Smith
Christopher Johnson	Keiko Smith
Rachel Kolb	Jennifer Smith
Howard Kravetz	Roslyn Solky
Betty Lambert	Chelsy Soperstein
James Leiferman	Larry Sunday
Ben Lomo	Ernesto Tanori
Iris Lucas	Jennifer Thinnis
Kelly Luo	John Torkelson
Samantha Lupascu	David Travis
Mary Mancuso	Kate Tuey
Kurt Manke	Kimberly Vanatta
Jessica Mann	Jessica Vega
Stacy Mannari	Gianni Vishteh
Reza Mansouri	Floyd Webb
Sara Mayfield	Warner Weber
William McIlvaine	Joanne Werner
Kimberly McMullin	Suzanne Wild
Mark Molnau	Greg Wilkins
Diane Nogalo	Michael Willard
Tanner Norrus	Liz Wilson
Patricia Odgren	Kelly Wood
Robert Olesrud	Nanouka Woods
Keiko Onaka	Jerry Worthington
Patti Jo Oren—O'Loughlin	Amber Wutich
Kammy Pany	Kalen Young
Jeffrey Pence	Pete Zoulek
Jennifer Perkes	
Ed Philpott	

Fire Professionals — \$60

Murray Aldrich	Mike Henning	Edward Pensinger
James Baird	Dennis Hoffman	Larry Peterson
James Barrett	Steven Howard	Norbe Puroll
Thomas Bascom	Juergen Karheiding	Bill Ridge
Timothy Bingham	Martin Kennedy	Robert Schoff
Steve Buettner	Jim Kilmartin	Mark Skrainar
Joshua Charry	Robert Kneivitt	Gilbert Strawn
Robert Davidson	Josh Kovalsky	Norman Taylor
Jim Detzler	Robert Krowl	Matthew Toba
William Dickey	Terrence LaFrance	Ken Toftoy
Clayton Dillahunt	David Laurie	Edward Tuffy
Thomas Dryfhout	Andrew Lyman	Barry Van Trojen
Shannon Fehlberg	Susie Manezes	Carl Weber
Carl Fox	Joey Manubasan	Roma Wittcoff
Greg Fuentes	Charles McConnell	Joseph Yemma
Al Gray	George Moore	Brian Yox
John Greenstreet	Robert Morgan	
Timothy Hellyer	Earl Moy	

♣ MUSEUM STAFF ♣

Executive Director	Dr. Peter Molloy
Curator Education	Mark Moorhead
Docent	Grace Deutsch
Librarian	Leslie Marshall
Office Manager	Jennifer Towers
Volunteer Captain	Richard Stuve

♣ OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS ♣

President	George F. Getz
Vice President	Bert A. Getz
Vice President	Lynn Getz
Vice President	Bert Getz, Jr.
Treasurer, Secy.	Michael J. Olsen
Director	James L. Johnson
Director	Rhett Butler

The Hall of Flame is operated by the National Historical Fire Foundation.

The Hall of Flame is in the Phoenix Papago Park, across Van Buren Street from the Phoenix Zoo.

The museum is open Monday through Saturday from 9 to 5, and on Sundays from Noon to 4.

♣ HALL OF FLAME VOLUNTEERS ♣

Joe Abrams	Joe Hinkle	Owen Ricker
Joe Bakas	Jay Iocone	Ray Ritchotte
George Batsche	Mark Kauffman	Edward Rostrom
Gary Bohling	Richard Landon	Douglas Smith
Bob Bowers	Ron Martin	Ian Seivwright
Zack Correll	Thomas McLinden	Jeff Steinbeck
Craig Christman	Bob McNulty	Richard Stuve
George Dall	Rich & Vicki Mellinger	Larry Taggart
Ron & Grace Deutsch	Peter Mortensen	Tom Thacker
Kerri Deutsch	Andrew Mortensen	Louise Thornton
Karen Ferek	Larry Peterson	
Ralph Glasmann	Paul E. Reichenbach	

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Contributions to the National Historical Fire Foundation are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



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