

# The PLAYPIPE

The newsletter of Pompier, Pump and Playpipe Society of Indiana, the Indiana chapter of SPAAMFAA.

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## Stutz Update

### part II

Woodard owns a 1920 Stutz, former Pumper 22, Car No. 135; while Beuhler owns former Pumper 25, Car No. 146, a 1921, and Shepherd owns former Pumper 7, Car No. 184, also a 1921. When they were rebuilt by the fire department shop mechanics installed crown fenders and narrow hoods. Circa 1937 Diamond-T grills were attached to the radiators. They ride on 20-inch tires, compared to the original 24-inch tires. Woodard has removed the grill from his Stutz.

An Ellettsville, Ind. woman owns Pumper 24, Car No. 136. A Bloomington man purchased the 1921 Stutz from IFD in 1956. It has been in a state of restoration for several years. Phi Kappa Alpha at Cincinnati University bought Pumper 20, Car No. 137, for it's Brookline Volunteer Fire Department from Indianapolis in 1959. The pumper served at Stations 20, 14, 15, 9 and 16 before being assigned to reserve status in 1955. It was taken out of reserve in 1956 and stationed at Engine House 13 as a floodlight wagon. The fraternity eventually sold it Keith Ewart of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. Ewart has it stored in Moose Jaw, Canada.

Pumper 19 is in Tacoma, Wash., in the vehicle collection of Harold LeMay. It was one of many pieces of apparatus auctioned several years ago from a vehicle collection in Michigan. Designated Car No 144, this 600-gpm pumper was first assigned in 1921 to Station 19. It was reassigned to Engine House 20 on the city' near east-side in 1938. The city closed Station 20 in 1942 and Car 144 was housed in Station 12 alongside Pumper 12. In 1944 Pumper 20 collided with a car on a slippery east side street. The accident fatally injured two firefighters and injured a mechanic. Car 144 was repaired and returned to quarters. A Hercules engine also was installed in 1944. It was transferred to reserve in 1948 and in 1955 it became Hose Tender 11 and designated Reserve 8. It was traded into Parker GMC Feb. 2, 1962.

IFD Pumper 5 was the lowest numbered Stutz in the Indianapolis fleet, Car No. 122. It has an interesting

history. Car No. 122 went in service Dec. 9, 1920, at Station 5 located on 15th Street between Illinois Street and Capitol Avenue, a half block north of the Stutz Fire Engine plant. After 15 years, the 750-GPM pumper was reassigned to Station 2 at 16th and Roosevelt where it served until 1948. Then it was reassigned to Station 9 in Haughville. Former Pumper 5 was transferred to Reserve status Sept. 9, 1955 at 9:15 p.m. as a Hose Tender at Station 12.

When new, it was powered by a six-cylinder Wisconsin T-head engine and rode on 24-inch wood spoke artillery wheels with pneumatic tires. When Car No. 122 was sold to Mr. (Chuck) Van Hook for \$300 at Five Points Ind. in Morgan County on Nov. 1, 1957, it had 24-inch steel disc wheels and was powered by a huge Hercules HXE six-cylinder engine. Mr. Van Hook purchased the engine for the Madison Township Volunteer Fire Department. Russ Lambert, (*PPPSI member*) a founding member of MTVFD, has a photograph of this Stutz as it pumped from his lake shortly after it was purchased. Lambert also has the cancelled \$300 check from MTVFD to the Indianapolis Fire Department. Since there were no fire hydrants in the township, the volunteers installed a large water tank in the hose bed. Madison Township used the pumper until 1962 when it was replaced by a new Boyer-Midwest on an International chassis. The Stutz took on a third firefighting career at the Bridgeton Fire Department in Parke County. Bridgeton paid \$500 for the Stutz. After several years of service at Bridgeton, the engine was purchased by an Indianapolis demolition contractor. He paraded it along with a Stutz city service truck, ex-IFD Ladder 18. The contractor eventually put the pumper and ladder truck up for auction. The ladder truck ended up for a time behind an auto auction barn on Indianapolis' southeast-side. The building was hit by a multiple alarm fire in 1977. Arriving Warren Township firefighters discovered the old ladder truck had been first in on the box. It was seen in recent years

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I would like to take a second and thank Jeff for setting up the meeting and tour at the Kokomo Automotive heritage Museum. I was really impressed that he also managed to get a car show

scheduled for the day we were there! I want to thank all of you who took the time to drive to Kokomo. We had a good time and saw some nice vehicles. The museum has several nice rigs. While at the meeting Mike Nelson volunteered to take over our website, seeing as our current Webmaster has too many irons in the fire yet again. Mike's help will be greatly appreciated.

By now you should have received your muster flyers. I would like to thank Drew for printing them. The Birchfields and Arlinda and Noah for all their help in folding. And the Storeys for the labeling and mailing, this was a great effort. We lost a week when the postal service did not deliver the first set of negs to Drew for printing, but the flyers are out now for all to see.

Pike Township Fire has contacted Rob about the possibility of PPPSI participating in their Fire Safety day again, of course it is in September also. We might have

to discuss a strategic splitting of our forces to cover some of these events in September.

Rodger, Justin, and I went to Tom Beard's to see his recently acquired Baby Stutz and to move his Wisconsin engine off a trailer Tom's son made and put it in the barn. The Baby Stutz is in pieces because the previous owner had started a restoration 25 years ago then quit. It was fun to watch Rodger and Tom go through all the boxes figuring out what went where. Of course, moving 1100 pounds of Wisconsin engine was no fun, but we got it done.

On the way to Tom's we met Rob McCune at the Carmel Buff's Fire Station for a tour of his latest acquisitions. Some neat rigs are here and Rob has offered the station as a place for a meeting if we are interested, it would give many of you a chance to see some new and interesting apparatus.

The rain has finally quit and my ground is drying out, it's time to start moving fire trucks around and get them running.

See you in June!

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## Looking Back

by Historian Jack Finney

**5 years ago**, June 1997: The upcoming IVFA parade was discussed. Several members took apparatus to Anderson for the Little 500 Festival. The annual Firefighters and EMS Personnel Picnic, which had been scheduled for July 13th at Wayne Township, has been canceled. We will still try to have our muster on that date.

**10 years ago**, June 1992: Details of our upcoming muster were discussed. A vendor from the Chicago area has contacted us about setting up at the muster site. There was much discussion about what to do with all of the apparatus currently stored in the barn near the airport. It is feared that the airport will be needing the property soon and we will need a place to move the apparatus to.

**15 years ago**, June 1987: It was reported that Attorney Dean Barnhart is assisting in our quest for tax exempt status. Bruce Neal told of an auction of fire apparatus held in Osgood. The club voted to buy a quarter page ad in the national convention booklet. Upcoming events include a Fireman's Festival to be held in Oldenburg and the International Association of Fire Chiefs Convention in Indianapolis.

**20 years ago**, June 1982: We only held meetings in January, April, July and September of this year.

**25 years ago**, Though our club was founded in 1975, I have very little information about meetings that occurred in these early years. If anyone has minutes or any other information about meetings that were held in the first five years of our existence, please contact me or the editor.



behind a body shop in Hancock County. Old Pumper 5 was auctioned to a Morgan County man who returned it to Madison Township and parked it beside his pay fishing lake. He later stored it in a barn after selling the lake property. Several years later Car No. 122 was found by Lambert and Madison Township EMT Heather (Birchfield) Coburn in a field behind the barn when they responded with a rescue squad for an injured man. After months of discussion, the engine was purchased by the author in 1989. After Pumper 5 was rescued from the field, Lambert spent several months putting it running order. The next year it made it's first parade, rust and all, in nearby Mooresville.

Another 750 GPM Stutz surfaced in 1998. Car No. 131, Pumper 17, had been stored in a barn near Van Wert, Ohio, for an unknown number of years. The owners donated the pumper to Indianapolis Firefighters Local 416 for its museum. The union later sold it to PPPSI member Terry Sheedy.

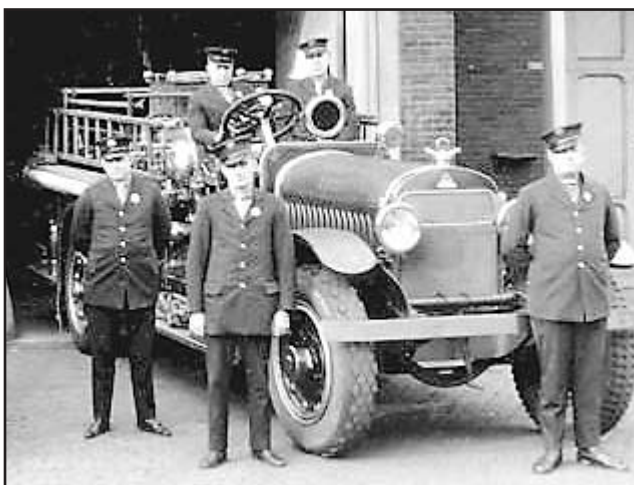
Two former Indianapolis city service trucks are owned by Johnny Dennis of Florence, Ala. Dennis called several years ago doing research on a ladder truck he acquired in Tennessee. After checking the engine and serial numbers it was determine the truck had been assigned as Indianapolis Hook & Ladder 7 at IFD headquarters when new. Several calls later, Dennis was told another Stutz, Hook & Ladder 29, was in neighboring Georgia. Two weeks later Dennis called and proudly announced he had two Stutz service trucks.

In late 1992, the Sayville Fire Department on Long Island in New York had acquired IFD Ladder 27 from a vehicle collector at Cape Hatteras in the Carolinas. The collector once resided in Sayville and donated the truck to the fire department after he was told he would have to move away from the waters of Cape Hatteras for health reasons. When Ladder 27 was retired by IFD, it was sold to an Indianapolis family. After a couple of years, it was sold to a local auto dealer. The collector from Cape Hatteras saw it when he passed through town and bought it. When he donated it to Sayville, he

stipulated the Stutz was to be returned to Indianapolis when the Sayville department decided to dispose of it. After parading the ladder truck for a couple of years, it was sold to Indianapolis Firefighters Local 416 where it is on display in the local's museum.

Les McConnell, (*PPPSI member*) a Lawrence volunteer firefighter, and career firefighter at Grissom AFB, owns IFD Ladder 25. IFD gave it to the city parks department who in turn donated it to the Indianapolis Children's Museum. The museum gave it to the Indiana Transportation Museum at Noblesville where McConnell, also a railroad buff, acquired the truck.

As you can tell Rodger has spent many hours doing research on these magnificent machines of a bygone era. I applaud his work. Now if we can get his book published...



Pumper 5 in 1926.



Pumper 5 in 2001.



Pumper 7 at Fire Headquarters in 1926.



Pumper 12 in 1926.



Pumper 17 in 1926



Pumper and Truck 18 in 1926



Station 19 in 1926.

# April Meeting Minutes

submitted by Secretary Arlinda Rollins

Our May meeting was held at the Automotive Heritage Museum in Kokomo, Indiana. We had a bonus that day, as the weather was terrific, and there was a car show in the parking lot. The people were fantastic, and invited us to come back any time, which I'm sure we will. In order to allow members time to get to the meeting we took a guided tour first. We had a great tour of the facility, where there are many vintage Haynes and Apperson Automobiles, as well as a variety of other antique cars - and even a few vintage fire trucks!

The meeting was called to order at 3:45p.m.

The order of business was suspended in order to make a motion that the club pay admission into museum. Motion was made seconded and passed. We then went back to regular business.

## Treasurers Report:

Russ gave report. Motion was made and seconded to accept Treasurers report. Motion passed.

## Old Business:

Terry brought up membership cards. Everyone was in agreement that it was a good idea. We will be working on the concept.

## New Business:

Tom Beard has announced the arrival of his new baby Stutz, a 1924 from New Jersey. Rodger told us about a Stutz from Nampa, IA that was in a park for 30 years. It was to be restored. They went to the park, put a battery and gas in it, and were able to DRIVE it back to the station! It is currently under restoration.

Mike Nelson has offered to help us with the website. Thank you Mike!!!

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00p.m.

## POMPIER, PUMP AND PLAYPIPE SOCIETY OF INDIANA

### OFFICERS FOR 2002

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VICE PRESIDENT-JEFF HENRY

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PLAYPIPE EDITOR-SCOTT ROLLINS

HISTORIAN-JACK FINNEY

MUSTER CO-CHAIR-CLYDE PFISTERER

MUSTER CO-CHAIR-MARK STOREY

# CLASSIFIEDS

1957 Seagrave Anniversary series open cab pumper. ex-Midlothian, Illinois. Has a V-12 that does not run, but engine will turn over. 750 pump, 500 gallon tank. Decent truck but needs full restoration. Promise it a good home and its yours for \$500.00. call 574-233-3627 or e-mail stonegates@netnitco.net



For Sale: 1968 Maxim pumper. Diesel w/ Auto trans, 750 gpm pump, 500 gal. tank, 30 gal. foam tank, Comes with everything, but airpicks and extinguishers. Asking \$4000. Pumper is ex Long Hill, CT. Contact Brian Leonard by pager 812-828-1547 or home phone 812-879-4835



1980 GMC Topkick Heavy Rescue with light tower, has a 454 gas engine with automatic transmission. Ex-Indianapolis International Airport Fire Dept. Asking \$4000. Contact Brian Leonard by pager 812-828-1547 or home phone 812-879-4835

American LaFrance Pioneer pumper originally from Anderson. Pumper is diesel with automatic transmission. Asking \$1500. Contact Pat McGinley for more information. 765-482-3152



1940 LaFrance Foamite with open cab. 100' ladder, sirens, hoses. Powered by a 440 c.i. Dodge engine and has a 5 speed manual trans. The truck was manufactured in Toronto, Ontario, and was in service in Cookstown, Ontario. Was appraised for \$20,000. I would be glad to answer any questions you have. Contact Blayne Creed tollfree at 1-866-234-2343 or e-mail blayne@autoforum.com



1958 ALF 700 series open cab 85' aerial. Detroit diesel with 5 speed manual trans, power steering, and air brakes. New ladder and engine in 1985. asking \$5000. Contact Steve Gibson at 812-473-6448 or e-mail at stevegibson36@hotmail.com

1956 ALF 700 series Quint with 65' ladder and 750gpm (pump disconnected) has a 903 Cummins diesel engine and automatic trans. 85% life on tires. Excellent brakes and ladder operates very smoothly. Cruises at 52 m.p.h. Asking \$3000. Contact Jeff Henry at 317-341-4350.



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## Upcoming meetings and events

**June 5th** at Wayne Twp. Fire Headquarters at  
2:00 p.m.

**July 7th** at Wayne Twp. Fire Headquarters at  
2:00 p.m.

**July 19th & 20th** our MUSTER at WTFD.

## Rig of the month



I thought you might enjoy another of member Paul McGrevy's Stutz pictures again this month.