

The PLAYPIPE

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

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South Bend Muster a Success

by Dan Bernth

After a year and a half of deliberating it was finally decided to hold a muster in South Bend. With only three weeks actual planning and cold weather upon us, we were able to gather 11 rigs on October 6, 2002. This is the first of what we in South Bend hope will be the north sub-chapter of PPPSI's annual musters. The muster was held at the South Bend Fire Department Headquarters. It was held in conjunction with their open house and kicking off fire prevention week. Some familiar trucks showed up, along with a few seldom seen rigs from local collectors. We hope by starting a sub-chapter to get more people out and enjoying their apparatus.

The day went quite smoothly and the weather cooperated as well as could be expected. It was cool and a little windy but the sun peaked through fairly often to keep us warm. I would like to thank PPPSI members Tom Beard of Lebanon, Phil Griffith of Valparaiso, and Rod Norton from Hebron for going that extra mile(s) and travelling to see us in South Bend. With a little more planning and an earlier show date I hope to see some of our other members in 2003.

As mentioned, South Bend Fire Department held their open house at the same time. They had a nice display of rigs out for the public to view. Rescue 1 had a "Jaws of Life" demonstration on a junk car. Also on hand was the fire safety house teaching kids and adults how to safely evacuate their homes during a fire. That was a big hit and something to consider trying to bring out during other musters.

Also involved in the muster was the St. Joseph County Firefighters Heritage Foundation. The founders of this organization are very enthused about our old rigs and have vowed to help us hold at least one muster next year, with maybe a few smaller pump-ins or other events along the way. There are many details to work out, but we hope to hold a muster in 2003 in South Bend tentatively in the end of June. We are looking for a more suitable location that will allow drafting and act as a better scenic backdrop for the photography buffs among us.

I would personally like to thank everyone that attended the muster. The event was planned very last minute and the enthusiasm and interest showed by all was quite

sive and much appreciated. On a side note, those of you who know me know my neighbors don't quite understand me or my fascination with fire apparatus. I really wonder what they thought when in my yard after the muster were 5 pieces of apparatus. That may not be a big thing to some of you but I live almost right in the heart of the city and don't have much room to spread out. They must have thought either my house was on fire or I have finally lost it. The joke is on them because my house is still standing and I lost it years ago!

In holding this muster I had two objectives; first and foremost was to have fun, in talking to those in attendance I believe this was accomplished. Second was safety, this has been a big issue to me ever since the Syracuse incident. No trucks fell over, no gas pumps were knocked over, no one dropped 200 feet of hose on the highway, and no trees were harmed during the muster. If that doesn't say success I don't know what does.

Thanks again everyone and we hope to see you all back in 2003.



Bryan Albright brought Liberty Twp. Fire Department's ex-IFD 1920 ALF.



1928 Studebaker/Boyer from the Studebaker National Museum.



South Bend Fire Department's Rescue 1

More South Bend muster pictures on page 3

Hope Muster story and pictures on page 4



Greetings!!

I trust you all had an enjoyable late summer and are looking forward to snow and cold weather, I know I am and no, I am not being sarcastic I do enjoy winter (much to Arlinda's chagrin).

Not really much to comment on this month; we have two good articles on the musters in Hope and South Bend. Thanks to Dan, Bruce, and Nancy for the articles. Thanks also to Rodger and Bruce for pictures.

I need to appoint a committee to work on our by-laws. As you

read Dan's article on South Bend's Muster you can see he has a good nucleus of interested people for a northern region of PPSI. The Old Dominion Historical Fire Society has divided their club into regions (5 total) and have had great success. I have contacted their President for more information on this process and hope to have their by-laws to use for guidance in this area.

Russ is ready to start collecting for ~~the fishing trip in Arkansas~~ 2003 dues. These are due by March 2003.

Remember, November is when we nominate officers please try to attend.

I have started our 2003 calendar, but I have no muster dates to put in yet, HELP!!

Pompier, Pump & Playpipe Society of Indiana

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Tidbits

I got the following from Shirl recently:

Remember that fireman I said I met in Costa Rica last February? I sent him a copy of the July "Playpipe" since my fire engine was in it. He just sent me a note and articles about their new fire engine (made in Finland!). Anyway, he'd like me to keep sending him Playpipes and also said he would like to exchange stickers, patches, buckles, buttons and t-shirts. Today I went off and got patches for him (and me) from Purdue, West Lafayette, Lafayette and Battleground (I gave them a copy of the writeup). I wondered if any of the club members would have (or have access to) patches or whatever for him (me, too, if they can get two of them!).

and this from Ruth Dougherty:

You're aware that some large cars were turned into fire engines. One example was the Pierce-Arrow fire engines in Minneapolis. Another example is described by John Sudlow, now deceased, in an undated letter to Jim Dougherty.

"I ran down what I had about the 'Duesie' fire truck, so here it is: Had a chat 2-3 years ago with this fellow from California about cars, and he said there was a Duesenberg fire truck in Jacksonville, Oregon, just a small town west of Medford. That is all the address he wrote down, but he had seen the outfit. Jim, you will need to take it from there, but he more or less gave me the impression it was still in the fire dept. I looked on the map, and it is just north of the California line."



South Bend Muster pictures



Battalion Chief Al Kirsits'
Seagrave.



Troy Kerchove's Bickle/Seagrave.



Phil Griffith's Seagrave Quad.



Rick Herzberg's 1964 ALF.

South Bend Fire also showed off several of their rigs as well.



SBFD Medic 14.



SBFD Haz Mat response vehicle.



SBFD Tower 1.



SBFD Engine 1.

Hope Muster deemed a success

by Bruce & Nancy Neal

After a seven year lay off a fire apparatus muster was once again part of the annual Hope Heritage Days celebration.

Muster officials were pleased with 13 rigs, a fire apparatus model display, a firematic book vendor and a large selection of fire service items for sale by a local department that had just cleaned out their "junk" room in attendance.

In past drafting and Quick Alarm competition were a big part of our musters. This year only three units attempted drafting with Pete Walsh's 1960 Darley Ford the only rig to accomplish it. No one even tried the Quick Alarm competition.

Rodger and Justin Birchfield were our appearance award judges for the apparatus. We had awards for three classes and the results were:

From 1929 to 1947:

1st 1946 Queen City Fire Apparatus/Ford, Hope FD.

2nd 1929 Ford/Boyer Chemical ex-Crawfordsville (Alan Homsher).

3rd 1947 ALF ex-Madison #2s (Keith Herbert).

From 1958 to 1965:

1st 1958 Maxim ex-Columbus FD.

2nd 1958 Mack (Gary Hyde).

3rd 1965 ex-IFD Maxim (Dave Burton).

From 1968 to 1980:

1st 1980 EX Gosport F.D. Super Vac Light Truck (Scott Rollins).

2nd 1968 AM General 6x6 (Tom Beard).

3rd 1980 Grumman/Ford Scipio FD.

The long distance award went to the 1929 Boyer/Ford Chemical and Hope FD's 1968 Peter Pirsch Quint took the Best Ladder Truck award.

Many thanks to all that attended and special thanks to Jeff Ryder, "Captain" John Kreig, and David Howell for their support and help in making this event possible.



Models on display. Note ladder truck is modeled after Bunker Hill aerial owned by Ruth Dougherty.



Hope FD's 1946 Queen City Fire Apparatus/Ford



Pictured above is Hope FD's 1968 Peter Pirsch Quint.



Line up at Hope. There are six different manufacturers represented in this row.

October Meeting Minutes

CLASSIFIEDS

There was not a true October meeting due to the tour at Grissom. While a Treasurers Report was read, no club business was conducted.

MX 7000 Lightbar
Twinsonic Lightbar
5" and 6" steamer caps
Fire hose, 2 1/2" and 1 1/2" available.
Fire Hydrants \$75.00
Federal Q Siren \$650.00 For more info contact Dave Burton @ 317-826-4894 or e-mail burton49@iquest.net

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



1946 ALF 100 foot ladder truck. Original owner was Gary, IN F.D. I am the 3rd owner. Purchased truck 2 years ago with over 90 percent original equipment still on truck. All ground ladders, tools, hoses, nozzles, all stay with truck. Ladder extends to 100 feet. Truck runs well. Have invested \$7,000. Will sell for \$6,000. Losing storage. Contact: Mark Storey 765-674-8936 or E-mail: mstorey303@aol.com



1962 ALF 900 series closed cab pumper. 1250 gpm pump, 1000 gallon tank. 603 Continental gas V-8, manual trans. runs and pumps good. Very nicely equipped and in nice shape. Minor rust, good tires and 2 year old batteries. \$4000 or best offer. Contact Dan Bernth at 574-340-5882 or e-mail stonegates@netnitco.net Pictures available by request.



Federal light bar, no siren, all lights work. \$75 or best offer.
Contact Dan Bernth 574-340-5882 or email stonegates@netnitco.net



Your dues for 2003 are now being collected.

I'm willing to take \$2,500 for the Walter if anyone is interested. I'll entertain any offer.

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1964 International/Central Fire Apparatus pumper. Odometer shows only 21,871 actual miles. Equipped with a 549 gas engine, linked to a 5&2 transmission along with hydraulic brakes (just rebuilt master cylinder). Federal Q, Twin Sonic light bar, original Motorola radio set still operational, Unity work lights on all 4 corners, new tail pipe and muffler, 40' aluminum triple and a 14' roof ladder, 1 fiberglass pike pole 12', 2-10' sections of 2 1/2" and 2-10 sections of 5" hard suction, 2 enclosed booster reels with 100' of red line each, 750 gallon steel tank and a 750 Waterous pump with an electric pump shift and an auxiliary pump for pump and roll. I have not pumped this truck. I will throw in 600' of 2&1/2" line. Dimensions are as follows: 24' long, 9' high and 8' wide.

Pump had three brass lines split from improper drainage over the years before it came to me. All have been repaired but too cold to pump now. Gas gauge only reads 1/2 full when all the way topped off. Exhaust manifold leaks on right side. I will throw in a free set of new gaskets. For more info contact Rob McCune 317-844-0441 or e-mail theprepshop@aol.com



1946 International KB5 Fire Truck, Rare Belt driven Piston Pumper, Good Solid Truck in white primer. Needs Complete Restoration, in primer, new switch, engine turns over. \$1300 Contact Tom Beard 765-325-2682 or e-mail tbeard@qserve.net



1946 Seagrave Extended Cab Fire Truck with V12 Engine, Ex Troy, New Hampshire. Wood extension ladder, siren, beacon light, hard suction. Great parade vehicle with good seating in back. Original Seagrave paperwork and manuals included. Asking \$3000. Contact Tom Beard 765-325-2682 or e-mail tbeard@qserve.net



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Upcoming meetings and events

November 3rd Meeting at Wayne Twp fire Headquarters at 2:00 p.m. Nominations of officers for 2003 will be held.

December 1st Meeting at Wayne Twp fire Headquarters at 2:00 p.m. Election of officers for 2003.

Rig of the Month



Pictured above is Bob Elliot's 1935 International from Concord Township Fire Department in Michigan. Concord Fire bought it from a junkyard in 1970. In the ensuing years Concord Fire worked on restoring the pumper finally losing interest and selling it to Bob last November so they could get a tanker.