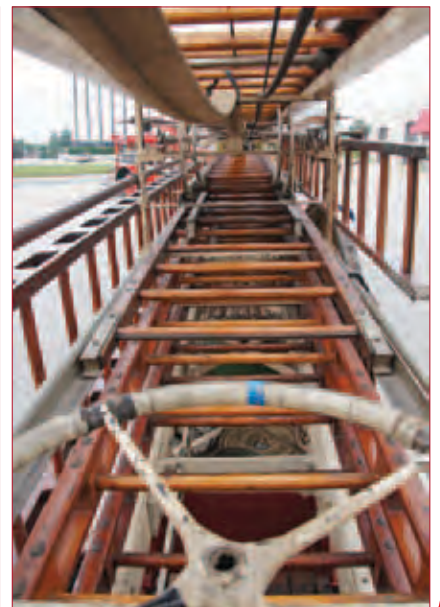


FIRE MUSEUM WATCHDESK

Annual Review 2015



Collecting • Preserving • Educating • Interpreting



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

I am pleased to be writing about our many activities at the FMM since October 2014 when the last 'annual review' was published. In many ways we were busier this year taking portions of the rolling vehicle collection to parades, movies and musters. We are still awed by the success of the newly re-vamped Fire Alarm Office (please allow us "curatorial types" to do this as it took eleven years to bring it fruition). We also updated our Fire Alarm Office demonstration to make it more interesting and interactive for our visitors. Once again, Santa and the holiday train garden were great hits. Finally, the year-end fund raising campaign was most successful.

So we steamed into 2015 with all banners flying, except that Rob Williams, our Assistant Director, had to take an early retirement. He is enjoying his new boat selling company. The Board & I changed the job description and hired two more staff to fill Rob's position. I'll introduce them later. Over the summer the weekday duty officer, Lauren Held, completely re-designed our Web site, and I invite you to visit us at <http://www.firemuseummd.org> you to visit there. So now it is time for me to stop writing

and let you look through the pictures. I'd like to thank photographers Lee Smith, Dennis Crawford, David Ruby, Tom Heaver, Lauren Held and our staff photographer Sabrina Raymond.



This gorgeous door mural in the Special Exhibits Room was painted by Lindsey Mack, a graduate of Maryland Institute College of Art.

The entire room was a gift of the Leidy Foundation, Hugh McCormick and the Whiting-Turner Construction Co.

F.L.1 To Shine Again!

by Alex Guerrieri, Assistant Curator

One of the more unique pieces in the Museum's collection is a 1947 Mack Flood Light Wagon. Used by the Baltimore City Fire Department from 1947 until 1984, FL1 uses two separate engines. The first provides power to the vehicle, while the second spins a generator which provides electricity to power 6 large spotlights on the roof, as well as 12 outlets and several

extension cords. The Museum's mechanic, Brian Fiedler, spent several weeks this past spring working on the fuel gauge and the rear axle assembly, including replacing the wheel bearings. Previous repairs to the wheel bearings had been done incorrectly, and Brian did a commendable job getting everything straightened out.



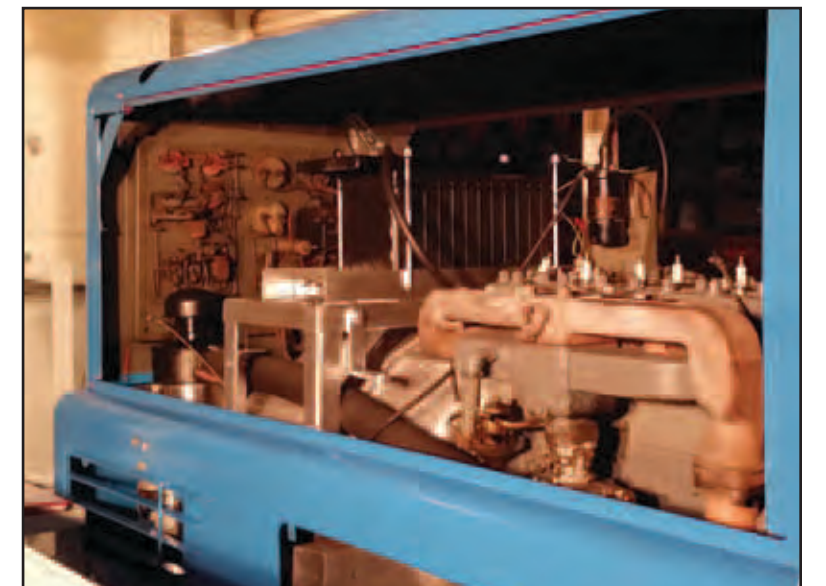
L: Brian works on the fuel gauge sending unit.



R: The generating engine as Brian found it.

The next obstacle to be tackled on FL1 was the generating engine. A 6-cylinder Continental, it sits in a cradle behind the cab and turns a 25kW Onan generator. Several mechanics had started to take it apart over several years, and you can imagine how easy it was for Brian to find all of the pieces and figure out how they all fit together! After a fair amount of head scratching, Brian decided that it would be easier to remove the Continental entirely and work on it in the Museum's shop, where he would have better light, better access to all sides, and not have to worry as much about creating a mess. With some clever jacking and tricky angles, Brian was able to remove the engine and generator assembly from the rear of the Flood Light Wagon and set it up on jack stands in one of our work bays this past winter.

Several months of disassembly, cleaning,



Above: The generating engine as it looks today.



L: Sandblasting the cradle assembly.

While the engine was out, we also decided to clean up the interior where the engine and generator sit. After a long day of soap, water, and scrubbing, we determined we should have everything sandblasted instead. Due to the years of oil, grit, and grime that had built up on the floor of the rear platform, even the best degreaser was having a tough time making any significant headway. So the cradle was removed and the whole contraption sandblasted clean. After the sandblasting, the cradle was reinstalled, the engine and generator reattached to the cradle, and soon (fingers crossed!) FL1 will be able to light up the scene once again!

We hope to have the Flood Light Wagon available for event rentals by the end of the year; if you are interested in having a very unique piece of history at your next event, contact the museum for more details.

oiling, and reassembly followed. We had some difficulties sourcing replacement parts, but once that was complete the engine was reassembled and repainted, and the generator was looked over to ensure that it was in good working condition.



John LaCosta guided all of the electrical aspects of the generator and distribution system.



Alex is trying not to paint his shadow! All of the original colors were found and duplicated.

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

JOIN THE HOLLOWAY LEGACY SOCIETY!

Help us plan for the future of the Fire Museum by leaving cash or property to the Museum. Your lawyer can make a Codicil to your Will making your intent known to help the Fire Museum of Maryland. Such gifts can offset estate taxes and ease the burden on survivors. We are available to discuss ideas.



Staff Wish List

- Two refrigerators
- Multi-media projector
- 42" +/- flat screen TV
- 6' folding table
- 1,500 w. light bulb with mogul base

JOIN US! A member of the Fire Museum receives:

- Unlimited admission for one full year, including our annual members-only pizza party and the Christmas train garden)
- 10% discount on all museum shop purchases
- \$10 discount on all birthday parties and rentals

FAMILY: \$75

(includes 2 parents or 2 grandparents and children/grandchildren under age 18)

HOURS: Saturdays throughout the year: 10-4

Wednesdays - Saturdays, June-July-August: 10-4

For more membership information, visit us at www.firemuseummd.org
Your membership dues will help strengthen our educational programs and activities.

JOIN TODAY! You'll be glad you did!



Annual Events

Every February we continue the tradition of offering a coach and walking tour of the Great Fire Burnt District. Wayne Schaumburg (seen below wearing a white baseball cap) starts us off with a slideshow and talk of the origin, scope, and impact of the fire that changed Baltimore forever. We continue by taking our coach bus downtown and tracing the progress of this devastating disaster that wiped out the entire financial district of Baltimore on February 7 & 8, 1904.

This fire was notable for the testing of steel and concrete construction methods, which better survived the fire. Consequently, massive changes were made to Baltimore City, including burying electric wires under the street, separating the drain water from the sewage, and widening the streets.

The tour returns to the Fire Museum for warm cider and a talk by curator Heaver about the vehicles used in American fire departments at the turn of the twentieth century.





FAMILY FIRE SAFETY DAY

In March, we present 'Family Fire Safety Day,' a free-admission event graciously sponsored by Fireline Corp., New York Life Insurance, and The Citizens of Baltimore County. It is a popular event for us, with greater attendance every year. We teach our visitors everything from how to properly use a fire extinguisher, to finger printing, to making an escape plan. Last year the Central Alarmers served hot dogs and hot chocolate, and Lutherville Volunteer Fire Co. demonstrated breathing apparatus.

Vendors may arrange for a display table by contacting the Museum.



STEAM DAY

Our Annual Steam Day, the 38th in 2015, and Crusin' For Our Heroes, are our two major outdoor operating extravaganzas. These events showcase our collections in a way that demonstrates how the earlier machines were used. The Museum's venerable 1899 American steam pumping engine not only pumps water during the show but supplies steam to the model table. Modellers are always welcome.



Rides are provided on an 1898 horse-drawn hose wagon, handdrawn and operated pumping engines are demonstrated, and you'll also see hose reels and other devices brought by friends such as Frank Tremel, Frank Schmersal and Lou Klepitch.





This photo shows staff members Tom Colleran and Gary Hartner setting up for the Members' Night event just outside of the Discovery Room. Rides are offered, weather permitting, on our 1935 Stutz engine.

Next to Tom is a popular American-LaFrance engine, built in 1941. By this time, two-stage centrifugal pumps and V-12 engines had become standard. Note the new hand tool exhibit on the wall behind Tom.sedan.

Bill McCartin is explaining the difference between horse shoes. Sometimes rubber shoes were worn on city streets to give the horses better traction. Staff members love to talk to visitors because learning is a twoway street. There are six continuously running movies/videos that will bring your imagination up to speed any time that the Museum is open to the public.



Some of the working collection can be taken off-site for events. We took the c.1880 Gleason & Bailey hand engine to the Chesapeake Antique Fire Apparatus Association show in Westminster, and the War of 1812 Commemoration at Fort Howard. The 1922 Ahrens-Fox was trucked to New Jersey in 2014 and Harrisburg in 2015 for fire apparatus musters.

Financial gifts are always welcome to support the maintenance program required to keep our vehicles in safe working condition. A special fund has been set up for this purpose. Please call Steve Heaver at ext.101.

Capturing Memories of the Fire

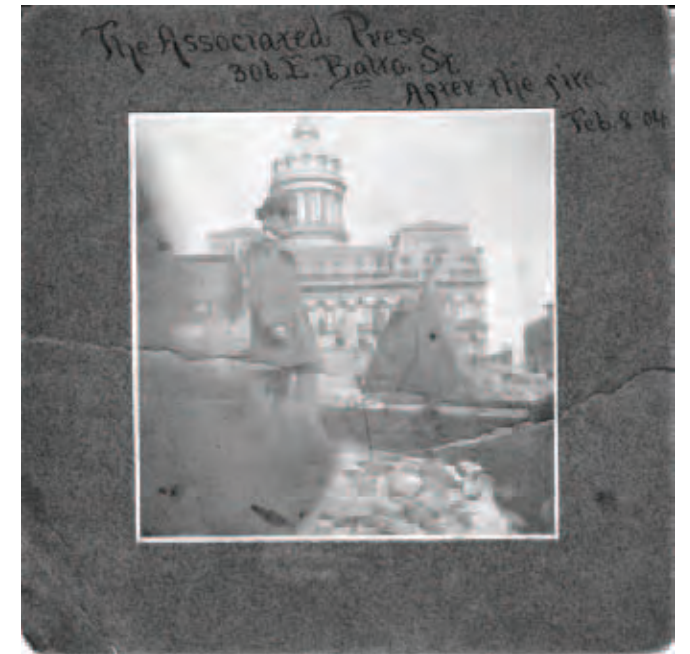
by Melissa Marsh Heaver, Research Director & Registrar

During the year, the Fire Museum received a number of photographs that related to the 1904 Fire. Because of the Museum's interest in collecting materials from that event, the Staff are therefore able to tell a more personal and in-depth history of the Fire. Many of the images we have received come from the descendants of those who were alive at the time of the Fire, the old Baltimore Sun newspaper photo archives, and from collectors, who are fascinated with the Fire.

The first of these images shows the southern wing of City Hall with a man in a bowler hat standing on a pile of rubble. Written in ink on the mat is "The Associated Press, 306 E. Baltimore St., After the Fire- Feb. 8, 1904."

The image was donated to the Museum by Aileen O'Meara who had found it in a box of pictures belonging to her grandmother, Hazel Gibson Krepp (1888-1975). Mrs. O'Meara let us know that there were no other photos of the Fire in her grandmother's things. Therefore, we can only guess why she had it.

One of the more interesting bits about the photo is the image of the man in front. After looking at maps and street directories, and comparing City Hall to the image, the photograph was taken looking at the southern wing of City Hall. We have not been able to identify the gentleman standing on the pile of rubble in front, but think he may be a member of the AP staff. Colonel A.B. Cunningham managed the Baltimore office, while Ralph A. Lyon was chief operator. Other staff included : Guion P. Wilson, Frank C. Cook, A.M. Frankenberg, H.G. Siegman and J.W. Fitzpatrick. Thanks to the Archives of the Associated Press in New York, we were able to gather more information about the AP office here in Baltimore but, unfortunately were unable to identify the man in the picture. One of those puzzles that takes a while to solve.



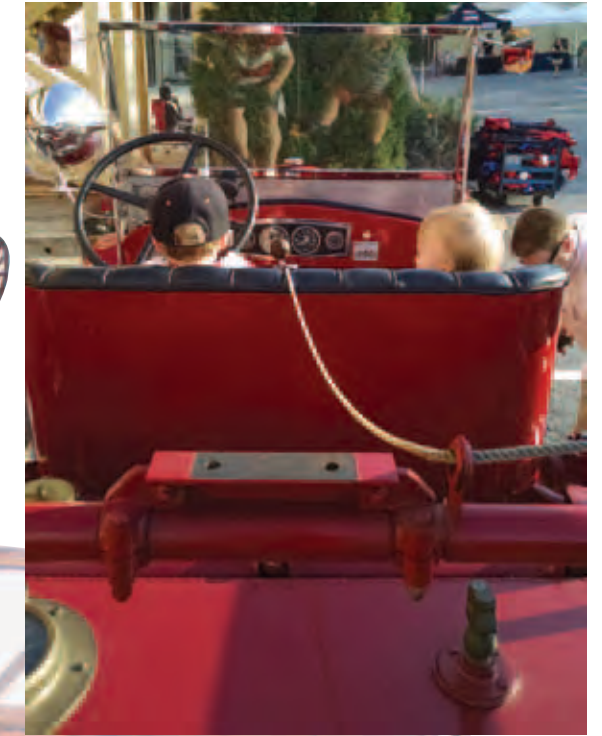
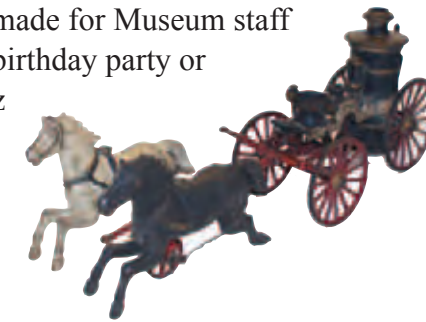
The second photo is a stereoview of BCFD's Engine #15-1 after the collapse of the John E. Hurst Building at the beginning of the 1904 Fire. It shows Chief August Emrich to left with mustache; Written on left side: "Sold Only by Universal View Co., Philadelphia, PA & Lawrence, KS"; on right side: "William H. Rau Publisher, Philadelphia, PA"; at bottom: "Engine 15, Deserted during collapse of Hurst Building, Beginning of Baltimore Fire". Stereoviews were a way to document the Fire, as well as serve as a

souvenir, which could then be sold to people interested in the Fire. The stereoview was actually 2 prints, each of which were angled to depict left-eye and right-eye views of the same scene. When put in a special viewer, one single three-dimensional image was seen.



Ahrens-Fox of Cincinnati specialized in making motor pumping cars with piston pumps. This technology was closest to what fire fighters had known for two hundred years. It was the most efficient machine but it was also the most complicated to make. The Museum's 1922 Fox is seen here pumping at the Harrisburg Fire Museum in June. l to r: Alex Guerrieri, Dennis Crawford, Steve Heaver.

Teaching fire safety to children is part of what we do, including actions to take if they themselves are on fire. Some of this seriousness is balanced by dressing up as a firefighter, and playing in the Discovery Room. Arrangements can also be made for Museum staff to bring an engine to your birthday party or other event. The 1935 Stutz (pictured right) and the 1949 Mack are especially set up for this purpose.



2016's Annual Cleaning Day will be the 27th of February. Anyone interested in helping as we polish and spiff up the exhibits is encouraged to contact us. We'd love to have your help! Contact Alex Guerrieri at ext.106. Pictured here is our 1908 Hayes ladder, Gary and Trey. Volunteers work every Tuesday night, and new recruits are always welcome.



Cleaning the operating model steamer, made by James H. Lockheart.



We did more 'runs' this year than ever before, trying to let people know that the Fire Museum is a great place to visit or have a party. The 1935 Stutz is shown here along with Alex, Brownie and Dennis (seated). This rig is the one that we turn out most frequently. It saw service at Havre deGrace, Md. as E5. The Shilling family pulled it out of the weeds and started its restoration. Steve Heaver, Sr. bought it from them and the restoration was finished by staff here. Funds for this work came from the sale of a 1929 Seagrave Model F.

This photo shows a ca.1880 Gleason & Bailey recently given to the FMM by Dennis Fulton and re-valved by our staff to operating condition. Visitors help docents make leather hose with copper rivets; a technique just introduced in 1807 in Philadelphia.



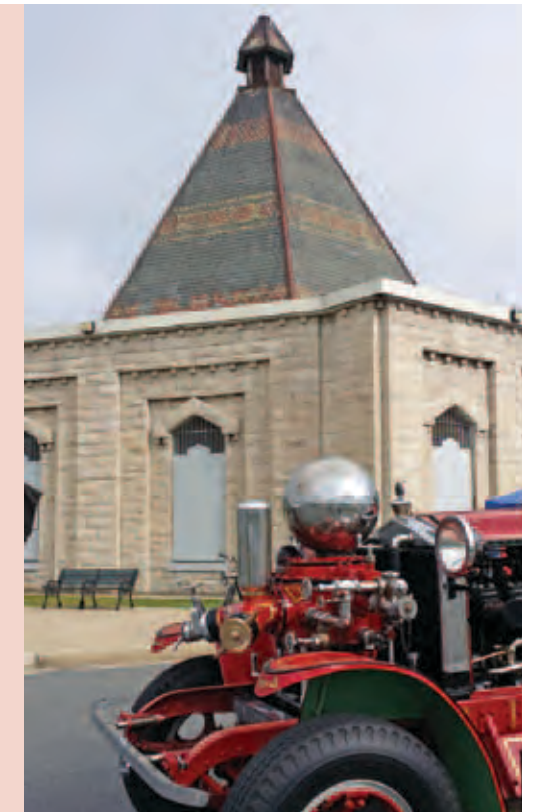
CRUISIN' FOR OUR HEROES

Although we were largely rained out this year, the second Saturday in September has become the other pillar of the muster season (the first Sat. in May being the first). For seven years the staff refurbished the 1916 Mack bulldog, turning it back to its 1925 appearance. Since 2010 (when it was featured in the newsletter) new rubber tires were put on (money from the sale of the 1929 Seagrave) and the wheels decorated (gifts from Scott Ruhl and Ken Soderbeck). Last year the magneto was rebuilt and a new water pump impeller (a gift from Gary Mahan) installed. Next we must acid clean the engine cylinder heads. Want to help?

The day of the muster, the plan was to showcase E23 and its 1918 mate. Some pictures were captured before the rain commenced. We thank the Baltimore County Sheriff for making this show possible. The Citizens of Baltimore County also helped, as did many of our apparatus and car friends who brought their rigs out in the inclement weather. Shown at lower left is Jim Melia, putting his 1964 American LaFrance pumper into service.



Montebello Water Treatment plant celebrated its 100th anniversary on the 19th of September and we were invited to take E23 (1916 Mack). Due to overheating problems yet unresolved, we drove down E7 (1922 Ahrens-Fox) and set up two displays on the High Pressure Service. The building to the left roof is the 1880 Valve House. Pictured above, from l to r: Steve Heaver, Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Dennis Crawford, and Lee Smith.



COLLECTIONS

Objects are what museums display. Objects are what you come to see! No objects---no museum. The Hamms kerosene lantern is much rarer than the Dietz 'Fire King' lantern. With the custom stamping of the American F.E.Co., we are proud to display this on our 1898 American combination wagon. It is on loan by a staff member.



The Gamewell oval fire alarm box is undergoing restoration by John Palese and you can see the outer door covered in paint stripper. Once a replica brass number plate is installed and the door and shell painted a carmine red, it will be wired and placed in service. The inside is being painted a Gamewell red.

The City Fire Department puts on a 'Thrill Show' each October at their Training Academy to teach fire safety and show off some techniques that fire fighters use. Last year we drove our 1949 Mack 3-door sedan cab pumper to help out.



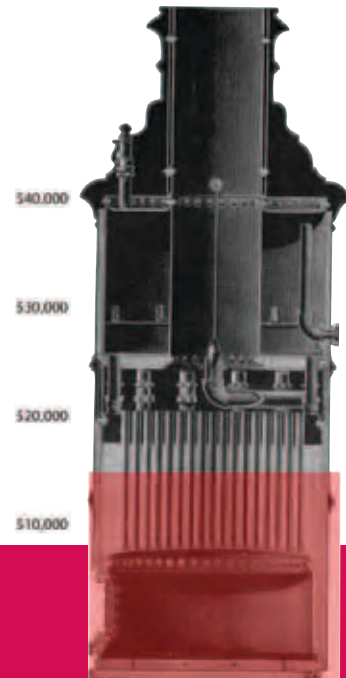
LANTERN NIGHT

Lantern Night is a unique event at the Fire Museum. Every year in late October the electric lights that usually illuminate our collection are replaced with something a little more special. Candles are lit in decorative etched glass lanterns. Spotlights are hidden below and within pieces of apparatus. This creates the appearance of having traveled back in time to see the pieces as they would have looked when in service. Over 20 volunteers in period attire add to the immersive experience. They lend a new interpretation. Visitors in costume are admitted at half price. Join us for this one-of-a-kind event!



Help us raise money to replace our boiler. Your gift is tax deductible.

The 1899 steamer, 500 g.p.m. pump with its 1916 replacement boiler, now needs another replacement: one with thicker walls and welded seams. Brian Fanslau has been selected to perform the work (seen to the left) and we're hoping to be back in service by Steam Day in 2017. We need about \$35,000 for the boiler and grates. Any extra money will go into the steam engine maintenance fund. We hope that you will help by sending a check or visiting the Museum's web site, URL below, and clicking on the 'Donate' button. Steam Day 2016 will go on as usual; we already have some special machines planned.



The water level in the drawing shows the amount that we've raised as of Oct. 1, 2015.



2016 Special Events Save the Dates!

- Feb. 7 - Great Baltimore Fire Coach Tour**
- Mar. 5 - Family Fire Safety - Free Admission**
- May 7 - 39th Annual Steam Show**
- May 20 - Members Only Night**
- July 9 - Antique Car Show**
- Sept. 10 - "Cruisin' For Our Heroes"**
- Oct. 29 - Lantern Night**
- Nov. 11 - Fall Members Night (new!)**
- Nov. 26 - Holiday Train Garden Open**

Public Hours: Saturdays, 10am—4pm, all year! EXCEPT CHRISTMAS EVE
June, July & August: Wed.—Sat. 10am—4pm

Visit www.firemuseummd.org or call: 410-321-7500
Birthday Parties, Meeting Space, and Tours available for all ages
1301 York Road, Lutherville, MD 21093

www.firemuseummd.org to see pictures of this 1899 pumping engine at work during our annual Steam Show.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

We have super birthday parties here at the Fire Museum with:

- A party room (with 4 tables covered with fire engine red vinyl) exclusively for your party
- A play room (Discovery Room) — put on fire gear and climb on a real fire engine
- Fire engine rides in the parking lot*
Visiting fireman in full gear gives safety talk*

**Added Fee*

While the parents are setting up the party, the kids can play in the Discovery Room putting on fire gear, climbing on a real fire engine and playing with dozens of toys.

We carry birthday party supplies and special birthday gifts in our Gift Shop. Call us early at 410-321-7500 x103 to schedule a party — or check our website at www.firemuseummd.org.



CHRISTMAS GARDEN

Every year the Fire Museum's dedicated volunteers get together to put our Christmas Train Garden into working order. This is a tradition that began in a Baltimore firehouse in 1917. What makes our Train Garden special is that the trains stop at stations according to schedule. This 0-scale garden is fun for adults and children. Visitors can see the Christmas Garden on Saturdays after Thanksgiving through 2015 plus the 27-29 of Dec.



Every year on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, Santa visits for the opening of the Christmas Garden, from 11AM-2PM. On this special day, visitors get free pictures taken with Santa as played by Walter Mathers.

Social Media Update

The Fire Museum has a new online look with a new website! Thanks to volunteer Lauren Held, we have an updated new look. New to our website is a Collections Gallery, Membership information, Event Calendar, Videos and a "Blog" section where we will share the projects going on at the Museum. Here you will see concrete examples of how your support helps the Museum continue its mission.

We have been actively engaging on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other social media outlets. Just as it takes a village to raise a child, our social media needs your help! Join and "FOLLOW" our posts. If you see our posts, "SHARE" them with your friends. Respond to our posts and keep the dialogue going. These little things help the Fire Museum in a big way!



<http://www.firemuseummd.org/>



Full STEM Ahead



by William Roulett, Education Director

Have you ever wondered how people got word to the Fire Department if their home was ablaze in the days before telephones? In Colonial America it was not much more than ringing bells, sounding rattles, and screaming “Fire!” as loud as your voice would allow. By the time volunteer firefighters were able to pull a two-ton hand drawn fire engine several blocks over cobblestones, dirt, and mud, your house was a lost cause. Saving the neighbor’s house was a more efficient use of their remaining energies. Then in 1859 Baltimore took a giant leap forward with the installation of its first Fire Alarm Telegraph Boxes.

Last year the Fire Museum’s new and improved Fire Alarm Office opened to depict the evolution of 150 years of fire alarm telegraph technology. But how does it all work? The fire alarm telegraph boxes operated on a closed circuit that was interrupted when a box was pulled. This would activate a pattern of bells and lights in the central Fire Alarm Office that corresponded with the particular box. From there a signal would be sent to all firehouses and engine or truck companies, and the ones assigned to that box would be on the way. In all, the process took about two to three minutes before fire fighters were in route.

This was quite an improvement and came at a time when the Baltimore Fire Department was making several modernizations. Steam power was adapted to power fire engines that could propel water farther than older hand-powered ones. Horses were used to pull the new, and now heavier, steam powered fire engines to emergencies more quickly. Full-time professional firefighters were hired to replace volunteers who might be unavailable at the time of a fire. Horses, steam power, and men worked together to respond to an alarm sounded by the city’s brand new Gamewell Fire Alarm Telegraph system.



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The new Electricity Lab is an education program that teaches children the science of electricity and circuits. In this program students will come to understand how electricity passes through a closed circuit by making a simple circuit of their own. Their circuits will include a telegraph key that will sound a buzzer when pressed. These can be used to practice the codes used by the Baltimore Fire Department or annoy parents!

We are excited to announce that reservations are currently being taken from school groups for this program. Additionally, the Fire Museum of Maryland will be hosting the Electricity Lab as part of the Inaugural Maryland STEM Festival! This will take place on Saturday, November 14, 2015 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. During this time, discounted admission to the museum will allow you to participate in the Electricity Lab at no additional cost. Tours can be arranged through Will Roulett in the Office. Many of our tours are linked to the State’s curricula. Come experience the Museum! Call for a tour.



Maybe you have already noticed our new web site! Over the summer, multi-talented weekday Duty Officer Lauren Held graciously agreed to design a new site for us. Reversing the color on major pages was just one of her many ideas. Please let Alex Guerrieri know if you have comments. There are still many areas that can be improved, including more photos of the collection. Thanks again to Lauren for all her new ideas and technical proficiency.



RENTALS

Want a memorable wedding, reception, or event? Try a ride on a historic fire engine! Here are the newlyweds of the Blood/Wagner wedding reception. The bride surprised her groom with a ride on our very own 1949 Mack (aka “The Pride”) as their going-away ride from the reception to their hotel. We were thrilled to be a part of this couple’s special day, as the groom is a volunteer

firefighter with Ellicott City Volunteer Firefighters. The museum has a number of fire engines that can be rented for your event. We are thrilled to announce our 1947 Flood Light Wagon (see article elsewhere in this issue) has been restored and is ready to light up your party. Contact the museum for rental costs and availability at 410-321-7500, x103.

Photograph by Helen Macaulay from Maria Linz Photography.



Please welcome Will Roulett and Firehouse Al!

Please welcome two new staff members, Will Roulett and Firehouse Al, who started with us in May and March, respectively. Will is the new Education Director overseeing our extensive education program. Will comes to us from the US Park Service at Valley Forge and the Camden County Historical Society. He has a special interest in the social themes that bind our historical time line together. He just launched a new ‘Electricity Lab’ (see Full STEM Ahead elsewhere in this newsletter) and is working on several ideas involving documents and science. Will holds a BA from Siena College, Loud-oville, NY, and a MA from Rutgers University.



Firehouse Al is running our Public Relations Department here on Tuesdays and Thursdays. She brings a blast of enthusiasm for spreading the fire on our great institution and has already revamped our social media efforts. She has a BA in Communications from BGSU in Ohio. She has worked 11 years in Television and has been Marketing Manager in commercial real estate and educational positions. She also has an interest in video and still photography and is producing videos for the Fire Museum.





What a sight! The 1871 cast iron fire house facade of Engine 8 lit up for a party. Built as Baltimore's first fire house for the career fire department, the facade has been reconstructed in the Museum and serves as one of our premier exhibits. Come visit and see it for yourself!

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Fire Museum of Maryland is to collect, preserve, display, and interpret historically significant apparatus and related artifacts, memorabilia, and records of the fire service in the United States; and to educate the public about the history, people, equipment and techniques of the fire service and about fire prevention and safety.

FIRE MUSEUM OF MARYLAND
1301 York Road • Lutherville MD 21093
410-321-7500
www.firemuseummd.org