

The PLAYPIPE

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

January 2012

Volume 23 No. 1

2012 Winter Conference Preview

Photos and information courtesy of Pennsylvania Pump Primers and Scott Rollins

We had the question posed at our last meeting: What do you do at a Winter Conference? With the kind permission of the PA Pump Primers, I am going to try to answer this for you.

This isn't a traditional apparatus muster like we have in the summer. And yes, it will also be a bit different than warm climate winter Conferences, but there will be plenty to see and do!

I think most of us who have an interest in antique fire apparatus also have an interest in history in general. Let's face it, there is a lot of history in Gettysburg, PA!

- Arlinda

There will be an open house:

The historic **Gettysburg Fire Dept.**, founded in 1808 will host an open house at their fire station. Museum displays include an 1886 Silsby steamer with hose cart and various historical equipment and photos of famous Gettysburg fires. Tours of their fire station and current equipment will be offered. Visit www.gettysburgfd.com for a sneak preview.

There will be tours:

Hanover, York County and Pennsylvania National Fire Museums. Hand tub pumpers, spider hose reels, steamers and antique motorized fire apparatus are abundant in these excellent museums.

The National Fire Academy located in historic Emmitsburg, MD will be your host for a bus tour to the Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial and Fire/Emergency Management training facilities. You will have a behind the scenes tour of their facility and a dinner at their famous Friday Night Food Buffet. Rounding out your evening, the Frederick County (MD) Fire Museum, located across the street from the National Fire Academy will be your host for an informal museum tour.

2012 
SPAAMFAA National
Winter Conference



Your Hosts:
Central PA
SPAAMFAA
Chapter

The Pennsylvania
Pump Primers
Association, Inc.



February 1 - 4, 2012 * Gettysburg, PA

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From your President

Winter is here and Christmas has come and gone. I hope everyone had a good Christmas!

Now that the New Year is upon us, as a club we need to be thinking of ideas to put our name out there, whether it be a local car show or even a fire department picnic, lets all be supportive of the organization as a whole! Like I've said in my previous columns, if any one has suggestions please email me at mtfd363@gmail.com or call me at 317-557-8820. If I don't answer, please leave me a message.

Reminder as to the date changes for the January and February meetings; they will be the second Sunday at 1 pm.

Everyone, please have a safe and joyous New Year! Look forward to seeing everyone January 8, 2012.

Justin

From your Editor

Hello and Happy New Year! I hope you have all had a wonderful Holiday.

If you missed our Christmas party last month, we had a very animated discussion on different ways to increase membership and attendance at our meetings. One idea we are planning to try is to have a model fire truck show and indoor flea market in the winter - possibly at our February meeting. Just something to keep our hobby going until spring gets here. So, if you have models you would like to bring out, or if you have some small items you are interested in selling, keep this in mind. There will be more information in next months newsletter.

Being the treasurer along with the Playpipe Editor is an interesting combination. As treasurer, I get frustrated by the amount of toner we are using. As Editor, I want to give you as much color as possible. Picture me with a little angel on one shoulder and a little devil on the other. But to quiet the internal arguing, I am going to do my best to hold the newsletter to six pages - at least until summer...

As you can see, the people of Pennsylvania are ready and waiting for visitors! They have plenty of indoor activities planned, and if you are missing warm weather, I have heard that there are palm trees surrounding the hotel swimming pool!

Registration can be downloaded from www.papumpprimers.org

Our next meeting is on Sunday January 8 at 1:00, due to the New Years Day Holiday. If you are going out this weekend, please be careful and 'watch out for the other guy'.

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Crimson Fire Apparatus manufacturing plants in the heart of Lancaster County, PA . Crimsom Fire has signed a long-term agreement to lease a former American La France facility with 62,000 sq. ft. of manufacturing space. This Ephrata facility was constructed in 1982 specifically to manufacturer aerial trucks.

Gettysburg National Military Park is described as hallowed and sacred ground, once you set foot on this ground and walk in the footsteps of over 165,000 soldiers who valiantly fought for freedom, you will realize what happened here. Gettysburg Tour center will guide you through the battlefield in one of their dramatized audio tour buses, accompanied by a park licensed tour guide. A special stop at the new US Park Service Visitor’s Center, Cyclorama and Museum will be included in your tour.

What about the spirits in Gettysburg? Join a paranormal guide for a special haunted evening at the **Jennie Wade house and the Ghostly Images Tour & Showcase** in the historic Children’s Orphanage, learn about the local spirits and perhaps you might experience one of Gettysburg’s special residents.

There will be a muster:

And on Saturday, there will be a **Muster of models and hand drawn equipment plus an Indoor Flea Market and Auction** Fire Service related models and hand drawn fire apparatus on display in the ballroom. Need a part for your antique fire truck? Visit the flea market vendors and you might just find it there. Join in on the auction and bid for fire and EMS items, old and new.

There will be Seminars:

Steve Heaver of the Fire Museum of Maryland will be giving a restoration Seminar

Ted Elder will be giving a SPAAMFAA Safety Officer Seminar

Rich Litton will be showing a 200 piece slide presentation of 1950-60s Philadelphia / New Jersey area rescues, engines and ladder trucks.



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There will be an Outdoor Display:

The Fire and EMS services in Central Pennsylvania and Northern Maryland are abundant with equipment serving their communities. Come out to the parking area and meet these service providers, take pictures and enjoy their equipment.

Like all the National Conferences, there will be a banquet on Saturday night. This one will have some special visitors, though...

An evening of delicious Pennsylvania food, entertainment and companionship in the beautiful Eisenhower ballroom with your fellow SPAAMFAA members. Meet your national officers and your Winter Conference hosts: the Central PA SPAAMFAA Chapter, PA Pump Primers. Ben Franklin will be one of our special guests speaking about Pennsylvania's Fire Service history. Members of the 1st Regiment New York Fire Zouaves will discuss their part in the Battle of Gettysburg. It is rumored that one of our past presidents will be attending the banquet to give a most important address, could this be Abraham Lincoln? Enjoy the perfect ending for the 2012 SPAAMFAA Winter Conference.



There will be a t-shirt, too!



They already have over 100 visitors registered, a lot of modelers, hand drawn fire apparatus and flea market vendors registered as well.

Gettysburg is centrally located to 4 International Airports. Driving time from Indianapolis is approximately 9.5 hours.

The host hotel is the Eisenhower II Hotel, Conference Center & Resort. Spacious rooms, indoor pool, wireless internet, gift shop and Richards Restaurant round out the hotel's amenities. Call 1-800-776-8349 for reservations and ask for our SPAAMFAA Winter Conference \$89 standard double occupancy room rate. Triple and quad occupancy rooms available at \$99 each. For additional hotel information, visit the Eisenhower Hotel web site at www.eisenhower.com.

I hope this answers any questions you had regarding what is done at a winter conference. Registration for the models and flea market closes this Saturday, December 31. They are keeping the room rates available as long as possible, but the conference rates will be ending within a week or two.

December Minutes

Submitted by Rodger Birchfield, secretary.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

PPPSI meeting at Wayne Township Dec. 4, 2011. Thirteen members present. President Justin Birchfield called the meeting to order at 1:48 p.m. after a pitch-in luncheon.

Minutes - Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published in the Playpipe.

Treasurer's Report - The treasurer's report was accepted.

Old Business - It was agreed we would approach Jeff Rider regarding combining PPPSI annual muster with his muster in August, if he was willing.

New Business - Received from SPAAMFAA the request for the annual report and dues for national insurance - \$200. Membership agreed to pay the insurance out of money market fund.

Due to January meeting date falling on the 1st, the meeting will be held a week later, on January 8. It was also noted the winter SPAAMFAA Conference will be held at Gettysburg, PA., the same weekend as the Super Bowl in Indianapolis, so the February meeting will be held on the 12.

A discussion was held on the need to get information and projects for the meetings. John Steel and Jim Tharp suggested bringing fire related items, such as model apparatus and other items to the February meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Stuff and Things



A cartoon by Paul McGrevy

If you have an upcoming event or an item for sale, please get it to me by the 20th, for publication in the next month's issue

Dues are Due!
\$20 Individual
\$25 Family



The Playpipe
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Calendar of Events

PPPSI Meetings

Other Events

January 8 – Meeting at Wayne Twp Shops – 1:00

February 12 – Meeting at Wayne Twp Shops – 1:00
(tentative model muster and mini flea market planned)

March 4 – Meeting at Wayne Twp Shops – 1:00

To order club t-shirts and accessories, go to
<http://www.printfection.com/PPPSI>

Dues are Due!
\$20 Individual
\$25 Family

February 1 - 4, 2012 - SPAAMFAA Winter Conference
Gettysburg, PA

April 21-22 2012 - Allentown, PA Union Historical
Fire Society Annual Spring Melt Fire memorabilia
Auction and Flea Market

April 28, 2012 - Flea Market and Swap Meet
Jackson MI

June 16, 2012 - Chicago Flea Market

July 25 - 28, 2012 SPAAMFAA Summer Conference
Frankenmuth, MI