

UNION HISTORICAL FIRE SOCIETY



DELAWARE VALLEY CHAPTER S.P.A.A.M.F.A.A.

Well, we did it!! The UHFS successfully ran the Allentown Spring Melt after a 2 year hiatus.

I would like to send a big **Thank You** to the UHFS staff who took control of the ticketing table, manned the UHFS booth selling T-shirts and handling membership, table and chair delivery and so much more. Tom and Cheryl are the heart and soul of the show. It is their love and passion that is reflected to the success of the event.

Also, I would like to personally thank my good friend Ron Herman who designed and built the memorial. It was the most touching memorial that I have ever been a part of. The UHFS recognized our members, the vendors and those who made an impact in the world of collecting fire memorabilia. I thought of the people who mentored me through the years: Nick Jennings, John Blessing and Tom Laun. They introduced me to other fellow collectors through networking and taught me the difference between quality verses quantity

I can't wait until next year!! President E. (Butch) Tickner





Union Historical Fire Society Allentown Spring Melt 2022

The annual Allentown Spring Melt Marketplace and Auction was held on April 23rd and 24th this year at the Lehigh County AgriPlex in Allentown. The UHFS is happy to report that this year's Spring Melt was a resounding success after our hiatus of 2020 & 2021. We're back and better than ever!

The auction held on Saturday had The Eastmere Fireman by Brian Enterline running the auction for the first time. Everyone agreed that it was an excellent auction – and we look forward to many more. Thank you, Brian, for your contribution to a successful Allentown Spring Melt.

We would like to express our thanks and appreciation to Donn Zelewski who stepped down as auctioneer after many years of hard work and has now joined the ranks as a vendor.

On Sunday the main hall was again full – anything and everything fire department / fire apparatus related could be found. The annex showcased some new vendors as well as the Cradle of Liberty Appreciation of Fire Apparatus Association, who moved their vendor space this year. We had many new vendors this year and some old friends returning to get in on the action of the largest firematic marketplace in the country.

Thank you to all who attended, whether as vendors, buyers or those just along to see what all the excitement is about. We want to express our appreciation to many of you who travel great distances to attend.

The Union Historical Fire Society could not hold this show without the help of many volunteers. Thank you to all those volunteers behind the scenes – the “Melt” could not go on without you. The UHFS booth showcased a memorial table for those dear to us who passed away since our last show. A special thank you to Ron Herman who took on the task of mounting this display. We heard many, many folks say how great it was.

Next year the UHFS Allentown Spring Melt will be held on April 22nd and 23rd, 2023. Any inquiries about becoming a vendor can be emailed to: darcantq@gmail.com. So mark your calendars and take a look at our website: unionhistoricalfiresociety.com – and like us on Facebook - we look forward to seeing you next year!



Remembering those we have lost since our last show in 2019

Kenny Mauch (10/28/21), Robert L. Brown (11/10/21), Gary E. Frederick (1/2/22), John Blessing (7/23/20), Arnold Merkitch (9/5/20), Gerald “Jerry” Dole (11/19/21), Eleanore Sorrentino (5/15/21)

Thomas and Patricia Laun (4/29/20 and 12/3/21), Roger Birchfield (12/21/20), William G. Houston (5/1/19), Marie Lathrop (12/23/21), Ray Pauley (8/17/21), Ralph “Nick” Jennings (10/21/20), Charles H. Black (9/1/20), James Piatti (6/4/21)



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Antique Week

THE WEEKLY ANTIQUE AUCTION & COLLECTING NEWSPAPER

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MAY 10, 2022

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Firefighting memorabilia was hot at Allentown Spring Melt

ALLENTOWN, Pa. — The 2022 Allentown Spring Melt Fire Memorabilia Show and Auction held April 23-24 was a huge success. Coming back

from a hiatus due to the pandemic, attendance and prices were strong across the board. Auctioneer Brian Enterline said, "this was our first live auction that we conducted during the Spring Melt and we could not be happier with attendance and prices, our consignors are extremely happy."

There was a total of 406 registered bidders competing for 437 lots of firefighting antiques and memorabilia. The auction is part of one of the largest fire memorabilia markets in the United States and is run by the Union Historical Fire Society.

Total hammer price, including buyer's premium topped a quarter million dollars.

Topping the auction at \$7,000 was a Torrent 1 Steam Fire Engine lantern. An American fire alarm box reached \$6,100. Selling for \$5,300 was an 1837 City of Lowell, Mass., engineer's trumpet.

Other highlights included a 1930 Haverhill MA Fire Department Photo selling for \$675; Mechanic 37 Philadelphia fire helmet front 1860s, \$2,200;

NY Fire Patrol Helmet, \$1,200; Porter Fireman's Wrist Lantern, \$600; American LaFrance Eclipse Steam-Lantern, \$2,000; Gamewell Fire Alarm Gong, \$3,500; Wooden Tobacco Tub with steam fire engine, \$750; two Kenton Cast Iron Fire Engines, \$220; Wooden Folk Art Fire Helmet Shield, \$3,500 and an early Gratacap Fire Helmet with Leather Eagle, \$3,000.

A Mutual Assurance Cast Iron Fire Mark sold for \$2,000 and a Harden case metal fire alarm box.

Below: Selling for \$6,100 was this American fire alarm box.

Tubular Glass Fire Grenade sold for \$1,300. For more information visit www.eastmerfireman.hibid.com. The next fire antiques and memorabilia auction is scheduled for July 8 at the Pennsylvania National Fire Museum in Harrisburg, Pa. Brian D. Enterline is a licensed and bonded auctioneer specializing in firefighting antiques and memorabilia. Additional information can be found at www.eastmerfireman.com.



Left: The highlight of a recent fire memorabilia auction was this Torrent 1 steam fire engine lantern. It sold for \$7,000.

Below: Selling for \$6,100 was this American fire alarm box.

46th ANNUAL
ANTIQU
FIRE APPARATUS
SHOW AND MUSTER



1963 American LaFrance

Owned by: Daniel Hoppes

Virginia Beach, VA

10:00 AM TO 4:00 PM
SATURDAY, JULY 9, 2022
RIVERFRONT PARK, HARRISBURG, PA.
Across from Harrisburg Hospital

PRESENTED BY
PENNSYLVANIA PUMP PRIMERS
WITH THE COOPERATION OF
THE HARRISBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT AND PARKS & RECREATION

Pennsylvania National Fire Museum open for visitors Friday, July 8
1820 N. 4th St., Harrisburg, PA 717-232-8915

SPRING MELT 2023 APRIL 22 & 23

Agri-Plex at Allentown Fairgrounds
302 N. 17th St., Allentown, PA 18104



Auction & Marketplace

www.unionhistoricalfiresociety.com



*A BIG Welcome to our
New Members*

Richard Boyer of Reading, PA

Sarah Eck of Carmel, IN

William Henderson of Bellmawr, NJ

Bill Page of Huron, OH

Jeffery Rathburn of Punta Gorda, FL

Gary Sklar of Sewell, NJ

Ronald Smith of Allentown, PA



Union Historical Fire Society

Delaware Valley Chapter

S.P.A.A.M.F.A.A.

www.unionhistoricalfiresociety.com

Meet us on Facebook at Union Historical Fire Society

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