

THE SPEAKING TRUMPET

NEWSLETTER OF THE BARE COVE FIRE MUSEUM

2021 VOL. 1



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

IN WRAPPING 2020 UP IN A BARE COVE FIRE MUSEUM NEWSLETTER, IT WOULD BE A DIFFICULT TASK TO INCLUDE EVERYTHING THAT HAS CHANGED OUR LIVES WORLDWIDE. FROM COVID-19 THROUGH THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION AND EVEN A LOCAL EARTHQUAKE (AMONG MANY OTHER THINGS) WE HAVE ALL PERSONALLY ADAPTED AND CHANGED OUR ROUTINES. THE MUSEUM HAS ALSO ADAPTED AND CHANGED ROUTINES TO MANAGES EXPENSES, REVENUE, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, AND OVERALL OPERATIONS.

THERE HAS BEEN BOTH A LOT GOING ON AT THE MUSEUM AND ALSO VERY LITTLE ALL AT THE SAME TIME. LET'S DIVE INTO THE MUSEUM'S YEAR IN REVIEW FOR 2020. IT WAS BUSINESS AS USUAL AT THE MUSEUM THROUGH MARCH 17TH, THEN THE WORLD CLOSED FOR TWO WEEKS, WHICH THEN MOVED INTO SEVERAL MONTHS, TO FLATTEN THE CURVE TO STOP THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS. FORTUNATELY, WE HAD RECENTLY INSTALLED BURGLAR ALARM SYSTEMS IN BOTH BUILDINGS TO MONITOR THE BUILDINGS THROUGH THE SUMMER 2020. DESPITE THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE TO THE PUBLIC, THERE HAVE BEEN FREQUENT CHECK-INS BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OTHER MEMBERS FOR SOME CLEANING, BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS, MAINTENANCE, LANDSCAPING, AND WORK DONE ON THE AHRENS FOX. OUR PLANNED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FOR 2020 COULDN'T HAVE COME AT A WORSE TIME FINANCIALLY TO FUND THE REHABILITATION OF THE CUPOLA ATOP OF THE BUILDING. HOWEVER, THE CUPOLA HAS BEEN REPAIRED, PAINTED, AND LOOKS FANTASTIC ON TOP OF THE MUSEUM BUILDING.

WE HAVE MADE A LOT OF DIFFICULT DECISIONS, ONE OF WHICH WAS SECURING OUR FINANCIAL POSITION WITH A STRATEGY TO OFFICIALLY END THE 25-PLUS YEARS OF HOSTING OUR BIENNIAL BARN SALE. OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS THE BARN SALE REVENUE HAD DECREASED AND THE "NEW NORMAL" NEEDED TO BE ADJUSTED. AS A RESULT A BARN SALE CLEAN OUT COMMENCED IN THE FIRST WEEK OF OCTOBER AND WE HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN FILLING THE SPACE WITH MEMBERS' TOYS WHILE ACQUIRING FINANCIAL DONATIONS. THE BARN SALE CLEAN OUT WAS THE ONLY EVENT IN 2020 WHERE SCHEDULED, SOCIAL DISTANCED AND MASKED UP MEMBERS CAME OUT AND HELPED THROW SOME FURNITURE, SKIS, AND GLASS IN A OVERFILLED, 30-YARD DUMPSTER.

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NOTICE

THE MUSEUM IS CLOSED FOR VISITORS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE AS A MEASURE TO PROTECT THE SAFETY OF OUR MEMBERS THROUGH SOCIAL DISTANCING.



The cupola atop the museum has been repaired and painted

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I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE BARN SALE CREW — YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE. ALL THEIR HARD WORK AND DEDICATION TO HELP FUND BUILDING AND MUSEUM OPERATIONS YIELDED AN AVERAGE YEARLY REVENUE STREAM OF \$3200.

WE HAVE ALSO TAKEN THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REDUCE OUR EXPENSES SIGNIFICANTLY BY NEGOTIATING MUCH LOWER LEVEL INTERNET AND TELEPHONE SERVICE, REMOVING 3 TRUCKS FROM ACTIVE STATUS, AND HALTING ALL MAJOR PURCHASES WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE CAPITOL CUPOLA PROJECT. FORTUNATELY OIL PRICES ARE A BIT LOWER THIS YEAR AND WE HOPE THIS TREND CONTINUES, AS IT WILL LIGHTEN ONE OF THE HIGHEST YEARLY EXPENSES TO HEAT THE MUSEUM TO 50 DEGREES.

THERE HAVE BEEN A FEW LATE NIGHT ALARM CALLS TO OUR MEMBERS AT BRADLEY PARK OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS. UPON INVESTIGATION, IT WAS DETERMINED THAT A FAMILY OF SQUIRRELS MADE THEMSELVES HOME AND ENJOYED RUNNING PAST ONE OF THE MOTION DETECTORS. WE HAVE SINCE FOUND THEM A NEW HOME IN BARE COVE PARK. THANK YOU GERI AND MARK FOR RESPONDING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT ON A FEW OCCASIONS.

THERE HAS BEEN SOME WORK DONE TO THE BUNNY WAGON. ALTHOUGH IT IS SLOW GOING, THE WORK THAT IS BEING DONE AND THE LEVEL OF DETAIL IS AMAZING WORK BY JOHN GRIFFIN. WE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE YOU HELP US BRING THAT PIECE OF HISTORY BACK TO LIFE.

WE ARE EXCITED TO WELCOME A FEW NEW MEMBERS TO OUR MUSEUM THIS YEAR. CHRIS KELLY, NICOLAS RAAD, JOHN TWEED, AND MATTHEW GOULET YOUR MEMBERSHIP WILL RUN THROUGH MARCH 2022. CHRISTIAN KIMBALL IS ALSO A NEW AND LIFE MEMBER. WELCOME! WE DO HOPE TO GET BACK TO EXCITING MEMBER EVENTS IN 2021. I AM MOST SADDENED BY THE CANCELLATION OF OUR MEMBERS ANNUAL MEMBER PICNIC AND MEETING WITH MAFAA IN OCTOBER.

I AM INCLUDING OUR 2021 DUES NOTICE WITH THIS NEWSLETTER ALONG WITH OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO SUPPORT OUR MUSEUM AND OPERATIONS. WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT EARLIER IN 2021 DUE TO THE REDUCED REVENUE IN 2020. PLEASE ALSO CONSIDER MAKING AN ADDITIONAL DONATION TO HELP WITH OPERATIONS, EXHIBITS, UTILITIES AND REPAIRS TO OUR MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT. WE NOW ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS THROUGH PAY PAL, THE LINK CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE WWW.BARECOVEFIREMUSEUM.ORG

I AM HOPEFUL 2021 WILL BE BETTER FOR ALL OF US WHILE ADJUSTING TO THE NEW GUIDANCE'S AND WE CAN GET THE DOORS OPEN AND TRUCKS OUT FOR SOME AIR WHILE SHOWING OFF OUR WONDERFUL EXHIBITS AND CONTINUE TELLING STORIES OF THE PAST. BE WELL AND I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL VERY SOON.

THANK YOU,
JUSTIN

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: JUSTIN HOLSTROM

VICE PRESIDENT: MATT SHERMAN

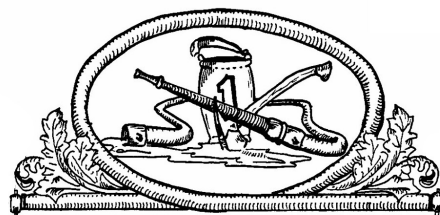
PAST PRESIDENT: GARY TONDORF-DICK

CLERK: GERI DUFF

TREASURER: KEVIN LINCOLN

DIRECTORS AT LARGE: MATT ANTOINE,

DAVE CLARK, TRACY GAUDET, DONALD LINCOLN



BARN SALE CLEAN OUT

In the early beginnings of the Bare Cove Fire Museum, a yard sale was held on the lawn of Central Fire on Main Street, and then the front lawn of Bob Fisher's home on also on Main Street, to raise money for Hingham fire truck restoration. Later the bi-annual sales became a fixture at the old town-owned Hersey House barn on North Street. The town had granted permission to use the barn to restore Hingham fire engines and to raise funds by holding barn sales. Galen Hersey and many others oversaw these sales for several years until Geri Duff took over and held that post for over 25 years. With her retirement from barn sales and no volunteers to take on the responsibility, the board of directors decided to clean out the space to store fire trucks and the material needed to maintain them.

On Saturday, October 3, 2020, fifteen museum members, wearing masks and socially distancing broke down tables and piled books, dishes, and furniture into a dumpster. They set aside a few boxes of new material in the hope that when the Covid-19 crises passes volunteers will be able to hold barn sales on a smaller scale.

We wish to thank the people who gave their time Saturday morning for the cleanout.



BUILDING #52

One of the questions we field from both visitors and members of the museum is “what is Building 52 used for?”

It is used for storage of materials needed to run the fire museum and restore Hingham Fire Department trucks and materials.

What does that mean? Well, not every firetruck the Bare Cove Fire Museum owns fits into the display space in the original Building #112 now known as 45 Bare Cove Park Drive. Plus, there are tires, ladders, hoses, and engine parts on hand for use on the trucks and materials for repair and maintenance of the museum itself.

In the main repair shop section, Hingham’s first Forest Wagon is under a total restoration. John Griffin son and nephew of two Hingham Firefighters is spearheading the process.

There are materials from previous parades in storage ready to be reused for the next parade.

There is a firetruck from the Boston Fire Museum, one from the Brockton Fire Museum and one from the Brockton Fire Union tucked away and two of Hingham Seagrave firetrucks from the 1940s that are stored there.

There is also a mixture of pieces and parts for firetrucks that have been acquired over time. With time and money, the Hingham pieces will be repaired and perhaps restored for display.

And then sometimes there is a firetruck donated to the Bare Cove Fire Museum that is not from Hingham, but we can sell to help with expenses.

ARTIFACT DONATION

The Bare Cove Fire Museum recently received a donation of an 1896 Helmet and small nozzle from Richard Handrahan. Dick says that this is from a family member and will do a little research to see which one. The helmet does not have a shield or the eagle bracket to hold it in place but other than that it is in excellent condition.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

October 10, 1980 The Bare Cove Fire Museum took the Hingham 1875 Deluge handtub to Marshfield. This is Steve Marsh, Bill Antoine and Galen Hersey in BCFM Uniform attending the machine.



MEMBERSHIP

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OR RENEWING A MEMBERSHIP?
PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR AN APPLICATION. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE
TO THE BARE COVE FIRE MUSEUM, 45 BARE COVE PARK DRIVE
HINGHAM, MA 02043, OR PAY ONLINE.

- ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP \$35
 FAMILY MEMBER (NO VOTING PRIVILEGES) \$15
 LIFETIME MEMBER \$500

DONATIONS

THE MUSEUM ALWAYS WELCOMES DONATIONS IN ANY AMOUNT
TO HELP WITH OUR DAY-TO-DAY EXPENSES AND OUR ONGOING
PROJECTS. YOU MAY ALSO MAKE A DONATION ONLINE.

- \$25.00 \$50.00
 \$100.00 OTHER _____



781.749.0028 WWW.BARECOVEFIREMUSEUM.ORG
45 BARE COVE PARK DRIVE, HINGHAM, MA 02043