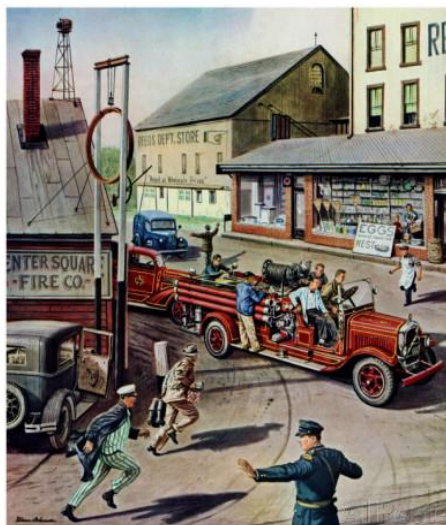
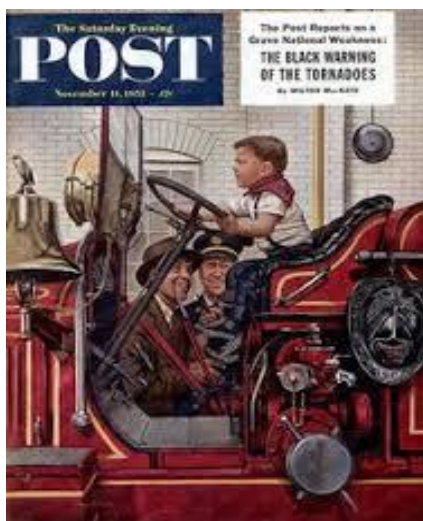


NFHC Receives Signed *Saturday Evening Post* Covers with Fire Service Themes

Chief **Daniel B.C. "Boone" Gardiner** of Fairfield (CT) has donated five signed *Saturday Evening Post* covers that illustrate fire service themes, including Connecticut and Pennsylvania fire stations. Photographs of three of those covers appear below. The covers were drawn by Stevan Dohanos, who painted more than 125 *Post* covers ending in the 1960s.

In November 1990, Gardiner visited Dohanos (who died in 1994). During that visit, the artist signed the covers at Gardiner's request.

"Meeting Stevan Dohanos and learning of his close connection with Norman Rockwell was one of the greatest pleasures my wife and I ever had," Gardiner says. "We spent over an hour with him and his wife, getting the scoop on his inspiration of what he chose to paint." (See photo of Gardiner and Dohanos on p. 5.)





Message from the Vice President

Saluting our leaders

Penning an article for the *NFHC Newsletter* in Ron Coleman's absence is like putting on Shaquille O'Neal's basketball shoes and trying to lace them up.

Where to begin or what to discuss that Ron hasn't already covered is a challenge. Let's begin by telling you that Ronny Jack Coleman has had a tough battle the last several months with some medical issues that he seems to finally have under control. These issues, although not life-threatening, have certainly cramped his style -- but not his humor and commitment to the National Fire Heritage Center.

This month Ron (like many of our board members) will participate in the annual meeting via conference call. In addition to routine business matters, reports from the President, Executive Director, Treasurer, and various committees, we will be adding some new members to the board of directors and recognizing those individuals stepping down. We will also be inducting seven individuals in the National Fire Heritage Center's Hall of Legends, Legacies, and Leaders.

The concept of recognizing those individuals deserving acknowledgement for a lifetime of achievement in the American Fire Services/Fire Protection Disciplines originated near Emmitsburg, Maryland, on October 4, 2009, at the end of a busy NFHC Annual Meeting and National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Weekend. Present for Protection Disciplines originated near Emmitsburg, Maryland, on October 4, 2009, at the end of a busy NFHC Annual Meeting and National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Weekend. Present for

the informal discussion were Ron Coleman, Bill Killen, Rodney Slaughter, and Wayne Powell during the consumption of some liquid refreshment on the back patio at Wayne's home. The names discussed were a virtual "Who's Who" of the fire service, certainly candidates for the Fire Service Hall of Fame if there were such a thing. The Hall of Fame concept was presented to the board of directors during a conference call.

A few months later the Hall of Legends, Legacies, and Leaders was established as a virtual hall and can be found on the NFHC website www.thenfhc.org. The NFHC's board of directors adopted criteria and policy guidance for the nomination and election of individuals to the Hall of Legends, Legacies and Leaders.

The first induction took place March 22, 2011, and included **Frank Brannigan**, Chief Engineer **Charles T. Holloway**, Fire Chief **Peter Ganci**, **Ben Franklin**, Chief Engineer **John S. Damrell**, **Howie McClennan**, Chief Engineer **Patrick H. Raymond**, Chief **Charles E. Miles**, Fire Chief **Sven Eriksson**, and **James O. Page**.

The 2015 inductees are **James Braidwood**, **Keith Royer**, **Haraldur Stefansson**, **Ira H. Striejewske**, **Richard Pratt Sylvia**, **Richard Pratt Sylvia**, and **R. Brady Williamson**.

Information about their extraordinary careers and contributions to fire protection appear on p.3 of this issue.

William D. Killen
NFHC Vice President

The *National Fire Heritage Center Newsletter* is published four times yearly. Volunteer newsletter staff include: **Editor**: Ronny J. Coleman (ron@fireforceone.com), **Associate Editor**: Pam Powell (PamelaAPowell@msn.com) and **Contributors**: Bill Killen, R. Wayne Powell (waynepowellnfhc@gmail.com), Frank Schmersal (accobonack@aol.com), and Rodney Slaughter (RSlaughter@thenfhc.org)

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NFHC News

Hall of Legends, Legacies, and Leaders: 2015 Inductees

James Braidwood, 1800-1861, founder of the world's first municipal fire service in Edinburgh in 1824, and the first director of the London Fire Engine Establishment. He is credited with the development of the modern municipal fire service.

Keith Royer's career was rooted in and dedicated to his belief in the importance of training firefighters. He helped found the International Society of Fire Service Instructors and the Iowa Society of Fire Service Instructors. He was a major supporter of certification for firefighter training at the state and national levels and helped establish the National Professional Qualification System and the National Fire Academy. He served leadership roles in many national organizations including the International Association of Fire Chiefs and the National Fire Protection Association.

Haraldur Stefansson completed a distinguished 50 year career in the United States Navy fire service, during which time he received numerous awards and commendations from the United States Department of Defense, U. S. Navy, and the Government of Iceland. He initially joined the Naval Air Station Keflavik (Iceland) Fire Department as a firefighter and advanced through the ranks. He was appointed Deputy Fire Chief in 1977 and Fire Chief in 1986, becoming the second foreign national to serve as Chief of Department of a U.S. military installation.

Fire Commissioner **Ira H. Striejewski** has been serving the Eggertsville Hose Company, Town of Amherst, Erie County, New York and his community for the past 63 years. Currently Commissioner Striejewski is serving in his 16th year as Fire Commissioner and has held every position within the department over the years;

Richard Pratt Sylvia (1913-2005) was a former Fire Chief of the Noroton (CT) Fire Department, former Editor of *Fire Engineering* magazine, an author, and tremendous instructor. Appointed to the Connecticut Commission on Fire Prevention and Control in 1975 and served until 1984, the last two years as Vice Chairman of the Commission.

Harold G. Thompson. In 1963, Mr. Thompson began a full time position with the Georgia Fire Institute as supervisor of fire service training. In 1965, he was appointed to head the statewide fire training program, a leadership position he held until his retirement in March 1992. His biography reflects the history of Georgia fire training. He worked tirelessly to support rural volunteer and career firefighters as well as the career urban firefighters. During the 1970s, Thompson and the Georgia Fire Academy staff worked with several colleges to develop and implement an academy fire science degree program.

Dr. Robert Brady Williamson (1933-2007) was a pioneer in fire safety engineering science education and a Professor Emeritus at the University of California, Berkeley. His work specifically helped to establish fire safety engineering as a recognized branch of science. He was instrumental in bringing to the field of fire safety engineering tests and protocols that were used to address changes in fire and building codes. He served for over 40 years.

Notes from the Archives

Recent Acquisitions

Each year the NFHC receives more donated materials than the year before, a sure sign that the Heritage Center is becoming more well-known. We are up to 65 donations this year already; last year's total was 75 for the entire year. Among the most recent acquisitions are a piece of granite from the Murrah Building in Oklahoma City, from the **Oklahoma State Fire Marshals**; fifteen cartons of fire department histories, from the family of **Ed Bosanko**; eight cartons of books and documents from **Dr. Denis Onieal**; a McKay SCBA from **John McNeece**; and other "neat stuff" from other friends of the NFHC.

The State of the Archive

We continue to catalog incoming materials as quickly as possible. We now have more than 9,000 cataloged items in the collection. The new directory has been delayed by other demands on our time, but is just about ready to go to the Webmaster.

In concert with Executive Director Wayne Powell, we are working to obtain storage space for uncatalogued materials in a local building. This will get them out of the aisles, the accessions workroom, the museum's "Doghouse" storeroom, and other nooks and crannies, and will allow us to bring them back a few boxes at a time for cataloging. We estimate that we have about 250 cartons of materials waiting to be cataloged, so a bit of organization is called for.

Sponsor a Bookcase Campaign Update

We said in the last issue that we did not have the room to add more bookcases, but we lied. We received three more bookcases

in a load of furniture from **Dr. Harry Hickey**,



and somehow we made them fit. (We may or may not have used a Detroit door opener as a shoehorn!) All bookcase sponsor's names are now listed on engraved plates

on a plaque in the Heritage Center library, but there is room for more names, so we still are accepting sponsorships. Please consider sending a tax-deductible donation of \$150 to the NFHC.

The Archivist's Wish List

The items on the following list are needed for us to view, process, and store items that are in the collection. If you can help the NFHC obtain any of these items, please contact Executive Director Wayne Powell (waynepowell@nfhc.com) or archivist Frank Schmersal (accobonack@aol.com).

- 16mm reel-to-reel movie viewer with splicer
- Fluorescent light box, 18 x 24 inches (or larger)
- Audio tape player/CD recorder (also known as a "dubber")
- VHS tape player
- U-matic tape player
- Video projector
- Copy stand with lights (to use for photographing accessions)
- Microfiche and microfilm viewers, preferably with printers
- A new building.

Frank Schmersal
Archivist

Recognizing Writers and Advocates



We honor Benjamin Franklin as the Father of the American Fire Service. However, he made his fortune and fame as a

writer. In fact, many of the clichés we use today first appeared in *Poor Richard's Almanac*. His influence is alive today.

Several years ago, the NFHC recognized that we have modern Benjamin Franklins who are producing challenging and innovative articles. Unfortunately, they may or may not receive positive support. That is why we created the **Benjamin Franklin Annual Writer's Award**. We want to find them and we want to recognize them.

I would like to appeal to you to help us find the writers in your community who are independently helping to shape public opinion about the fire service.

A very short nomination appears on p. 7. If you could have someone review the offerings of your local news media and other writing outlets such as magazines and even presentations, submit it, we will place it in competition for a potential award. All it takes is an envelope and a postage stamp, or an email, and your faith that the writer has been advocating the fire service.

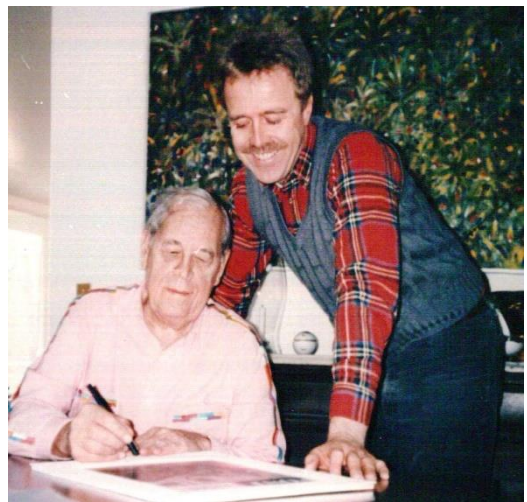
Your input is greatly valued and I hope that you have a candidate in mind already.

Ronny J. Coleman
NFHC President

Thank You, Donors

Thank you, **W. Parker Browne** of Ohio for your second contribution to the NFHC Bookcase Campaign.

Thank you, NFHC member **John Cochran** of Russellville (AR) for your donation and for your contribution to the NFHC Bookcase Campaign.



Thanks again to Chief **Daniel B.C. "Boone" Gardiner**, shown here with *Saturday Evening Post* cover painter Stevan Dohanos while Dohanos signs covers in November 1990.

Happy Birthday, NFHC

August 17, 2015, was the ninth anniversary of the Incorporation of the National Fire Heritage Center. Incorporated as an IRS 501c3 non-profit organization on this date in 2006, the organization's roots go back to late 1999 and early 2000 when NFHC Principal Founding Member **Dr. Harry E. Hickey** brought forward the concept which lead the U.S. Fire Administration/FEMA to fund the comprehensive study, "Heritage Hall: A Proposal to Archive the History of the Fire Service/Fire Protection Disciplines in America."

From Fire Protection's Colorful Past

The Village Fire



The Village Fire

Karl Wilhelm Hübner (1814–1879)

Courtesy of the Crocker Art Museum

Backlit by the raging inferno, a distraught mother reaches for her child. Her husband carrying the child down the ladder is one step away from disaster as the ladder is missing a lower rung. Their salvaged possessions lay in a heap outside, a shattered mirror and bedding may have escaped the fire inside, but a burning ember has landed in the midst of the pile. Villagers are seen in the background emerging from the smoke and flames, escaping the fire, their look of terror clearly visible.

This large canvas (approximately 10' × 8') by Carl Wilhelm Hübner hangs in the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento, California. Hübner is a representative of the Düsseldorf (Art) School.

From 1841 he ran his own studio. Major Hübner works include oil paintings depicting scenes of everyday life, especially scenes of human and social conflicts. His attention often was viewing "the other side," such as the lives of thieves, smugglers, or poachers.

He was often accused of "realism" -- he usually refrained from sentimentality and idealization in his paintings. This painting, for example, shocked its viewers. In 1874–1875, Hübner undertook an extensive tour of the United States. His American sketches are the basis of many paintings.

This painting, like so many art pieces, contributes to the history of fire and the fire service. For a list of art at NFHC see: <http://thenfhc.org/library/national-fire-heritage-center-archives/art-artifacts/>.

Rodney Slaughter NFHC Director



Detail of the lower right corner shows salvaged household items and the missing rung on the ladder.

	<p>Benjamin Franklin Fire Writer's Award NOMINATION FORM</p> <p>Sponsored by the National Fire Heritage Center P.O. Drawer 76 Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727 www.thenfhc.org</p>	
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Fee

The application fee is \$17.36 USD for each individual entry. The amount reflects the year of Benjamin Franklin's efforts to establish the Union Fire Company of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Eligibility Period

Open period up until April 17th each year (April 17 is the date of Ben Franklin's death).

Judging Panel

The judging panel will be determined by the Board of Directors of the NFHC on an annual basis.

Awards

There will be an award for first, second, and third places in each category.

Questions

For any specific questions, please contact: ron@fireforceone.com

Nominated By:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

The following publication/article is being nominated for an NFHC "Franklin."

Title: _____

Author: _____

Address: _____

-over-

Email: _____

Publisher: _____

Category: _____

- a. Best fictional novel with fire, firefighter or fire-related professional solving problems
- b. Best non-fiction book that addresses fires, firefighters, or other fire professional in solving a specific or general problem
- c. Best biography of person who had served in any position involving fire protection disciplines
- d. Best autobiography of person who had served in any position involving fire protection disciplines
- e. Best single newspaper article addressing a local, regional, state or national fire protection issue
- f. Best magazine/newspaper article series addressing a local, regional, state or national fire protection issue
- g. Best media presentation addressing a major fire prevention issue at the local, state, national or international level

Commentary: Please attach a brief narrative of the importance of this document to the fire profession in the United States.

Received by NFHC: Date: _____ /Application Fee Enclosed: __Yes __No/ to Committee: __Yes__ No
Disposition of Nomination: _____

**THE ARCHIVE OF
AMERICA'S FIRE HISTORY**