



NFHC Announces Committee Structure

Dear Colleagues:

Following months of considerations and valuable input, we are pleased to offer you the current listing of NFHC Committees, including initial appointments.

The concept of having a "Committee Structure" was approved at the annual meeting in October 2015. Information about the need, tasks, and thought processes for committees have been shared in writing and clarified. While we will likely need to tweak some more, it's now time to launch this critical initiative.

I am encouraged by the number of individuals who have joined the NFHC and stepped up to the plate to serve on or chair a committee since our meeting last fall. In fact, some Committee Members have already begun speaking and writing each other.

Work is normally accomplished from home. To learn more including offering to serve, please contact: Chief William D. Killen/nschsto@charter.net /423-765-8789 (cell).

The list of committees, chairs, and members is truly a "living document." (See last page) It will change as more members and friends of the NFHC step up to participate in committees. I hope we can add your name to the list.

Bill Killen
Vice President, NFHC



Message from the President

I Have a Dream

One of Dr. Martin Luther King's most recognized speeches was called "I Have a Dream." It was delivered on August 28th, 1963, at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. In that speech, Dr. King invoked the image of Lincoln, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the Declaration of Independence. He told the world about his dream, and it moved many to act upon that dream. If you have never read the speech, I recommend it as an excellent example of how to motivate an audience to act upon a vision.

This came to mind to me when contemplating our own organization's need to achieve something of great significance: a permanent home for the NFHC. We too have a document. It is entitled *Heritage Hall - A Proposal to Archive the History of the Fire Service/Fire Protection Disciplines in America*. We also have published Strategic Plan. (See our website for both.) They both contain a dream. If you haven't read the proposal document I can, once again, suggest it to you as an excellent source of motivation for fulfilling the dream of creating such an organization. That dream is a Heritage Center building.

Over ten years ago, a group of dedicated fire professionals met, at the urging of **Dr. Harry Hickey** to create an organization based upon that proposal. Since that time we have accomplished a great deal. For one

thing, the organization has achieved national recognition as a place for personal papers and legacy documents. We are receiving contacts on a weekly basis now. This very success raises the necessity of setting into motion a building fund to house this ever increasing volume of valued information. **That is now the new dream.** Our goal is to raise \$5 million.

We are making some adjustments as an organization to focus upon the need for major capital funding. You will be hearing about that through other emails and newsletter updates. Your ideas and suggestion will be solicited as we expand upon this operational need. Your participation will be encouraged to assist in the work of several new committees that will be focused upon the dream of building an adequate facility to house our collection in the future.

Let us all share in this dream by becoming more focused upon the process of increasing our building funds efforts.

Ronny J. Coleman
President, NFHC

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NFHC Center News Glatfelter Foundation Donation

NFHC has received a \$2,500 donation from **Anthony "Tony" Campisi**, President, **Arthur J. & Lee R. Glatfelter Foundation** of York, Pennsylvania. The Glatfelter donation is the largest single gift to the NFHC since the estate of the late James C. "Robbie" Robertson was probated following his November 2013 passing.

Many in the fire service knew the late Art Glatfelter and his gracious support of important fire services initiatives.

Thanks to NFHC Vice President Bill Killen for his work chasing and coordinating this great donation.

Sprinkler System Update

Representatives of **Reliance Fire Protection, Inc.** of Baltimore visited the building to check on water supply details. Joining them were Emmitsburg's Public Works Director and the Water & Sewer Systems Superintendent. Also on hand was the individual who doing the excavation work. **Chip Jewell** of the Museum side is responsible for coordination with Town and County Governments (including permits) as he's the County Government's Liaison to the Museum. Permits have been pulled. We've been told to plan on the installation process taking up to three weeks. Once install is completed, the system will be tied into the monitored security panel.

Wayne Powell
Executive Director, NFHC

NFHC to Participate in Antique Fire Apparatus Muster

In September, the National Fire Heritage Center will participate in the 9/11 Stair Climb and Muster sponsored by St. Florian 911 Lodge No. 238, AF & AM.

St. Florian is the only Masonic Lodge in North America for firefighters and is partnering with the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and the Prince Georges County Fire/EMS Department to host the first 9/11 Antique Fire Apparatus



Muster, September 10, 2016.

The muster will be held in conjunction with the 2016 Prince George's County 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb and Walk at National Harbor, a census-designated place and development along the Potomac River in Oxon Hill, Prince George's County, Maryland, just south of Washington, D.C. near the Woodrow Wilson Bridge.

The National Fire Heritage Center will have a booth and display at the muster site. NFHC staff will be on hand to answer questions.

Bill Killen
Vice President, NFHC

Welcome to New Members and Contributors

Mr. Tim Butters of Fairfax County, VA (known to many given his various fire service roles over the years), **Mr. Tom Forester** of Marin County, CA (a champion of Marin County Fire History), **Mr. Harold Mace** of Oklahoma (a widely respected national fire leader of long standing), and **Chief Harry Tagen** of NH, as a result of Chief Killen's encouragement. Chief Tagen had a distinguished career in military fire protection.

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Thank you, **W.S. Darley & Co.**, of Illinois for your generous donation to the NFHC.

NFHC VP **William D. Killen** donated to the NFHC in memory of the late **Clarence Carpenter** of the Potomac Valley VFD in southern Maryland. Chief Carpenter was a past president of the state's fire association and a mentor to many.

Shows & Exhibits

Among the committees established by Bill Killen (see article on p.1) is one dealing with Shows and Exhibits. Because I managed 18-20 trade show exhibits a year in a previous life, I was asked to chair that committee.

In the past few years, we have exhibited at two or three shows that fit our two basic budget criteria:

- Free booth space
- Close enough to home that we don't need hotel rooms.

This has limited us to the Congressional Fire Services Institute in Washington, DC; the Pennsylvania Fire Expo, in Harrisburg; and Firehouse Expo in Baltimore.

This year we are being more aggressive, adding two more major shows. We still look for free booth space, but we will be staffing our exhibits with members who already plan to attend the shows too far away for NFHC staff to attend. Here's a list of the shows at which we will be exhibiting:

- Congressional Fire Services Institute, May 4-5, Washington DC (already done!).



Above, in front of the NFHC Booth L to R are NFHC Director Parker Browne of Ohio along with new Michigan State Fire Marshal Julie Secontine and Fire Chief Ken Gaiser (retired) of Pennsylvania.

- Pennsylvania Fire Expo, May 20-22, Harrisburg PA (already done!)
- Keystone Firefighters Conference, July 15-17, King of Prussia PA
- FRI, August 19-20, San Antonio TX
- Firehouse Expo, October 18-22, Nashville TN

If you will be attending any of those shows, and can help staff the NFHC booth, please let me know!

Along with the need to staff booths farther away is the need for a more portable display. We are in need of a display that is designed to be shipped, and that can be set up easily by one person. If anyone knows of such a display that is no longer needed by its current owner, please let me know at 301-788-5768 or accobonack@aol.com.

Frank Schmersal
Chair, NFHC Shows and Exhibits Committee

Driving to Emmitsburg?

The NFHC seeks students, instructors and special meeting attendees driving to town for classes and programs at the National Emergency Training Center who might be willing to bring historic fire-related print



materials donations to help save on NFHC shipping costs.

We can always be available to receive materials prior to

entering campus. Typically, the size of the load can be 1–3 cartons. Feel free to call NFHC Executive Director Wayne Powell at 240-344-7390 if willing to help.

Notes from the NFHC Archives

The State of the Archive

We now have over 11,000 objects cataloged; a new directory will be created for the web site soon. Our backlog now stands at 550-600 cartons of material, with more coming in every week. We now are set up to copy VHS tapes to DVD for greater permanence.

Recent Acquisitions

And still the materials arrive at the Heritage Center! Since the last newsletter, we have received 32 large cartons of materials from the Learning Resource Center at the National Emergency Training Center. We also have received 33 heavy cartons of materials from **DePere (WI) Fire-Rescue**, courtesy of **Chief Dennis Rubin**. **Boone Gardiner** sent four cartons and some smaller packages. We have received about ten cartons more from the family of the late **Harvey Eisner**, and we received a pickup load of slides and movies from **John Senft** of York, PA. Oh yes, and two floodlights from a 1928 Mack floodlight truck in Johnson City, NY, courtesy of **Jerry Clark**. There have been lots of other donations as well.

The Archivist's Wish List

Our wish list has gotten smaller, since **"Doc" Kinney** of the Frederick County Museum Committee found a copy stand with floodlights for us. We photograph every object that we catalog, and attach the photograph(s) to the computer record, so we will get a lot of use out of the copy stand.

The Late Jan Gratton Display and Tree Planting

A couple years ago, **President Coleman** facilitated the receipt of the **Jan Gratton Collection** to the NFHC. **Carol Gross**, retired public fire safety educator from the Phoenix Fire Department, worked with Chief Coleman to help the Gratton family coordinate the transfer of materials to Emmitsburg.



Jan's daughter, Laurie, and family are planning to be in Emmitsburg for a short Memorial Tree

Planting Ceremony in Jan's memory on the weekend of September 17-18. NFHC will help arrange the tree (probably a Dogwood).

Jan, who had been active on the national stage for years, died in November 2015. Her obituary

http://memorialwebsites.legacy.com/janice_gratton/Subpage.aspx?mod=1 contains a reference to her materials at the NFHC.

Further information about the tree planting will be forthcoming once details are set.

Wayne Powell
Executive Director, NFHC

A Look at a July Fire



Emmet Kelly, famous sad-faced clown who had been busy making kids laugh before the fire, lugs water for bucket brigade past burning tent embers.

LIFE, 1944

The fire at the Ringling Brothers Barnum and Bailey Circus in Hartford, CT, in July 1944 took the lives of an estimated 170 people and injured another 700 persons



History Makers: Derrick J.V. Sawyer

Chief Derrick J.V. Sawyer is a 30 year veteran of the Philadelphia Fire Department (PFD) who served as the 19th Fire Commissioner of the Department from June 2014 to May 2016. Over 2400 members fell under his command. With a passion for educating the community on the merits of safety and preparedness, he has become a sought after public speaker and revels in the opportunity to engage the community, as well as public and private sector entities.

Over the past decade Chief Sawyer has traveled the globe to educate diverse communities on the effectiveness of Community Risk Reduction, and fire & life safety education. Among his most impactful presentations were the 2011 International Safety Seminar in Seoul Korea and the National Fire Protection Association's Annual Conference. He led the award winning Fire Prevention Division and as a result of his hands on leadership, assisted the Department in reducing the number of fire fatalities in the City of Philadelphia to its lowest rate in recorded history. Chief Sawyer was the 2011 recipient of the T. Seddon Duke Award for Fire Prevention.

Chief Sawyer has served in every civil service rank as well as every Mayoral appointed position within the fire service including Deputy Commissioner for both Technical Services and Operations. He's held staff positions in the Technical Support



Unit, headed the Department's Homeland Security Division and has presented at the 9th Annual Montgomery

County Chief Officers Seminar on the importance of information sharing as it relates to preparing for and preventing terrorist attacks.

Currently, he serves as the Chairperson for the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) Urban Fire Safety Taskforce. Additionally, Chief Sawyer maintains membership with the NFPA Technical Committee 1730, Deployment and Staffing for Fire Prevention Activities, the FM Global Fire Service Advisory Group and the American Red Cross of Southeastern PA.

Chief Sawyer has augmented his academic accomplishments by graduating from the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program, the Carl Holmes Executive Development Institute and The Harvard Kennedy School of Executive Education for State and Local Government. He has obtained certifications as Fire Officer IV, Fire Instructor II, Fire Inspector, Hazardous Material Technician, and Firefighter II. Sawyer also holds an Associate Degree in Fire Science from Community College of Philadelphia, a Bachelor of Arts Degree in

Public Safety Administration from Holy Family University and a Masters Degree in Homeland Security from Saint Joseph's University.

What first attracted you to working in fire safety?

What first attracted me to work in fire safety was the ability to provide assistance to others and it was not your regular 9am-5pm career opportunity. There was always a different challenge each day.

How did your career path change? What was your biggest surprise?

My career path changed when I made the decision to accept an assignment the fire prevention division of the PFD. At that time, I was exposed to a variety of national organizations including Vision 20/20 and the National Fire Protection Association. My biggest surprise was the number of individuals who were passionate about fire and life safety.

“My biggest surprise was the number of individuals who were passionate about fire and life safety.”

In your view, what has been your greatest contribution to fire safety and why?

My biggest contribution to fire safety has been leading the charge and helping the PFD accomplish its goal of decreasing the number of fire fatalities in the City of Philadelphia. This has a major impact on public safety for the City, as well as possibly public safety across the nation as other agencies

benchmark the initiatives we have utilized to accomplish our goal.

Who were your mentors and how did they help you?

My mentors include a number of National Fire Academy instructors, as well as the previous Fire Commissioner of Philadelphia, **Lloyd Ayers**. These individuals helped me refine my vision for public safety and specifically retired Fire Commissioner, Lloyd Ayers, by allowing me to introduce new ideas such as Community Risk Reduction (CRR) to the PFD.

What are the biggest challenges in the next 5 years? 10 years?

The biggest challenges will be how the fire service industry can utilize CRR to reduce the rising numbers associated with emergency medical cost. Looking further into the future, the biggest challenge will be how we can use CRR to reduce the amount of home-grown terrorists and terrorist attacks on United States soil.

What is fire safety's biggest piece of unfinished business?

In my opinion, the biggest piece of unfinished business in fire safety is to assure that each home in the U.S. is equipped with residential sprinklers.

“The biggest piece of unfinished business in fire safety is to assure that each home in the U.S. is equipped with residential sprinklers.”

If you could start your career over, what would you do differently?

If I had the ability to start my career over, I Master's level education sooner and started ascending the ranks of the fire department. would have completed both my Bachelor's and Master's work sooner

Any regrets?

I do not have any regrets because I believe in a higher power and that I am exactly where I

am supposed to be at this juncture in my career.

What is your advice to those who are just starting a career in fire safety?

My advice to those just starting a career in fire safety is to never forget what their primary goal and mission is related to their career choice: to save life and protect property. I would add if they are going through trying times in their career, always revert back to their primary goal.

Summer Fire Safety

Every year Americans look forward to summer vacations, camping, family reunions, picnics, and the Fourth of July. Summertime, however, also brings fires and injuries due to fireworks and outdoor cooking.

Encourage summer fire safety in your community with these free materials from the USFA.

GRILLING FIRE SAFETY
KNOWING A FEW FIRE SAFETY GRILLING TIPS WILL HELP EVERYONE HAVE A SAFE SUMMER.

- Only use your grill outside. Keep it away from siding and deck rails.
- Keep a 3-foot safe zone around your grill and samples. This will keep kids and pets safe.
- Clean your grill after each use. This will remove grease that can start a fire.
- Place the coals from your grill in a metal can with a lid once they have cooled.
- Open your gas grill before lighting.
- Keep an eye on your grill, fire pit, or patio torches. Never leave any of them unattended.

STAY FIRE-SAFE THIS SUMMER!

For more information and resources, visit www.usfa.fema.gov and www.usfa.org

FOCUS ON FIRE SAFETY Summer Fire Safety

Follow these simple tips to help you and those you love stay fire safe this summer season!

- Avoid public fireworks displays, and leave the lighting to the professionals.
- Enjoy in-lane celebrations and cookouts, but remember to keep a 3-foot "safe zone" around grills and campfires.
- Build campfires at least 15 feet away from tree walls, shrubs or other materials that burn.

For more information and free resources, visit www.usfa.fema.gov.

FEMA USFA

FOCUS ON FIRE SAFETY Summer Fire Safety

- Wear short sleeves or roll sleeves up when cooking on the grill.
- Use long-handled barbecue tools.
- Keep a fire extinguisher around grills, fire pits and campfires.
- Avoid public fireworks displays, this leaves the lighting to the professionals.

Flare and fire burners

- Place the burner in cool water for three to five minutes.
- Cover the burner with a clean, dry cloth.
- See your doctor if the burn is larger than your palm.

For more information and free resources, visit www.usfa.fema.gov.

FEMA USFA

FOCUS ON FIRE SAFETY Summer Fire Safety

Know how to prevent a burn while you enjoy outdoor activity this summer.

- Wash your hands before you eat.
- Wash your hands after you eat.
- Wash your hands after you use the restroom.
- Wash your hands after you touch a pet.
- Wash your hands after you touch a child.

For more information and free resources, visit www.usfa.fema.gov.

FEMA USFA

NFHC Committee Appointments

Committee	Chair	NFHC Member(s)	NFHC Non-Member(s)
Acquisitions	Frank Schmersal		Ed Schwartz
Administration	Fred Brower		
Ambassadors/Student Chapters	Jonathan Lund		
Auditing	Billy Shelton		Julian Taliaferro
By-Laws	Steve Austin		Sam Goldwater
Building	Parker Browne	Don Briggs Gary Frederick Stu Nathan Sonny Scarff	Doug Williams
DVD History Videos	Chris Jelenewicz	Rod Slaughter Ken Stewart	
Finance	Diane Breedlove	Paul Brooks	Chuck Aby George Glenn Jean Rosensteel
Facilities Maintenance	Frank Schmersal Wayne Powell		Brenda Powell Jason Powell Melissa Powell Matt Provance Renata Provance Ron Stonesifer
Fundraising	Billy Shelton	Fred Brower David White Lynn White	
Exhibitions (Trade Shows)			
Hall of Legends	Bill Killen	Gary Frederick	Jack McElfish Harry Tagen, Jr.
Gift Shop Operations (Salable)			
Marketing		Rod Slaughter	Ignatius Kapalczynski
Membership		Johanna Schmersal	
Newsletter	Pam Powell	Harry Carter Larry Few	
Nominating	Don Briggs	Gary Frederick Stu Nathan Robin Scarff	
Staffing		Molly Clifford	
Strategic Planning	Ron Coleman	Paul Brooks Rod Slaughter Hugh Wood	
Website/Social Media	Chris Jelenewicz	Maury Grundy Pete Piringer Pam Powell Rodney Slaughter	