January 2021 Newsletter

In Memoriam: Daniel Kenney

A lifelong member of the Upper Darby Fire Company Dan Kenney was never happier than when he was deep in research on the history of the Philadelphia Fire Department. He came to Fireman’s Hall Museum in 1992, volunteering his services and quickly got a research department for the museum up and running. Harry Magee, curator of the museum at the time, recalls that Dan was tenacious in tracking down old newspaper files and more, looking for background material for HikeOut, the PFD’s 125th anniversary history. Dan even badgered the folks at the Free Library of Philadelphia into giving him a dedicated desk! Dan’s interests were broad and his research packets legendary, ranging from inventions to the history of African-Americans within the PFD, and he delighted in answering questions researchers posed to the museum. Dan persuaded his wife JoAnne to help with his research and both were familiar figures at the museum throughout the 1990s. Sadly, Dan’s health declined and visits became less frequent; he died this past November. Attached here is a link to his obituary, a life filled with public service. He will be missed by his family and friends and his Fireman’s Hall Museum family.

January Membership meeting:
On January 28 at 7 pm, Chief Greg Masi will present a preview of the 100th anniversary Celebration of the Philadelphia Second Alarmers’ history. Please email us at pfdhc@firemanshallmuseum.org to get the link.
Black History Month:
Join us on February 26th as we host our annual Black History Celebration. This year, we are remembering the Iron Men of Engine 11.

EMS Medical Provider Awards:
It’s not too soon to start thinking of nominations for this year’s EMS Medical Provider awards. If you know an EMT or a Paramedic who has gone above and beyond everyone duties to help someone please submit a nomination. More information can be found on our website: Firefighter and Paramedic of the Year – Fireman's Hall Museum Philadelphia.

Curator’s Corner:
Have you been keeping up with the great content that the museum’s curator, Brian Anderson, has been sharing with his curator’s corner episodes on LaSalle television? Links are available on our YouTube channel: (235) Fireman's Hall Museum - YouTube. Curator’s Corner is available to view on the week of Feb. 15th.

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