May 2021 Newsletter

Jack Wright in Memoriam: We are deeply saddened by the loss of our beloved Jack Wright. Jack became the official PFD historian in 2007. Co-author of *Hike Out*, the only written history of the Philadelphia Fire Department. Jack also wrote *From Horses to Horsepower*, a history of Philadelphia’s fire apparatus. He served as a contributing editor to *Fire Apparatus Journal*. Jack’s many Facebook posts on the museum page have been added to our website as part of our PFD Historian’s Blog. His steadfast commitment to preserving Philadelphia’s Fire history has been an invaluable asset to the museum. Jack was a welcoming person, who brought warmth to every room. On April 6, 2021, Jack Wright passed away after a long battle with cancer. A lifelong resident of Philadelphia, he will be greatly missed here at the Museum.

Line of Duty Death Memorial: We are raising money to expand and update the Line of Duty Death archive that will complement the memorial wall on the second floor of the Museum. The wall consists of engraved plaques with the names of fallen firefighters. We are planning to add a kiosk to the display, visitors will be able to access personal information on those listed on the wall. We are currently raising funds for the project and have a commitment for a matching gift that will be given in memory of Commissioner William C. Richmond. Our goal is to raise $2500, please follow this link to contribute to the fund.

Where O’ Where is O’Leary: Good news! We’ve found the name of our firehouse dog. Our beloved hound formerly known as “Sparky” is named O’Leary. Now that we have found his name, can you help us find O’Leary? Follow us on social media to join us for our newest segment, Where O’ Where is O’Leary. We will be photographing O’Leary at various fire stations around the city. Test your knowledge, how well do you know city fire stations?

May 2021 Members Night: Stephen Heaver, executive director of the Fire Museum of Maryland, will be speaking at our Members Night on May 27th at 7pm.

Manayunk Driving Tour: Want to brush up your knowledge on fire stations around the city? Have you taken our walking tours yet? We recently added a driving tour of the fire stations around Manayunk to our roster of tours. You can find those on our website.

Social Media: Make sure you are following us on Social Media to keep up with everything we are up to here at the museum in real time. Instagram: @firemanshall, Twitter: @firemanshall, and subscribe to our YouTube channel.

Golf Outing: We are planning to have our annual Golf Outing on Wednesday, October 13th 2021, we hope you will be able to join us as we resume to our annual golf outing tradition.

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