



THE NATIONAL FIRE HOUSE AND MUSEUM OF PHILADELPHIA  
147 North 2nd Street • Philadelphia, PA 19106-2010 • 215-923-1438

## Fall 2023 Newsletter



**Firefighter and Emergency Medical Service Provider of the Year:** On Friday October 13, 2023, the annual awards for Firefighter and Emergency Medical Service Providers of the Year were presented in a ceremony at Fireman's Hall Museum by Commissioner Adam Thiel, the PFD Executive Team, and Mayor Jim Kenney. FF Anthony Menna L19/D was recognized for pulling an unconscious driver from a burning car on the Schuylkill Expressway. FSP Thomas Olkowski M45/C, and FSE Michael Lapsker M45/C were honored for their response to a gas explosion in a Port Richmond neighborhood. The Philadelphia Fire Department Historical Corporation was represented by President Eugene Janda, Robert Shea, and the Philadelphia Contributionship's Kevin Tate.



**Franklin 300:** On the morning of October 6, 2023, Philadelphia reenacted the arrival of young Benjamin Franklin to the city on the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that event. The fireboat Marine Unit 1 guided into port the founder of the inaugural Union Fire Company and the Philadelphia Contributionship fire insurance company.

**Five Saints Distilling Fundraiser:** Time is quickly running out to join us at Five Saints Distilling at 129 East Main Street in Norristown, at the old Humane Engine #1 firehouse, from 6:00-9:00pm on Thursday, November 2. This event combines a tour of the distillery and tastings of small batch liquors with a tour of the Humane Fire Company collection. To secure your spot, contact Carol Smith at (609) 320-1417 or at [pfdhc@firemanshallmuseum.org](mailto:pfdhc@firemanshallmuseum.org) and send a check (\$75/person) made out to Fireman's Hall Museum to the address listed in the header above. Thanks to the NFSA PenJerDel Chapter for their generous sponsorship of this event.



**18<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing:** Mark your calendars! Fireman's Hall Museum's annual Golf Outing will be returning to Westover Country Club in Norristown on Wednesday, May 22, 2024!

*Funding for Fireman's Hall is supported by a general operating support grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We are grateful to them for their ongoing support.*

# Fireman's Hall Museum



**Christmas Ornament:** Look out for two new Christmas Ornaments from Fireman's Hall Museum, available soon in our gift shop and on our website, each priced at \$25.00!



**Goodwill Engine Move:** The 1839 Goodwill Engine was moved into Fire Department Headquarters on Monday, October 16 from its former home in Bernville, PA. The Bernville Community Fire Company has loaned the engine to Fireman's Hall Museum, having purchased it from Goodwill Engine Company in 1865 and used it until 1915. Thanks to Lt. Ryan Tredenick for his assistance in coordinating the move and to Engine 11 for temporary storage of the engine while arrangements for its display were made.



**9/11 Commemoration:** Members of Philadelphia's police, fire, and prisons departments gathered outside of Fireman's Hall Museum on the morning of September 11, 2023, proceeding at 9:59 AM through Old City to the sound of drums and bagpipes to a memorial bell-ringing in the courtyard of the Betsy Ross House.

**Membership Night:** The museum's next Membership Night is currently planned for the evening of Thursday, November 30. Become a member at [firemanshallmuseum.org/membership](http://firemanshallmuseum.org/membership) and be included in events like this, seeing sites from today's PFD and Philadelphia's firefighting history.

**Maui Apparatus Models:** Modelmaker John Nanartowicz has loaned Fireman's Hall Museum some of his work, recreating equipment from the Maui County Fire Department which has been fighting historic wildfires on the island.



**Fire Prevention Month:** This isn't just Red October, but it's also Fire Prevention Month! Visit our website to see our various resources to help prepare you and your family against fires – and visit Fireman's Hall Museum to learn more in person, testing your knowledge about 911 and seeing the tools of fire prevention from across Philadelphia history!



**Social Media:** If you haven't checked out the resources on Fireman's Hall [website](http://firemanshallmuseum.org) recently, you've missed a lot! Also keep an eye on @firemanshall on [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/firemanshall) and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/firemanshall) for the latest news and subscribe to our [Youtube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) channel for the Curator's Corner and other updated offerings! And join the museum's [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/firemanshallmuseum) group and become part of the conversation on our ongoing research!