



THE NATIONAL FIRE HOUSE AND MUSEUM OF PHILADELPHIA  
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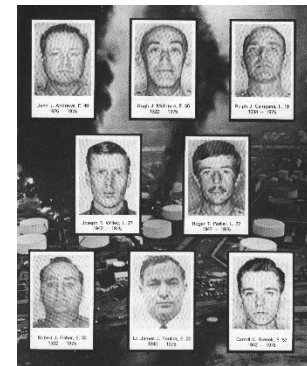
## Summer 2025 Newsletter



**19<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing RESCHEDULED!**: Due to inclement weather in May, Fireman's Hall Museum's return to Westover Country Club in Norristown this year has been rescheduled for Wednesday July 23, 2025. This means you still have a chance to join us for a day on the links with a box lunch, followed by cocktails and dinner in support of our museum programming. You can still register on the Fireman's Hall Museum website at <https://www.firemanshallmuseum.org/2025-golf-outing/>.

For information on sponsorship and donation opportunities, contact Carol Smith at [pfdhc@firemanshallmuseum.org](mailto:pfdhc@firemanshallmuseum.org) or call (609) 320-1417. Thank you to our sponsors and to the businesses donating items for the evening raffle! Get your foursome together and join us on a fun summer day to benefit a great cause.

**Philadelphia Gulf Refinery Fire Anniversary:** Early on the morning of Sunday August 17, 1975, fire broke out at 5:57 AM as a tanker was offloading crude oil at the Gulf Oil Refinery at Girard Point. Burning over 24 hours, the fire reached eleven alarms by that evening. As multiple explosions and ignitions threatening the neighborhood around the refinery, firefighters contended with inadequate drainage and deenergized lines. Six firefighters were killed during the fire and two others died of injuries over subsequent days. Plaques honoring these eight were placed outside Fireman's Hall Museum in a ceremony in August 2007. The full story of the fire is told in a [YouTube](#) video made for the 45th anniversary.



At 11:00 AM on Sunday August 17, 2025, Fireman's Hall Museum will mark the 50th anniversary of the fire at this memorial site. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street will be closed off to vehicle traffic and the department will remember the eight fallen firefighters memorialized on the site.

**EMS Provider of the Year 2025:** Congratulations to Fire Service Paramedic Zachary Weinstein and FF/EMT Mitchell Valentin. In May 2024, the pair rescued a gunshot victim while gunfire was happening around them. The two will be awarded in October here at Fireman's Hall Museum.

*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

**Lazaretto Restoration Challenge Grant:** The B.R. Howard Company in Carlisle, PA is making great progress on their long work of cleaning and restoring the original 1803 “Philadelphia-style” Pat Lyon hand engine from the Lazaretto Quarantine Station in Tinicum, carefully stabilizing the original colorful paint still surviving underneath its later plain varnish and the two centuries worth of wear. As we approach 2026, we look forward to having this piece of fire history available for display at the museum.

Fireman’s Hall Museum remains excited that the Pennsylvania Lumbermens Mutual Insurance Company has offered a \$5,000 Matching Challenge Grant toward the completion of the work on the Lazaretto Engine. The museum continues to ask for your help in completing our match of PLM’s offer. Any amount, large or small, contributes towards the total we are looking to reach, and any money donated goes directly to restoring this artifact. Donations can be made by check directly to the museum or the PFDHC or easily [online](#) via a link in our updated [Gift Shop](#).



**First Fridays:** Out late in Old City? Fireman’s Hall Museum remains open until 9:00pm on the first Friday of every month! Look for the open bay doors on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street!

Visit our online gift shop at [firemanshallstore.com](http://firemanshallstore.com)

**Wawa Welcome America Festival:** Fireman’s Hall Museum is always free to visit, but our Free Museum Day on Thursday July 3 will be a unique day of family fun – with a visit from Firefighter Ben, special guests from Engine 8, and a lot more for fire buffs of all ages!



**New to the Collection:** This May, the collections team at Fireman’s Hall Museum paid a visit to the Wildwood Historical Museum and obtained various Philadelphia Fire Department objects from them for our collection: a display case of ribbons (pictured), a framed honorary membership certificate from Weccacoe Fire Company, an insurance plaque from the Fire Association, and a ½ inch PFD silver button. Like FHM, Wildwood is a free museum full of interesting local history lovingly cared for and well worth a visit.



**Social Media:** Keep an eye on the Fireman’s Hall [website](#) and follow the museum at [@firemanshall](#) on [Instagram](#) and [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#) for all the latest news, and subscribe to our [Youtube](#) channel for the Curator’s Corner and other updated offerings! Join the museum’s [Facebook](#) group to become part of the conversation on ongoing research and to view photos and stories from our archives!

[www.firemanshallmuseum.org](http://www.firemanshallmuseum.org)

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