

NEW HIRES, NEW TRADITIONS

We have successfully started a new tradition at the Fort Lauderdale Fire Department. Our new hires volunteer to help the museum while they are on probation. When a new class comes in, they pass the torch. Class 2021-01 was awarded a brick in our walkway for their



efforts by consistently showing up to help on multiple occasions while they were on probation. Class 2022-01 has made a great entrance by showing up while still in training to help us prepare for our grand re-opening.

Thanks to Trustee Aaron Caja and Taylor Beavers for leading the pack and getting it done the museum looked great for our official grand re-opening. ■

Pictured (left to right): Wally Shrubbs (retired), Daly, Renph, Contreras, Oblak, Majido, Brown, Frew, and Cam. Work party leaders and Trustees Aaron Caja and Taylor Beavers

2022 Firefighter Memorial Ceremony

On February 19, 2022, the Fort Lauderdale Fire Museum, in conjunction with the IAFF Local 765, hosted the annual 2022 Firefighters' Memorial.

The annual event pays tribute to all retired and deceased uniformed members of the Fort Lauderdale Fire Department who have served the city of Fort Lauderdale with bravery and distinction.

This year's service formally recognized the following members whose names were added to the memorial wall:



MUSEUM LEADERSHIP

President

Nathan Morris

Vice President

Kim Van Sant

Secretary / Curator

Jim Van Drunen

Interim Treasurer

Ann Lindie-MacNeil

Trustees

Aaron Caja

Taylor Beavers

Mike Grady

Dave Parker

Walter Schrubb

Bill Sharp

Administration

Debra Flowers

Newsletter Editor

Erica Lowther

Comments or Questions:

Email fifiremuseum@gmail.com.

Membership Information:

General membership is available for retired fire, EMS personnel, and civilians. Payroll Deductions are available to active duty and City of Fort Lauderdale Employees. For details, visit our [website](#).

Follow Us on Facebook!

[@FireMuseum1912](#)

MUSEUM GRAND REOPENING A SUCCESS

After closing for several reasons — the pandemic, lack of volunteer availability, and maintenance needs — the Fort Lauderdale Fire & Safety Museum held its grand reopening celebration on April 30, 2022.

In partnership with Leadership Fort Lauderdale Class 28, the museum had a DJ, face painting, food trucks, and a fire hose competition for the kids. Visitors were able to explore the antique fire engines, take a guided or self-directed tour of the museum and its artifacts, as well as view the Fort Lauderdale Firefighter Memorial.

Since it opened in 2008, the museum has been fulfilling its mission of preserving the heritage and history of the Fort Lauderdale Fire Department, educating the public about fire

safety, and last but certainly not least teaching our youth about careers in the fire service. But like much of daily life, the museum was hit hard by the COVID pandemic, which forced it to close in March 2020. It reopened with only special events.

Nathan Morris, Museum President, recognized over 30 volunteers and businesses during the special opening ceremony for their support that allowed the museum to reopen.

Regular museum hours are currently the last Saturday of each month from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The museum is staffed entirely by volunteers. Although admission is free, donations are encouraged. Operation funds are obtained through membership dues, donations, and fundraisers. ■



2022 MEMORIAL CEREMONY

- Ann Margaret Linehan
- Leslie “Skip” Walters, Jr.
- Ronald John Pritchard
- Leslie “Fuzzy” Larkin
- Earl “The Pearl” LaChance
- Dennis Gilbert Jackson, Jr.
- Robert O. Hooper, Jr.
- Wayne Bulman
- Bruce C. Strandhagen, Sr.
- Larry Schwartz
- Gary M. Lanier
- Peter E. Desideri
- Richard L. Weston
- John H. Yancey, Jr.
- John E. “Jack” Lundstrom
- Richard H. Palmer

The Museum would like to thank everyone who made the service a memorable event for all those who attended. ■



THE LORRAINE THOMAS SCHOLARSHIP FUND RECIPIENTS

The Fort Lauderdale Fire Museum is proud to announce the recipients of the 2022 Lorraine Thomas Scholarship.

Trevor Bloomberg, son of Captain Michael Bloomberg, and graduating senior at Jupiter Community High School is the award recipient of The Lorraine Thomas Scholarship. Bloomberg will receive \$2,500. Trevor will be attending Florida Gulf Coast University, majoring in Environmental Science.

Keira Wells, daughter

of Lieutenant Matthew Wells, graduating senior at St Thomas Aquinas High school, is the \$1,500 recipient. Keira will be attending the University of Alabama, majoring in Business.

Congratulations to Trevor and Keira on being selected as the recipients of the Lorraine Thomas Scholarship. Your impressive achievements were the basis for the scholarship you have been awarded and we are confident that you will be equally successful at your respective colleges. ■



Trevor Bloomberg with father



Keira Wells with parents, Dena & Matthew Wells

MEET OUR REHABILITATION TEAM...



Pictured from left top right: Jim Van Drunen, Mike Grady (retiree), Kim Van Sant (retiree), Bill Sharp (retiree), Nathan Morris, Taylor Beavers, and Greg Dahlke. Not pictured: Dave Parker and Aaron Caja

Our museum has made a major transformation in the past three years and it's all thanks to this amazing group of people that it has happened. Due to the dedication, of our rehabilitation team, our museum is in arguably the best place it has ever been.

The Recruit Class 21-01, who has been awarded a brick in our walkway for consistently showing up to work parties and taking part in museum activities. Thanks for setting the bar for our future new hires.

Funding for the updates and maintenance of the museum comes from our monthly income thanks to our voluntary payroll members and other donors. ■



Pictured from left top right, top to bottom: Jim Van Drunen, Greg Dahlke, Nathan Morris, Taylor Beavers, Mike Grady, Anthony Milone, Jesus Martinez Jr, Craig Cohan, Chance Davis

*Your acts of kindness are small
but their impact is huge*

How can you participate? Sign up to volunteer with the Rehabilitation Team and donate time once a month through our website. You can register at <https://www.fortlauderdalefiremuseum.com/>. ■

AWARDS CEREMONY

VOLUNTEER AND DONOR SUPPORT RECOGNITION

We've got a lot of work ahead of us but the monetary and physical donations made by the following individuals has made it that much easier to get things done and thrust us forward. We thank you for your support and for your desire to help us succeed in this venture.

Each of these volunteers and donors will receive a brick in our east walkway. Smaller bricks are given to those who have been of service to the museum or donated over \$500. Individuals who have devoted a significant amount of time or donors over \$5000 get the large bricks.

Members of the Restoration Team

- Nathan Levi Morris, President
- Kim Van Sant, Vice President
- Jim Van Drunen, Secretary
- Todd Kesterson, Accountant / Trustee
- Greg Dahlke, Apparatus Restoration
- Mike Grady, Trustee
- Taylor Beavers, Trustee
- Aaron Caja, Trustee
- Dave Parker, Trustee

Rehab Donors

- Shannon Ayer, Precision Painting & Waterproofing
- Kim Goodman, Tru Colors Contracting
- Josh Cohen, Sunshine Backflow & Plumbing services
- Zack Wallick, Kairos Roofing Co
- Kyle Archacki, KLE Services
- Mark Khayata, Roofing Services
- Dani Gentile, Donor, mannequins, uniform
- Keith Costa, Local 765
- Debbie Van Drunen, Little Debbie Productions
- Recruit Class 2021-01 Tradition
- International Association of Firefighters, Local 765
- Javier Martinez, Infinity Roofing Co.
- Timothy Heiser, FLF-R
- Patricia Heiser
- David Cherry, FLF-R Vice President
- David Landers, David's Embroidery
- The Hailey Family, Logo design
- Commissioner Ben Sorenson
- Commissioner Steven Glassman
- The Veterans Trust
- David and Jase Williams for IT services
- Battalion Chief Stephen Gollan



- The Dunlap Family

Original Founders

- John Heiser, President
- Gerald Bagwell, Vice President
- Jim Van Drunen, Curator and Secretary
- Bill Sharp, Trustee and Craftsman
- John Aurelius, Trustee and City Liaison
- Michael Rauch, Treasurer
- Lynnda Butler, Membership Secretary
- David Parker, Trustee
- Bruce MacNeil, Trustee
- Ann Lindie-MacNeil, Trustee

- Arthur F. & Alice E. Adams Charitable Foundation
- Stiles Family Foundation
- John E. Aurelius, Attorney
- Fort Lauderdale Firefighter's Benevolent Association
- David Blackard, Museum Consultant
- Michael Bruder, M.A.B. Paint Co. (Deceased – family)
- The Buckley Window Corporation
- Santos Santiago of Caribbean Fire Sprinkler Co.
- Devin Rauch, Web Services
- Douglas & Jane Eagon

Major Donors

- John T. “Jack” Loos, Jr.
- The William H. & Tina Rosenberg Foundation
- Safety Solutions, Incorporated

With each donation we receive, we become that much closer to our goal. Thank you for making a difference through your compassion and generosity. ■



Museum Improvements

SEE A NEED, FILL A NEED: WISHLIST ITEMS FULFILLED

Thanks to a generous contribution from the Sailboat Bend Civic Association (SBCA), we were able to replace the worn-out awnings with new ones that blend with Historic Fire Station 3's colors and hint at patterns both popular in the 1920s and now.

We would humbly like to extend our thanks to the Sailboat Bend neighborhood for their willingness to support us. Their donation is greatly appreciated.

Do you want to help? We are currently developing a “WISH LIST” of items that would benefit our focus and growth as a museum. If you have a donation you'd like to share or to contribute a financial donation, please visit the Fort Lauderdale Fire and Safety Museum website. ■



FINALLY...OUR ROOFS ARE REPAIRED!

Historic Fire Station 3's roof is almost 100 years old and has not always received the best maintenance. This meant that we have suffered water leaks and falling plaster on several occasions. It's a delight to report that through hard work and generous donations permanent repairs to both the Museum and Fire Alarm Building have been completed!

Emergency repairs donated by our own Captain Mark Khayata and his work party teams, allowed the museum interior to be cleaned, dried, re-plastered, and painted.

Thanks to Javier Martinez, owner of INFINITY ROOFING, and Zack Wallick at KAIROS ROOFING, 100% of materials and skilled labor were donated to make quality repairs to both buildings! Andy Kain at ALL AMERICAN GUTTERS finished up by donating labor to install gutters, charging only for materials.



It is because of the generous community that we live in that we can continue to deliver our mission. ■

New Exhibit: The Apparatus Display

Instead of drilling a bunch of holes in the wall and limiting ourselves to only a couple pictures we decided to put in a small LCD screen with a slide show of our apparatus from 1912 to present day. Some of you may recognize the apparatus emblems display from the hallway. It was relocated to the truck bay and now sits next to the display near our bay doors so our guest can see it as they walk around the apparatus. Thanks to our curator Jim Van Drunen for putting this together and to Battalion Chief Bill Sharp (Ret.) for mounting these new displays. ■



~ Nathan Morris

“Herbie” Gets A Makeover



Only one exhibit in our Museum needed to look modern and up-to-date. It was Herbie the Firefighter, coming down a rescue rope, saving an infant named Hope. Herbie helps teach young people the important message

*Don't be afraid of me,
Don't hide from me.
Come to me and I will help you!*

Thanks to the cooperation of FLFD Support Service, retired firefighters Mike Grady and Wally Schrubbs, Herbie's antiquated gear is gone, and he now teaches youngsters how a firefighter looks today. ■

VOTE ANNUAL ELECTION SEPTEMBER 19TH

The museum will conduct its official elections on Monday, September 19th at 7:00 pm. This election is for all officer and trustee positions. The current board of trustees will select between the candidates and cast a paper ballot. These ballots will then be tallied and announced per our bylaws.

Officer positions are only available to active

SNEAK PEEK...

Over the years, our 1922 American LaFrance "Engine 1" has had overheating issues that predate our ownership. The Museum has turned to Rob Brantley (Pompano Beach FD, retd.) who specializes in restoring historic engines for guidance and to lead our Apparatus Team in tackling the problem.

Brantley gave a report to Museum Board Members on what was needed to diagnose the problem(s) and what may be necessary to rebuild. To diagnose the issue(s), a wooden scaffold was built to allow Rob and our team the ability to remove the engine heads to inspect for cracks and see the water jackets.

As Engine 1 gets a much-needed overhaul, check our Facebook page for brief updates and a write-up in next quarter's newsletter! ■

trustees but anyone interested in becoming a trustee may apply. Per our current bylaws, only board members have voting privileges. Although only board members are allowed to vote, payroll members can recommend new board members to our team. Any recommendation shall be emailed to Nominating Committee Head Debra Flowers at DFlowers@fortlauderdale.gov.

If you are interested in becoming a trustee, we ask that you participate in our monthly board meetings and choose a project at the museum you are interested in pursuing. ■



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST

- August 8 - Museum Board Meeting
- August 26 - First Day of School

SEPTEMBER

- September 5 - Labor Day
- September 11 - 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony
- September 19 - Museum Board Meeting

OCTOBER

- October 3 - Museum Board Meeting
- October 10 - Columbus Day
- October 31 - Halloween

NOVEMBER

- November 6 - Daylight Savings Time
- November 7 - Museum Board Meeting
- November 8 - Election Day

- November 11 - Veterans Day
- November 24 - Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

- December 5 - Museum Board Meeting
- December 25 - Christmas



The Fort Lauderdale Fire and Safety Museum has a monthly meeting on the 1st Monday at 7:00 PM. Meetings are announced on our website. ■