# THE MUSEUM TRUMPET



Vol. 3. No. 4

The Official Newsletter of the San Jose Fire Museum

December 2012

# **President's Message**

By John A. McMillan

### Winter News - 2012

I feel compelled to write in this newsletter about what it's going to take to save "Old Fire Station One" and then remodel it.

I want to start this message by describing who our partners, supporters and volunteers are. They include San Jose firefighters (both active & retired), their families, and friends. We also have many partners, supporters, and volunteers from the private sector. Together, this group of supporters is making a huge difference keeping the San Jose Fire Museum (SJFM) moving forward while preserving the history of firefighting in the City of San Jose.

Yes, we have come a long way as a 501(c)3 non-profit. We are taking all the steps to become a successful Fire Museum in downtown San Jose. We definitely have one of the finest collections of apparatus, tools, equipment and documents. Along with the collection, there is our Business Plan, Newsletter, Board of Directors, Advisory Board and gift shop. The only piece missing is the appropriate building to house this collection so we can display and share it with others in the community and visitors to our great city.

The status of the building known as "Old Fire Station One", is this:

- Until January 20, 2012, Old Fire Station One was an asset that belonged to the City of San Jose's Redevelopment Agency.
- Officially, on February 1, 2012, the City of San Jose Redevelopment Agency was dissolved and a Successor Agency was established. An Oversight Board was selected and one of their obligations is to sell off city assets -including Old Fire Station One. This Successor Agency has designated the

## **Museum's Oldest Member Succumbs**

# Former SJFD Battalion Chief Lawrence A. Campbell Dies

On October 4th, 2012, Retired San Jose Fire Department (SJFD) Battalion Chief Lawrence A. Campbell passed away quietly at his senior living residence in San Marcos, California. Lawrence was 105 years old. He leaves behind a loving family and many, many friends.

Back in April of 2012, when Lawrence turned 105, he was recognized by the NBC Today Show after many years of efforts by several museum members to get his name and face on the show.

Lawrence was hired as a fireman by the San Jose Fire Department on December 16th, 1931. He worked his way up, becoming a lieutenant in 1945, a captain in 1948 and a battalion chief in 1952. He retired from the SJFD in 1962 after a 31-year career. During his young adult life and career as a SJFD

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time period of October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013 as the window that Old Fire Station One shall be sold.

- Then, on March 20, 2012, the San Jose City Council approved City Landmark Status for the former Fire Station One.
- So, we now have 10 months left in the window to make a financial offer for Old Fire Station One.

The good news is that the SJFM has found a financial partner from the private sector. This individual, who wants to remain anonymous at this time, has agreed to help with the purchase and is committed to the cause. But, the SJFM knows that we must be prepared in case our partner cannot follow through with his commitment.

Therefore, we need a backup plan for the purchase -- just in case. The bottom line is



Lawrence A. Campbell April 25, 1907 — October 4, 2012

that we are looking for partners, both public (active and retired firefighters) and/or private, to help with the purchase and remodel of the building. On page 2 of this newsletter, you will see a Capital Improvement Plan section that provides information for anyone who feels compelled to be a part of this great plan to buy and save Old Fire Station One.

The plan includes the acquisition of the building and the implementation of phases of remodeling and new construction over the next 5 to 10 years.

Anyone who gets involved and helps with the finance will become a lifetime partner, and will receive recognition including a permanent place on the museum building listing your name, company or estate.

Remember, we are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization and donations are tax deductible.

# **Just Announced**

# "OLD FIRE STATION NO. 1" CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The "Institution of Extramen" is for current and retired San Jose Firefighters to contribute to the preservation, maintenance and operation of the SJFM -- but, it does not fund the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). We encourage firefighters to also contribute to the CIP separately through the partnership program to support the structural improvements to Old Fire Station No. 1. When accomplished, this building will become the impressive new home of the SJFM. The financial participation of firefighters along with individuals, families, private organizations and corporations is critically necessary. Contribute as a Partner or Founding Partner to share in this exciting endeavor to preserve our history and promote public education of the fire service.



# **CONSTRUCTION PLANS**

Plans for the build-out of the Fire Museum at 201 N. Market Street:

### **Phase 1: Acquisition of Property**

To be completed by 2013. This important, initial step will give us ownership of the existing building at 201 N. Market Street. This structure, built in 1950 and in service for 50 years, is located adjacent to San Jose's current Fire Station No. 1. Estimated to cost \$750,000 to \$1 million.

# Phase 2: Structural Repairs and Remodel

To start in 2013 and be completed in 2015. This work will allow us to open the doors to the public. It will include restoration of all exterior elements of the building including roof, windows, walls and doors. A complete seismic retrofit of the building, site work, and a complete remodel of the first floor space of 9,068 sq. ft. Estimated cost to be \$4.3 million.

# Phase 3: Remodel of Upstairs Floor Space

To start in 2015 and be completed in 2016. Work will include adding an elevator to the second floor to give public access to additional display, classroom and rentable event space. The project will update and remodel approximately 6,730 sq. ft. of interior, upstairs, multi-use floor space. Estimated to cost \$2.2 million.

# Phase 4: Construction of New Display Space

To start in 2017 and be completed in 2019. This "dream" project will recreate the façade of the original Fire Station No. 1 that was built in the late 1800s. By putting all 3 station facades on one site, Phase 4 will complete our goal of telling the entire history of San Jose's Fire Station No. 1. As such, it will be the only place in the nation to have all three Station 1's on the same one-acre site. This new construction will add approximately 9,804 sq. ft. of floor space on two levels. The structure will occupy an area at the rear of the existing station that was formerly used as a work yard. Estimated to cost \$4.4 million.

# How You Can Join Our Team

We have provided our supporters with a variety of ways to donate to the museum's effort. These contributions are necessary to make site and structural improvements to the existing Old Fire Station No. 1 (a San Jose City Landmark) in downtown San Jose. You can join the effort at the following levels:

# **Founding Partners**

San Jose Hook & Ladder No. 1 \$100,000 donations and above

# **Corporate Partners**

Empire Engine Company No. 1 \$50,000 to \$99,999 donations

Torrent Engine Company No. 2 \$25,000 to \$49,999 donations

Franklin Engine Company No. 3 \$10,000 to \$24,999 donations

**Eureka Hose Company** \$1,000 to \$9,999 donations

# Alert Hose Company

Individuals, business or organizations who contribute "in kind" services and materials to the capital improvement of Old Fire Station No. 1

# **Former Chief Dies**

Continued from Page 1...

Firefighter, Campbell lived in the Rose Garden area of the city.

Lawrence is known by many as the Historian Emeritus of the San Jose Fire Museum (SJFM). On January 8, 2013, Lawrence Campbell will receive official recognition from the SJFM Board of Directors as our Historian Emeritus.

From 1946 to 1952, Campbell was assigned to Fire Prevention, where he undertook the responsibility of preserving SJFD Records on his own time. He would spend an hour each day before work to gather information dating from the beginning of the City of San Jose's history, April 13th, 1850 and going to the year 1950. Working with old City Council Minutes, Campbell copied down by hand everything pertaining to the San Jose Fire Department. He would go down into the basement of Old City Hall to find this information. On his annual vacations in Mexico, he spent part of his time transcribing his hand written notes on his typewriter. Lawrence's original typed notes are secured and protected at the San Jose Fire Museum.

After Lawrence retired, he continued to offer assistance to the Department by assisting with the *Guardians of the Garden City - A History of the SJFD from 1850 to 1970.* In 2003 he made a special \$20,000 donation to help pay for the restoration of our 1880 Amoskeag Steam Pumper (SJFD Franklin Engine Co. No. 3). It is now on display at the San Jose Fire Museum and serves as a centerpiece of the collection.

Chief Campbell said his reason for making such a contribution was "...to preserve the history of the San Jose Fire Department".

The family of Lawrence Campbell chose not to hold a service or memorial. He was buried next to his parents in Santa Ana, CA. The San Jose Fire Museum plans to do a dedication for Lawrence Campbell on January 26th, 2013, when we celebrate the 159th Anniversary of the San Jose Fire Dept.

The biographical information in this article was provided by Retired Fire Captain Sam Seibert who was a very special friend of Lawrence's. The SJFM wants to officially thank Sam for preserving this information about a great San Jose Firefighter who cared about the citizens of San Jose and it's fire department's history.

# **Save the Date**

# SJFD's 159th Birthday — Jan. 26

1:00 to 3:00 P.M. - Reception, docent tours and discovery

of 159 years of SJFD history

**3:00 to 4:00 P.M.** - SJFD 159th Anniversary Ceremony

Welcome: SJFM President John A. McMillan

and Guest Speakers

Dedication, Readings and 9 Rings of Fire Bell Recognition Ceremony:

- SJFM Volunteers of the Year
- Memory Crew Recognition
- Dedication to Lawrence Campbell

**4:00 to 5:00 P.M.** - Visit with your friends, take a docent tour and enjoy the collection!

Please RSVP to: SJFM1854@gmail.com

# The San Jose Fire Museum Continues To Be An Active Member of the Community





Jim Carter drove our '23 Torpedo in the San Jose Veteran's Day Parade.

For the second year, our popular Engine 1/2 was a hit with visitors at San Jose's Christmas in the Park.



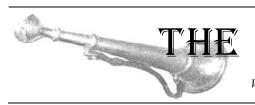
'23 Torpedo at Classic Chevy Club of S.C. Valley's Toy Drive at Cathedral of Faith.



Requested by the SJFD, our antique 1931 Mack was used during the funeral for Cal Fire Battalion Chief Rob Van Wormer.



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#### DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF THE SAN JOSE FIRE DEPARTMENT

# **Calendar of Events**

January 8 SJFM Board Meeting at the Museum

9:00 A.M. to Noon

January 26 SJFD's 159th Anniv. Celebration —

At the Museum from 1:00 P.M. until 5:00 P.M. (See page 3 of this issue)

February 12 SJFM Board Meeting at the Museum

9:00 A.M. to Noon

March 12 SJFM Board Meeting at the Museum

9:00 A.M. to Noon

Sept. 21 San Jose Firefighters' Car and Mo-

torcycle Show will return to San

Jose's History Park.

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Editor John Whitaker

#### **OFFICERS**

President: John McMillan Vice President: Jim Carter Vice President: Phil Reggiardo Secretary: Eileen Townley Treasurer: Rob Cone Derek Parmer Facilities Director: Randy Perez Fleet Director: Special Ops Officer: Mike Igno Preservationist: Laura Colen SJFD Liaison: Sean Lovens Community Liaison: Ed Del Prete President Emeritus: Josh Weggeland Director Emeritus: Dennis Madigan Founder Emeritus: Sam Seibert

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