



THE MUSEUM TRUMPET



Vol. 14. No. 3

The Official Newsletter of the San Jose Fire Museum

July 2023

WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER!

Every San Jose Fire fighter whether Active or Retired has ownership of Old Fire Station One (OFS1) and it's very historic collection of apparatus, tools & equipment and written documents. All of you are a part of this story being written and told by the San Jose's Fire Museum (SJFM). Some of you make monthly ongoing donations. Some of you make onetime donations. But many of you don't donate any funds. Yet we are all in this ownership and story together.

Here are some very basic facts about where most of your donations go. The SJFM has basic overhead cost like any other business operation. We just happen to be a 501(c)3 non-profit operation. We use most of your basic donations for utilities; building, apparatus & liability insurance; maintenance of OFS1 and apparatus, tools & equipment; major restoration of historic apparatus; and development & building displays for OFS1. That is a lot of information where your donations go, but it points out that we cannot exist without your financial support.

The other extremely important fact is we still have a long ways to go to completely restore OFS1. We have pointed out in recent Trumpet Newsletters that we are moving forward with the final remodel of OFS1. Here is the latest update for you. We are in contract to proceed with Garden City Construction to update OFS1 with all required handicap requirements. This will be completed in 2023. We are also contracting with Garden City Construction to coordinate with architect, structural, mechanical, and electrical engineers to proceed with construction design documents that will eventually be used for obtaining City Permits and then finishing the complete remodel of OFS1. This design phase will cost approximately \$250,000 and our SJFM Board of Directors has approved this expenditure. This is the important part of this article. It looks like we will need about \$2.5 million in donations to make this complete remodel happen. And we really need it soon to do the remodel cost effectively all at one time.

How can you help, well please think about helping us out now ASAP! If you are not ready to make a large donation then maybe you might know somebody who is looking for a 501(c)3 non-profit that is tax deductible. Someone looking for contributing to a Fire Museum that the public can visit, and be educated, especially children.



A WRAP WAS DESIGNED & INSTALLED BY MANNY MACIAS OF WEST COAST DESIGNZ ON THE LONG SIDE OF OUR STORAGE CONTAINER IN THE BACKYARD OF OLD FIRE STATION ONE.



THIS IS A PICTURE UPDATE OF THE CHEIM LUMBER FIRE MURAL UNDER OUR REAR AWNING THAT WILL BE FINISHED HOPEFULLY IN LATE AUGUST, 2023.

BILL VUJEVICH IS THE ARTIST.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR SUMMER 2023



By John A. McMillan

Well a cooler spring & early summer is welcome news for our firefighters all over California. It has also allowed Old Fire Station One to remain cooler and more comfortable inside when working on displays or hosting events.

In this Newsletter you will see articles about donations and volunteerism. Both areas are essential to the success of the San Jose Fire Museum (SJFM). The SJFM is in the eighth year owning OFS1. We still pinch ourselves that we were able to purchase OFS1.

A lot has happened over the past three (3) months. We hosted a few events during this time, including the SJFD Recruit Class 2023-01 Graduation held on May 11, 2023 and the SJFD Advancement Ceremony held on June 23, 2023. OFS1 was used regularly by community groups and car clubs also during this period of time.

We continue to move forward with our required ADA Handicap upgrades. Right now we are involved with an architect and Garden City Construction completing the construction drawings.

Over the past few months you were made aware of SJFD Retired Fire Captain Sam Seibert's medical issues. Sam initially cracked four (4) ribs in a fall at home. This happened a few months ago. After finally recovering, Sam then fell out of a chair in his backyard and broke his collarbone while using his arm to catch himself. This latest injury happened about a month ago and required Sam to stay at Kaiser for a few days. His family made a decision when he was released from the hospital, that they would take him to Seattle where his family can watch him and help him with his full recovery. Our hope is Sam will fully heal and be back home in San Jose sometime in early August, 2023. Sam will turn 104 on August 26th, 2023 and we are planning a big Birthday Party for him. Look for more information on Sam's Party in the near future.

Finally, the SJFM has delayed the soft opening of the SJFM at OFS1 until Saturday, August 19th, from 10am to 12 noon and Tuesday, August 22nd from 10am to 12 noon. From these dates on out we will be open the third Saturday of every month and every Tuesday with the same times noted.



SJFD RECRUIT CLASS OF 2023-01 ARE SWORN IN BY FIRE CHIEF ROBERT SAPIEN WITH CITY MANAGER JENNIFER MAGUIRE OBSERVING. THIS WAS A CLASS OF 13 GRADUATING FIREFIGHTERS RECEIVING THEIR BADGES AT OLD FIRE STATION ONE ON MAY 11, 2023.



FIRE CHIEF ROBERT SAPIEN OBSERVING DENNIS BELL RECEIVING BATTALION CHIEF BADGE, AS HIS DAUGHTERS PIN IT ON AT SJFD ADVANCEMENT CEREMONY, JUNE 23, 2023 AT OLD FIRE STATION ONE.

FIRE MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS

The San Jose Fire Museum is fortunate to have people who have volunteered to help us with various projects. There are several people and groups we would like to recognize who volunteer to help us on a daily basis in addition to the museum board. These volunteers receive no pay but contribute countless hours to the success and the operation of the museum.

Our collection of apparatus numbers in excess of 55 pieces of equipment. Most of the equipment is from San Jose. The volunteers assist with preserving and restoring this equipment. There are several people helping us with various tasks regarding the apparatus. Lee Caudill and Don Jarvis have been working to restore both the 54 GMC, Old engine 11 sponsored by the Wallace family, the 1945 American La France, and Old Engine 6 sponsored by Paul Middione of Network Realty in Willow Glen. The apparatus mentioned have been ongoing a complete restoration at our warehouse.

Jim True took on the job of rebuilding the engine in our 1937 V12 American La France which was obtained when San Jose annexed Willow Glen. The engine began its life as Engine 1. The rebuilding took over a year to complete. The engine has been used in the 911 Ceremony along with numerous recruit graduations. Jim is now also helping with the restoration of the 1945 La France.



ROD & WHEELERS ENJOYING A MEETING AT OLD FIRE STATION ONE IN THE BRANDENBURG DINING ROOM & KITCHEN.

Scott Boucher and Jerry Durk have been assisting us along with Willie Banuelos with various apparatus projects. Along with individuals, car clubs such as the Rod and Wheelers have been assisting us with polishing and waxing the 58 La France and the 1898 Franklin Steamer. The Rod and Wheelers are also helping us to reorganize the warehouse tool space.

Working on apparatus has not been the only project consuming a lot of time. The Fire Museum has the San Jose Fire departments station log books dating back to the 1960's up to including 2008, when the department went digital with its documentation. Jose Guerrero and Tony Ojeda have been working for the past year organizing the 2,500 plus log books. They developed a system so we are able to find the specific book we need to find in a timely manner.



RETIRED SANTA CLARA COUNTY ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF DON JARVIS HAS BEEN A KEY VOLUNTEER FOR YEARS HELPING OUT AT THE FIRE MUSEUM WAREHOUSE.

We can't thank the above mentioned volunteers enough for their commitment and dedication. Without them we would not be where we are today with the collection.

We are in need of additional volunteers to help us with the apparatus. As you can imagine keeping a fleet this size takes effort. Currently we have a vacancy for the Apparatus Fleet Manager position on our Board to help with this important work. There are numerous apparatus projects that need attention, we just don't have the capacity to address them all.

The museum is anticipating opening in the near future. We are looking for volunteers to serve as docents when we do begin opening on a regular basis. If you would like to volunteer to help us please contact John McMillan or Jim Carter.



THE HOT ROD STEAMER LOGO.

San Jose Fire Museum



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DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF THE SAN JOSE FIRE DEPARTMENT

SJFD YEARBOOK UPDATE

SJFD 2023 Yearbook will be ready for distribution in the Fall, 2023.

Any change in address, please Email: orders@mtpublishing.com

SJFM OPENING UPDATE

We have decided to move our Limited Opening to August, 2023. The official dates will be Saturday, August 19th and Tuesday, August 22.

“The Museum Trumpet”

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Newsletter Layout

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