

Don Ringer

# SOUVENIR PROGRAM

## 66th Annual Convention

*Cumberland Valley  
Firemen's Association*



*Middletown Fire Department*

MIDDLETOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

**AUGUST 24, 25, 26, 1967**

**Donation 50¢**

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*Welcome*

TO

*Middletown, Pennsylvania*

The Middletown Volunteer Fire Department is proud and highly honored to be host to the

*66th Annual Convention*

of the

*Cumberland Valley*

*Volunteer Firemen's Association*

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### Secretary and Treasurer

Harry S. Krodel

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Robert Gross  
Jack Leonard

### Banquet

George Mansberger  
Terry Musgrave  
William Weaver

### Badge

Herb Henry  
Dave Morrow  
Dale Rider

### Memorial

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Ralph Myers

### Glass

Dorsey Matson  
Terry Musgrave

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Paul Frank  
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Paul Foreman  
Donald Ryan

### Exhibit

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Dave Morrow  
Dale Rider

### Drill Exercise

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Dale Rider  
Jack Still  
Robert Vallati

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## Middletown Sparky Fire Department

The first Sparky Fire Department was started in 1956 at the Liberty Fire Company. The first year wasn't too successful. Chief Brubaker then sent a notice to the local schools at the end of 1956. The following year, 1957, the Liberty Sparkies were organized with 15 members and later were increased to 30 Sparkies. They traveled in the past eleven years to different Fire Companies, paraded in local and outside community parades and demonstrated fire prevention to different clubs. They had articles in local papers, in the N. F. P. A. magazine, the local Sunday papers, which were read in many states. Over the years, Sparky Programs taught fire safety to hundreds of young boys. The Sparkies received awards and certificates for fire safety and they are very proud of their Sparky Charter. The boys received a new American Flag from the American Legion and a State Flag from the local V. F. W. Post 1613. Projects put on by members helped to secure a Sparky banner, plus the Sparky flag. They hold various programs to secure money for equipment. At present they are learning to use Walkie-Talkies for Civilian Defense drills in the area. Sparkies all received Sparky jackets and State emblems. Meetings are held once a month and drill classes are held on Saturday morning at the fire house. The instructors are John F. Brubaker, Dale Rider, John A. Blessing, Sr., and Jack Still.

In 1956, the Union Hose Company went on record to sponsor a Sparky Fire Department. This group of boys was organized by Mr. Ralph Myers. Lots of hard work was done by these very good gentlemen. This group of boys has come a long way in the past years, enrolling more than 30 members. They also sponsored various projects to secure Sparky equipment. The company has its own Sparky banner. The Liberty and Union Sparkies worked together during the next two years and received many awards in fire prevention programs. All trophies and certificates are in the trophy case in the local Community Hall. The instructors at that time were: Robert Moore, Raymond Kauffman, Jr., Mr. Bowman, Charles Wel-

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## Middletown Sparky Fire Department

(continued from the previous page)

comer, Jr., W. J. Schreiner, Jr., and Ralph Myers. At present the Sparkies are not organized as they do not have any instructor for the boys.

Two years later, the Rescue Hose Company appointed a committee of J. Manfred, Sr., J. O'Donnell and James Miller to form a young organization of boys from the members of this company. The Rescue Sparkies were organized in January 1959. The Company received its charter from the C. V. V. F. A. plus N. F. P. A. This group of boys is the largest of all, as they enrolled many young boys, with training in Fire Prevention, First Aid, and Safety. Mr. James Miller was the gentleman to get this group of boys together to form the third Sparky Fire Department. This group of boys is also Civic minded in that they have held dinners for the children of the Emaus and Jednota Homes at Christmas and passed out lollipops to the children in our own fire zone. This group also stages a fire prevention show for any organization requesting their services. The boys also pay their own way around the fire station, in that they have contributed one-third of the cost in painting, and the purchasing of silverware and freezer for the modern kitchen. The income comes from the annual sale of Christmas trees and Easter candy. Dances are held every other Saturday night at the fire house. The past two years they have secured their Company Sparky banner, plus two drums to parade with in local parades.

We here at the River Fire Company are proud of Sparky Pat Moyer, who is the first Sparky to receive an award from the National Firemen's Protective Association for his part played in the saving of a human life at the time of fire. The three Sparky Companies had movies taken which were sent overseas for Public Relations. The organization has a couple of prints which it had shown at various meetings and at other Sparky organization quarters. Instructors were: James

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## Middletown Sparky Fire Department

(continued from the previous page)

Smith, Dale Manfred, J. O'Donnell, Kenneth Davison, William Lewallen, Sherman Reidell, and James H. Miller.

The chief instructor who is in charge now, is Jack Leonard. In the past 10 years, the Sparkies have given the three fire companies a big help by their participation. Sparkies today are all in one, they parade as Middletown Sparky Fire Department, Middletown, Pennsylvania.

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**HISTORY of the LIBERTY FIRE CO. No. 1**

MIDDLETOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

As may be judged, the Borough of Middletown was poorly provided with means to check or subdue any conflagration. Therefore, on November 16, 1866, on the petition of one hundred and eighty three free-holders of the Borough, an appropriation of two thousand dollars was made to purchase a fire engine and erect an engine house. For four hundred and fifty dollars an engine with hose carriage, etc., was purchased from George Smuller, and Christian Fisher, contracted for and erected an engine house at the north west corner of Union and Emaus Streets, for nine hundred and eighty dollars. The engine was never very effective and was afterwards stored in a stable on Susquehanna Street, then to the furniture factory, and was finally broken up and the metal parts sold. The engine purchased was a Good Will Engine and the Company, for a short time, went under the name of the Good Will Company.

In the year 1874, a number of residents resolved to raise a sufficient sum of money to purchase a steam fire engine. This amount was raised and a committee went to Philadelphia and purchased for \$1,500.00 from the Harkness Bazaar, the Liberty Steam Engine.

The fire company was officially organized November 7, 1874, under the name of "The Liberty Steam Fire Engine Company No. 1" of Middletown, and was incorporated by a decree of the Court in January, 1875.

There were thirty-five life members of the Company when it was organized in the year 1874. They were George Hendrickson, H. B. Rambler, James Young, John McCreary, Elijah McCreary, Joseph Campbell, Seymore Raymond, John W. Rife, Jacob F. Rife, John Bricker, William Lauman, W. R. Kendig, John R. Carmany, G. W. Etter, William H. Siple, Jacob W. Stofer, Dr. A. M. Brennehan, Kirk Few, Sr., Daniel J. Hake, D. R. Etna, Joseph Landis, Christian Kreamer, Cyrus Dyer, Jackson Foster, William D. Hendrickson, Daniel Kendig, Valentine Coalborough, Walter J. Fortney, Dr. George F.

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## HISTORY of the LIBERTY FIRE CO. No. 1

(continued from the previous page)

Mish, John Ringland, Adolphus Fisher, John W. Rewalt, Samuel Landis, Benjamin S. Peters, and Simon C. Peters.

In 1886 a committee was appointed to make application for a new charter, which was granted, and the Company was again incorporated in the year 1887; this time under the name of "The Liberty Fire Company No. 1," which is the present official name of the Company.

A substantial brick building was erected on North Catherine Street above Emaus Street, which is about in the center of the town and was dedicated July 4, 1891.

In 1901 the steam fire engine was sold and a horse drawn chemical engine was purchased, but owing to the manner of getting to the fire, it never proved its worth.

About the year 1911, the chemical engine was declared out of service, owing to the expense of having it repaired. This left the company without any fire fighting apparatus except an old hose cart for several years.

In the year 1902, a bell tower and hose house was erected. The assembly room was handsomely furnished and the building was provided with all modern appliances.

On August 21, 1921, the company purchased for the sum of \$12,750.00 an up to date fire fighting apparatus. The apparatus purchased by the company was a Seagraves 750 gallon, triple combination pumper, chemical and hose carriage. Quite recently a boiler room and up to date conveniences were added to the present building.

This pumper was kept in operation for twenty-six years, then, due to the cost of the up-keep, and because of the fact that the community was expanding, the company decided to purchase a more modern piece of equipment. The final decision was made and on May 15, 1947, the company purchased a new Seagraves 12-cylinder, 185 horsepower, fully equipped, and has all the necessary and up-to-date equipment for fighting fires.

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## HISTORY of the LIBERTY FIRE CO. No. 1

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On May 15, 1948, the company decided to purchase a panel truck that could be used as an emergency truck. This new truck was placed in operation in June, 1948, and it was equipped with a portable pump, litter bearer, portable burning outfit, resuscitator, first aid kit, fire extinguishers, trigger lights, red light flashers, chimney fuses and equipment for fighting forest fires.

On August 5, 1955, a Sparky Fire Department was organized. This organization was formed for boys aged 7 to 14 years. This organization was the first of its kind in the Central Pennsylvania area. The Sparkies have been chartered by the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association and are also a member of the National Fire Protection Association.

Since acquiring the emergency truck in 1948, the company has become more and more involved in supplying first aid and ambulance service to the community. In August, 1956, the company purchased a 1948 Buick ambulance. The demand for ambulance service increased to such an extent that in 1958 the company decided to purchase a new ambulance if sufficient funds could be raised. Company members canvassed the town with such excellent results, that a committee was appointed to carry on with this project. By February, 1959, this project raised the \$11,533.50 purchase price. This sum was obtained through additional fund raising campaigns and the generous cooperation of the Borough Council. In May, 1959, a new Cadillac S and S ambulance fully equipped and capable of handling four patients, was placed in service.

Upon purchase of the 1948 Buick ambulance, the company decided that only qualified first aid men should operate this equipment. A series of American Red Cross first aid classes were given to company members by Mr. Carson Stover, a Red Cross Instructor. This program is continuing and has resulted in some members obtaining advanced first aid instructions. At the present time a qualification to become an

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## HISTORY of the LIBERTY FIRE CO. No. 1

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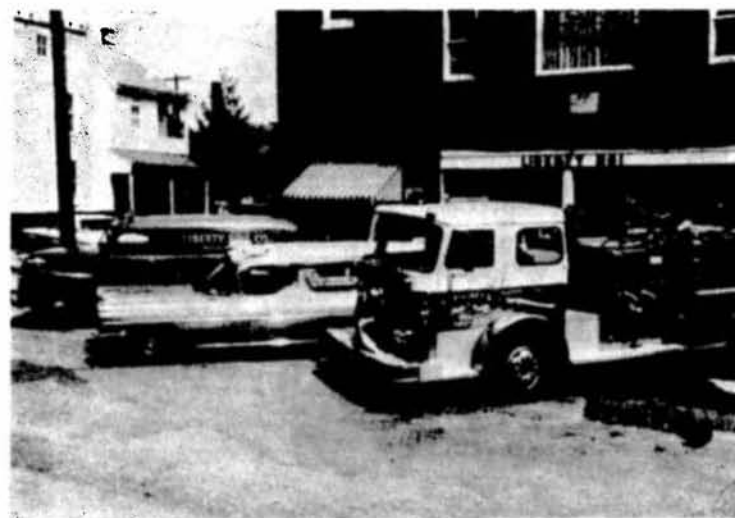
ambulance driver is that the member must have a standard Red Cross first aid card.

In 1959, a Ladies' Auxiliary was formed by wives of company members. This auxiliary assisted in raising the money necessary to purchase the new ambulance. The auxiliary has expanded in past years. This very successful year of 1959 was culminated in a banquet attended by the company members and the auxiliary. As a result of the organization of the Sparkies, Ambulance Service, and organization of the Ladies' Auxiliary, it has become evident that the company has outgrown the original purpose of controlling and extinguishing fires for which this company was chartered. In the past year, the Company had the charter revised in the Court of Dauphin County. The name of the Company is "Liberty Fire Co. No. 1, Inc."

On July 6, 1964, with the help of the Ambulance Membership Drive, plus donations and the generous cooperation of the Borough Council, a new S. and S Cadillac Ambulance was purchased at a price of \$15,116.55. The ambulance calls for the year 1966, were 400.

In the past five years a truck committee was formed to make specifications for a new fire truck. The Company decided to purchase a pumper with modern equipment, and the final decision was made on March 10, 1966. A new Seagraves pumper, with 300 plus horsepower, 1,000 gallon capacity pumping engine, with reserve 400 gallon booster tank was purchased. This pumper is now in service. All equipment is radio controlled. Recently a building committee was appointed to see about a new fire station in the near future.

The present officers of the Company are: Dale Sinniger, president; Charles H. Boyer, vice president; Thomas Stipe, secretary; Carl McElrath, treasurer; Walter J. Stipe, John F. Brubaker, Terry Musgrave, trustees; John A. Blessing, Sr., fire chief; Dale Rider, foreman; Jack Still, assistant foreman; Donald Malehorn, assistant foreman; Dale Sinniger, head truck driver; Arthur G. Williams, assistant head truck driver; James Miller, head ambulance driver; Dennis Murray, assistant head ambulance driver.



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**HISTORY of the UNION HOSE CO. No. 1**

**MIDDLETOWN, PENNSYLVANIA**

On August 19, 1827, several months prior to the incorporation of the Borough of Middletown, there was organized within its confines a company of Fire Fighters who adopted the name "Union." A small, but effective engine was procured from a Philadelphia builder by the name of Philip Mason. The newly organized council of 1828, realizing the need of systematic effort along the lines of home protection, passed an Ordinance requiring the owner of each house to provide fire buckets, one for each story. These buckets were long and narrow, made of heavy leather and held two or three gallons each. They were usually black in color and contained the name of the owner and the word "Union" painted on the outside. Several of these same buckets are now in our possession as relics of those early days of fire fighting. They were kept hanging in a convenient place, frequently in a hall or entry, and it was the householder's duty, in case of alarm, to carry or send them to the fire. Double lines of townspeople were then formed to the nearest pumps, and the buckets were passed hand to hand, to and from the engine. The women were said to be the most effective workers, they standing at their posts, handling buckets, while the men patrolled the scene and gave orders. The machine remained in use until 1868, when it passed into possession of Raymond and Campbell, and its subsequent fate is not fully known.

We are the proud possessors of the original Constitution and By-Laws of this early fire fighting organization, the first of its kind in the Borough. From 1868 until the organization of the Liberty Fire Co. in 1874, the Borough was practically without effective means of subduing fires, and realizing the fact that the portion of town, north of Water Street, and formerly known as the North Ward, was comparatively unprotected, a number of property holders met, in the then North Ward School House, Pine Street, and organized the North Ward Hose Company.

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## HISTORY of the UNION HOSE CO. No. 1

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On March 18, 1886, the following officers were elected: William A. Croll, president; Samuel Singer, vice president; Edward L. Croll, secretary; D. W. Stehman, treasurer; E. S. Baker, foreman; S. S. Selcer, first assistant; J. B. Horst, second assistant.

A committee was appointed to solicit money by subscription, to purchase a carriage and hose. The citizens responded liberally and the small two-wheel truck, in our possession, was contracted for and built by H. R. Saul, who conducted a coach and wagon business in the rear of Spring Street. The necessary quantity of hose was purchased and the Company was ready for active service June 3, 1886. The cart was kept in the barn of Joseph Nissley, rear of West Main Street, but shortly afterward a piece of land on which the C. S. Erb Sales and Exchange Stables now stand, was leased from the Frey Estate and a two-story frame building erected at a cost of \$1,000.00. A bell was later donated by Raymond and Campbell.

In 1897, the four-wheel hand propelled hose carriage in use until 1918 was purchased from W. W. Wunder of Reading, at a cost of approximately \$400.00.

The Company became an incorporated organization August 30, 1897. At a regular meeting held February 2, 1903, it was decided to erect a new office and a building committee consisting of Mr. E. O. Hendrickson, W. J. Roop and Frank Winnaugle were appointed for that purpose. The old frame structure was advertised for sale and finally disposed of to Mrs. Samuel Keiffer, who removed it to Spring Street, to be used as a dwelling. The contract for the new home of the Union was awarded July 15, 1904, ground broken the same month and the present structure was completed May 6, 1905, occupying the same site as the former building, and being turned over to the Company prior to the sesqui-centennial celebration of the Borough in July of the same year. Two years later a McShane bell was placed in the belfry at a cost of \$500.00, the amount being raised by popular subscription

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## HISTORY of the UNION HOSE CO. No. 1

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and in June of the same year, all bells on Fire Department buildings were connected to the newly constructed and installed Gamewell Electric Fire Alarm System.

From our membership of approximately 400, forty-five were called to the colors during World War I, six of whom were either wounded, gassed or shell-shocked, and two, Leroy Clouser and Howard Nissley, paid the supreme sacrifice.

On July 13, 1918, Middletown Borough Council purchased a Brockway Chemical Truck and presented it to the Union Fire Company. The Union Company was selected to house this piece of equipment, being the oldest of the three fire companies in town. This truck was used until September, 1926, when the Union Company through public subscription and assistance from Borough Council, purchased an American LaFrance 500 gallon capacity pumper at the cost of \$11,400.00. During World War II, 92 members of our Company served their country in all branches of the Armed Forces. Through the divine grace of God all were permitted to return to their homes.

In August, 1949, the Company after several years, had gathered sufficient funds to purchase another American LaFrance 750 gallon capacity pumper truck and equipment for \$16,055.00.

March 7, 1955 our Company went on record to purchase a used Army truck to be used as a pumper. Union Hose Company No. 1 took an active part in staging the big parade, which was held July 16, 1955 in conjunction with the Bi-Centennial. February 6, 1956, truck No. 2 went into service. In October 1956, a Sparky Company was organized and on November 14, fifty Sparkies were sworn into the National Association.

April 1, 1957 our Company went on record to purchase a Civilian Defense Rescue Truck from International Harvester Co., with the Federal Government matching the funds of the Company. On March 2, 1959, this truck was put into service.

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## HISTORY of the UNION HOSE CO. No. 1

(continued from the previous page)

May 1960, the Company remodeled the upstairs, installing ceiling tile and misty walnut paneling. The Company once again purchased two new pieces of Fire Apparatus from the American LaFrance Co. In 1966 they received both trucks, Truck No. 1, LaFrance Pioneer, 750 gallon capacity, 1,000 gallons per minute pumper. Truck No. 2, LaFrance Dodge Power Wagon, (attack unit), used in fighting grass fires etc., has 500 gallon capacity, turret type gun (plain water or as a fog nozzle), and four wheel drive with front end spray mounts, or sweeps. Radios are installed on all equipment.

The following officers of the Union Hose Co. No. 1, are: Earl Gruber, president; Bernard Stone, vice president; Charles E. Lyons, Jr., secretary; Charles Weidner, assistant secretary; Richard Degler, treasurer; Melvin Gruber, Ted Martin, Dorsey Matson, trustees; Line officers are Fire Chief, Donald Ryan; Foreman, Robert Vallati; 1st assistant, Charles Krupilis; 2nd assistant, Dorsey Matson; Head Truck Driver, William Weaver; Assistant Head Truck Driver, Ted Martin; Fire Police, Earl Gruber, Robert Gross, Norman Shoop, Richard Degler, Jack Hines and Eli Zerbe.



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## **HISTORY of the RESCUE HOSE CO. No. 3**

### **MIDDLETOWN, PENNSYLVANIA**

A much talked of Hose Company in the South Ward (now the First Ward) was duly organized on Monday evening, July 16, 1888 in the "HOLLOW" at the rear of Huntzberger's store (Know as the colored school building). William G. Kennard organizer and first president, invited a number of citizens to help with the organization which was very enthusiastic from the beginning. After a somewhat lengthy discussion, as to the name for the new company, of which a number of names were presented for approval, it was decided to call it the "Rescue Hose Company No. 3" which was as significant a name as could have been obtained for it.

In September, 1888 the company held its first Fair and Festival in the Farmers' Market House (now Middletown Borough Office and Community Building). The market house was decorated with flags, evergreens, etc. Tables were arranged in the center displaying the many articles donated to the Rescue, which were auctioned off. Proceeds of the fair were used in purchasing its first hose carriage.

Plans were approved for the erection of a two-story building to be started right after the fair. The men in charge of the company at that time, planned to make the Hose House convenient in use and style, and one of the handsomest and handiest houses of its kind in the county. The Company was still meeting in the colored school house which was quite convenient for that purpose, until their own place was erected. They had no regular meeting night, but assembled at the call of the president for business.

October 3, 1888, was the day when a charter of incorporation was granted the Rescue Hose Company by the Dauphin County Courts. Lawyer Wolf, Thomas Ulrich, Dauphin County Courts Prothonotary, and Philip Swab, Recorder, refused their fees in procuring the charter for the company. Each man then donated a five dollar bill to the company.

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## HISTORY of the RESCUE HOSE CO. No. 3

(continued from the previous page)

The charter members were: William G. Kennard, Elijah McCreary, Jr., John C. Lingle, Harry Welsh, Samuel S. Hickernell, Charles A. Ulrich, John J. Norton, James P. Hipple, David Brandt, Charles Gottshall, Joseph H. Fetterman, John Core, Sr., Benjamin F. Brandt, Joseph Lutz, Henry Myers, Jonathan Clouser, B. Wiestling Kurtz, Elijah McCreary, Sr., John Fishburn, Harry Rakestraw and Frank B. Hampton.

The first fire fighting carriage was delivered on December 24, 1888. The company motto "Prompt to the Rescue," was painted on the carriage, cost of \$425. The reel was large enough to carry 800 feet of hose.

On September 15, 1888, a lot was purchased at 620 South Union Street, upon which was erected the first fire station. It was formally dedicated July 4, 1889. The erection of the building cost \$1,970. April, 1889, a thousand pound bell was hung in the belfry of the Hose House, at a cost of \$350.

Andrew J. Stipe, was the first member of the Hose Company to pass away, and a resolution and condolences were spread throughout the minutes and printed in both Middletown newspapers.

Rev. F. W. Staley, pastor of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, was chosen as the first chaplain in February, 1891.

January 1892, a large figure cut out of zinc was placed on the dome of the building. The figure was that of a fireman rescuing a young girl. In 1903 a shower room was added and in 1904 steam heat and a fully equipped kitchen were installed in the Fire House.

The first "Darktown Fire Brigade" was organized in 1900. The brigade became a widely known trade mark of the Rescue Hose Company at parades throughout the area.

In March, 1902, the Company organized a drum corps. The corps numbered eleven pieces—4 drums, 4 fifes, 2 bugles,

(continued on the next page)

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## HISTORY of the RESCUE HOSE CO. No. 3

(continued from the previous page)

and cymbal. John Lutz, Sr., was the first Fire Chief allotted to the Rescue by the Middletown Fire Department, in February 1907.

The first American LaFrance fire truck was purchased in 1919, at a cost of \$9,250. Second in 1941, at a cost of \$8,000 and the third American LaFrance in 1956 at a cost of \$15,415.

On February 11, 1924, the Rescue Community Ambulance went into operation. The cost was \$3,539.52. The first call was made February 16, 1924, to bring Herman Baumbach home from the Harrisburg Hospital. Frank Brubaker was the driver. This uninterrupted service has been extended to the Community and surrounding area, on a no charge, donation basis. The present ambulance was purchased in 1964. It is a Cadillac ambulance.

In 1966, the Company added another piece of equipment which has proven most beneficial to the Rescue. At present they are waiting for their new fire truck, first Diesel Fire Truck in this area, at a cost of \$35,922.25, it will be delivered in July or August with 1,000 gallon capacity and reserve booster tank of 500 gallons of water. The fire company has been able to maintain modern fire fighting and rescue equipment throughout the years. This has been made possible by the generous support of the residents and the Borough Council of the community.

The Rescue Annex, the members stag club, was opened on January 3, 1928. In 1938, the company purchased 110 of their present uniforms. The red shirt, blue trousers with red piping, became a familiar sight at the local, county and Cumberland Valley Firemen's parades.

The present fire station was constructed on the lot adjacent to the original fire station, which has since been torn down for a parking area. The construction cost was \$85,000.

(continued on the next page)

### HISTORY of the RESCUE HOSE CO. No. 3

(continued from the previous page)

The fire station has a 47 by 64 foot apparatus room, a meeting, social room, shower room, office and equipped kitchen. The one story building occupies an area of 65 by 110 feet. The company installed a modern hose washer and dryer, to properly care for the fire hose.

In January, 1959 the company formed the Rescue Sparky Fire Department for boys between the age of 7 and 14 years. The Sparkies at present have a membership of 45 boys and the department is rapidly becoming a fixture at parades. On May 2, 1960, the company accepted the By-Laws of the Rescue Ladies' Auxiliary.

The one note of sadness that is injected into the annals of the company's history, was on July 18, 1947, when Harold Mansberger lost his life, while trying to save the life of another person. Today, a plaque in his memory is attached to the front door so that members are reminded of his heroic effort.

Present officers of the Company are: President, Earl M. Conrad; Vice President, Paul Doup; Secretary, Terry L. Wealand; Financial Secretary, Earl Doup; Treasurer, Karl Schiefer; Foreman, James W. Smith; 1st Assistant Foreman, Earl Doup; 2nd Assistant Foreman, Daniel Gutshall; 3rd Assistant Foreman, Larry Ireley; Fire Chief, Paul R. Foreman; Head Truck Driver, Daniel Gutshall; Head Ambulance Driver, Raymond Condran; Trustees: Larry Ireley, William Roebuck, William Duncan, Herbert Henry, G. Laross Snavelly; Custodian, G. Laross Snavelly.

There is now an approximate membership of 3,500, endeavoring to uphold the motto: "PROMPT TO THE RESCUE"



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## *Program*

### 66th ANNUAL CONVENTION

MIDDLETOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 24

- 8:30 a.m. Registration of Delegates and Members—  
Rescue Hose Co. No. 3 — 600 South Union Street
- 10:00 a.m. Opening Session of the Convention (open to the  
Public)  
Opening Ceremonies - David Hutton, President Middle-  
town Fire Convention Committee  
Presentation of Colors - - Middletown Fire Department  
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag - - - - Assembly  
America - - - - - - - - - - Assembly  
Call to Order - President D. W. Hess, Sr., C. V. V. F. A.  
Invocation - - - - Assistant Chaplain D. H. Kendall  
Address of Welcome - - - - Mayor Al Legoza  
Greetings from the Middletown Fire Department—Chief  
Paul Foreman, and Earl Conrad, President of Rescue  
Hose Co. No. 3  
Response: David W. Hess, Sr., President C. V. V. F. A.  
Appointment of Committees
- 10:30 a.m. Address
- 11:00 a.m. Memorial Service—Riverside Chapel  
Chaplain Rev. B. F. Blubaugh, presiding  
Assistant Chaplains Rev. D. H. Kendall, Rev. Sheesley,  
Pastor of the Methodist Church  
Noon Recess
- 2:00 p.m. Invocation - - Chaplain Rev. B. F. Blubaugh  
Address - Sergeant James J. Regan, Arson Investigator  
Penna. State Police. Topic: "Security for Fires and  
Motor Vehicle Accidents Involving Radio Active or Nu-  
clear Products."
- 2:30 p.m. Business Session
- 4:00 p.m. Nomination of Officers and next Meeting Place
- 5:00 p.m. Meeting of Public Relations Committee—John  
F. Brubaker, presiding
- 6:30 p.m. Officers' Banquet

## *Program*

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 25

- 10:00 a.m. Second Business Session  
Invocation - - - - Chaplain Rev. B. F. Blubaugh  
Address - Leslie B. Thompson, Chief, Damascus Volunteer  
Fire Department, Damascus, Maryland. Topic: "The  
Emergency Vehicle Operator."
- 11:00 a.m. Election of Officers and next Meeting Place  
Discussion of Topics  
Noon Recess
- 2:00 p.m. Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Conference—  
J. F. Brubaker, Chm. Pubic Relations Committee
- 2:30 p.m. Address: Aaron Patterson, Chief of Mechanics-  
burg Naval Supply Depot Fire Department. Topic "Vol-  
unteer Firemen—Then and Now."
- 3:00 p.m. Reports: Fire Departments Association with  
C. V. V. F. A. and Sparkies
- 4:00 p.m. Address: Jesse F. Jacobs, Assistant State Fire  
Marshal of Maryland, Assisted by Ralph L. Myers. Topic:  
"Tribulations of an Arsonist."
- 6:30 p.m. Membership Banquet—Rescue Hose Co. Fire  
Hall. All registration must be made by 12 noon, Friday,  
August 25.
- 8:30 p.m. SHIRT TAIL PARADE

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 26

- 8:00 a.m. Demonstration — Middletown Fire Department  
Drill Exercise
- 2:00 p.m. GRAND FIREMEN'S PARADE

#### NOTICE TO THE LADIES

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Middletown Fire Department  
will entertain the visiting ladies with various tours—one at  
2:00 p.m., August 24, and another at 10:00 a.m. August 26.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL TIME GIVEN IS  
EASTERN DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

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**LADIES' AUXILIARY**



**RESCUE SPARKIES**

Middletown, Pennsylvania

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## **History of the Liberty Ladies' Auxiliary Liberty Fire Co. No. 1**

In June of 1959, the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Liberty Fire Company was organized with eight ladies present. The auxiliary was organized to help the men out in whatever they need in buying equipment. Since our organization has started we have bought a Memorial Plaque which is placed on the front of the Fire Station, a hospital bed, white coats for ambulance crews use and worked on new drapes for our ambulance. We have also donated money towards the new equipment which has been purchased by the Fire Company. We not only help with purchasing things, but also do whatever possible to help the men when they hold such activities as dances, baseball and basketball games by chaperoning and furnishing a refreshment stand. The Company has given us the privilege to use the Fire Company kitchen for the use of preparing food and coffee after a fire.

In January of 1963, we were asked to take over the laundry bill for the ambulance which we have been paying since. Our money making projects have been very successful through the years with such things as selling peanuts, cashews, subs, soup, and cake sales. Our fun activities are a family picnic in August for all fire company members and their families, Christmas party, and our end of the year dinner which we usually have at a neighborhood diner.

Mrs. Muriel Demino was acting first president, and was elected as President in January of 1960. There was a Constitution and By-Laws set up and we were named the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Liberty Fire Company. Our dues were set up at \$1.00 a year. Nomination of Officers in November and election of Officers in December. Our meetings are held the third Monday evening of each month excluding June, July and August.

In the eight years we have been organized, we have had the following Presidents: Muriel Demino, Frances Williams,

(continued on the next page)

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### **History of the Liberty Ladies' Auxiliary**

(continued from the previous page)

Pauline Still, Carol White, and Judy Miller. At the present time we are trying to build up our membership as we only have 25 members.

Frances Williams and Carol White

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## History of the Union Ladies' Auxiliary Union Hose Co. No. 1

On August 29, 1949, the following ladies met at the Union Hose Co. No. 1, fire hall to organize an Auxiliary to the Fire Company. They were assisted by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the West Side Hose Co. of Steelton, Pa. Temporary officers were in charge of the meeting. These were—President, Mrs. Mary Myers; Vice President, Miss Mary Gruber; Secretary, Mrs. Arline Krodell; Treasurer, Mrs. Barbara Gruber.

The twenty-five original members of the Auxiliary were—Violet Buffington, Carolyn Bausman, Ethel Boe, Clara Diebler, Ellen Diebler, Dorothy Feaser, Mary Gruber, Helen Gruber, Iva Gruber, Barbara Gruber, Grace Hardy, Arline Krodell, Patricia Kauffman, Elsie Lyons, Bertha Lynch, Dorothy Schreiner, Eva Mansberger, Delma Myers, Mary Myers, Doris Rehrer, Lulu Saltzer, Loyella Weiss, Bertha Shaffner, Irma Schneider, Helen Thompson.

In 1955, a committee for the Centennial was formed. This committee sold cotton sunbonnets, and performed other projects through the year to help raise money to defray Centennial expenses. During the years the Auxiliary helped the Union Hose Co. with many fund raising projects to better the Company and the Auxiliary. The Ladies' Auxiliary also purchased a brass memorial plaque for the Fire House to be used for members of both organizations.

During the years since organization, fifteen members have deceased: Ethel Boe, Mary Burd, Violet Buffington, Dorothy Feaser, Iva Gruber, Bertha Garrity, Elizabeth Hill, Clara Hughes, Sara Long, Mae Leggore, Carolyn Bausman, Alice Raber, Gertrude Schaffner, Dorothy Springer, and Blanche Staub.

At present the officers are: President, Elaine Matson, Vice President, Jean Weaver; Secretary, Arline Krodell; Assistant Secretary, Gertrude Myers; Treasurer, Mary Myers; Chaplain Salome Hartman; Trustees, Ruth Mountz, Bertha Dasher, Eleanor Yost; Ways and Means Committee: Eleanor Yost, Elsie Lyons, Ruth Mountz, Gertrude Myers. A social time is spent following each meeting, which is held the third Monday of each month, at 8:00 p. m. in the social room of the fire house.

Arline Krodell

---

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## History of the Rescue Ladies' Auxiliary Rescue Hose Co. No. 3

On January 25, 1960, a meeting was held at the Rescue Fire House, 620 South Union Street, Middletown, Pa. for the purpose of discussing plans for the organization of an Auxiliary to the Rescue Hose Co. No. 3, the purpose of the Auxiliary being to assist in the various functions of the Rescue Hose Co. to provide moral culture and sociality among the members.

With the assistance of Mrs. Robert Thompson, Mrs. Mary Glass and Mrs. Ralph Myers, members of the Auxiliary of the Union Hose Co. of Middletown, Pa., a business meeting was held with the election of the following officers: President, Mrs. David Brady; Vice President, Mrs. Paul Welsh; Secretary, Mrs. William Moore, Jr.; Treasurer, Mrs. Dale Manfred; Assistant Secretary, Mrs. James Manfred; Chaplain, Mrs. Glenn Yost. Upon the resignation of Mrs. Paul Welsh, the office of Vice President was taken by Mrs. Ida McLaughlin. It was decided to call the organization by the name of Ladies' Auxiliary of the Rescue Hose Co. No. 3, with meetings to be held the 4th Monday of each month. The first trustees for the Auxiliary were: Mrs. James Smith, Mrs. Ida McLaughlin, and Mrs. Mary Glass. The By-Laws of the organization were drawn up by—Mildred E. Brady, Eleanor Yost, Mary Glass, Catherine Smith and Mae Manfred.

The first regular meeting was held on February 22, 1960, this date being known henceforth as the date of the formation of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Rescue Hose Co. No. 3, Middletown, Pa. Our first major project was the purchase of a Bronze Memorial Plaque which was presented to the Company and is now attached to the front of the Fire House Building. We received our Charter on October 28, 1963 and had the following persons as charter members: Mildred Brady, Mary Glass, Eleanor Yost, Mary Moore, Lellie Mae Manfred, Martha Baldwin, Doris Redman, Madeline Manfred, Margaret Leonard, Catherine Smith, Betty Lookenbill, Theresa Kreiser,

(continued on the next page)

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### History of the Rescue Ladies' Auxiliary

(continued from the previous page)

Mary Childers, Mae Vallati, Sara Stare, Kathryn Herneisey, Mary E. Fach, Mary Conrad, Ida McLaughlin, Celia Rudy, Mary Hopkins, Mary A. Fach, Stella Manfred, Daisy Brubaker, Margaret Beckey, Rose Shaneor, (deceased), Dorothy Drayer, (deceased), Alice Treichler, Dorothy Diffenderfer, Marion Gruver, Freda Nauss, Evelyn Zimmerman, Mary Fach, Joan McGraw, and Janet Cleland.

Since its formation, the Auxiliary has engaged in many and varied fund raising projects such as Pizza sales, Sub sales, Soup sales, Auctions, Tea towels, Blanket clubs, selling of cards, Scrub clothes, Vanilla and Pepper. We operated the kitchen for the Bingo Committee for approximately 4 years—turning over the entire proceeds to that committee. In February 1966, the Auxiliary took over the complete operation of the kitchen for themselves. From the proceeds of this weekly project, we have made generous contributions to the Truck Fund Committee toward the purchase of new equipment and to the Ambulance Committee for linens and other necessary items.

As we entered into 1967, our 7th year of operation, we had more than 100 members and are adding to this number each month, due to the efforts of our membership chairman, Mrs. Mary Glass.

We pledge our loyal support to our officers who are—President, Ida McLaughlin; Vice President, Mary Glass; Secretary, Eleanor Yost; Treasurer, Margaret Leonard; Assistant Secretary, Zola Bryan; Chaplain, Margaret Beckey, and also to the Company with whom we are proud to be affiliated, The Rescue Hose Co. No. 3, of Middletown, Pa.

Margaret E. Leonard,  
Historian

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## Middletown Firemen's Relief Association

Representatives of the three Middletown Fire Companies, namely: the Union, Liberty and the Rescue, met at the Rescue Hose House on June 12, 1900, with the idea of organizing a Fireman's Relief Association. The meeting was in charge of Foreman, John Core of the Rescue Hose Co. After considerable discussion temporary officers were elected and the following resolution was passed:

"Resolve that we the committees of the various Fire Companies of Middletown, do hereby associate ourselves together for the purpose of forming a Firemen's Relief Association and do assume the following name, Middletown Firemen's Relief Association."

Membership initiation fee was set at fifty cents (50c) and the annual dues at twenty-five cents (25c), payable January of each year. A benefit of \$2.50 per week was payable to any member who was taken sick or injured, resulting from fire duty, and a death benefit of \$25.00.

The Middletown Firemen's Relief Association was officially organized on July 10, 1900 and incorporated November 12, 1900. The Constitution and By-Laws were adopted August 14, 1900. Revisions were made to the By-Laws as were required to keep them up to date with the changing times and conditions.

The first elected officers of the organization were: President, J. A. Ebersole, Union Hose Co.; Vice President, John Core, Rescue Hose Co.; Secretary, Charles Norton, Rescue Hose Co.; Treasurer, Jacob Kennard, Liberty Hose Co. The three Fire Companies of Middletown each loaned \$10.00 to the newly formed Relief Association as a working capital. At the November 12, 1900 meeting a motion was passed that Borough Council be informed of the new organization of a Middletown Firemen's Relief Association in accordance with State Legislature, dated June 28, 1895, and are now prepared to receive monies appropriated by the State under said act.

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## Middletown Firemen's Relief Association

(continued from the previous page)

An ordinance was drawn up and approved by Borough Council and the Burgess of Middletown, approving the payment of State funds to the Middletown Firemen's Relief Association. The first monies were received March 5, 1901.

From the beginning of the Relief Association difficulties cropped up in maintaining an accurate membership enrollment, due to the indifference of members paying their annual dues. In May 1922, the finances of the Association were in shape that a motion was passed that any and all members of the Middletown Fire Department who paid their initial fee of twenty-five cents (25c) to the Relief Association, would become life members without further assessments. Under this new system of membership enrollment, the Association has grown from the original paid up members of 122 to the present total of 3,850. During the life of the Association the main purpose was to protect the members in case of injury or death occurring in the line of duty. This has been accomplished by taking out insurance policies in which all members are protected. The financial condition of the Association has constantly improved due to the wise investments made, and the constant and vigilant work of its officers to protect same throughout the past years.

May we say, continue the good work in keeping the Middletown Firemen's Relief Association an active protection for all members of the Middletown Fire Department.

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