



THE WATCHDESK

ANNUAL REVIEW 2022

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Director's Message

The Watchdesk 2022

It is my distinct pleasure to bring you Greetings from the Board of Directors and the Staff (both paid and volunteer) this fine October day. 2022 has been an exceptionally challenging year for all of us at the Fire Museum of Maryland. I mean this in a positive way, as you will see as you review the amazing projects that were completed in the previous twelve months!

Before I launch into the Fireboat TOMMY and assorted 'things', I want to thank you for your support financially during 2022! We are riding a great wave of interest and kindness...and I want us to keep growing, so I ask you to dig a little deeper into your purse at the end of '22 and during '23, and contribute to our financial well-being! If you are not a donor right now, would you consider becoming one? We need to continue building the salaries of our outstanding staff, make exhibit installations, and hire a new director in 2024/5.

Yes, I am retiring from the director's chair and let a younger person take the helm. I will stay on as a part-time restoration technician. I'd like to make this transition before the semiquincentennial of the USA which is 2026.

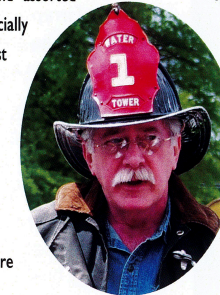
The Board joins me in thanking our hard-working staff who always step into the breach to ensure a smooth operation. This year, in particular, we wish to thank Amy Landsman, the PR & Membership Director, who organized a stunning 50th anniversary year party for us on the 24th of September.

I want to welcome Paul E. Rubenson as our new curator who started in January. He comes from a mechanical and museum design background and has already proven to be a fine asset.

Donors of special projects include Melissa M. Heaver who made the Research Center possible; John Teichmoeller who provided a chunk of the TOMMY's restoration; Vernon Ringler who donated the Oxford FD tin façade; Nancy Pelosi Family; Seagrave Corporation; Huether-McClelland Foundation; and the Whiteford-Taylor Foundation.

The trenching for laying 400' of 6" pipe for the new sprinkler system is finished. Next comes the inside piping.

The new 12' sign for York Road might be up by Thanksgiving. Although there has been a delay in the air system for the Marsh Research Center, the space has been finished at a 30% increase in capacity. This concludes an eight year plan. The Office and Discovery Room have been re-carpeted; toilet rooms upgraded; & shelving added in Shop.



The arrival of the TOMMY on the 5th May during the night was a small miracle and involved the work of many hands, including Spencer Jamison, port engineer, Titan Industries and General Ship Repair Corp. By 5 p.m. the entire structure was craned into place and welded! We raised a 48 star ensign on the mast. All of these plans and the concrete pad were initiated by former curator Eric Kelso. Since then we have been re-constructing the elements of the pilot house and the search continues. A trip to the Independence Seaport Museum to study the original drawings; contacting friends in Norfolk, and so on, continue as time and money permit. An electric sub-panel was installed in the foc'sle and flood lights and cameras rigged outside. A blast of the bosun's pipe to The Hon. Nancy Pelosi and her family for making this project possible.

With warmest regards for your health and cheers for the coming holidays,

Steve Heaver



1. The Museum and the Community. In January the Fire Museum joined fire departments and citizens around the region to honor the funeral procession of three city firefighters who lost their lives in a tragic city row house blaze. This was one of many moments the Museum shared with the Fire Service family and broader community. From the Towson 4th of July parade and the Kenilworth and Museum of Industry farmers' markets, to turning up the heat the Wegmans Hot Chile Festival in Hunt Valley, the Fire Museum is part of the community.

2. Archives Upgrades. In 2022, the Museum finished an eight-year archives renovation: new drywall, new shelving, a collections' workshop, and improved HVAC to be added next year. Research and storage of irreplaceable artifacts make up a big part of the Museum's mission, and an organized space is vital to that end. We also started outside work on a sprinkler system to protect the archives from fire.

3. Mayor Thomas D'Alesandro, Jr. fire boat. In May, the Museum completed its biggest undertaking ever: bringing Baltimore's 'Tommy' fireboat to its Lutherville campus. After a dramatic 3 am arrival on three wide-load semis, a crane lifted the hull onto the awaiting platform and the wheelhouse and tower were lowered and welded into place. In June, US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi visited to see the fire boat for herself, which was named for her father in 1956. Work on the boat's restoration, exhibits, and public access continues—and volunteers and donations are welcome!

4. Our volunteers installed the Union Fire Company of Oxford, Pennsylvania's tin façade, donated last year, over the Discovery Room's historic fire house doors. It looks great and makes an interesting counterpoint to the 1871 cast iron façade of Engine Company No. 8 across the hall.



5. Musters and Demonstrations. The outdoor portion of May's Steam Day was rained out, but families crowded inside for the indoor portion of the show. The newly restored 1920 Ridgway Seagrave fire engine started our September Motor Muster, and we flowed water through it for the first time in a half century.

6. 50th Anniversary Reception. In September, the Museum celebrated 50 amazing years of service. Over 120 guests mixed, mingled, and honored our years of achievements. Dignitaries and honored guests such as Fire Chief Joanne Rund helped mark the occasion. Proceeds from the reception went towards the Museum Endowment, and you can still donate at www.firemuseummd.org/shop.

7. 1920 Seagrave Fire Engine Restoration. Fifty-three years in the making, museum volunteers and staff presented the newly restored Triple-Combination Motor Pumping Car to a national audience at the Antique Automobile Club of America's national show in Hershey, PA. The engine sparkled in the early fall sunlight and brought home a national Second Junior award.

8. Discovery Room. Families and kids love our re-carpeted Discovery Room. As in-person tours started to return to normal, hundreds of school kids enjoyed learning about fire history and engaging their peers in the Discovery Room. Birthday parties also returned to near pre-pandemic levels. Plans for more renovations and upgrades are still underway according to our master plan by Roto Group, LLC. New, interactive exhibits will focus on safety and encourage kids to think about careers as first responders. To donate, go to www.firemuseummd.org/donate, and click on the Discovery Room link.



Donors from October 2021 to October 2022

\$10,000-200,000

Whiteford, Taylor & Preston Charitable Trust	Wegmans Food Market, Inc.	Elizabeth DeKeyser
Kiwanis Club of Baltimore City	John E. Day, II	Ricci DePasquale
Melissa M. Heaver	Robert B. Curran	Charles Fleury
Stephen G. Heaver, Jr.	Roseanne M. Matricciani	George Fuscick
Huether-McClelland Foundation	Jane Hays	Anna W. Gavin
Md. State Dept. of Education	Charles H. Cruse	Philip Grantham
Nancy Pelosi Family	David R. Marsh	Nick Gray
John G. Teichmoeller	James E. Melia	Matthew Guilfoyle
William F. & Caroline Hilgenberg Foundation	John P. Noonan	Timothy Harner
Balto. Co. Commission on Arts & Sciences	Macom L. Sarna	Samuel Hawes
State of Maryland	Robert W. Schaefer	Thomas L. Herman
	Linda Schneider	Jay Huff
	Eric S. Walker	Charles H. Cruse
	Berman, Sobin and Gross	
	Baltimore County Volunteer Fire Fighters Assn.	

\$5,000-9,999

Seagrave Corporation	Network For Good
Thomas M. Bruggman, Ph.D.	
John J. Leidey Foundation, Inc.	
Whiting-Turner Contracting Co.	

\$1000-4,999

Marie Anzalone	
Hilary Bronder	
First Financial Federal Credit Union	
Oriole Park at Camden Yards	

\$250-999

Lyle Barlyn
Iron Workers Union Local #5
Susan Brooks
David L. Brown
Edwin Butler
C. Edward Carson
John 'Greg' Case
Stephen Cloutier
Thomas Collieran

Donors from October 2021 to October 2022

(CONTINUED)

\$100-249

William Aceto	Anna Johnson
Kenneth Bronstein	Marja Jordan
George Brown, Jr.	John 'Grady' Kearney
Robert Bryan, Jr.	Howard Lane
Walter Burgess & Eileen Menton	Howard Lowe
Charles W. Cadle	Kellee Mandell
Gene Carlson	Cody O'Leary
William E. Clarke	Texas Roadhouse
Robert Carson	Howard Peiffer
Robert Condin	Bernard Punte
Michael Cyle	Christopher Pyles
Donald J. Cruse	Paul Quigley
Margie DeLong	Samuel Rosenblatt
Edward Eagles	Jason Sersen
Eric Froelich	Kingsdene Nursery
John W. Gambs	Larry & Alice Slavik
Michael Gardner	Amazon
Jason Gardner	Dorothy Talbott
Brian Geraci	John W. Treadwell, Jr.
Philip L. Gilbert	John Vannatta
G. William Goodwin	Robert M. Vogel
William Hall	Timothy T. Weir
Philip A. Heaver	Mark D. Westervelt
Amy Helsel	Robert B. Williams
George F. Hoover	Leonard Williams
Ann Murphy Hunt	Milan Wister
Jay Iacone	David Woodell
Gary Jensen	Gary Reyser
Marshall B. Johnson	CertifIKID, LLC.
	Barry Richmond
	Johnny Reep

Gifts in Kind October 2021 to October 2022

Stephen G. Heaver, Jr.	\$92,663
General Ship Repair Corporation	\$33,594
Titan Industries	\$5,000
Thomas Brown, Woodwright LLC	\$4,000
Southwind Electric, Inc.	\$3,277
Melissa M. Heaver	\$2,232
Edwork Enterprises	\$1,436
Valerie Dordonski	\$795
Jeff Manuel	\$650
Barry Stevens	\$450
Chason Service Engineers	\$400
Harbour Sign & Graphics	\$211
Wockenfuss Candy	\$75
Thomas Miller	\$50
Dennis E. Crawford	\$48



2023 Special Events at the Fire Museum of Maryland

**Please visit our website at FireMuseumMD.org,
or call 410-321-7500
to check for any updates or changes to our 2023 programs.**

Feb. 5 - Great Baltimore Fire Event

1pm—4pm. Learn all about the 1904 blaze that destroyed more than 1500 downtown buildings. Tickets available online at FireMuseumMD.org or by calling 410-321-7500.

March 4 - Family Safety Day—Free Admission

10am—4pm. Join our community partners & learn about disaster preparedness.

May 6 - Steam Day—Free Admission

10am —2pm. See working steam & hand engines. Wagon rides, kids' games & activities.

July 8-Antique Car Show

11am—pm2. Chesapeake Region, Antique Automobile Club of America.

Sept. 9 - Honoring our Heroes Motor Muster-Free Admission

10am—3pm. See antique & modern fire engines as we salute Fire, Police & EMS.

Oct. 21- Lantern Night

6pm—8pm. See the Fire Museum by lantern light! Snacks, reenactors, family friendly.
Tickets at the door.

Nov. 25 –Holiday Train Garden Open

10am —4pm. O-gauge trains wind through a 20th century town.
Free photo with Santa on Opening Day, 11am—2pm.
Open Saturdays: Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
Open Holiday Week: Dec. 26—29



Other Great 2023 events:

- April 12, 10 —4. Spring Break Open Day
- June 1, 10 —4. Summer Hours Start,
- Oct. 14, 10—4. STEM Festival,
- Nov. 26, Noon—4. Museum Store Day and Train Garden



Hours: Saturdays, 10am—4pm all year
June, July, August: Wed.—Sat. 10am—4pm
Birthday Parties, Meeting Space & Tours available for all ages.
1301-R York Road, Lutherville, MD 21093