

## *Box 52 Association*



### *The Line Box*



*I·F·B·A· Member club since 1955!*

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Vol. 17 Supplement to the Second Edition of 2020

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As promised in the last Line Box, here we present photos sent by member Michael Boynton. In addition we are including some items that didn't make the cut for the second issue due to space limitations.

We hope you like this additional Holiday reading.

Happy 2021 and let us all hope that it is better than 2020 and that we will be able to meet once again in person in the coming months.

First up is a follow up article from member Ed Morrissey who sent along the report that appeared in the City of Cambridge Annual Report on the Reclamation Plant/Prison Point Bridge fire that was featured in the Summer Issue. You can go to our website at [www.box52.org](http://www.box52.org) and find it under Line Box Newsletters.

Next we will have member Michael Boynton's apparatus colors tour through Florida and Pennsylvania in 2019. That we know you will enjoy.

Also, a few other gems that didn't make it into print in the last issue that you may find interesting.

Enjoy!

**Cambridge Box 3-121  
29 East Street  
July 7, 1971  
From the CFD 1971 Annual Report**

"The greatest concentration of apparatus under the Mutual Aid plan in this City since the Squires fire in 1963 occurred on July 7<sup>th</sup> 1971 at the Reclamation Plant in East Cambridge.

The Reclamation Systems was new to this City and contracts to dispose of all Cambridge rubbish plus neighboring cities, towns and private contractors. Rubbish was dumped into a large pit, carried on a conveyor to a large compactor, baled in bundles to be shipped to a dumping site. Due to a dispute with town officials where the dump was located, the Reclamation Company had been unable to dispose of the bales and thus had to store them in the area adjoining their building. The bales covered an area approximately 200 square yards, and in some cases were piled on top of one another. Weather conditions on this date were ripe for a conflagration---hot, very low humidity, and windy, with no appreciable rainfall within two weeks prior to the fire.

The first arriving companies found loose rubbish and a few bales outside the building on fire with Reclamation Company employees attempting to extinguish the fire. Within a few minutes as the first pumpers hooked up and stretched lines, the fire spread with lighting speed and extended to the Prison Point Bridge, which was in the process of being demolished. Creosoted and oil stained bridge timbers added excellent fuel to the fire, and within minutes the sky was full of black smoke which was visible for miles. The first fire companies were driven back due to intense heat, and in some cases had to abandon their hoses. Within eleven minutes three alarms were sounded and for the next two hours was channeled in Cambridge by our fire alarm operators and Newton Control. Companies working at the fire were Boston 14 pumpers, 2 ladders; Arlington 3 pumpers; Brookline 1 pumper; Chelsea 2 pumpers; Everett 2 pumpers; Newton 2 pumpers; Somerville 3 pumpers; Watertown 1 pumper; Hanscom Air Force Base 1 pumper and 1 tender, along with all Cambridge engine companies. With all of our fire stations vacated, the following companies covered: Boston 2 pumpers, one ladder; Arlington 1 pumper; Belmont 1 pumper; Brookline 1 pumper; Medford 1 pumper. The following cities and towns sent Lighting Plants: Lexington, Medford, Watertown, Chelsea, Malden, Somerville, and Winchester. A total of 36 pumpers, 6 ladders, 8 lighting plants and one Rescue Company worked at the fire with 7 pumpers and 2 ladders covering the Cambridge stations. In addition to this massive movement of apparatus, Waltham sent 2 pumpers to cover Somerville; Belmont, Lexington and Winchester each sent a pumper to cover Arlington; Weston covered Belmont; Quincy, Winthrop, Brookline and Newton each sent a pump to Boston, and Malden sent a pumper to Everett.

The fire was finally contained in about six hours, and completely destroyed the Reclamation Systems plant and the Prison Point Bridge. The fire was not tapped out for 3 days and fire companies remained on scene for some days later."

Thanks to member Ed Morrissey for send this info along.

## RAINBOW OF APPARATUS COLORS

Back in the early 1960's late member Jim Blomley and several other Box 52 members traveled to Pennsylvania to take photos of the multitude of different colored fire apparatus.

In June of 2019 some 57 years later, member Michael Boynton retraced the steps of these members and was able to photograph a color palette of fire apparatus.

The rigs are broken down by county

### ADAMS COUNTY



Irishtown Volunteer Fire Company New Oxford Township 2006 Spartan/Darley 1500/2500



**CUMBERLAND COUNTY**



Lisburn Volunteer Fire Company Lower Allen Township Tanker 24  
2018 Mack Granite/KME 1500/3000



Vigilant Hose Company Engine 252 Shippensburg Township  
2005 Emergency-One Typhoon 2000/750/30 class A foam



**DAUPHIN COUNTY**



Colonial Park Fire Company Rescue 33 Lower Paxton Township  
2008 KME Predator 1500/750/15 class A/35 class B foams



Halifax Fire Department Engine 29-1 2004 Spartan/Swab 1500/1000/30 class A/20 class B foams





Lower Swatra Volunteer Fire Department Tanker 59 2018 Pierce Enforcer 1500/2500



Wiconisco Engine Company No. 1 Rescue 23 2018 Pierce Enforcer 2000/500

**FRANKLIN COUNTY**





Chambersburg Fire Department Tower 1 Pierce Arrow XT 95 ft. mid-mount Tower



Franklin Volunteer Fire Company Chambersburg Squad 41 2019 Pierce PUC 1500/500





Pleasant Hall Volunteer Fire Company Engine 11-1 2014 Pierce Arrow XT 1500/1000

## LANCASTER COUNTY



Lafayette Fire Company Engine 632 1978 Mack CF/Pierce 1500/500/200 AR-ARFF foam. Refurb in 1992





Manhiem Engine 208 2011 Pierce Arrow XT 2000/500

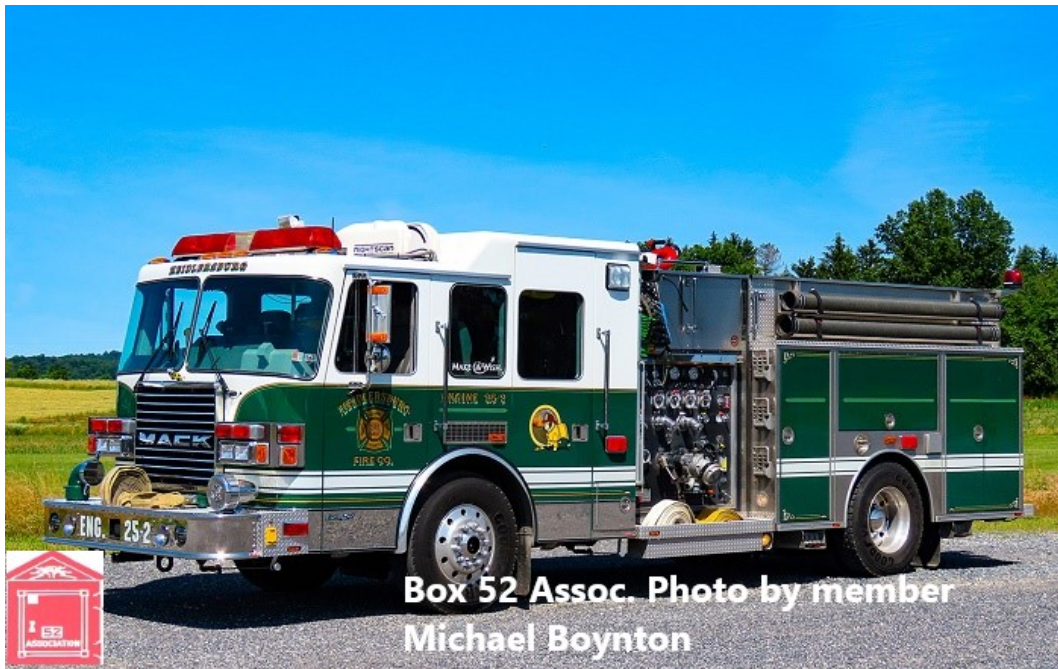
## LACKAWANA COUNTY



Blakely Ambulance Service Peckville Township Rescue Squad 22 2006 HME/Marion Heavy Rescue



## LEHIGH COUNTY



Heidlersberg Township Engine 25-2 2000 Mack CH/Truck Cab Mfg/Sutphen 1500/800

## LUZERNE COUNTY



Hazel Township Engine 2 2017 Seagrave Marauder II 2000/750/40 class A foam





Hazel Township Tanker 106 2006 Mack Granite/KME 1500/2500

## NORTHAMPTON COUNTY



Lehigh Township Ladder 4721 1991 Pierce Lance Quint 2000/600/20 class A foam/75 ft RMA



## SCHUYLKILL COUNTY



**Box 52 Assoc. Photo by member  
Michael Boynton**

Mt. Carbon Fire Company No. 1 North Manhiem Township 1983 Mack CF/Pierce 1500/2000 refurb 2007

## WESTMORELAND COUNTY



**Box 52 Assoc. Photo by member  
Michael Bovnton**

Hempfield Fire Company Tanker 69 1997 Peterbuilt/S&S 1000/3500



As I put the above pages together on Tuesday 29 December the wind is howling and the temps hovering in the lower 30's. So how about some rigs from the Sunshine State to warm us up!



Who doesn't like Disney?!?!?  
Reedy Creek FD Walt Disney World Tower 1 2019 Emergency One Cyclone 1500/300/116 Bronto Skylift.



Volusia County Hazmat 15 2018 Pierce Enforcer 1500/750/30A



Deland Engine 83 2020 Pierce Impel 1500/500



Original fog nozzle patented in 1896. Thus starting a 124 year ongoing argument in firehouse kitchens!





**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!**  
**HERE'S HOPING THAT 2021 WILL SEE US BACK TOGETHER**  
**SOON. IN THE MEANTIME STAY SAFE AND STAY HEALTHY!**