



Third Alarm

A Publication of the OFBA, an
affiliate of the International Fire Buff
Associates, Inc.



Volume 50, No. 4

July - August 2020



Burnaby, BC Engine 32 is now running this 2019 Spartan Gladiator Classic LFD / Smeal pumper. It has a 1750gpm pump, 500gwt and a 50gft.
(SN 218078) (Shane MacKichan photo)

Although we will have no tour photos this year, this issue is chock full of new apparatus thanks to several of our intrepid photographers and busy apparatus dealers.

THIRD ALARM

Volume 50 Number 4
July - August 2020

**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
of the
ONTARIO FIRE BUFF ASSOCIATES**
(Incorporated in 1979)

**P.O. BOX # 56 Don Mills
DON MILLS ON
CANADA M3C 2R6**

For membership information,
write the above address,
or contact us on the
Internet at:

www.ofba.ca

or

firebuffs@ofba.ca

Third Alarm is published bi-monthly in
February, April, June, August, October,
and December. Available free with
OFBA membership or by electronic
subscription.

Please send submissions to:
Des Brett, Editor, Third Alarm
48 Glenwood Crescent
Toronto ON Canada M4B 1J6
or E-Mail: desmondbrett@gmail.com

The Editor reserves the right to edit all material
submitted for publication.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2020-2021

President Robert Rupert 7 Kerfoot Cres. Keswick ON L4P 4B8 Home: (905) 989-0769 boosterline45@gmail.com		Secretary Greg Brown 405 – 38 King St. W. Stoney Creek, ON L8G1H6 Home: (905) 722-0825 gjbrown40538@gmail.com		Treasurer James Stronach 22 Conifer Dr. Toronto, ON M9C 1X4 Home: (416) 621-3127 stronachsinottawa@sympatico.ca	
Vice President Rick Loiselle 68 – 35 Waterman Ave. London ON N6C 5T5 Home: (519) 636-5257 crownrick154@gmail.com		Membership Robert Herscovitch 2206 – 65 Skymark Dr, Toronto ON M2H 3N9 Home: (416) 497-8968 robertl.herscovitch@gmail.com		Director Larry Ward 225 - 3181 Eighth Line Bradford, ON L3Z 4H2 Home: (905) 952-0205	
Director Desmond Brett 48 Glenwood Cres Toronto ON M4B 1J6 Home: (416) 750-9889 Mobile: (416) 427-9055 desmondbrett@gmail.com		Director Carolyn Wignall 3940 Bloor St. W. Toronto, ON M9B 1M1 Home: (416) 231-3578 Cell: (647) 973-9450 Ladyfirefly__911@hotmail.com		Past President Rick Loiselle 68 – 35 Waterman Ave. London ON N6C 5T5 Home: (519) 636-5257 crownrick154@gmail.com	
				IFBA Region 10 VP Steve Garnett 482 Murray Ave. Greenfield Park, QC Home: (514) 978-1330 Steve.Garnett@sympatico.ca	

All written material and photographs in this issue are copyright of the Ontario Fire Buffs Associates.

President's Message...

Welcome to the July/August 2020 issue of the Third Alarm. As many of you know by now, all photo tours planned for 2020 have been cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. With most of Ontario in Stage 3 of economic recovery efforts your executive board was hoping that we could, at the least, get tours completed in August, September and October but it was not to be. We are still hoping that the Collectibles Show and Annual General Business meeting will go ahead on November 3 but will have to wait and see if Toronto Fire will still allow us to use the Academy at that time. If the event has to be cancelled, notice will be emailed to members and posted on the website.

Plans are progressing for co-hosting the 2021 IFBA Convention in Ottawa with the committee meeting by video conference a number of times and in person to check out a number of hotels in early July. After much deliberation the Hilton Garden Inn & Homewood Suites Ottawa Downtown has been chosen as the host hotel and day tours will include Ottawa Fire, Gatineau Fire, the Canadian Firefighters Memorial, the Bytown Fire Brigade Museum and the War Museum. More information will be forthcoming as we get closer to the dates of the convention (Sept 12-16, 2021).

Until next time, stay safe, Bob Rupert

From our Membership Secretary

Over the last few years our membership numbers have remained fairly constant. This year however, we have had 10 new members join us. With the exception of only a very few who have not yet paid, our total membership stands at 111. I would remind again that we are always looking for new members, so if you know of anyone that is interested in joining us, please have them get in touch with me.

Regarding The Third Alarm, in addition to copies sent to our members, both hard copy and the electronic version, we also send out additional copies to various organizations and individuals. The electronic version seems to be gaining in popularity. Lastly, as mentioned by our President, only time will tell if we are able to proceed with the Annual Fire Service Collectibles Show and Sale.

Enjoy the rest of the summer weather and keep safe. Robert Herscovitch

From the Editor...

As this extraordinary year continues some of our regular contributors are able to take photos, many photos in some cases, many thanks to Ken Buchanan, Gary Dinkel, Doug Holmes, Shane MacKichan, Dave Stewardson, Dean Nickerson, Bob Rupert, Colleen Parent of Commercial Truck Equipment Co., and Neil McCarten. Thanks also to Dependable Emergency Vehicles, Pierce, Hub, Fort Garry, E-One, Carrier Emergency Vehicles, and 1200 Degrees for photos.

Thanks to Walt McCall for his historical piece and the photos with that, as well to the CBC for their coverage of fire-related events. Info was provided by Ken Buchanan, Gary Dinkel, Doug Holmes and Dan Goyer, also by Dependable Emergency Vehicles, Pierce, Hub, Fort Garry, E-One, Carrier Emergency Vehicles, and 1200 Degrees.

Corrections: Hamilton Box 43A is actually a 1997 model, not 2012. The Hamilton Pump 3 is actually the second assigned to Pump 3 and is a 1965 Mack B-85 pumper, 1050igpm & 300gwt.

Desmond Brett, Editor, Third Alarm

CANCELLED: Oct. 27 to Nov. 1 - IFBA Convention, Nashville

Our vintage tour roster this issue is from Richmond Hill, in 1993...



Rescue 2 had this 1983 Ford F350/Wilcox light rescue.



Rescue 3, a 1992 Ford/Sentinel walk-in rescue.



Platform 3 was a 1974 International King 85' Snorkel; with a 1050igpm pump, 200gwt.
(Desmond Brett photos)

RICHMOND HILL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Station 1

Rescue 1	1989 Superior/Pierce Lance Heavy Rescue
Engine 1	1989 Superior/Pierce Arrow 1050/500 Pumper
Engine 2	1991 Superior/Pierce Arrow 1500/650 Pumper
Aerial 2	1989 Superior/Pierce Arrow 1050/50/75' TeleSquirt
Tanker 1	1973 Almac/International 1500-Gallon Tanker
Parades	1946 Bickle-Seagrave/Ford 420/80 Pumper

Station 2

Engine 4	1980 King/International 1050/500 (Almonte Rehab)
Rescue 2	1983 Wilcox/Ford Light Rescue Unit

Station 3

Engine 3	1985 Superior/International 1050/500 Pumper
Rescue 3	1992 Sentinel/Ford Light Rescue Unit
Platform 3	1974 King/International 1050/200/85' Snorkel
Tanker 3	1975 Almac/International 1500-Gallon Tanker

All Richmond Hill rigs are painted red and white, except Tankers 1 and 3, Platform 3, Rescue 2 and the 1946 Ford, which are all red.

OCTOBER 1993 PHOTO TOUR (Part 1)

On Saturday, October 16, approximately 25 OFBA members gathered at Richmond Hill's Station 3, where we started our tour by photographing four rigs. Of special interest here was Richmond Hill's 1992 Sentinel Rescue Unit on a Ford chassis, complete with Federal "Q" siren mounted on the front bumper, and the Richmond Hills' 1974 King/International 85' Snorkel. From there we travelled over to Station 1 where we shot the department's fleet of four Superior-Pierce customs, including two pumpers, a Tele-Squirt and a heavy rescue unit. In sharp contrast is the department's 1946 Bickle-Seagrave/Ford pumper which was also rolled out for photos. From Station 1 we headed over to Station 2 in Oak Ridges. While we were in transit we heard Station 2 rolling to a car accident near their station. On arrival we parked at the station and walked over to the accident scene: a small station wagon had collided with a pickup truck and two people were trapped. With the Richmond Hill Fire Department crews busy with extrication, Toronto OFBA member Alan Craig, a Metro Toronto paramedic, assisted with first aid. One victim was airlifted to Sunnybrook Hospital in North York with serious injuries and the other was transported by BLS ambulance. Due to the fact that the rigs were busy, we did not shoot Station 2's rigs, but we did shoot Bandage-One, the air ambulance helicopter.

Narrative by Ken Buchanan, roster from The Third Alarm, photos by Desmond Brett.



Yale, BC Engine 2-1, a 2019 Freightliner M2-154/Hub, 1057igpmpump, 1050gwt and 20gft.



Abbotsford, BC Tender 5, a 2020 Freightliner M2-112/Maxi Métal 625igpm Hale pump, 2629gwt,



Port Moody, BC Tower 1, 2019 Spartan Gladiator/Smeal 100' tower SO#S4990 (Shane MacKichan photos)



Nanaimo, Black Diamond Engine Co 2020 Pierce Velocity 1665igpm/400gwt/20gft/110' Ascendant platform 34147(Shane MacKichan photo)



Leduc, AB 2020 Pierce Enforcer 1750gpm(W)/500gwt Husky 3 FS j/n 33928.



Sylvan Lake, AB Engine 2, 2020 Pierce Velocity 2000gpm(W)/750gwt Husky 12 FS j/n 33998 (Commercial Truck Equipment Co.)



Banff, AB Aerial 62, a 2018 Rosenbauer Commander 3000 1500igpm pump, 430gwt and a 104' Cobra platform. (Rocky Mountain Phoenix photo)



Redwood Meadows, AB Engine 220, a 2019 Spartan/Fort Garry pumper equipped with a 1333igpm pump, 800gwt and a 25gft. It also has a FoamPro foam system. JN J0022 (Redwood Meadows Fire Service photo)



The new Six Nations, ON Station 1 (Doug Holmes photo)



Six Nations, ON T.1 & 2 in front of Station 1 (Commercial Truck Equipment Co. photo)



Old Tanker 1, now running from Station 4, is a 2017 Freightliner 114SD / Pierce product with an 840igpm pump, and a 2400gwt. (SN 31070) (Gary Dinkel photo)



Six Nations Tanker 1 2020 Freightliner M2-106/Pierce 840igpm/2400gwt SN 34202TR



Brantford Pump 911 2019 Spartan Metro Star/ Smeal 1250igpm(W)/500gwt/20gft s/n S4969



Hamilton, ON Air 6 2001 Ford F550/SVI air supply, ex-Rescue (Ken Buchanan photos)

The Apparatus Floor...

Oakville has opened their eighth station, located at 3025 Pine Glen Rd. to protect the north west portion of the city. The 1-story hall actually faces onto Bronte Rd. The new P.281 was officially inaugurated on July 10 with a pushback ceremony. **Trent Hills** has built a new combination fire hall and ambulance base. It has two floors and four bays for fire and two for EMS. It's located at 50 Doxsee Ave. S. in Campbellford, and is also home to the municipal administrative offices and Council Chambers. The department also has a 2020 Freightliner M2 / Metalfab pumper-tanker on order to replace Unit 681. **West Perth** has started work on a new hall at 170 Wellington Street. The single story structure has four bays and is being built by a local firm; Domm Construction. **Toronto's** newest hall is well under way at 2495 Keele Street in Downsview Park. Station 144 is a single story, two bay structure and is expected on line late next year. The station will also house the Toronto Fire Services Fire Investigations Team and will have a secure evidence lock-up and decon facilities. It will also be a post-disaster evacuation facility. **Cumberland, B.C.** is building a new hall with three drive-through bays. **Riverport, NS's** hall at 3802 Highway 332 is to undergo a major expansion, with three additional bays added. The 18x12m, single story structure will accommodate larger apparatus that do not fit into the 1950s era station. **Niagara Falls** Station 7 is under construction at 8350 Lundy's Lane near Kallar Rd. Bromac Construction got the contract, they are a local firm that has already built four fire stations. The \$7.2 million complex will also house the department's emergency operations centre. Occupancy is expected in May of next year. Approval has been granted for **Wainfleet** to combine Station 1 at Winger and Station 2 in Wainfleet into a single station in Cambers Corners located in what is hoped will be a combined emergency services campus on Highway 3 east of Emerson Rd. Station 1 has reached the end of its life and Station 2 requires extensive repairs and upgrades and a new single story four bay hall with training facilities has been designed by Whiteline Architects. Currently, there are no EMS or police stations in Wainfleet.

Six Nations is now running the new Tanker 3 as Tanker 1; old Tanker 1 is now Tanker 4. HFD have taken delivery of five 2020 Ford F250 crew cab 4X4 pickups for the Platoon Chief, two District Chiefs and the Safety Officer plus a spare. They will be wrapped and have caps added.



Trent Hills impressive new fire headquarters, municipal offices and EMS station. (Ian Duke photo)

Recently delivered in Ontario...



Hamilton's new Car 1 (Fire Chief) is a 2020 Ford Explorer, the first non-black chief's car.



Hamilton Ladder 20, a 2019 KME Severe Service, 1050igpm/400gwt/100' GSO 11089



Burlington, ON Pumper 311, a 2020 Spartan Metro Star/Smeal engine with a 1050igpm pump, 500gwt, 40gft and a CAFS. (Ken Buchanan photos)

Apparatus Roundup:

ONTARIO *-corrected or added information for a previous listing

Ajax	P.46	2020	Spartan Metro Star/DEV 2000gpm(H)/600/30gft FoamPro 2002 FS
St. Clair Twp.	P.2	2020	Freightliner M2-106/Rosenbauer FX 1050igpm/2500gwt
Centre Wellington	T.47	2020	IHC HV/Carl Thibault tanker PP(Hale)/2500igwt
Ottawa	L.47	2020	E-One HR100 1333igpm/250gwt/100' SO#142985
Ottawa	T.11	2020	E-One 1250igpm/250gwt/95' rear-mount tower, SO#142986
Burlington	P321	2020	Spartan Metro Star/Smeal 1050igpm/500gwt/40gft/CAFS
Mississauga	S110	2020	Pierce Enforcer 70101750igpm/500gwt/50gft
Howick Township, Gorrie	P.2-6	2020	International HV / Metalfab 1050igpm/1000gwt
Springwater	T.25	2020	Pierce MaxiSaber 1500gpm/1500gwt
Lincoln	P621	2019	Spartan Metro Star MFD / Smeal 1665igpm/835gwt/25gft SO#S218046
South Glengarry	P. 4	2020	Spartan Metro Star/DEV 1500gpm(H)/1000gwt Hale FS
Port Hope	184	2020	Freightliner M2-112/DEV 750gpm(H)/3000gwt
Hamilton, ON	Air 6	2001	Ford/SVI air supply, ex-Rescue
Strathroy-Caradoc	E.21	2020	Spartan Metro Star/DEV 1250igpm/840gwt/25gft (Ex-stock unit)*

OUT WEST

Fort Smith, NT		2020	Freightliner M2 106 / Fort Garry pumper	
Enterprise		2020	Freightliner M2 106 / Pierce 1050igpm/1000gwt	
Naujaat, NU		2021	Freightliner M2-106/Fort Garry 1050igpm/1500gwt	J0116
Gjoa Haven		2021	Freightliner M2-106/Fort Garry 1050igpm/1500gwt	J0117
Yale, BC	E.2-1	2019	Freightliner M2-154/Hub1057igpm/1050gwt/20gft*	
Powell River	E.42	2020	Pierce MaxiSaber VIO 2000gpm(W)/500gwt	
Hope		2020	Freightliner M2 106/Fort Garry MXV 1500igpm/500gwt/25gft SN J0031	
Colwood	E.51	2020	Spartan Gladiator/ Hub pumper (SO#1267)	
Kamloops		2020	Spartan Gladiator Classic/Smeal 1500igpm/420gwt/25gft SO#S4974	
Abbotsford	T. 5	2020	Freightliner M2-112/Maxi Métal 625igpm(H)/2629gwt	
Peace River (Charlie Lake)		2020	Freightliner M2-106/Fort Garry 1050igpm(D)/1500gwt	
Port Moody	T. 1	2019	Spartan Gladiator/Smeal 1750(H)/250' /100' tower SO#S4990*	
Red Chris Mines		2019	Ford F550/Hub PP(Waterax)/250igwt/10gft (SO#1258)	
Terrace	R.11	2020	E-One Typhoon walk-in rescue	
Tla'Amin FN	E.31	2020	Freightliner M2-106/Fort Garry pumper	
Parkland County, AB	T. 4	2020	Freightliner M2 112/Fort Garry 1250gpm(H)/3600gwt/60gft SN J0067	
Leduc County		2020	Spartan Gladiator/ Smeal 1500igpm/250gwt/17gft/100' SN S5032	
Vegreville Rapid Response		2019	Ford F550 4x4/Hub PP(D)300igwt/10gft (SO#1264)*	
Rocky View County		2020	Freightliner M2 112/Maxi Métal PIC PP/3000gwt	
Airdrie	L.89	2020	Pierce Impel Ascendant 110' tower	
Fort Saskatchewan	(2)	2020	E-One Typhoon rescue-pumper 1750igpm/445gwt/165gft s/n 142569	
Enoch Cree Nation		2020	International / Acres pumper	
Whitecourt		2020	Pierce Velocity Ascendant 100' tower SN 34016	
Dalmeny, SK		2020	International HV507 / Acres pumper-tanker ?/2500gwt	
Ritchot, MB		2020	Dodge Ram 5500/Fort Garry light rescue	
Balgonie	U.10	1997	Freightliner FL 80/Fort Garry walk-in heavy rescue (Ex-Dauphin, MB)	

QUEBEC & THE MARITIMES

Verchères, QC	211	2020	Pierce Saber FR6010 / Maxi Métal 1250igpm/1000gwt/30gft	
Montreal		2020	Pierce Arrow Ascendant 100' tower	
Compton	271	2020	Freightliner M2 112/Maxi Métal 1250igpm/2500gwt/30gft	
Laval	207	2020	E-One Cyclone 1250igpm(H)/600gwt/25gft s/n 143207	
St-Étienne de Beauharnois	207	2006	Spartan Advantage /Toyne 1250igpm(H)/840gwt/20gft	
Coaticook	404	2007	E-One Cyclone II 1750igpm/470gwt/30gft/100' (2020 1200° refurb)	
Hartland, NB	Unit 9	2001	Pierce Dash platform 2000gpm/300gwt/100' (Ex-Hampton Bays)	
St. John Airport		2020	Emergency-One Titan 4x4 3500gpm/1600gwt/225gft* s/n 143065	
Charlottetown, PEI	E.1	2020	E-One Typhoon 1050igpm/860gwt/2x25gft	
Charlottetown Rapid Resp.	2	2020	Ram 5500 MFR	
Lunenburg, NS	E. 2	2020	Pierce Maxi-Saber 1500gpm(H)/1500gwt	
Meteghan	T. 9	2020	Freightliner M2 112 / Metalfab pumper-tanker	
District #10 VFD St. Peters		2007	IHC4400/Metalfab 1050/1000/30fm from Brindlee Mountain	



Brant County, ON P.341, 2020 Spartan Metro Star/Dependable 1500gpm/1000gwt/30gft s/n 52981 On completion of the new station the former (ex Collingwood) P341 will become P342. (Ken Buchanan photo)



Quinte West, ON 731, a 2020 Freightliner M2-106/Pierce pumper with a 1250gpm Hale pump, 1000gwt and a Husky 3 foam system. SN 33288 (Commercial Truck Equipment Co., photo)



Artists rendering on their new combined Wainfleet fire station in Chambers Corners (Courtesy Town of Wainfleet).



Ajax, ON Pump 46, a 2020 Spartan Metro Star/Dependable pumper with a 2000gpm Hale pump, 600gwt and 30gft, with a FoamPro 2002 foam system. It is assigned to Station 1.



Caledon, ON Tanker 302, a 2020 Freightliner M2-112/Dependable product with a 1750 USgpm Hale pump, 2700gwt and a 20gft. (Dependable Emergency Vehicles photos)



Mississauga, ON new Squad 110, a 2020 Pierce Enforcer with a 1750igpm pump, 500gwt and 50gft. (Pierce photo)



Scarborough Pumpsno 10, a 1972 Ford C/King with an 840igpm pump, 500gwt and 55' Sky King snorkel.



Pumpsno 1, a 1972 GMC/King with an 840igpm pump, 500gwt and 55' Sky King snorkel. (Brian Beard)



The same rig after it was moved to Station 9. (Colour photos courtesy Walt McCall)

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING: SCARBOROUGH'S "PUMPSNOS"

By Walt McCall

Among the most unusual names ever conferred on a piece of fire apparatus in Canada was the "*Pumpsno*" – a combination pumper and elevating platform -- three of which were purchased in the 1970s by the Scarborough Fire Department under the command of Fire Chief Dave Forgie.

Built by King-Seagrave Ltd. of Woodstock, two of Scarborough's *Pumpsnos* were on Ford tilt-cab C-Series chassis, the other a GMC. They were impressive diesel-powered rigs with canopy cabs, tandem rear axles and painted the then-trendy chrome yellow. They had 840 gpm Hale pumps, 500-gallon booster tanks and 55' King-Seagrave *Sky King* (Pitman Snorkel) elevating platforms. All were lettered "*Pumpsno*" on their cab doors – an intriguing combination of "pumper" and "snorkel" you won't find in any dictionary.

The first one was delivered in 1972 and went into service on July 10 of that year as Pumpsno No. 10 at Scarborough's new Fire Station No. 10 at 4560 Sheppard Ave. This one was also the first yellow rig on the S.F.D. apparatus roster. A second King/Seagrave Pumpsno -- on GMC 8600 Series tilt-cab chassis -- was delivered in 1974. Originally Pumpsno No. 11 at Station 11 at 5318 Lawrence Ave., the GMC later ran as Pumpsno 9 out of Station 9 on Coronation Drive. The third and last of this unique trio -- on Ford "C" Series canopy cab chassis, a duplicate of the '72 -- was delivered in 1975 and went into service as Pumpsno #12 at the Lapsley Drive fire hall in Agincourt, before being moved to Station 8 at 1550 Midland Avenue. The 41,000 lb rigs proved to be heavy for the roads in 11's and 12's running area. A unique feature common to all three of these rigs was the tiny bell mounted on the right front corner of the cab -- more ornamental than functional.

While King-Seagrave built a significant number of pumpers on various chassis -- Ford, International, Scot etc. -- with 55/65/75' TeleSquirt booms (a combination aerial ladder/water tower) we know of just one other K/S pumper with a 55' Sky King Snorkel. On a Ford C-Series three-man tilt-cab chassis, it was delivered to Aylmer, Ontario in 1978. We photographed that one on a photo tour a few years ago.

Scarborough's Pumpsnos remained in service through the 1980s. By the 1990s the S.F.D. had returned to red-painted apparatus. All three Pumpsnos were long gone by the time the Scarborough Fire Department was absorbed into the amalgamated Toronto Fire Service in 1998.

At least one of the Pumpsnos was repainted red, PS 9 was rehabbed, repainted and rebranded as Snorkel 9 and replaced the GMC. After the GMC was retired, it was purchased by New Minas, NS and the Sky King snorkel mounted on a 1990 Ford C9000 chassis by Superior Fire Engines. The rig is still in service.



(Dave Stewardson photo)



The repurposed snorkel remounted by Superior on a 1990 Ford C9000 chassis, still operated by New Minas, NS.
(Dave Stewardson photo)



Pumpso No.9 at the old training tower behind Station 10. (Desmond Brett photo)

Our airports/military feature this time is from CFB Petawawa...



This sprawling military base has three stations and has featured many interesting apparatus over the years. We look at two of them in this issue and will have much more extensive coverage next time. The former F2 was a 1994 International 4800 / Foam Boss range tender Portable Pump/1000gwt/50gft, F4, below, is still in service and is a 2002 Western Star/1984 Foam Boss range tender, PP/1000gwt/50gft. Both assigned to Stn. 3. (Dean Nickerson photos)





Niagara Falls, ON Pump 3, 2019 Spartan Gladiator/Dependable 1250igpm/500gwt



NOTL, ON T.2 2019 Kenworth T370/DEV 500igpm pump/3000igwt



NOTL, ON Ladder 1, a 2020 Rosenbauer Commander quint with a 1750igpm pump, 250gwt and 100' tower. SN 12549 (Ken Buchanan photo)

More Trent Hills, a look back at rigs from the old hall.



Trent Hills 693, a 1996 Ford / Elante command unit.



Trent Hills 694 1997 Freightliner FL 50 / Demers heavy rescue



Trent Hills 699, a 1999 Volvo / Almonte heavy rescue (Neil McCarten photos)

Now that the 2021 IFBA Convention has been confirmed for Ottawa, will look at the recent history in the region...



Kanata had this 1967 Thibault AWIT584 pumper with a 840igpm pump and 800gwt.



They also had this 1980 Ford C1000 / Thibault mid-mount quint, 1050igpm/500gwt/75'



Goulbourn Twp., ON operated this 1980 GMC Vandura as Rescue 1 (Ken Walton photos)



Goulbourn Twp., ON Pumper 1, 1977 GMC T6500 / Thibault pumper 840igpm/500gwt



Goulbourn Twp., ON Tanker 1 a 1972 Ford C-800 / AFT tanker, 250igpm/1500gwt.



Goulbourn Aerial 1 a 1988 Ford C-8000/Superior pumper 1050igpm, 500gwt and 75' Telesqurt. (Ken Walton photos)

More deliveries from the rest of the country...



Cumberland, BC Engine 1, a 2019 Freightliner M2 106//Fort Garry 1500igpm/800gwt (Fort Garry Fire trucks)



Powell River, BC E.42 Powell River Engine 42, a 2020 Pierce MaxiSaber VIO 2000gpm(W)/500gwt (CTE)



Rocky View County, AB 2020 Freightliner M2 112 / Maxi Métal PIC tanker (?/3000) (Maxmetal)



Leduc County, AB Tower 11, 2020 Spartan Gladiator Classic/Smeal 1500igpm/250gwt/17gft/100' SN S5032 (Safetek)



A delivery for Lambton, QC late last year, Unité 251 is a 2019 Freightliner M2/Maxi Métal, with a 1250gpm Hale pump, 1000gwt and a 25gft. (Maxi Métal Fire Trucks photo)



Sutton and Lac-Brome, QC Unité 341 - 2019 Rosenbauer Commander quint (1750/420/20F/78)

A look back at Belleville...



1978 International CO1950B / King pumper (840/500/75' TeleSquirt) (SN#77057)



Belleville, ON R.8 (DN)1980 Chevrolet Van 30 rescue van



1977 International CO1810B / King pumper (840/500) (SN#76026)(Dean Nickerson photos)

Newburgh's Steyr 6x6 Tanker

Credit Walt McCall and the Third Alarm

At times European fire apparatus makes its way to North America. The best example of this was Margius who exported several ladder turntables to Canada and the USA. One, a 1976 Iveco-Magirus aerial ladder was still in reserve status with Brossard, Que fire service in 1997. Mercedes has exported several Unimog chassis to the USA where they are used in forest fire protection. However, one of the most interesting to date is a 1988 Steyr 1491 tanker/brush unit currently in operation with the Newburgh Fire Dept. in Ontario, Canada. The background to this truck goes back to the 1980s when the Dept. of National Defence (DIYD) was tendering replacement 5 ton 6x6 trucks for the Canadian Armed Forces. A joint roposal was submitted by the Urban Transit Development Corp. (UTDC) & Steyr of Austria to build a Canadianised version of the 1491. Upon awarding of the contract, UTDC build three Steyr 1491s from KD (knock down) Kits and submitted them to DND for testing. Unlike the KD versions, the DND production configurations had about 75% Canadian part content and are clearly identified by the "UTDC" lettering on the cab in place of the "Steyr" lettering. The unit that ended up in Newburgh was fitted with a wrecker. Once testing was completed, all three units were returned to UTDC. The wrecker was used on site for towing until the end of the program in 1992. At that time the three trucks were put up for sale, and Newburgh's Fire Dept. was able to purchase their truck. Upon delivery to Newburgh, the wrecker body was removed and the dept. built a 2000 Gallon tank with a 300 GPM PTO pump. A second portable pump was also mounted to the rear step. It was not too long after entering service that its 6x6 capabilities where put to the test. In the spring of 1993, a mutual aid call was placed by the Napanee-Richmond-North Fredericksburg Fire Dept, to assist at a maior grass fire threatening a fuel tank farm. During the operation, the tanker entered a large, deep ravine area (3 times, often dragging 3+ foot boulders with it, with no damage to the chassis). Today, Unit #6 continues to serve the community of Newburgh in the capacity of tanker and brush fire apparatus. (ed. Note: Newburgh amalgamated into the new department of Stone Mills in 1998, the Steyr is now numbered Wildland 731 and still in the Newburgh hall).



Newburgh's 1988 Steyr tanker after being refitted with a 300gpm pump and 2000gwt
(Dean Nickerson photo)

Spotlight on Northern Ontario: the Tilden Lake Fire Protection Team:

Fire Station - 34 Village Road (provided by Gary Dinkel)

Tank 1 1995 FL80 CMAX 1700 gal (ex Blyth)

Rescue 1 1997 Ford F-350 light rescue H E Brown (local manufacturer)

Looking for a used mini pumper to replace Mack pumper was has been decommissioned and is for sale : 1988 Mack MR686P Hub 1050/500 (ex North Bay)



Tank 1 1995 FL80 CMAX 1700 gal and Rescue 1 1997 Ford F-350 H E Brown light rescue (Gary Dinkel photos)



After years of searching, this NL man finally found a cherished piece of his childhood
Ed Oke had been looking for a Harbour Grace fire truck. Now, he's found it — on the other side of
the country

CBC News · Posted: Jul 31, 2020 6:00 AM NT | Last Updated: July 31



This truck belonged to Harbour Grace's fire department for years, before being sold in 1988.
(Submitted by Scott Hadley)

An old fire truck from Harbour Grace, cherished by a family there before being lost for decades, has now been found — on the other side of the country.^½

Ed Oke has vivid memories of growing up in the town, riding around in the truck with his father, a volunteer firefighter. It wasn't any old fire truck, but a gleaming, red 1960 Mercury M250 4x4 pickup.

"I remember driving in it with him on Sunday mornings. He'd take me with him, and he just loved driving the truck. It was one of those really fun trucks to drive," Oke recalled.

"I used to joke it was a good excuse on Sunday mornings to avoid going to church."

Oke's father spent more than 50 years on the town's volunteer fire brigade, preferring the pickup to the more glamorous, attention-grabbing pumper trucks. When Oke began volunteering too, he also stuck by the truck, even driving it once in a parade before leaving Harbour Grace to join the military.

While he was serving in 1988, Oke learned the town was selling off the vehicle to raise funds for a new pumper truck. But neither he nor his father had the means to buy it, and it was sold to an unknown buyer off the island.

"It was sad knowing it was going to go," he said. "My dad and I always talked about it, and said what a great old truck it was. And I figured it was gone forever."

And it was — until a few days ago.



The truck was sold to someone in New Brunswick, and then sold again to Scott Hadley of Calgary, who began restoring it 2½ years ago. (Submitted by Scott Hadley)

'I skipped a few breaths'

Oke has long since settled in Calgary, but the Mercury M250 has never been far from his mind.

Over the years, he developed a habit of checking Autotrader, Kijiji and other classifieds on the off chance it would make its way there. On the morning of July 20, when Oke opened up Kijiji to search what was new in classic vehicles, there it was — not only available, but also in Calgary.

"I was dumbfounded. I think I skipped a few breaths. My wife wondered if I was OK when she saw me. I was a little bit white in the face," he said.

He phoned the seller, Scott Hadley, and the two men talked for over an hour, Oke filling in the blanks of the truck's beginnings and explaining more about the sign advertising Harbour Grace's 100th anniversary in the truck's pan. Both of them joked about the vehicle's appeal and its Tonka truck-like qualities, said Oke.

After the call, Oke was on the fence about spending thousands of dollars to buy back the truck, but amid his swirling memories, his wife spoke sense to him.

"It took me right back to driving in it with him as a kid. And she said, 'You can't put a price on that.' She said, 'You have to do it,'" he told CBC Radio's On The Go.



Hadley is all smiles after finishing some welding work on the truck. (Submitted by Scott Hadley)

A piece of Harbour Grace history

Hadley had come across the truck for sale in New Brunswick. The Calgary geologist makes a hobby of restoring old cars, and had just finished restoring the exact same model and year Mercury pickup in bright green — a rare vehicle he said, as few were ever built, particularly of the 4x4 model.

This one, he said was built in Ford's Oakville, Ont. plant and sold and shipped to Newfoundland for the fire brigade's centennial.

Hadley snapped up the fire truck and had it shipped to Calgary, where he began stripping out its rusty parts as well as investigating its past, including a call to the Harbour Grace Fire Department to learn more about it.

"My intent was to restore it to its former glory right down to the red flashing light," he told CBC in an email.

Two and a half years into the restoration, Hadley's happy to pass the (welding) torch on.

"I am so happy it is being reunited with Ed Oke," he said. "I'm glad I was able to play a part getting some of the work done and passing it on to Ed and his family."



Hadley had previously restored another 1960 Mercury pickup, left, and had intended to do the same with the Harbour Grace truck. (Submitted by Scott Hadley)

The truck's rarity makes it attractive to anyone interested in antique cars, said Oke, and he's glad Hadley chose to pass it on to him. Now, Oke plans to complete the work Hadley began, and hopes to even bring it back to Harbour Grace at some point and show it off.

And as Oke prepares to polish up the pickup, he'll be thinking of his father, who died in 2005.

"My mom and I have been joking, saying, if there is a heaven, he's up there having a good laugh and smiling at this one, for sure."

Ten series years....



Lincoln Parade 1960 International / Thibault 625/500 SN#10637



Trent Hills, ON 672, 2010 International 7500/Fort Garry 1050igpm/1000gwt/20gft, S#M178



Blandford-Blenheim 82-01, a 2010 IHC/Asphodel pumper, which has a 1050igpm pump, 800gt and 30gft.



Belleville Tanker 633, a 2010 Freightliner M2 / Rosenbauer rig, with 1050igpm pump, 1250gwt and 50gft.

Ten series years, U.S. version...



South Shore, WI Engine 8, 2000 Pierce Dash with a 1500gpm pump and 750gwt. J#11212



Horry County, SC Tower 7 2000 Spartan / Ferrara 105' Platform with a 1500gpm pump & 600gwt.



Churchville, NY Pumper 423, a 2010 Pierce Impel, 1250gpm pump, 1000gwt and 40gft. J#22934
(Bob Rupert photos)