



75TH



ANNIVERSARY



**OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to the entire membership, both past and present, of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department. Without the unselfish devotion of these men and women, the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department would never have become the modern, well-trained and active fire company that it is today. There isn't a member who hasn't seen one of his fellow firemen give of his time, talents and even money to keep the equipment running and the building in repair. It also takes knowledgeable men to pass along the instruction and training that is necessary to have one of the most modern and up-to-date volunteer fire departments in existence today. To these men, the volunteer firemen of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department, this book is dedicated.



You'll need more than the right shoe size to fill these boots.

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A FIREFIGHTERS PRAYER

*When I am called to duty, God
Wherever flames may rage,
Give me strength to save some life
Whatever be its age.
Help me embrace a little child
Before it is too late
Or save an older person from
The horror of that fate.
Enable me to be alert and hear the weakest shout
And quickly and efficiently
To put the fire out.
I want to fill my calling and
To give the best in me,
To guard my every neighbor and
Protect his property.
And if according to my fate
I am to lose my life,
Please bless with your protecting hand
My children and my wife.*



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PREFACE

The contents of this book represent many hours, many days, and many weeks of research and organization of information. It has been an enjoyable experience because of the many new bits of history gathered and reproduced in this book.

The reason for the production of this book was so that all of our members and others who are interested could have a book that, in the years to come, would remind them of the past and would reflect memories of many fellow firefighters with whom they shared those years.

We know that this book will be referred to many times in the years to come and hope that it will continue to bring fond memories to those who use it.

We have attempted to put the contents of this book in the correct sequence of events and can only hope that you are as proud of the book as we are.

Finally, we wish to thank all those who have allowed us to use their personal collections of fire company history; their reward will be that now everyone can enjoy the photos, news clippings and history that may have otherwise been lost in time.

1984 Historical Committee

*Michael J. Cosetta
Edward J. Bertholic
David F. Gamache*

2009 Historical Committee

*Joseph Bertholic
Edward J. Bertholic
Michael J. Cosetta
Warren Steere
Troy Phillips*

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OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZED MARCH 4, 1934 CHARTER MEMBERS

CHIEF

Adelbert Reynolds

ENGINEER

Edmond St. Pierre

DEPUTY CHIEFS

John Aylward

Peter Trinque, Jr.

ASST. ENGINEER

Eugene Trinque

LADDERMEN

Joseph Danault

Charles Goodrow

John Williams

Russell Wilcox

Henry Gendron

Abraham Letondresse

Arthur K. St. Pierre

CAPTAIN

Howard Quigley

1ST LIEUTENANT

Chester Reynolds

2ND LIEUTENANT

Ernest Gaucher

WRENCHMEN

Byron McKinnon

Joseph Lavallee

George Miller

Archie Messier

Leo Lee

Napoleon Lataille

Aram Dextraze

TRUCK DRIVERS

Frank Cavanaugh

John Maher

Edward Lavallee

C.O. Remington, Jr.

Arthur St. Pierre

COMMISSIONERS

John Aylward

Adelbert Reynolds

Peter Trinque, Jr.

NOZZLEMEN

Raymond Balcom

Ralph Caswell

Joseph Guilbeault

Joseph Latondresse

John Viherck, Jr.

John Polacek

Jack Mandeville

HYDRANTMEN

Fredric Baldwin

Harold Smith

HONORARY MEMBERS

James Mead

Arthur Ingraham, Jr.

Alfred Davies

Peter J. Friery

Donat Guilbeault

Howard Smith

Orville Ripley

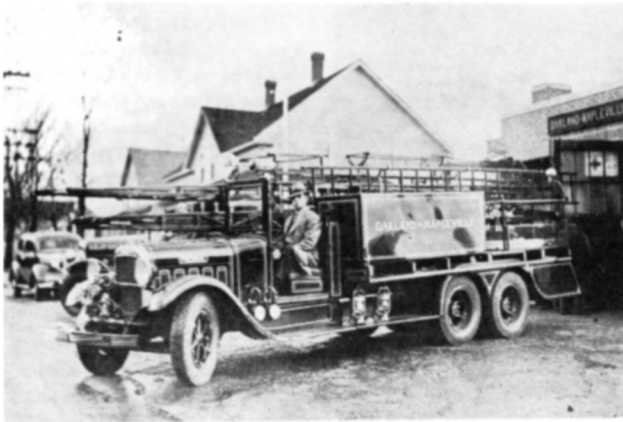
Lewis Rhodes

Theodore Tessier

John Lloyd

C.O. Remington, Sr.

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1937 LADDER TRUCK
Ed Lavallee, Driver



**Left to Right: Driver Ed Lavallee, John Maher,
Chief Adelbert Reynolds**



**1952, Deputy Chief Harold Smith presenting watch to retiring Chief Adelbert Reynolds.
Looking on is Chet Reynolds**

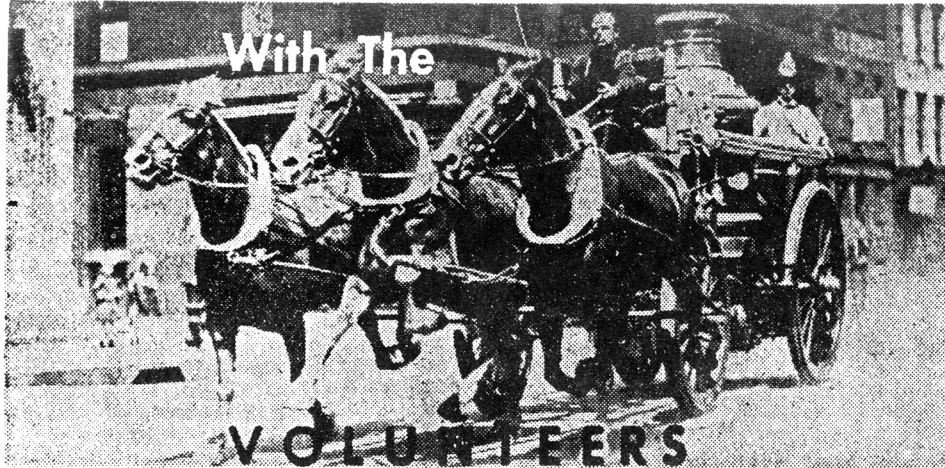


**Left to Right: Driver Ed Lavallee, John Maher,
Chief Adelbert Reynolds**



1934 AHRENS-FOX

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE

By LOUIS BLEIWEIS

MAPLEVILLE — Tragedy begot the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Dept. which will observe its 25th anniversary in 1959.

After a bad fire destroyed Our Lady of Good Help convent in December, 1932, and was prevented from spreading by yeoman efforts of the Harrisville Fire Dept., Chief Clarence Cook exhorted Oakland and Mapleville residents to do something about organization of their own fire protection.

A small group, largely businessmen, were convinced that action was necessary but their efforts ran into a stone wall of opposition from influential taxpayers.

Several months later fire gutted a home on New Street and rekindled hopes of proponents for position action. A mass meeting in Oakland Hall brought an encouraging response and committees were named to go forward with formation of a fire district.

Levy Approves

First to be contacted was the late Austin T. Levy who approved the idea and gave the district full use of all the hydrants and pumps of Stillwater Worsted Mills in Mapleville. The Oakland Worsted Co. fell in with the program.

The district was formed in the summer of 1933 and a charter granted in January, 1934. In July the fire department was organized with Adelbert J. Reynolds as chief and John Maher, president.

A committee of Thomas Hart, Peter J. Friery, Fred Baldwin, the late Lewis Rhodes, Donat Guilbeault, Peter Trinquet, Harold L. Smith and John J. Aylward signed notes to borrow the money to build the fire station and purchase a piece of apparatus.

The first truck, a pumper, was delivered in 1935 and is still in use, its effectiveness high.

Chief Frank A. Shaw Sr. of Pascoag and Chief Cook of Harrisville gave their time and effort to drilling the new department's personnel and instructing them in use of apparatus.

List Of Charter Members

Charter members of the department were Chief Adelbert J. Reynolds, John J. Aylward, Peter Trinquet, Edmund St. Pierre, Eugene Trinquet, Joseph Danault, Charles Goodrow, John Williams, Russell Wilcox, Harris Gendron, Abraham Letondresse, Arthur K. St. Pierre, Frank J. Cavanaugh, John Maher, Edward Lavallee, Clinton O. Remington Jr., Arthur St. Pierre, Howard Quigley, Chester F. Reynolds, J. Ernest Gaucher, Byron MacKinnon, Joseph Lavallee, George Miller, Archie Messier, Napoleon Lataille, Leo Lee, Aram Dextraze, Raymond Balcom, Ralph Caswell, Joseph Guilbeault, Joseph Latondresse, John Viherek, John Polacek and Jack Mandeville.

In 1936 the department purchased a ladder truck from Pascoag and the equipment therefrom was placed on a Federal truck which rendered good service until 1948 when a new Dodge truck was added, the first 1,000 gallon tank truck in the area.

Since the department's formation there have been nine presidents, John Maher, Fred Baldwin, Chester F. Reynolds, Clinton O. Remington Jr., Joseph Langlois, Harold W. Potter, Lucien Lapierre, Edward Kulick and Albert Lapierre.

Chief Adelbert J. Reynolds resigned in 1950 and was succeeded by his son, Chester F. Reynolds

Sr., who remained at the helm until 1954 when John J. Aylward took over leadership.

In 1955 a rescue squad was formed under direction of Deputy Chief Harold W. Potter. The squad has for its use in emergencies two inhalators, resuscitator, stretchers and the latest first aid equipment.

Two years ago a ladies' auxiliary was organized and is now continuing activities with Mrs. Charlotte Pomfret as president.

The department's roster of active members includes Chief John J. Aylward, Deputy Chief Harold W. Potter, Chief Engineer Archie Messier, Capt. Brendan Byrne, First Lt. Jack Mandeville, Second Lt. Rene Lapierre, President Albert Lapierre, Secretary Raymond Lepine, Treasurer John E. Pomfret, Ernest Stevens, Joseph Deptula, George Tatro, Raymond Lapierre, Lucien Lapierre, Raymond Boucher, Maynard Ames, Robert Sunderland, Roger Walker, James Randall, Norbert Latondresse, Anthony D'Angelo, Eugene Trinquet, Robert Jarvis, Bertie Smith, Edward Kulick, Robert Trinquet, Aldore Fontenault, Hector Doherty, Raymond F. Cahill, Richard King, George Forcier, William Potter, Michael Cosetta, Francis Balcom, John Mousseau and Clifford Trinquet.

Oakland-Mapleville Fire District is only one mile square and most of the calls answered by the department are in the area beyond the district lines.

In the words of Chief Aylward, the department's slogan is "Have apparatus; will travel."

Since the news item appeared in the *Woonsocket Call* in 1958 many changes have occurred. Chief Jack Aylward passed away in 1963 and Harold "Smokey" Potter was installed as Chief. Through the efforts of Civil Defense Director Ray Cahill, who was also a member of the fire department, a Navy surplus laundry truck was procured and made into our first Rescue truck. Many people were involved but mainly through the endeavors of Smokey Potter, Ray Lepine, Roger Walker, Ray Balcom and George Pichette, the laundry truck was converted into a very usable and practical Rescue truck.

In 1960 the fire department was still expanding and more room was needed to house the new Rescue and a planned Tanker. A building committee was established and plans made to expand the present 2 bay station to 4 bays. In or about 1967 a Ford chassis was obtained and an oil tank body was given to us by Bill Andrews and Engine 3 was beginning to take shape. During 1969 Chief Harold Potter passed away and Ray Balcom was appointed Chief. Engine 3 was replaced with Tanker 3, a 1942 all wheel drive, surplus Army vehicle, affectionately called the "War Wagon". Again many people were involved in building this truck but mainly Ray Balcom, George Mathewson, Barry Guston, Nel Champagne, Ed Bertholic and Kenny Brand.

In 1971 the old Rescue truck was replaced with a new International. The interior was built by firemen with Herb Gaucher doing the fine cabinet work. The entire cost for the vehicle came to approximately \$5,000! In 1983 this was entirely refurbished by American Modular Corp. of Smithfield which brought it up to the latest standards. Also in 1971 the Fire District gave the ok to a new pumper/tanker to replace the aging Ahrens-Fox. September, 1972 saw the new Engine 1 delivered and for a number of years was the largest pumper/tanker in the Northern R.I. Firemen's League. It was our first 1,000 gallon per minute pumper and had a 2,500 gallon tank.

In 1974 Chief Ray Balcom retired and the Commissioners promoted Ed Bertholic to Chief. Ray retired to Florida and since then has made a second career as a paid Fire Chief in a suburb of St. Petersburg. Meanwhile the old "War Wagon" was getting tired and the Fire District in 1975 purchased a 1953 Chevrolet pumper/



OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE OFFICERS

... Leaders of the 23-year-old department are, from left, Archie Messier, John E. Pomfret, Deputy Chief Harold W. Potter, Chief John J. Aylward, Rene Lapierre, Jack Mandeville, Albert Lapierre and Raymond Lepine.

tanker from the Glendale Fire Department and this became Engine 3.

In 1976 a committee was appointed to look into a suitable replacement for Engine 2, the 1947 Dodge which was the mainstay of this department since its delivery. A contract was signed in 1977 with Farrar Company and in January 1979 the new Engine 2 was delivered. This came with a Diesel engine, our first, a 1,250 gallon per minute pump, 1,000 gallon tank and 3,000 feet of 4 inch hose, mounted on a reel in the rear of the truck. The old Dodge were ceremoniously retired and another saga of the department ended.

During 1981 Chief Bertholic retired as Chief, but stayed on in the department. Deputy Chief Mike Cosetta was elevated to the Chief's position by the

Commissioners. In 1982 the fire district purchased a 1972 Ford chassis from C.O. Remington III and awarded a contract to Ray Boucher of Pascoag to replace the 1952 Chevy chassis on Engine 3. With that completed, all the department's apparatus now stands in excellent condition.





NEWLY ELECTED . . . officers of the Northern Rhode Island Firemen's league are pictured with the outgoing president at the bi-monthly meeting last night at Wallum Lake. Seated, left to right, Auren E. Jenks, second vice president; Wilfred J. Bilodeau, retiring president; Fred A. Bailey, first vice president; John J. Aylward, third vice president. Standing, left to right, J. Clinton Mathewson, secretary; Harold W. Potter, treasurer; Alfred Frenette and Romeo Suprenant, delegates. Aldore Bouley, new president, was unable to attend the meeting.



GUIDING LIGHTS . . . of the Oakland-Mapleville fire department's minstrel show to be presented Saturday and Sunday in Our Lady of Good Help church hall are: seated, left to right, Leo Carriere and Roy Jarvis, casting directors; standing, left to right, Raymond Balcom, publicity chairman; Arthur St. Pierre, musical chairman, and John J. Aylward, general chairman.

1946



FIRE APPARATUS NEAR . . . water supply far. This blackened debris of a century-old building located directly across from the Oakland-Mapleville fire house was destroyed early this morning. Firemen were forced to stretch 1,500 feet of hose in order to bring the flames under control. Loss is estimated at \$15,000.

1946

Chiefs Club

Banquet Held

1946 May 22
MAPLEVILLE - Approximately 180 members and guests of the Fire Chiefs club of Rhode Island attended a banquet given by the Oakland-Mapleville fire department last night in Our Lady of Good Help church hall, followed by a business session and presentation of the O-M firemen's minstrel show.

Seated at the head table during the banquet were Chief Fred Charlesworth of the Quonset naval air base department, president; Chief Adelbert J. Reynolds of Oakland-Mapleville, second vice president; Leslie Howard of Warren, Bristol county vice president; Eugene Parenteau of West Warwick, director; Chief Lionel Gareau of West Warwick, first vice president; Capt. Harold L. Smith of Oakland-Mapleville and Chief Walter G. Ganz of Oaklawn, secretary-treasurer.

Deputy Chief Leon O. Chase of Chepachet was among a group accepted into membership.

Arrangements for the banquet and entertainment were in charge of Chief Reynolds, Captain Smith, Chester P. Reynolds, John J. Aylward and Clinton O. Remington, Jr.



1944

Firemen Honor First Member Killed In War

MAPLEVILLE, Aug. 8—Tribute was paid last night by the Oakland-Mapleville fire department to its first member killed in action, Sgt. Armand A. Lapiere, who died June 19 on the battlefield in France.

A resolution of sympathy was ordered sent to his family, and a delegation instructed to attend a memorial mass Saturday at 9 a. m. at Our Lady of Good Help church. Sergeant Lapiere joined the fire department in June, 1941.

His comrades ordered a gold star to be placed in the department's service flag.

Another resolution of sympathy was voted sent to the family of the late Edmond St. Pierre, a member of the company since it was chartered in March, 1934. It was decided to hold fire practice next Monday at 7 p. m.

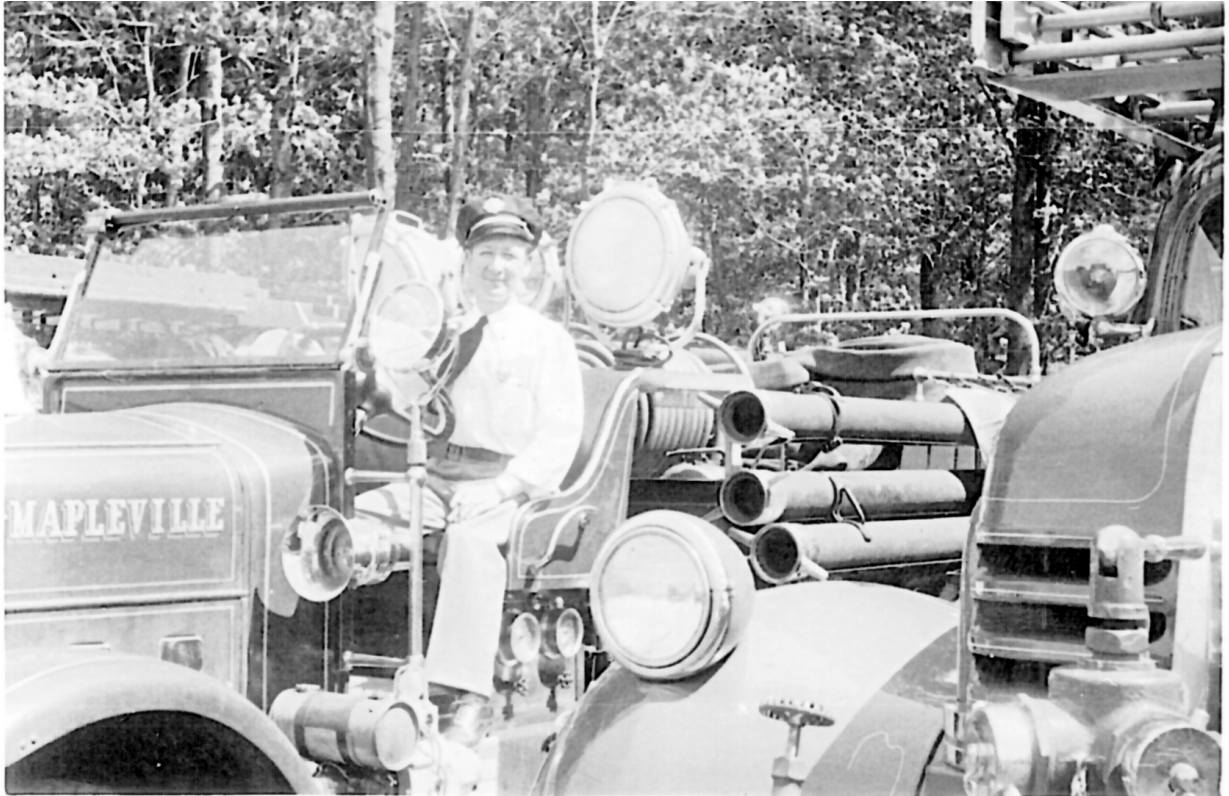


1954 Left to Right: Leroy Smith, Oscar Trinque Jr., Unknown, Richard King, Unknown, Alvin Davis, Archie Messier Chief Engineer, Unknown.



1954 1st Row Left to Right: Leroy Smith, Raymond Trinque, Paul Carriere, Oscar Trinque Jr., 2nd Row L-R Ray Houle, Richard King, Arnold Smith, Matt Misiaszek

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Circa 1950
Archie Messier, Chief Engineer



Circa 1960

Fire Fighters Install

MAPLEVILLE — Edward Bertholic, seated left in photo, was installed president of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department Saturday night at The Village Barn. Deputy Chief John E. Pomfret was installing officer.

Other officers include, in photo, seated, Maynard Ames, vice president; standing, from left, Antonio D'Angelo, treasurer, and Richard Polacek,

secretary. Also installed were George Pichette and Raymond Balcom, delegates to State Firemen's League with Armand Tetu Jr. and John Polacek, alternates; Robert Sutherland, finance committee, three years; Theodore Hebert, two years, and Balcom, one year.

Guests were Chief and Mrs. James C. Maher of Glendale Fire Department. The Ralph Louis Quartet provided the music for dancing.

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OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT 1934 FIRE CHIEFS 2009



ADELBERT J. REYNOLDS
1934 - 1952



CHESTER REYNOLDS
1952 - 1955



JOHN J. AYLWARD
1955 - 1963



HAROLD W. POTTER
1963 - 1968



RAYMOND P. BALCOM
1968 - 1974



EDWARD J. BERTHOLIC
1974 - 1981



MICHAEL J. COSETTA
1981 - 1985



EDWARD J. BERTHOLIC
1985 - 2006

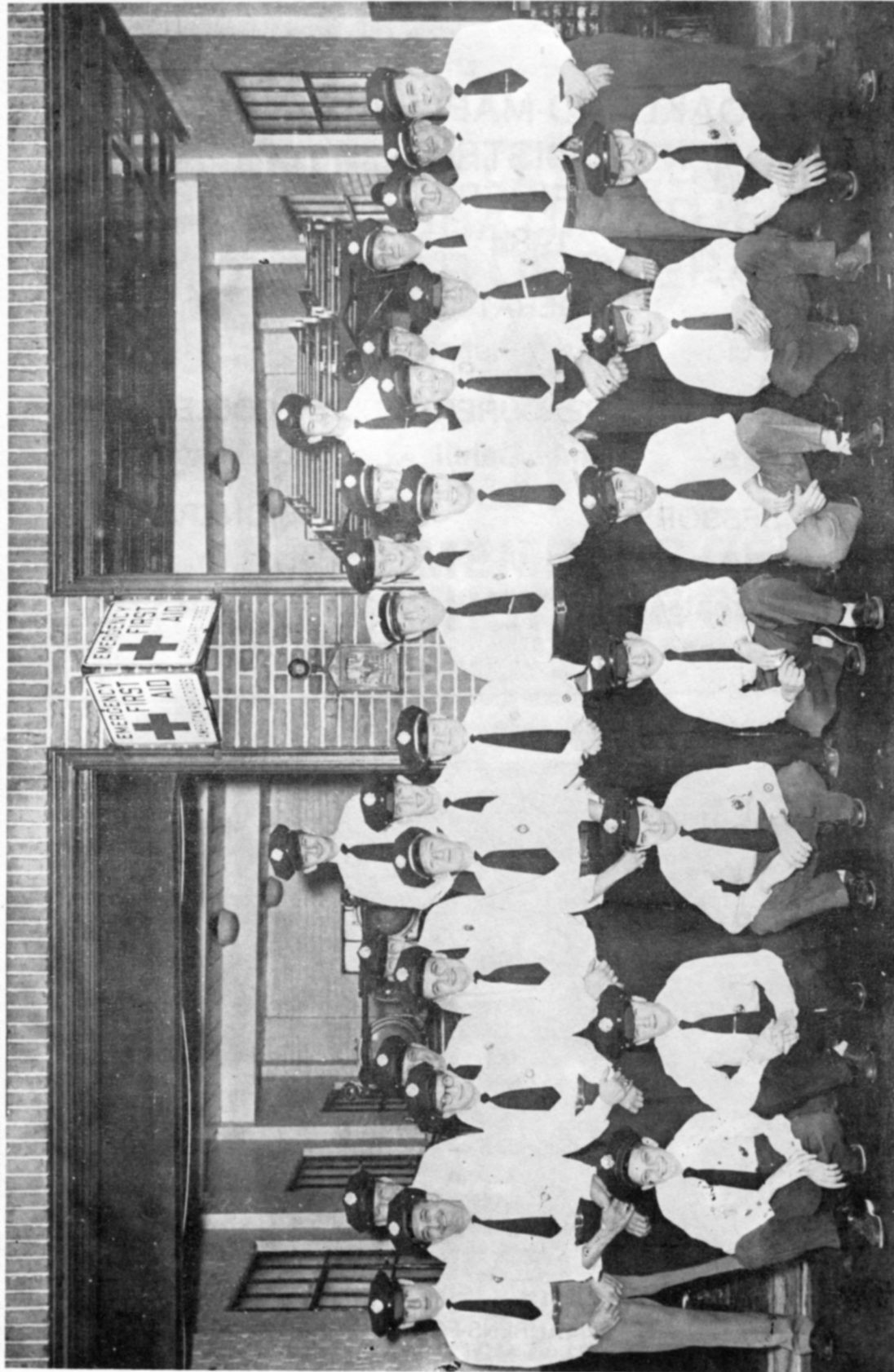


JOSEPH E. BERTHOLIC
2006 - PRESENT

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OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPT. PAST OFFICERS

YEAR	PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER
1934	Chester Reynolds	Howard Quigley	A. Messier	R. Caswell
1935	Chester Reynolds	Howard Quigley	A. Messier	R. Caswell
1936	Chester Reynolds	Howard Quigley	A. Messier	R. Caswell
1937	John Maher	Fred Baldwin	A. Messier	R. Caswell
1938	Fred Baldwin	Russell Wilcox	R. Caswell	A. Messier
1939	Fred Baldwin	Russell Wilcox	A. Messier	R. Caswell
1940	C.O. Remington, Jr.	Albert Langlois	A. Messier	R. Caswell
1941	C.O. Remington, Jr.	Albert Langlois	R. Caswell	A. Messier
1942	C.O. Remington, Jr.	Albert Langlois	A. Messier	R. Caswell
1943	C.O. Remington, Jr.	Albert Langlois	A. Messier	R. Caswell
1944	C.O. Remington, Jr.	Albert Langlois	A. Messier	L. Lee
1945	C.O. Remington, Jr.	Albert Langlois	L. Lee	A. Messier
1946	Albert Langlois	Jack Mandeville	A. Messier	L. Lee
1947	Albert Langlois	Jack Mandeville	R. Lapierre	L. Lee
1948	Chester Reynolds	Bill Quigley	L. Lee	R. Lapierre
1949	Chester Reynolds	Bill Quigley	R. Lapierre	L. Lee
1950	Bill Quigley	Harold Potter	R. Lapierre	L. Lee
1951	Harold Potter		R. Lapierre	L. Lee
1952	Harold Potter		L. Lee	R. Lapierre
1953	Lucien Lapierre	Ed Kulick	L. Lee	E. Trinque
1954	Lucien Lapierre	Ed Kulick	H. Potter	E. Trinque
1955	Ed Kulick	Ernest Stevens	E. Trinque	A. Lapierre
1956	Ed Kulick	Ernest Stevens	R. Boucher	A. Lapierre
1957	Al Lapierre	Ernest Stevens	J. Randall	J. Pomfret
1958	Al Lapierre	Ernest Stevens	R. Lepine	J. Pomfret
1959	Al Lapierre	Ernest Stevens	R. Lepine	J. Pomfret
1960	Ernest Stevens	Tony D'Angelo	G. Pichette	J. Pomfret
1961	Ernest Stevens	Tony D'Angelo	G. Pichette	J. Pomfret
1962	Bob Sutherland	Tony D'Angelo	R. Walker	J. Pomfret
1963	Tony D'Angelo	Robert Trinque	G. Pichette	J. Pomfret
1964	Albert Vanasse	Ray Balcom	E. Stevens	G. Pichette
1965	Ray Balcom	Ed Bertholic	G. Pichette	T. D'Angelo
1966	Ed Bertholic	Maynard Ames	R. Polacek	T. D'Angelo
1967	Maynard Ames	Paul Carrierre	G. Pichette	T. D'Angelo
1968	Paul Carrierre	Steve Fitts	G. Pichette	T. D'Angelo
1969	Steve Fitts	Ted Hebert, Sr.	A. Pichette	T. D'Angelo
1970	Ted Hebert, Sr.	Paul Cosetta	A. Pichette	T. D'Angelo
1971	Paul Cosetta	Mike Cosetta	R. Lapierre	T. D'Angelo
1972	Mike Cosetta	Normand Berthieume	L. Champeau	T. D'Angelo
1973	Normand Berthieume	George Mathewson	D. Mulligan	W. Ramsey
1974	George Mathewson	Arthur Pichette	R. Davis	T. D'Angelo
1975	Arthur Pichette	Jerry Langlois	R. Davis	R. Lapierre
1976	Gerald Langlois	Joe Misunas	D. Gamache	R. Lapierre
1977	George Barber	Gene Hebert	B. Latondresse	T. Micucci
1978	Joe Misunas	Paul Cahill	J. Machacz	R. Lapierre
1979	Paul Cahill	Tony Micucci	J. Machacz	R. Lapierre
1980	Larry Henault	Gene Hebert	D. Gamache	R. Lapierre
1981	Gene Hebert	B. Latondresse	D. Gamache	R. Lapierre
1982	B. Latondresse	Paul Paquette	D. Gamache	R. Lapierre
1983	Emile Jacquart	Joe Bertholic	D. Gamache	B. Latondresse
1984	Joe Bertholic	Warren Steere	D. Nobles	B. Latondresse



OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT 1955

Left to Right: 1st Row: Mike Cosetta, Ray Boucher, Ray Scotland, Ray Lapierre, Tony D'Angelo, Paul Carriere, Bob Lee; 2nd Row: Lucien Lapierre, Gerry Blanchard, Francis Berthieu, Chief Eng. Archie Messier, Deputy Chief Harold Potter, Chief Jack Aylward, Jr., Capt. Bob Jarvis, Bob Trinque, Joe Deptula, Bertie Smith, Ed Kulick; 3rd Row: Bill Neyman, Steve Vihereck, Ray Cahill, Gerry Reynolds, Richard King, Matt Misiaszek, Asst. Chief John Pomfret, Ray Lepine, Asst. Chief Ernest Stevens, Deputy Chief Jack Mandeville; 4th Row: Al Lapierre, Ray Trinque.

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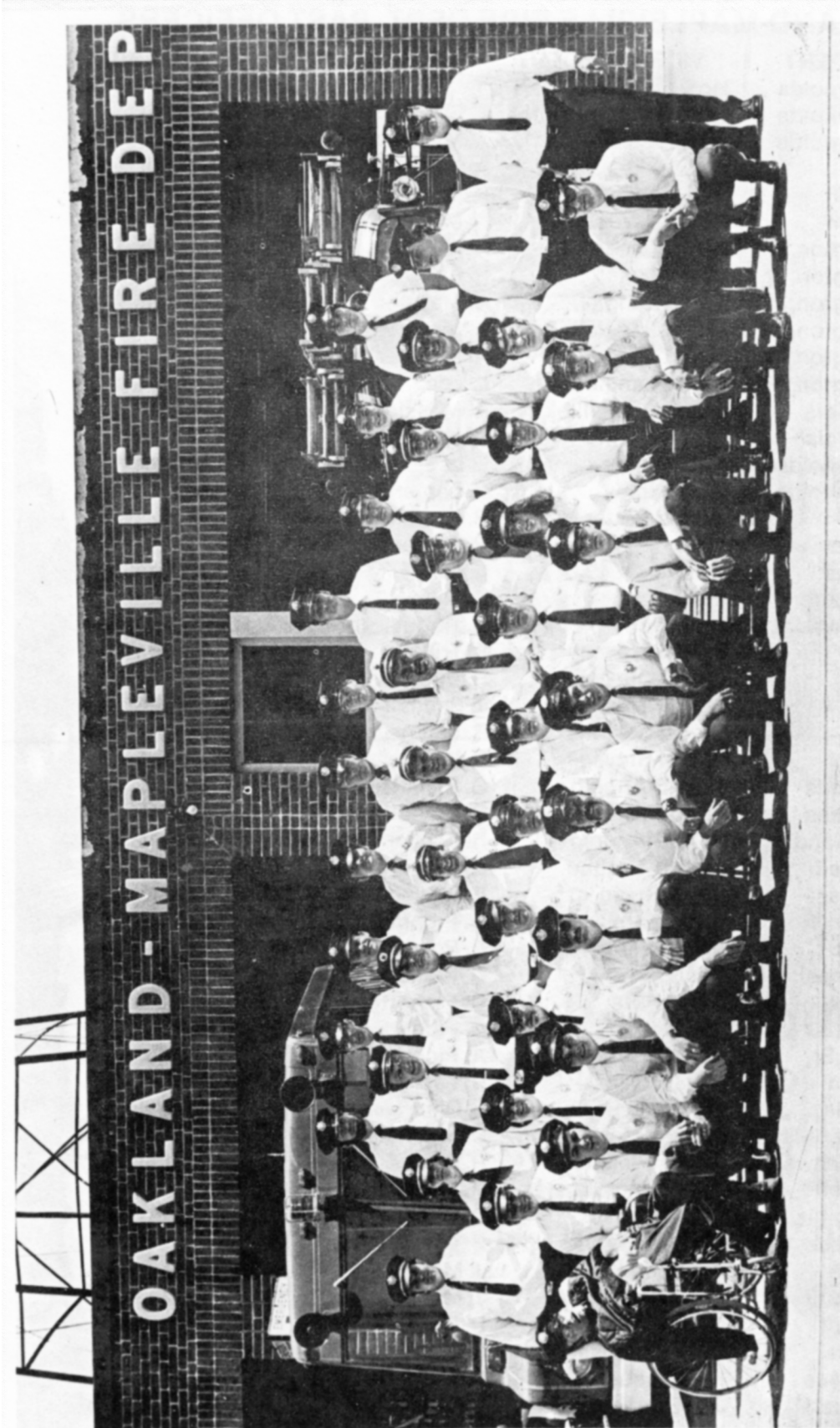


A Gathering Of Forest Fire Wardens - 1953

Seated Left To Right: Auren E. Jenks, Wallum Lake; Jack Mandeville, Oakland-Mapleville; Chief Forest Fire Warden Harold "Smokey" Potter; Chuck Wilcox, Pascoag; Standing: Joe Menard, Harrisville; Patrolman Fred Smith, Burrillville Police Dept.; Buster Fafard, Nasonville; Jim Maher, Glendale.



Forest Fire Chief Harold W. Potter accepting keys to new 1951 Studebaker Forest Fire Truck from Chuck Wilcox.



OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT - 1972

Left To Right: Knelling Terry Medberry, Jim Cahill, Paul Cahill, Ted Hebert Jr., Norman Berthieu, Mike Cahill, Dave Balcom, Bob Ames, Mike Fallon;
 2nd Row: Lieut. Larry Henault, Paul Cosetta, Bob Sutherland, Henri Tessier, Tony D'Angelo, Jay Patundi, Ron Benoit, Guntha Barna,
 Nel Champeau, Art Pichette; 3rd Row: Asst. Eng. Francis Chartier, Asst. Eng. Luke Quigley, Lieut. Steve Fitts, Capt. Mike Cosetta, Rescue Capt. Roger Walker, Chief
 Ray Balcom, Deputy Chief Ed Bertholic, Chief Eng. George Mathewson, Asst. Eng. Barry Giston, Asst. Eng. Al Marcoux, Brayton Rounds and Tony St. Pierre; 4th Row:
 Russ Couture, Al Lapierre, Henri Provencher, Gerry Langlois, Joe Misuanas, Warren Steere, Walt Ramsey, Dave Gamache, Louis Latendresse and Danny Mulligan.

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OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT BITS & PIECES FROM YESTERYEARS

April 6, 1936: A motion made and seconded that we purchase a 2 door Plymouth sedan to be given away at our Carnival. So voted.

September 14, 1936: Chief Reynolds speaking for the commissioners spoke about the purchase of a truck to be rebuilt into a pump and ladder truck.

January 4, 1937: Capt. Harold Smith stated that the ladder truck leaves the station first to be followed by the pumper in the district; for out of town calls the pumper answers the call with a crew of 8 to 10 men.

January 28, 1940: 23 members answered the call to participate in a minstrel.

April 6, 1942: A motion was made and was seconded that we send each member of this dept. that is in the services a sum of \$5.00 each.

August 3, 1942: Chief Reynolds advised an air raid test will be held in the near future.

June 4, 1945: MM&S to have a clam bake on July 1, 1945. MM&S to dig clams on June 29th.

July 1, 1945: Jack Aylward reported that the clam bake was a success.

January 6, 1947: MM&S to install a monument to World War II Veterans. It was purchased May 30, 1950 for the sum of \$465. and it weighed 150 lbs.

May 5, 1947: Oakland-Mapleville firemen took second place in the Northern Rhode Island Fire League Bowling League.

February 22, 1948. Responded to St. Joseph's Fire.

June, 1947: Took delivery on the Dodge.

March 7, 1949: The Fox and the Dodge were weighed. The Fox came in at 12,450 lbs. and the Dodge weighed 22,880 lbs.

July 10, 1950: Paid \$25. for diving board at Gillron's Pond.

October 2, 1950: MM&S to look into purchase of some type of mask for firefighting.

December 4, 1950: Purchase 2 Scott Air Packs for a total of \$427.12.

August 12, 1951: Leo Lee was appointed to buy a brief case a year ago. He finally bought one.

December 3, 1951: MM&S that Steve Viherck bring 2 samples of chairs for the station.

February 6, 1950: MM&S that Patrolman Robert Rivet be given a key to the station.

February 4, 1952: Purchase red chairs from Steve Viherk Upholstery for \$700., 11 Chairs at \$29.75 each.

April 7, 1952: MM&S that the fire company pay 10 cents a mile for one car that takes the men down to the State Firemen's League Meeting, and pay for any tickets that they have to buy.

October 5, 1953: A motion to postpone the reading of the minutes of the meeting was made and seconded and continues to this day.

May 1, 1955: MM&S that the Co. have a Ladies Auxiliary, so voted.

May 1, 1955: MM&S to purchase a Resuscitator, \$377.00.

May 1, 1955: MM&S to bring remarks on expansion to the Commissioners.

June 5, 1955: The Fire Dept. will not pay expenses of delegates to the State Firemen's League.

January 8, 1955: The company talked about having radios in the trucks and the station.

June 3, 1956: Harlod Potter reported that we have a popcorn machine coming. And Raymond Cahill talked about a Rescue Truck which would cost about \$4,000.

June 3, 1956: MM&S to purchase radios and to have special times and events to pay for them.

June 3, 1957: The subject of a dry hydrant was discussed.

July 1957: Richard Chretien was hired to clean the grounds and mow the lawn.

October 6, 1957: Olvila St. Pierre and Jack Maderville were added to the building committee. The cost to build the addition will be about \$3,500.

June 1, 1959: MM&S that the company pay up to \$10. for expenses of the Northern Delegate.

June 1, 1959: MM&S that we have a field day Sunday, September 13, 1959.

September 14, 1959: The net income of the 1st Annual Field Day \$1,408.22

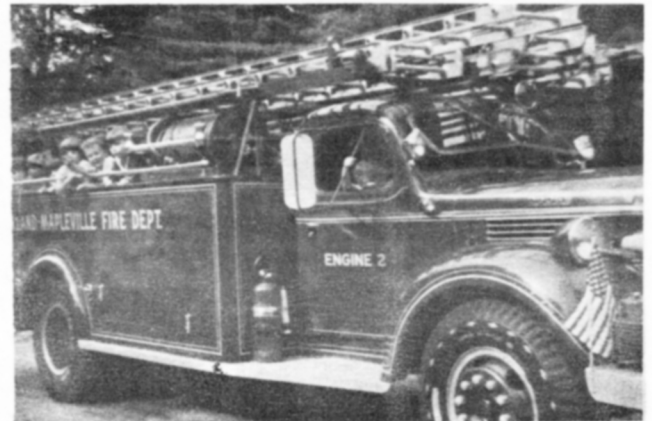
January 2, 1960: MM&S to seek more information toward the purchase of the Oakland Triangle. All information to be brought back at the next meeting.

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APRIL, 1979

Rescue 1, Engine 3, Ahrens-Fox, Engine 1 and Engine 2.



ENGINE 2 - 1947 DODGE

Built by Farrar, 500 GPM Pump, 800 Gal. Tank.



Chief Chet Reynolds with 1934 Ahrens-Fox



Original Rescue Truck before dual wheels added. Taken at Pomfret Ford, Mapleville.



MARCH, 1971
Original Rescue and Engine 3

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SMITH BROS. STORE - GENERAL ALARM FIRE, GAZZA ROAD & MAIN STREET, MAPLEVILLE - MARCH 26, 1970

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OAKLAND MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

Ames, James (*1998)
Ames, John
Ames, Kenneth
Ames, Maynard, (*1998) 1st Lieut.
Ames, Robert
Archambault, David
Arnold, Paul
Atteridge, James
Aylward, John (*1963) Chief
Bachman, Sid
Balcom, David, Rescue Lieut.
Balcom, Raymond, (*1973)
Balcom, Raymond, (*2004) Chief
Baldwin, Frederick (*1978)
Barbeau, Laurent (*1979)
Barber, George Jr., Asst. Eng.
Barber, George Sr.
Barna, Gunthar
Belhumer, Edward (*1969)
Bennett, Andrew
Benoit, Ronald
Berthieume, Francis
Berthieume, Norman
(Bertholic) Lavoie, Deborah (*2003)
Bertholic, Edward Jr. Lieut.
Bertholic, Edward Sr., Chief Emeritus
Bertholic, Joseph, Chief
Bertholic, Rebecca
Bertholic, Robert
Bilodeau, Leo(*1938)
Bishop, Richard (*1994) Dist. Moderator
Blanchard, Gerald
Blanchard, Robert
Boucher, Raymond
Boucher, Tim
Bourbonniere, David
Bourget, Dennis
Brand, Kenneth, Asst. Eng.
Brand, Kevin Asst. Eng.
Brousseau, Roland
Brown, Robert (*2000)
Bryant, James
Byrne, Brendon, (*2000) Captain
Cahill, James
Cahill, John
Cahill, Mike
Cahill, Paul, Captain
Cahill, Raymond (*1993)
Callison, Robert
Cardinal, Norman Jr.
Cardone, Richard
Cardone, Todd
Carriere, Andre
Carriere, Leo (*1983)
Carriere, Paul
Caswell, Ralph *(1962)
Cavanaugh, Frank (*1972)
Champeau, Lionel, Asst. Eng.
Chartier, Francis, Asst. Eng.
Chevrette, George
Chretien, Richard
Clay, Andy
Connors, Joseph
Cosetta, Mike, Chief
Cosetta, Paul
Cournoyer, Steve
Cournoyer, Wayne
Couture, Oscar (*1979)
Couture, Ron
Couture, Russell, Rescue Lieut.
Cullerton, Lawrence
D'Angelo, Andrew
D'Angelo, Antonio
Davis, Alvin
Davis, Russell
Davis, Sheldon (*1985)
DeConte, Neil
Delgizi, Jameson
Demers, Keith
Demers, Tom, Commissioner
Deptula, Joseph (*1976)
Deroy, Albine
Desjarlais, Eugene (*1987)
Desroches, Gerald, Eng.
Dexter, Arthur
Dextraze, Aram (*1969)
Doughty, Aaron
Dubois, John
Dubois, Rodney
Dunn, Cliff
Dunn, Leo, Rescue Lieut.
Duquet, Ronald, Rescue Capt.
Dwyer, Richard (*1988)
Eddy, Augustine

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

OAKLAND MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

Emery, Leo
Fallon, Michael (*2000)
Fitts, Steven Jr.
Fitts, Steven, Captain
Fontenault, Aldor
Forcier, George
Foster, Lloyd
Fournier, Grant
Friery, Peter (*1960)
Frigon, Marc, Asst. Eng.
Gallant, Paul Jr.
Gamache, Dave, Lieut.
Gaucher, Edward (*1974)
Gaucher, Thomas
Gaudreau, Frank
Gendron, Harris (*1958)
Genereux, Francis
Glasko, Andy, Asst. Eng.
Glidden, William, Lieut.
Gomes, Jason, Rescue Lieut.
Gomes, Mike A.
Gomes, Mike K.
Goudrow, Charles (*1966)
Greene, Herb
Gressak, Ray
Guertin, Rev. Rene (*1982) Chaplain
Guilbeault, Joseph (*1988)
Guston, Barry, 2nd Lieut.
Hannan, Erika
Hartley, Harold (*1966)
Hearn, James
Hearn, Scott
Hebert, David
Hebert, Eugene Jr.
Hebert, Eugene Sr.
Hebert, Michael
Hebert, Richard
Hebert, Theodore Jr.
Hebert, Theodore Sr., (*2005) Comm., Res. Capt.
Henault, Jeffrey
Henault, Joseph
Henault, Kevin
Henault, Lawrence, 1st Lieut., Comm.
Houle, Raymond (*1997)
Howe, Donald
Jacquart, Emile Jr., Rescue Lieut.
Jacquart, Eric, Lieut.
Jacquart, Peter
Jalette, Richard Jr., Lieut.
Jarvis, Robert Jr., (*2008) Captain
Jarvis, Russell (*1987)
Kapp, Mike
King, Frederick (*1991)
King, James Jr.
King, James, Sr. (*2000)
King, Richard
Kulick, Edward (*1970)
Laferrier, Kristian
Laferte, Ronald
Laflamme, Thomas
Lafreniere, Robert
Lamonthe, Richard, Asst. Eng.
Landry, Charles, Eng.
Lange, George
Langlois, Gerald
Langlois, Joseph (*1979)
Lapierre, Albert
Lapierre, Armand (*1944)
Lapierre, Ernest (*1979)
Lapierre, Keith
Lapierre, Lucien Jr.
Lapierre, Lucien Sr. (*2003)
Lapierre, Raymond
Lapierre, Rene (*2002) Captain
Lapierre, Richard, Deputy Chief
Lapierre, Roland (*1981)
LaPlante, David
Lataille, Napoleon (*1993)
Latendresse, Joseph (*1976)
Latendresse, Louis Jr.
Latendresse, William, Rescue Capt.
Lavallee, Arthur
Lavallee, Edmond (*1959)
Lavallee, Joseph (*1971)
Lawrence, John
LeBlond, Roger
Lee, Leo Jr. (*1998), Captain
Lee, Leo Sr. (*1986)
Lee, Robert Jr.
Lee, Robert Sr.
Leone, Brookes
Leone, Pete Jr.
Lepine, Ray
Leplat, Marc Jr.

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OAKLAND MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

Letondresse, Abraham (*1994)
Levesque, Roger (*2005) Rescue Lieut.
Lloyd, John (*1948)
Machacz, John
Maciel, Larry
Maher, John (*1990)
MaKinnon, John (*1976)
Mandeville, Jack (*1966) Deputy Chief
Marcello, Joseph, Deputy Chief
Marcoux, Albert, Asst. Eng.
Martin, Edward
Mathewson, George (*1982) Chief Eng.
Mayhew, Ian
McCain, Everett
McGrane, Michael, Lieut.
Mead, James (*1939)
Medberry, Terry (*2000) Honorary Chief
Meinville, Cody
Meinville, Mark
Merchant, Morris Jr.
Merchant, Morris Sr.
Merchant, William Jr.
Messier, Archie (*1964) Chief Eng,
Miccucci, Val
Miller, George (*1939)
Misiaszek, Matt
Misunas, Joseph, Chief Eng.
Moisan, Gerry (*1960)
Morin, Rene
Morin, Robert (*1974)
Morin, Ron
Mousseau, John
Mousseau, John L.
Mulligan, Dan, Rescue Captain
Mulligan, Richard, Lieut.
Mulligan, Robert
Myette, Erick
Neyman, William
Nobles, David
Pafundi, Jay
Palladini, Elise
Paquette, Paul, Asst. Eng.
Parenteau, Gerald
Pearson, Matthew
Pepler, John
Pepler, Kevin

Pepler, Ronald
Phillips, Jamie
Phillips, Scott
Phillips, Troy, Lieut.
Pichette, Arthur
Pichette, Eugene (*1982)
Pichette, George (*1990) Rescue Captain
Pichette, Norman
Poirier, Krystle
Polacek, John Jr.
Polacek, John Sr (*1947)
Polacek, Richard
Pomfret, John Sr. (*2001) Deputy Chief
Pomfret, John, Jr.
Potter, Gary
Potter, Harold (*1969) Chief
Potter, William
Provencher, Henri
Provencher, Ken
Quigley, Howard (*1980)
Quigley, Luke, Asst. Eng.
Quigley, William (*1981)
Ramsey, Walt
Randall, James
Reilley, Daniel, Asst. Eng.
Reilley, David, Captain
Remington, Clinton O. Jr. (*1964)
Remington, Clinton O. Sr. (*1939)
Renaud, David
Reynolds, Adelbert, Chief
Reynolds, Chester (*1987) Chief
Reynolds, Gerald (*2006)
Rhodes, Lewis (*1949)
Richard, Edgar (*1976)
Richard, James
Richard, Jennifer
Rinfrette, Jeffrey
Rivet, Charles
Rivet, Roland
Rouleau, David
Rounds, Brayton Jr.
Russell, Joseph
Salisbury, Neil
Savage, Richard
Sawyer, Peter Jr.
Scotland, Ronald

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

OAKLAND MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

Shayer, Louis (*)
Shayer, Michael
Silvia, Joshua
Silvia, Joshua
Sipes, Timonthy (*2007)
Smith, Arnold
Smith, Bert (*1969)
Smith, Donald (*1999)
Smith, Dr. Ernest (*1986)
Smith, Harold (*1990)
Smith, Henry (*1998)
Smith, Howard (*1998)
Smith, Leroy
Smith, William
Sormanti, Margaret
Spink, Charles Sr. (*2006)
St. Pierre, Arthur (*1981)
St. Pierre, Arthur K. (*1993)
St. Pierre, Edmund (*1944)
St. Pierre, Louis
St. Pierre, Norman
St. Pierre, Robert (*1966)
St. Pierre, Steven
Steere, Chad
Steere, Warren Jr., Capt.
Steere, Warren Sr. (*2004)
Stevens, Ernest (*1976) Asst. Chief
Strickland, Ray
Sutherland, Robert, 2nd Lieut., Comm.
Taschereau, Bert
Taschereau, Roger (*1981)
Tatro, George (*1991)
Tessier, Henry (*1983)
Tessier, Robert
Tessier, Theodore (*1967)
Tetu, Armand Jr.
Tetu, Armand Sr. (*1990)
Thompson, Richard Sr.
Trinque, Clifford
Trinque, Eugene (*1958) Asst. Eng.
Trinque, Oliver Jr. (*2001)
Trinque, Oscar Jr.
Trinque, Oscar Sr. (*1994)
Trinque, Pierre (*1983)
Trinque, Raymond
Trinque, Robert (*1996)
Trottier, Jonathan

Vanasse, Albert, Captain
Viherck, John Jr. (*)
Walker, Norman (*1969)
Walker, Robert
Walker, Robert
Walker, Roger (*1999) Rescue Capt.
Walton, Carisa
Wayne, Mickey, Eng.
Wheeler, John Jr., Eng.
Wheeler, Kim
Wilcox, Russell (*1974)
Williams, John (*1963)
Williams, William G., Rescue Capt.
Williams, William H.
Winn, Jason
Wyatt, Waine, Rescue Lieut.



(*Deceased)

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



CIRCA 1965

A meeting of the Deputy Chief's at Northern Rhode Island Firemen's League Drill in Slatersville. Left to Right: Bucky Cournoyer, North Smithfield; Ray Balcom, Oakland-Mapleville; and John Pacheco, Nasonville.



"The FOX" DELIVERING Santa Christmas 1973
Driver George Barber, Jr.; Santa Elmer Laymon;
Elf in middle Dave Shayer.



Engine 1 Working 1979: Left to Right: Rick
Lapierre, Deputy Chief Mike Cosetta, Chief
Ed Bertholic.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT BITS & PIECES FROM YESTERYEARS

May 2, 1960: MM&S that John Pomfret, Rene Lapierre, Archie Messier and Harold Potter be a committee to buy a Rescue Truck.

Dec. 5, 1960: John Aylward said that no Officer of the District or Company can give anyone permission to take a shower.

Feb. 5, 1962: MM&S to buy a generator for \$348.50.

Oct. 7, 1963: Ed Bertholic, Ray Balcom and George Pichette went to RI Firefighting Academy in Newport.

Jan. 6, 1964: Harold Potter said that the Radio Equipment is now in operation.

Jan. 6, 1964: MM&S to have the secretary call the General Electric sales manager, Mr. Morrisson and inquire about purchasing one Mobile Radio for \$490 and finance another Mobile Radio if possible.

April 6, 1964: Application for membership, Francis Berthume, to take the usual course of action. MM&S to put on a committee to build a trailer. Ray Balcom, Ed Bertholic, Roger Walker and Paul Carriere.

Sept. 5, 1969: The shortest meeting on record lasted only 8 minutes.

June 4, 1972 Booth building committee included Jay Pafundi, Andy Clay, Henri Provencher, George Barber, Mike Fallon, Dave Balcom, Mike and Paul Cahill.

July 1, 1973: Everyone was reminded to keep clothes out of the shower.

Oct. 7, 1973: MM&S to let wives go free. (For an explanation, ask Danny Mulligan.)

Nov. 4, 1973 MM&S to pave the back of the station.

Jan. 3, 1973: MM&S that we buy safety belts for the new Engine 1 and the Dodge.

Feb. 18, 1974: Chief Bertholic announced his officers: Deputy, Mike Cosetta; Captain, Steve Fitts; 1st Lieut., Larry Henault; 2nd Lieut., Barry Guston; Chief Engineer, George Mathewson; Asst. Engineers, Francis Chartier, Luke Quigley, Albert Marcoux.

Feb. 18, 1974 MM&S to put on a committee to check into tone alert radios. Ed Bertholic, Brayton Rounds, Dave Gamache and Rick Lapierre.

Mar. 3, 1974: Chief Bertholic was given \$1,000 to go to the District to get matching funds to purchase home alerting receivers.

July 6, 1975: MM&S that the Department give \$1,000 to the district towards the purchase of Glendale Engine 2, subject to voter approval at the District Meeting.

Aug. 3, 1975: MM&S to enter a float in the Pascoag 75th Anniversary Parade. The committee shall consist of Chief Bertholic, David Archambault, Gene Hebert, David Gamache and Richard Mulligan.

May 4, 1980: The Oakland-Mapleville 50th anniversary committee will consist of Chief Bertholic, Steve Fitts, Mike Cosetta and Dave Gamache.

June 7, 1981: MM&S to form a Testimonial for Ed Bertholic. Richard Lapierre, Mike Cosetta, Gene Hebert.

Aug. 13, 1981: Testimonial will be held on October 11 at the Columbus Club.

June 6, 1982: All members were asked to attend the wake and funeral of Eugene Pichette. MM&S to award the Overall Trophy in memory of Eugene Pichette at the Field Day.

Sept. 12, 1982: MM&S to deposit \$2,000 in a high-interest account to be used for the 50th Anniversary.

Oct. 3, 1982: MM&S to set aside a sum sufficient to honor Terry Medberry, who is approaching 30 years in the company.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT LADIES AUXILIARY

The Ladies Auxiliary was formed in 1955 and has served the fire department very well over the years. On large fires and search parties they are always there with refreshments and food. Their services are truly appreciated by all, and many ladies auxiliary units have been started since this auxiliary was founded. Over the years many valuable items of equipment have been donated to the fire department by the auxiliary.

The auxiliary is made up of women who have husbands or friends in the fire department and who wish to serve their community. Their help is always welcomed at our Annual Field Day and at other fire department functions.

In 1985 they will have served this department for 30 years with dedicated service and untold contributions. The Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department salutes these wonderful ladies on their upcoming 30th Anniversary, and look forward to working with them for many years to come!

LIST OF LADIES AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS:

Mrs. Lillian Houle, Mrs. Charlotte Pomfret, Mrs. Rosealba Herard, Mrs. Joan Trinque,
Mrs. Judy Benoit, Mrs. Theresa Hebert, Mrs. Mildred Misunas,
Mrs. Claire Miccucci and Mrs. Yvonne Fitts



May 19, 1980: Mrs. Irene LeBlanc, center, only active charter member, is presented a plaque by Mrs. Mildred Misunas, president at the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department Auxiliary's 25th Anniversary celebration. Mrs. Judy Benoit, committee chairman is at right.

Fire Auxiliary Seats Mrs. Houle

MAPLEVILLE — Mrs. Lillian Houle was installed president of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department ladies' auxiliary at a banquet last night in the fire station attended by 50 members, their husbands and district officials.

Others seated were Mrs. Ellen Smith, vice president; Mrs. Doris Trinqu, secretary, and Mrs. Charlotte Pomfret, treasurer. Chief John J. Aylward was installing officer.

The auxiliary presented a check to the fire department rescue squad and a corsage to its oldest member, Mrs. Peter J. Friery. Each of the four officers received a gift.

Arrangements were in charge of

Mrs. Ada Davies, Mrs. Loretta Misiaszek and Mrs. Ellen Smith. Johnny's Clam Spa was the caterer.



Right Picture
CIRCA 1955
Bottom Photo
CIRCA 1956



AUXILIARY SLATE SEATED

... Officers of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department ladies' auxiliary installed last night included: Seated, Mrs. Ellen Smith (left), vice president; Mrs. Lillian Houle, president; standing, Mrs. Doris Trinqu, secretary; Mrs. Charlotte Pomfret, treasurer.



MAPLEVILLE INSTALLATION

... Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department ladies' auxiliary seated the following officers last night at ceremonies in the fire station: left to right, Mrs. Charlotte Pomfret, president; Mrs. Ellen Smith, vice president; Mrs. Joan Trinqu, secretary, and Mrs. Alice Carriere, treasurer.

Fire Auxiliary Seats Officers

MAPLEVILLE— Mrs. Charlotte Pomfret was inducted as president of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department ladies' auxiliary at ceremonies following a covered-dish supper last night in the fire station.

Other officers seated by Chief John J. Aylward include Mrs. Ellen Smith, vice president; Mrs. Joan Trinqu, secretary, and Mrs. Alice Carriere, treasurer.

Mrs. Lillian Houle, retiring president, was presented a special gift. The hall was attractively decorated in a Halloween motif.

Mrs. Loretta Misiaszek, chairman, Mrs. Doris Trinqu and Barbara Berthiaume were in charge of the program.



1934 75th Anniversary 2009

PRESENT APPARATUS



RESCUE 1

1971 International. Remodeled in 1983 by American Modular Company.



ENGINE 1

1972 International F2010A, 1,000 GPM Pump, 2,500 Gallon Water Tank.



1934 AHRENS-FOX



ENGINE 2

Placed in service January, 1979. 1977 International 2070A, 1,250 GPM Pump, 1,000 Gallon Tank, 3,000 Feet 4" Hose. Replaced Engine 2-1947 Dodge.



ENGINE 3

After being refitted with 1972 Ford chassis and remodeled by Ray Boucher & Co. 500 GPM Pump, 750 Gallon Tank. Completed in 1982.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



The Fox at Pascoag Hose Co. #1 75th Anniversary Parade, October 1978. Driving is Deputy Chief Rick Lapierre, Center Charter Member John Maher, Left Lieut. Larry Henault, Running Board George Barber Jr., Rear Step Everett McCain.



Engine 2 Crew at Drill with Blackstone Station 2 and Manville Fire Departments in Woonsocket, April 1980. Left to Right: Lieut. Larry Henault, Joe Henault, Gerry Parenteau, Captain Paul Cahill, Rescue Captain Bill Latendresse, Asst. Engineer Paul Paquette, Chief Engineer Steve Fitts, and Asst. Engineer Warren Steere.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT - OFFICERS 1973

Left to Right:: 1st Row: Asst. Engineer Steve Fitts, Asst. Engineer Francis Chartier, Captain Michael Cosetta, Asst. Engineer Albert Marcoux, 1st Lieutenant Larry Henault. 2nd Row: Rescue Captain Ted Hebert Sr., Chief Engineer George Mathewson, Rescue Lieutenant Danny Mulligan, Chief Ray Balcom, Deputy Chief Ed Bertholic, Asst. Engineer Barry Guston.



PLACED IN SERVICE NOVEMBER 1, 1972
Engine 1: 1972 International Model F2010A,
built by Farrar Fire Apparatus, Woodville, Ma.
Barton-American UA-100 Front Mount 1,000
GPM Pump, 2,500 Gallon Water Tank.



CIRCA 1968
Engine 1, Engine 3 (Ford), Engine 2, Rescue 1

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



Circa 1971: Tanker 3 at Our Lady Of Good Help School Fire. 1942 International all wheel drive, 1400 gallon tank, 500 gpm pump, built by Ray Balcom, Ed Bertholic, Barry Guston, George Mathewson, Nel Champeau and Ken Brand.



Engine 3: 1952 Chevrolet, 800 gallon tank, 500 gpm pump, bought from Glendale Fire Department in 1975.



NOVEMBER 1953
Engine 1 (Fox), Engine 2 (Dodge)

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT - OFFICERS 1975

Left to Right: 1st Row: Rescue Lieut. Danny Mulligan, Asst. Engineer Francis Chartier, Captain Steve Fitts, Asst. Engineer Al Marcoux, 1st Lieut. Larry Henault; 2nd Row: Rescue Captain Ted Hebert Sr., 2nd Lieut. Barry Guston, Chief Engineer George Mathewson, Chief Ed Bertholic, Deputy Chief Mike Cosetta.



January 26, 1979: Rescue 1, Engine 3, Engine 2, Engine 1.



June, 1977: Rescue 1, Engine 2 (Dodge), Engine 3, Engine 1.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



COMPTON HATCHERY (GUERIN'S FARM) TARKLIN ROAD, MAPLEVILLE - FEBRUARY 12, 1973

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

CIRCA 1972



READY BUT NOT ABLE

. . . Children of firemen who participated in the annual field day Sunday at the Oakland-Triangle sponsored by the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department donned boots, coat and helmet but were unable to move further. They are, from left, Robert

Cochrane of Pascoag, Aaron Aldrich of Harmony, Edward Davis of North Smithfield, Joseph Plante of Harmony, Gene Pichette of Oakland-Mapleville, Andy Dumaine of Harrisville, Morris Merchant of Nasonville and Kirk Parkin of North Smithfield.



Driver Tony D'Angelo, Center-out of view Terry Medberry, Right Paul Cosetta

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



Former Chief Honored

May 25, 1974

Raymond Balcom, second from left, who served as chief of Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department for seven years before resigning last January, is presented a gift by Chief Edward Bertholic at a testimonial Saturday night. Looking on are, from left, Michael Cosetta, deputy chief, and Arthur Pichette, dinner chairman.

Ex-Fire Chief Balcom Feted

MAPLEVILLE — Raymond Balcom, a member of Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department for 26 years and chief from 1967 until his resignation last January, was honored at a testimonial banquet Saturday night at Columbus Club, Pascoag. Balcom was instrumental in building the fire company into an efficient fire fighting machine. Through his efforts the

department built its first tanker truck and presently has a new tanker with a 2,000 gallon capacity. The fire station was also enlarged during his reign. Sen. James C. Maher, Glendale fire chief, was principal speaker. He and Rep. Edward R. D'Angelo presented Balcom with Senate and House resolutions, respectively. In attendance were Chief Maxime F. Menard Jr. of Harrisville, Chief Henry H. Lewin of Chapatet and Chief Robert Mowry of Primrose.

David Shayer presented Balcom with a gift from honorary firemen while Daniel Mulligan

presented a jacket on behalf of the company. Mrs. Theresa Hebert, auxiliary president, made a presentation for her unit. The former chief's wife, Phyllis, was presented a camera.

The Balcoms will leave next month for Florida where they will make their home. About 200 persons attended the dinner.

June 14, 15, 16, 1974

Fire Fighters Attend Academy At RIJC

MAPLEVILLE — Eight Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department members attended the 15th annual Fire fighters Academy last weekend at Rhode Island Junior College in Warwick.

They are Roger Leblond, Capt. Stephen Fitts, Robert Ames, Lt. Daniel Mulligan, David Balcom, Val Micucci, Richard Thompson and Deputy Chief Michael Cosetta.



REPRINTED FROM
THE WOONSOCKET CALL

Nov. 7, 1972

Open House To Present New Pumper

MAPLEVILLE — An open house will be held Saturday from 2-5 p.m. in the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Station for taxpayers to view the department's new pumper-tanker which replaces a 1934 model.

Taxpayers at the annual district meeting in April voted a \$33,995 appropriation to purchase the apparatus. The cab and chassis bid was given to Nelson's Inc. of Pascoag at \$13,500 and remainder of the vehicle to Farrar Fire Apparatus Co. for \$20,445.

The new truck has a 1,000-gallon pump, 2,500-gallon tank, a full complement of ladders and about 2,000 feet of hose.

The fire department at its meeting last night scheduled a turkey social Nov. 18 at 7 p.m. in the Village Barn.

4 The Woonsocket Call, Thursday, July 17, 1975

B-G Roundup '53 Pumper Bought By Fire District

MAPLEVILLE — Twenty-four Oakland-Mapleville Fire District taxpayers at a special meeting last night approved the purchase of a used pumper-tanker from Glendale Fire Department for \$5,000.

District officials explained that the fire company will donate \$1,000 toward purchase of the truck and \$4,000 will be taken from the general fund without affecting the tax rate.

The 1953 Chevrolet truck equipped with an 800-gallon tank, 500-gallon-a-minute pump, ladders, hose and two-year-old motor will replace a 1942 International truck which will be retired. Officials said the truck will be displayed shortly.

NORTHERN R. I.

REPRINTED FROM
THE WOONSOCKET CALL



Oakland-Mapleville Women Tops

MAPLEVILLE — Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department auxiliary team captured first places in the dry and wet hose competition Sunday at the 12th annual field day and firemen's muster at the Oakland Triangle, sponsored by that fire company.

In photo are team members, including, from left, Mary Lou Ames, Diane and Laurie Hebert, Lori Champeau, Janis Stevens and Sue Balcom.

Hundreds of persons viewed the events in which 19 companies from throughout Rhode

Island and Massachusetts competed. Results of the men's competition were: Dry hose, Geneva, first; Seekonk, Mass., second, and North Smithfield, third; wet hose, Seekonk, first; North Scituate, second, and Quinnville, third; bed race, North Smithfield, first; Quinnville, second, and Pascoag Hose Co. 1, third. Winners in the women's events included: Dry hose, Oakland-Mapleville, first; North Smithfield, second, and Geneva, third; wet hose, Oakland-Mapleville, first; Primrose, second, and North Smithfield, third; bed race, Primrose, first; Harmony, second, and North Smithfield, third.

Oakland-Mapleville won the tug-of-war. Children from the host company won the dry hose event and North Smithfield, the wet hose competition. Narragansett Pier Railroad Fire Department won prizes for travelling the farthest and for the oldest piece of apparatus on the field, a 1928 Ahrens Fox pumper.

Firemen Plan Field Day On Sept. 6

MAPLEVILLE — Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department made plans yesterday for its annual field day Sept. 6 at the Oakland Triangle.

Theodore Hebert is general chairman, assisted by Maynard Ames, Robert Sutherland, Albert Lapierre and Michael Cosetta. Committee heads are Antonio D'Angelo, treasurer; Hebert, tickets; Kenneth Brand, kitchen; Roger Walker, clams; Hebert, Albert Langlois and James Reynolds, chowder; Oliver Trinquet Jr., booths; Edward Bertholic and George Barber, hayride; Lapierre, sound; Ames, pony rides; Sutherland and Paul Carriere, refreshments; George Mathewson, soda; Bertholic, Cosetta, competition, and Arthur Pichette, publicity.

The company will participate in the annual Firemen's Memorial Sunday parade next Sunday at Wallum Lake, leaving the fire station at 11:45 a.m. An officers' meeting will be held next Sunday at 10 a.m. at the station. The company will be host for the Northern Rhode Island Firemen's League practice June 25. A fire practice will be held next night at 7. Robert Tessier and Paul Cahill were admitted to membership.

Capt. Michael Cosetta recently completed a course at Rhode Island College in fire department officership. Recently completing a R. I. State Firemen's training course in Newport were Cosetta, Lucien Lapierre, Francis Chartier, Michael Cahill, Ronald Couture, Lawrence Henault, Barry Guston, Stephen Fitts, Richard Lapierre, Kenneth and James Ames. Lucien Lapierre, Michael Cahill, Couture, Henault and Fitts gave presentations at the graduation ceremony.

The company will also participate in the annual "ancients and horrors" parade July 4 in Chepachet.

October, 1971

Fire Prevention Week Activities Announced

MAPLEVILLE — The Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department has charted several activities this week in observance of Fire Prevention Week.

Girl Scout troops are to visit the fire station today and the firemen will conduct a fire Wednesday for a tour and to view a movie. A similar program will be presented Thursday for Boy Scouts. On Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. the firemen will drill and demonstration at Our Lady of Good Help parochial school.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

THE TOWN CRIER, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1977

26 Teams Vie For Statewide Honors At Oakland-Mapleville Firemen's Muster

by Pat Morgan

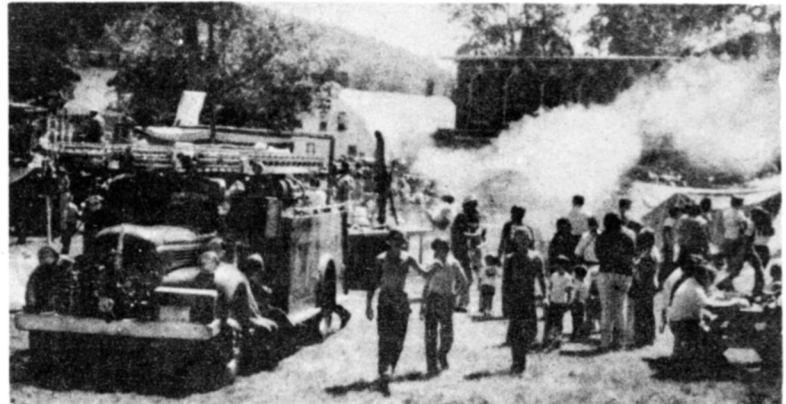
Oakland-Mapleville Volunteer Fire Department held its 19th Annual Muster last Sunday. The carnival atmosphere masked the very real business at hand, namely the competition for local and statewide honors for which 26 teams had practiced all year.

Attendants in booths dished up chowder, clamcakes, stuffies, french fries, steamers, sweet corn, soda and beer. Judging by the way it was being eaten and the way people kept forming lines in front of the booths the food was delicious. The proceeds from these booths and the various ticket booths went to the fire company for equipment and maintenance. The ladies auxiliary offered as prizes a dry sink which was won by J. Fomlikowski of Cumberland, a \$100 shopping spree that was won by Francis Bertiamie of Mapleville. Other prize winners were: C.B. radio Betty Jarvis of Harrisville, one hundred dollars, Jim Nicholson of Pascoag and grand prize of \$500, Lt. John Hoyle of the No. Smithfield Fire Dept. The huge white buffalo went to Doris Jacquart of Mapleville, Paul Dexter won two food baskets and Charlie Goodrow of Oakland handmade afgan.

The judges, all members of the Firemen's Muster Association, were Ray Lucier, of Plainville, Mass., Linda Gail of North Scituate, and Harry Llete of Coventry, Conn. Chepachet received honors for having both the oldest and the newest piece of apparatus. It was determined that the team that traveled the farthest for the event came from Coventry, Conn. The various team events were strenuous, well fought contests. In the men's events the winners of the dry hose was Hopkins Hill with a time of 14.1 seconds. In second place was N. Cumberland with 14.6 seconds and third place went to No. Scituate with a time of 17.3 seconds. In the wet hose event, Hill Farm of Coventry, R.I. came in first with 12.9 seconds, Pascoag came in second with 14.2 seconds and third place went to Grafton No. 1 with a time of 14.4 seconds. In the men's bed race, Hopkins Hill was first with 20 seconds, Hill Farm second with 20.3, and Grafton No. 1 third with a time of 24.5 seconds.

In the women's events, Dry Hose was won by Tiogue with a time of 16 seconds, second place went to Berkley with 16.9 and third Harrisville with 17.5. In the wet hose event, Tiogue was first again with 15.8, Quineville second at 16.5, and Nasonville third with 18.7 seconds.

The Overall Score trophy went to Hill Farm in the men's division, with a total of 55.4 seconds. This is the third year in a row that they have won this trophy.



Photos by Ed Morgan



Chief Ed Betholic and George Barber, President of the Oakland-Mapleville Volunteer Fire Department.



Francis Chartier and Laurence Henalt at the stuffies and sweet corn booth.



Jigger Reynolds and Albert Langlois stir the chowder.



Kids having fun on the fire truck.

Various scenes of competition (below)



In the women's events, Dry Hose was won by Tiogue with a time of 16 seconds, second place went to Berkley with

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

THE NORTH SMITHFIELD-BURRILLVILLE OBSERVER, FRIDAY, JULY 28, 1978 - 11

Muster teams readying for competition

Practices every week are readying both the men's and women's muster teams of the Oakland/Mapleville Fire Department for the competitions they will enter this summer.

Already 20 teams from Rhode Island and neighboring states have accepted invitations to participate in the 20th Annual Muster which will be sponsored by the Oakland/Mapleville Fire Department at the Oakland Triangle on Old Rt. 102 on Sunday, September 3rd from 11 a.m. to dusk. A rain date of Monday, September 4th has been selected.

The teams will also compete at the Annual Tri-State Fireman's Met which will be held the following Sunday, September 10th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Quaddick State Park, Thompson, Connecticut. The meet will also feature displays and demonstrations of fire, rescue and forestry equipment by departments from Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Both events are open to the general public.



GETTING READY. The women's muster team of the Oakland/Mapleville Fire Department is practicing every week for competition during the summer with teams from Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. Members of the team are: front row (l-r), Diane McCain and Yvonne Fitts, co-captains, Sandy Machacz and Ruth Switzer; back row, Laurie Barbeau, Donna Reneau and Mary Sangermano. Linda Barbeau was not present when the picture was taken.



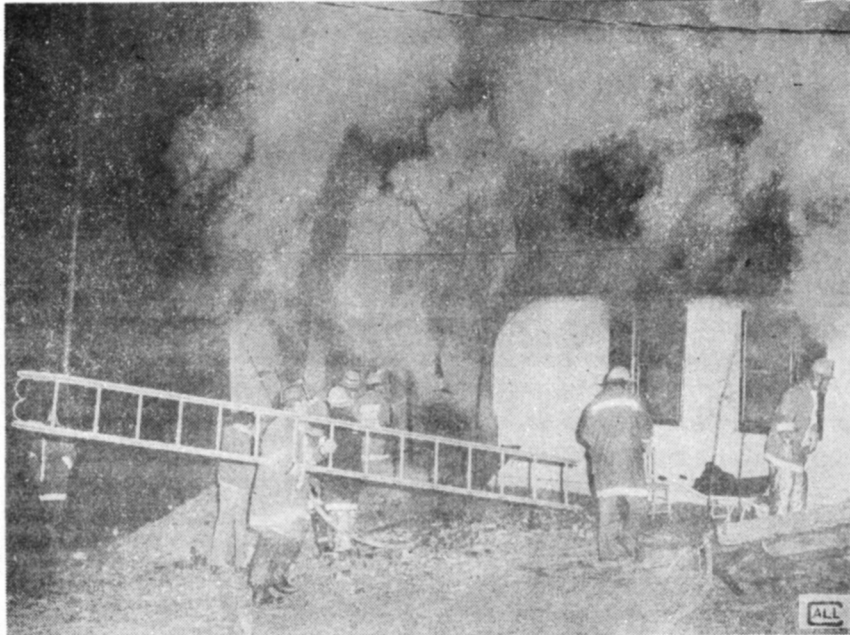
SHARPENING THE SKILLS. The Oakland/Mapleville men's team, which will host the 20th annual muster on the Oakland Triangle on September 3, is made up of: front row (l-r), Everette McCain, John Machacz, Richard Mulligan and Dave LaPlante; back row, on the running board of the 1934 Ahern-Fox engine, are (l-r) co-captain Emile Jacquart and Captain Gene Hebert.



-Photos by Sal Masiello

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

MARCH 28, 1979



By Donald O. Menard

Landmark Burns

A 275-year-old house on Lapham Farm Road, Mapleville, owned by Anthony DePetrillo, was

destroyed by fire shortly after midnight despite efforts of three fire companies.

Bertholic Feted at Testimonial

MAPLEVILLE — Edward J. Bertholic, who retired last June after serving seven years as chief, was honored by the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department at a testimonial last night in Columbus Club, Pascoag.

Bertholic, who joined the fire company in 1959, rose through the ranks and was named chief in January, 1974. He will remain as a member of the company.

Chief Michael Cosetta, who succeeded Bertholic, presented the honoree with an antique pewter firemen's trumpet on behalf of firefighters. Capt. Paul Cahill presented the former chief with a gift from company officers.

Bertholic was presented citations by Sen. Irene P. Smith, Rep. Lester N. Sherman and Town Clerk Norman H. Mainville. Additionally, he received a plaque from President Richard E. Peck of the Northern Rhode Island Firemen's League.

Everett Ignagni, chief of the investigative unit of the Rhode Island state fire marshal's office, presented Bertholic with a proclamation naming him an honorary deputy state fire marshal. Raymond Boucher of Pascoag presented the former chief with a miniature wrecker.

Deputy Chief Richard J. Lapiere served as master of ceremonies and gave the invocation. Fire chiefs in attendance included James C. Maher of Glendale, John Pacheco of Nasonville, Henry H. Lewin of Chepachet, Peter Dyer of Quinnville, Edward Cournoyer of North Smithfield, L. Wilfred Osborne of Pascoag and former Chief Alva Gregoire of Southbridge, Mass.

Fire Destroys 275-Year-Old Burrillville Home

—MAPLEVILLE — Careless smoking was listed as the probable cause of a fire which destroyed one of the oldest houses in Burrillville shortly after midnight today, causing a loss estimated at \$25,000.

Destroyed was the former Shepard Homestead on Lapham Farm Road owned by Anthony DePetrillo, who escaped unharmed from the burning one-story wood-frame 275-year-old house.

DePetrillo, who said he has been restoring the seven-room house for the past 2½ years, stated the loss is partially covered by insurance. The state fire marshal's office was called to investigate the origin of the blaze.

The owner said he was sleeping in a rear bedroom when he suddenly awakened to find the room filled with smoke and flames. He rushed to the telephone and called the fire department before leaving the structure.

Deputy Chief Leo A. Leduc of Burrillville police said he reached the scene before firemen arrived and found flames shooting from the rear of the building. The fire spread quickly through the roof area throughout the length of the building.

Firemen worked for more than an hour in below freezing temperatures to extinguish the blaze. Operations were directed by Chief Edward Bertholic of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department. Assisting Oakland-Mapleville were the Pascoag and Glendale Fire Departments, who shuttled water from a hydrant on Steere Farm Road about a mile away.



By Donald O. Menard

Services Rewarded

Chief Michael Cosetta of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department presents former Chief Edward Bertholic with an antique pewter firemen's trumpet at a testimonial

last night in Columbus Club, Pascoag. Bertholic retired in June after serving seven years as chief. At right is Mrs. Kathy Bertholic, the honoree's wife.

Firemen Vie At Oakland Field Day

MAPLEVILLE — Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department held its sixth annual field day yesterday at the Oakland Triangle. The Nasonville Fire Department walked off with first places in the dry and wet hose coupling competitions, and Primrose took top honors in the tug-of-war.

The host company won second place in the dry hose coupling with a team comprising, in photo, from left, Dick Chretien, Jack Polacek, Roger Walker, Bob Sutherland, Norm Pichette and John Mousseau. Nasonville's time was 20.3 seconds, followed by O-M, 20.9.

Nasonville had a 17.8 second running time in the wet hose competition and Pascoag Hose Co. 2 was runnerup with 18.0 seconds. Harmony Fire Department was second in the tug-of-war. Other companies participating were Harrisville Hose Co. 1, Glendale Fire Department, Pascoag Hose Co. 1 and West Wauregan Fire Department.



'Dry Hydrant' Completed For Oakland, Mapleville

BY LOUIS BLEIWEIS
CALL Staff Writer

OAKLAND — Serious outbreaks of fire are a constant concern to dedicated firemen everywhere and in the Oakland-Mapleville Fire District officials have instituted an approach novel to northern Rhode Island to enable the volunteer department to increase its level of efficiency by several notches.

Sixty feet of 8-inch pipe have been laid from Clear River to a new "dry" hydrant next to Oakland Bridge, permitting a connection to the department's 1978 1,250-gallon pumper equipped with 2,800 feet of 4-inch hose.

"We now have the capability of laying hose about one-half mile in either direction to Oakland and Mapleville and should be able to guarantee about 800 gallons of water per minute at the end of the line," said Capt. Richard Lapierre proudly.

Together with Lt. Larry Henault and Joseph Misunas, fire commissioner, Lapierre gave a demonstration of hose connection to the hydrant and water stream that took a matter of only seconds.

"The \$900 cost of this approach is a lot cheaper than building a normal

hydrant system throughout the district," Lapierre said as Misunas nodded agreement.

Except for those in the Maple Hill Mobile Home Park at Cooper and Tarklin Roads, the district has lacked hydrants since the ones operated by Stillwater Worsted Mills Inc. and Oakland Mill of the Wanskuck Co. were shut after the textile plants ceased major operations in the area.

Although so-called "dry" hydrants are unique in the northern section of the state, there are some employed in the southern area of the state and "they're big in rural areas of Connecticut and Massachusetts," related Lapierre.

He said there are plans to locate additional "dry" hydrants at other water sources in the Oakland-Mapleville District, further tightening the net of fire protection.

An insurance specialist with the Aylward Agency, Lapierre said with a chuckle, "Perhaps we can petition the Insurance Services Office for a lowering of fire insurance rates in the district because of the added protection we are now giving."

There are no guarantees, he added quickly, that such a petition would achieve an affirmative response.



Proud Moment

By Louis Bleiweis

Oakland-Mapleville firemen complete hose tie-in with new "dry" hydrant at Oakland Bridge spanning Clear River that will permit an adequate water supply for hose laid 2,800 feet in

either direction into Oakland and Mapleville sections of Burrillville. From left are Lt. Larry Henault, Joseph Misunas, fire commissioner, and Capt. Richard Lapierre.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



January, 1983: Terry Medberry (center) after completing 30 years service with this Department is made an Honorary Fire Chief. Chief Mike Cosetta (right) and Deputy Chief Rick Lapierre (left) presented an award in appreciation of his many services rendered.



Burrillville Fire Dispatch operational in 1982 with cooperation of Police Chief J. Arthur Menard (center) on his left Chief John Pacheco, Nasonville Fire Dept. and Chief Cosetta (right) Oakland-Mapleville. (Deputy Chief Rick Lapierre along with Lieut. Dave Gamache put in many long hours to make this system a reality.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

**OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE
FIRE DISTRICT OFFICERS
1984**

MODERATOR

Richard Bishop

CLERK

Richard Lapierre

TREASURER

James Cahill

TAX COLLECTOR

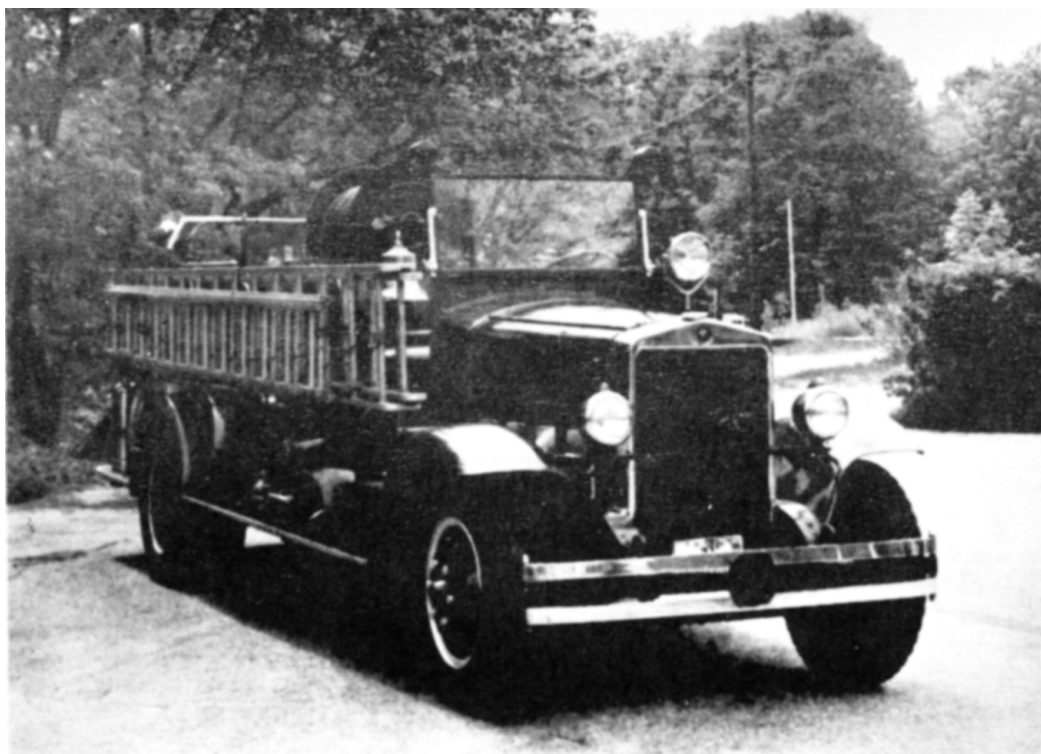
Albert Lapierre

TAX ASSESSORS

Maynard Ames
George Parenteau
Oscar Greene

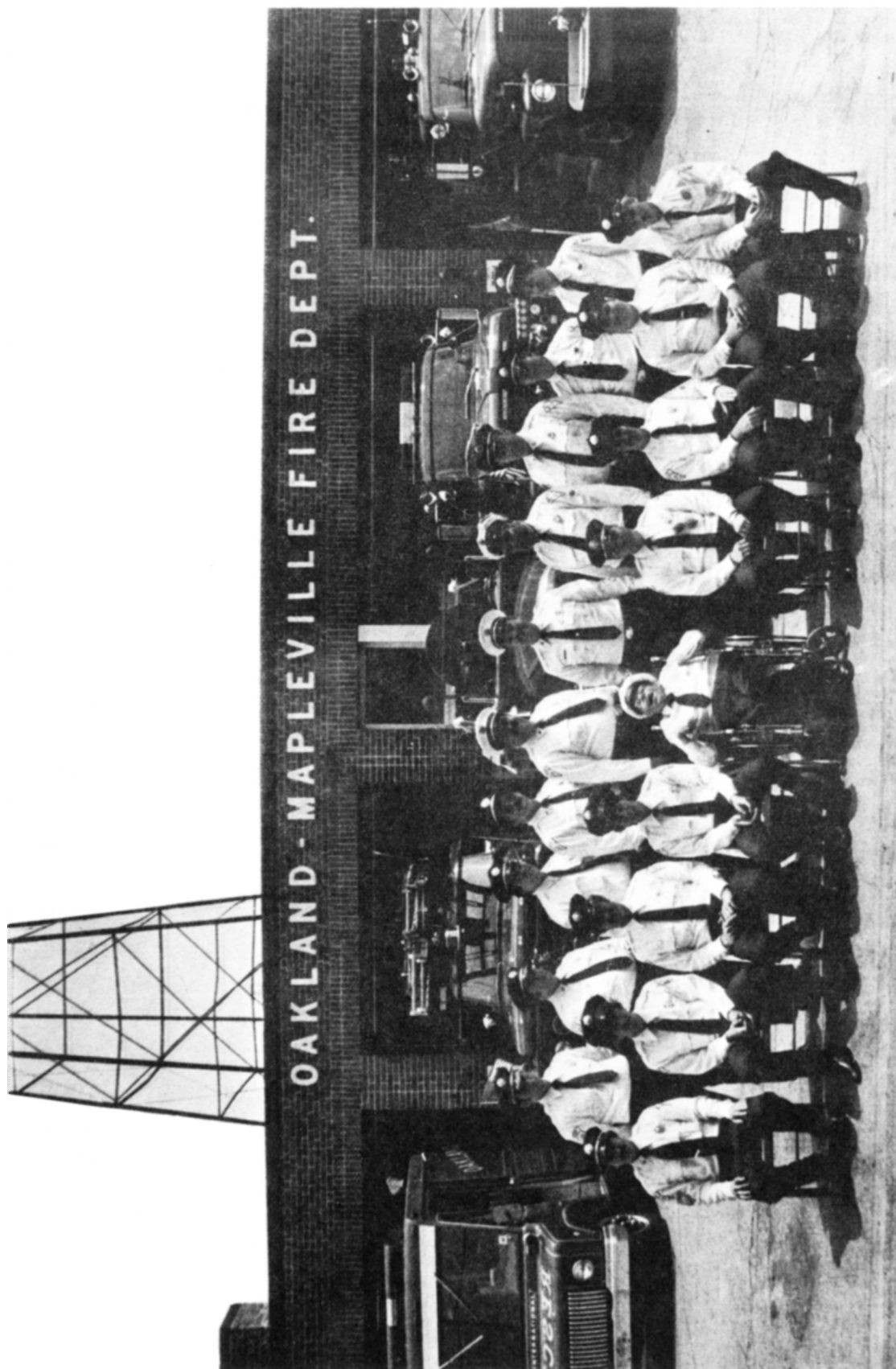
COMMISSIONERS

Ted Hebert, Sr.
Joseph Misunas
Thomas Demers



1934 AHRENS-FOX

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT - 1984

Front Row L to R: Emile Jacquart, Edward Bertholic Jr., Richard Lamonthe, Robert Bertholic, Honorary Chief Terry Medberry, Asst. Engineer Marc Frigon, John Mousseau, Richard Mulligan, Kevin Henault; Standing L to R: Asst. Engineer Paul Paquette, Lieut David Gamache, Rescue Captain Bill Latendresse, Captain Paul Cahill, Deputy Chief Richard Lapierre, Chief Michael Cosetta, Retired Chief Edward Bertholic Sr., Chief Engineer Steve Fitts, Lieut. Warren Steere, Lieut. Joseph Bertholic.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT 1984

CHIEF

Michael J. Cosetta

DEPUTY CHIEF

Richard Lapierre

RESCUE CAPTAIN

William Latendresse

CAPTAIN

Paul Cahill

LIEUTENANTS

David Gamache

Joseph Bertholic

Warren Steere

CHIEF ENGINEER

Steve Fitts

ASST. ENGINEERS

Paul Paquette

Marc Frigon

FIREFIGHTERS

Ed Bertholic, Retired Chief

Gene Hebert

Emile Jacquart

Richard Mulligan

Kevin Pepler

Kevin Henault

Richard Lamothe

John Machacz

Thomas Laflamme, Jr.

William Glidden

Robert Bertholic

Edward Bertholic, Jr.

Eric Jacquart

David Nobles

Rodney Dubois

Terry Medberry, Honorary Chief

John Mousseau

Roger Levesque

ON MILITARY LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mike Hebert, USN

John Cahill, USAF

Val Miccucci, USN

Joseph Henault, USAF

Paul Gallant, Jr., USN

Mapleville Store Badly Damaged By Fire

JULY 1984



Call Photo/Louis Bleiweis

Burrillville Fire

Today was not a good one for Ronald Laferte, seen here sitting on curb in low spirits as firefighters battle blaze which ruined building which housed his store and an apartment. There was considerable damage from flames, smoke and water.

MAPLEVILLE — Six companies of the Northern Rhode Island Firemen's League joined in fighting a blaze discovered shortly after 6:30 this morning that caused heavy fire and smoke damage to Lou's Country Store, Main Street, and a second story apartment. There were no injuries reported.

The Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department, under command of Deputy Chief Richard J. Lapierre, was first at the scene and found smoke belching out of the storefront and flames breaking through the upper wall area on the southerly side of the building.

Companies responding to the call for assistance, under a mutual aid compact, were Glendale, Harrisville, Pascoag, Chepachet and Wallum Lake. Nasonville firefighters remained on standby at Oakland-Mapleville headquarters.

No estimate of the loss was immediately obtainable. Ronald Laferte, owner of the country store and building, said the loss is only partially covered by insurance. Laferte operated the store together with his wife, Lucille.

Deputy Chief Lapierre said the initial investigation disclosed the fire made have started in the cooler

area in the right rear section of the store.

Laferte said he was on route with a fresh supply of doughnuts to open the store when he was stopped by a policeman on traffic duty and advised of the fire.

The owner said Mr. and Mrs. Louis M. Latendresse, occupants of the second floor apartment had left for work before the fire was discovered.

Patrolmen Leonard G. Bailey and Michael P. Gravel of Burrillville Police directed traffic detouring cars from the approaches to Main Street.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

Congratulations To The
OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPT.
ON YOUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY



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OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT
APPARATUS SINCE 1947"

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MAKERS OF
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SALUTE!



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AUTO SUPPLY**
85 CHAPEL STREET
HARRISVILLE, R.I.

"Best Wishes"



from the
**NORTH SMITHFIELD
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

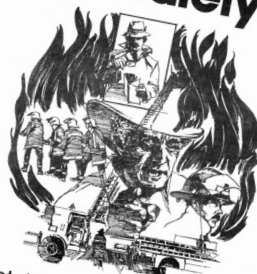
Congratulations To The
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ON THEIR
50TH ANNIVERSARY



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**ADVERTISERS
IN OUR
50TH
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BOOK
1984**

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On The Occasion
Of Their 50th Anniversary!

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Lounge - Indoor & Outdoor Parties
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OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPT.
 CELEBRATING THEIR
 50TH YEAR OF OPERATION



**THE MEMBERS OF
 THE CHEPACHET FIRE COMPANY**

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 ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY



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 — Insurance & Real Estate —



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 YOUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY
 from
PASCOAG HOSE CO. #2

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 ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY



LEDUC'S VARIETY
 JULIUS LEDUC, PROPRIETOR
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Best Wishes & Good Luck
 To The
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"YOUR LOCAL
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**WALLUM LAKE
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Congratulations
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**PRIMROSE
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CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES
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 CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVICE
 TO THE COMMUNITY
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 TO THE OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPT.
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 Chief - John Pacheco

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OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE



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Building Completed
DECEMBER, 1934

Pumper No. 1

PUT IN SERVICE-JANUARY 7, 1935
TYPE-AHRENS FOX MODEL VL
500 GAL. PER MIN.
HERCULES ENGINE
GEAR RATIO ENGINE TO PUMP
2 to 1 and 3.75 to 1
130 GAL. BOOSTER TANK



OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE

Left To Right: In Seat Frank Cavanaugh, Deputy Chief Jack Aylward, President John M. [unclear], Chief Pete Trinque, Ray Balcom Sr., Joe Latendresse, Archie Messier, Leo Bilodeau. 2nd Row: Gene Trinque, Captain Howard Quigley, Chief Eng. Ed St. Pierre, Al Langlois. 3rd Row:

LE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Completed
1934

Emergency First Aid Station

NOVEMBER, 1936



Ladder No. 1

PUT IN SERVICE-JANUARY 1, 1937

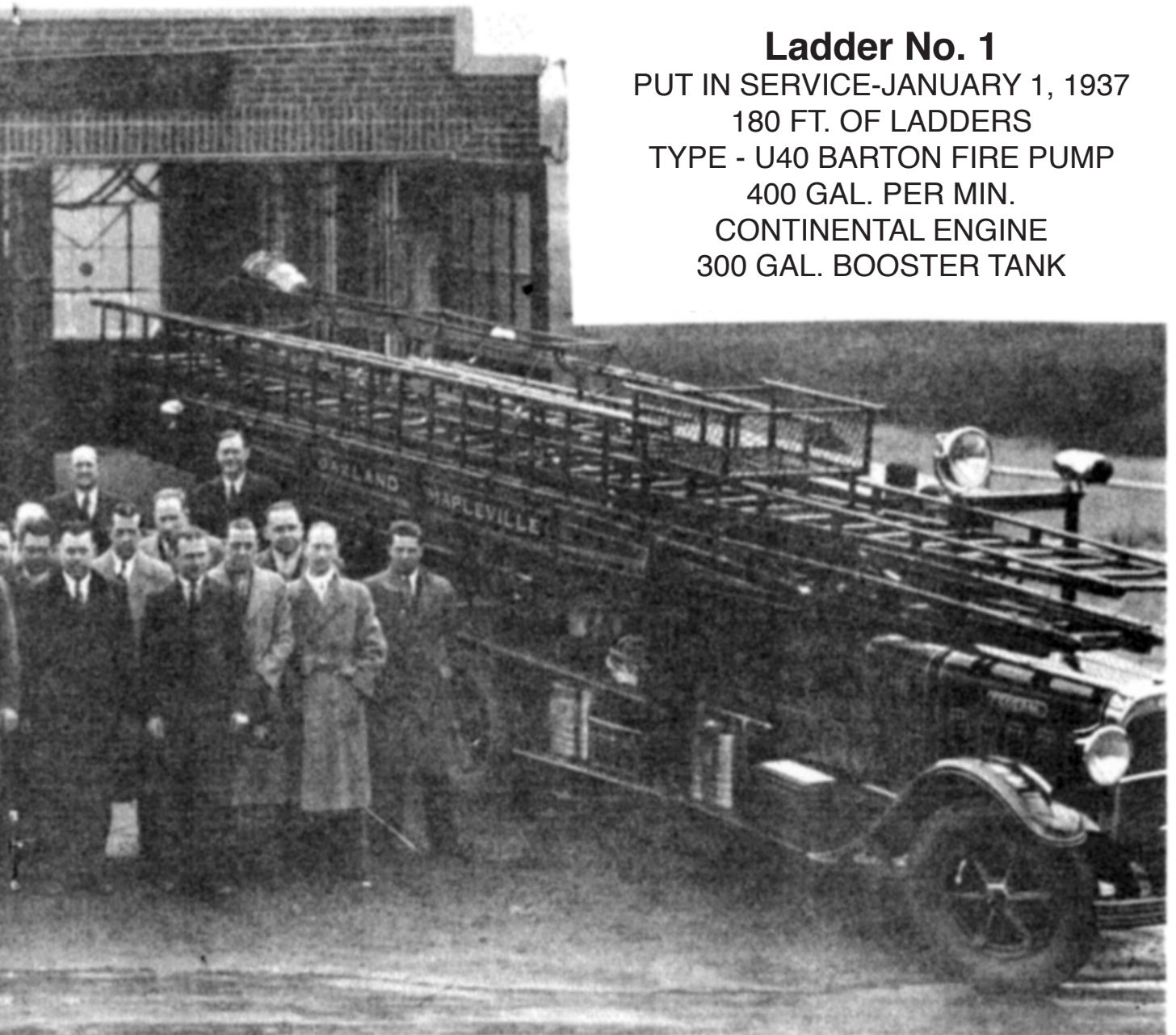
180 FT. OF LADDERS

TYPE - U40 BARTON FIRE PUMP

400 GAL. PER MIN.

CONTINENTAL ENGINE

300 GAL. BOOSTER TANK



FIRE DEPARTMENT 1937

aher, John Viherek, Charles Goodrow, Jack Mandeville, Chief Adelbert Reynolds, Deputy
nd Row: Harold Smith, Armand Lapierre, Leon Latalie, John Polacek, Leo Lee, Asst. Eng.
Joe Lavallee, Treasurer Ralph Caswell, 1st Lieut. Chet Reynolds.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



A Big
Thank You

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Your friendship, generosity and community spirit will always be
remembered.

Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department
Joseph E. Bertholic, Chief

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



THE NEXT 25 YEARS

OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPT. PAST OFFICERS

YEAR	PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER
1985	Warren Steere	Richard Lapierre	David Nobiles	William Latondresse
1986	Richard Lapierre	Marc Frigon	Richard Lamonthe	Ronald Duquet
1987	Joseph Bertholic	Edward Bertholic, Jr.	Richard Lamonthe	Ronald Duquet
1988	Edward Bertholic, Jr.	Eric Jacquart	Richard Lamonthe	Ronald Duquet
1989	Eric Jacquart	William Glidden	Richard Lamonthe	Deborah Bertholic
1990	William Glidden	Daniel Reilly	Richard Lamonthe	Deborah Bertholic
1991	Daniel Reilly	Ronald Duquet	Richard Lamonthe	Deborah Bertholic
1992	Ronald Duquet	David Reilly	Richard Lamonthe	Deborah Bertholic
1993	David Reilly	David Rouleau	Richard Lamonthe	Wain Wyatt
1994	David Rouleau	Chad Steere	Richard Lamonthe	Wain Wyatt
1995	Chad Steere	William Williams	Leo Dunn	Wain Wyatt
1996	William Williams	Leo Dunn	Joseph Bertholic	Steven St. Pierre
1997	Leo Dunn	Grant Fournier	Joseph Bertholic	Margaret Sormanti
1998	Grant Fournier	Paul Arnold	Steven St. Pierre	Margaret Sormanti
1999	Paul Arnold	Joshua Silvia	David Bourbonniere	William Williams
2000	David Reilly	Troy Phillips	Jennifer Richards	William Williams
2001	Troy Phillips	Joseph Marcello	Jennifer Richards	Michael McGrane
2002	Joseph Marcello	John Wheller, Jr	Jennifer Richards	Michael McGrane
2003	John Wheller, Jr	Kristian Laferriere	Leo Dunn	Michael McGrane
2004	Kristian Laferriere	Elise Palladini	Leo Dunn	Michael McGrane
2005	Elise Palladini	Kimberly Wheeler	Leo Dunn	Michael McGrane
2006	Elise Palladini	Kimberly Wheeler	Leo Dunn	Michael McGrane
2007	Leo Dunn	Richard Jalette	Leo Dunn	Michael McGrane
2008	Richard Jalette	Gerald DesRoches	David Bourbonniere	Michael McGrane
2009	Gerald DesRoches	John Wheeler, Jr.	Leo Dunn	Michael McGrane



Only Shell Remains

Completely gutted by fire yesterday were Lou's Country Store, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Laferte, and the upstairs apartment of Mr. and Mrs. Louis M. Latendresse at Main Street, Mapleville. The latter couple's son, William, a volunteer fireman, was injured slightly and their pet dog perished in the fire which caused a loss of more than \$150,000.

Owners Vow to Rebuild Store Destroyed by Fire

JULY
1984

By LOUIS BLEIWEIS
Written for The CALL

MAPLEVILLE — "We have to rebuild. We're fighters," said Lucille Laferte, resolutely.

"The time for tears is over," she added. Her husband, Ronald, nodded agreement.

They sat on the doorstep of a friend's home across the street with two deputy state fire marshals, John Fiore and Gerald Leddy, Deputy Chief Richard J. Lapierre of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department sprawled on the grass, lines in his face betraying utter exhaustion.

They watched firemen reeling in the hose lines. The last wisps of smoke had curled skyward. It was 3 p.m. yesterday, more than eight hours after the outbreak of a fire that destroyed Lou's Country Store, Main Street, and the upstairs apartment of Mr. and Mrs. Louis M. Latendresse.

Six Northern Rhode Island Firemen's League companies bravely fought the fire but to no avail. It had too much of a head start and spread quickly through the old wooden two-story building next to the Mapleville Post Office.

Dead in the fire was the Latendresses' chihuahua, a victim of smoke inhalation.

The other casualty was the Latendresses' son, Capt. William Latendresse of the Oakland-Mapleville volun-

teer department. Struck on the head by a brick that fell from the building's chimney, he was treated at Fogarty Memorial Hospital and returned to duty.

The Latendresses, Louis and Lorraine, had left their home only minutes before a neighbor spotted smoke and telephoned the alarm. The couple works at the American Tourister Co. in Warren.

The fire, said the fire marshals, is still under investigation. They said it appeared to have started at the rear of the store, in the vicinity of the walk-in cooler.

Laferte, a former liquor salesman, and his wife bought the former Bib's Variety Store about five years ago and steadily built the business into a thriving venture, serving about 1,500 people in the village.

"Five years of 'blood and sweat' went up in smoke in a few minutes," he reflected, masking any hint of bitterness.

Deputy Chief Lapierre disclosed there was \$135,000 insurance on the building and contents. He estimated the total loss will exceed \$150,000.

For the Latendresses, the loss was total and estimated at upwards of \$10,000. All they had left of clothing and furnishings was what they wore to work. They carried no insurance on their apartment con-

tents.

Last night, the Townsmen Club of Mapleville held a special meeting and acted to help Latendresse, a club member.

The Townsmen established the Latendresse Fire Fund and issued an appeal for donations of furniture, clothing, kitchen utensils, canned goods and other items.

For pickup of items, donors are asked to contact Dennis B. Keable, Fred Chiarini Jr. or William A. Andrews.

Donations of money should be forwarded to Latendresse Fire Fund, Fleet National Bank, Pascoag, R.I. 02859. A special account was to be established at the bank today for the fund.

"The people of Burrillville have never failed to respond to help a neighbor in need, and I'm sure they won't this time," a club official said.

Firefighter Saves One of His Own

Heroic Act Publicized At O-M Fete

MAPLEVILLE — Many acts of heroism performed by firefighters in the normal course of their duties go unnoticed.

However, such is not the case involving Capt. Paul Cahill and the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department.

To his complete surprise, Cahill, a department member for 15 years, received a special plaque from the fire company and a citation from district fire commissioners at the annual banquet Saturday night at Columbus Club, Pascoag.

It all happened very quickly last July 23 during a fire which destroyed Lou's Country Store on Main Street, Mapleville.

According to Chief Michael J. Cosetta, Cahill and a crew of firefighters were in the store with an attack line when he observed signs that the second floor of the wood-frame structure was about to collapse.

Cahill ordered his crew out of the burning structure. As he was about to follow, the first floor gave way, sending Pvt. Emile Jacquart, a nozzle man, into the basement. Cahill went to Jacquart's aid.

Unable to see because of the dense smoke, Cahill followed the attack line and, by calling out, found Jacquart when he answered. Lying on his stomach, Cahill grabbed Jacquart by the

JANUARY
1985



Call Photo/Donald O. Menard

Heroism Recognized

Paul Cahill, second from left, receives a special plaque for heroism from the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department and fire district at the annual company banquet Saturday night at Columbus Club, Pascoag. Making the presentations are, from left, Thomas Demers, fire commissioner, Chief Michael J. Cosetta and Emile Jacquart.

coat collar and lifted him out of the cellar to safety. Jacquart suffered torn knee ligaments in the mishap.

Cosetta said he only learned of the incident several days after the fire. He said it was only through investigation that he discovered the details of the rescue.

Cosetta said.

The chief said Cahill's act of heroism has been submitted to *Firehouse Magazine's* 1984 heroism and community service awards program in the hopes that the firefighter will receive proper recognition.

O-M Fire Department Hits 50th Anniversary



Founders at Fete

Call Photo/Donald O. Menara

Charter members attending the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department's 50th anniversary last night at Wright's Farm, Nasonville, included, from left, John Viherek, Harold Smith, Arthur St. Pierre, John Maher, Chester F. Reynolds Sr. and Howard Smith.

MAPLEVILLE — More than 300 persons gathered last night in the Carriage Room at Wright's Farm, Nasonville, to help the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department celebrate its 50th anniversary in the firefighting service.

Among the honorees were six surviving charter members — including John Viherek, Harold Smith, Arthur St. Pierre, John Maher, Chester F. Reynolds Sr. and Howard Smith.

Founded in 1934, the fire company has had seven chiefs during its history, including four who attended the fete. They are Chief Chester F. Reynolds Sr., 1952-55; Chief Raymond P. Balcom of Florida, 1968-74; Chief Edward J. Bertholic, 1974-81, and current Chief Michael J. Cosetta, who was named in 1981.

Deceased chiefs were Adelbert J. Reynolds, 1934-52; John J. Aylward, 1955-63, and Harold W. Potter, 1963-68.

Cosetta was master of ceremonies and Deputy Chief Richard J. Lapiere gave the invocation. Speakers included Everett Ignagni, chief state fire marshal, Town Clerk Norman H. Mainville and Richard Polacek, a former fireman.

Introduced were Chief James C. Maher of Glendale, Chief John Mulally of Millville, Chief John Pacheco of Nasonville, Chief Henry H. Lewin of Chepachet, Deputy Chief Louis Provost of North Smithfield, Deputy Chief Robert Bishop of Walum Lake, Capt. Albert Lariviere of Primrose and Capt. Mark A. St. Pierre of Harrisville. Also, Chief Joseph A. Menard of the Burrillville Police Department.

Mrs. Yvonne Fitts, president, made a presentation on behalf of the ladies auxiliary. Albert R. Lapiere read a House citation from Rep. Lester N. Sherman, and Sen. Joan R. Wiesner presented a Senate proclamation. Chief Maher presented a plaque from the Glendale Fire Department, and Councilman Raymond L. Belisle read a resolution from the Burrillville Town Council.

Dancing to the Frank Gubala Orchestra followed the speaking program.

JULY 1984

4 Surviving Fire Chiefs At Banquet In 1984



From Left To Right: Ray Balcom, Chester Reynolds, Edward Bertholic, Mike Cosetta





Celebration Planned

Call Photo/Donald O. Menard

Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department will celebrate its golden anniversary July 8 with a dinner at Wright's Farm, Nasonville. Firefighters include, first row, from left, Emile Jacquart, Edward Bertholic Jr., Richard Lamothe, Robert Bertholic, honorary Chief Terry Medbery, Marc Frigon, assistant engineer, John Mousseau, Richard Mulligan and Kevin Henault; standing, Paul

Paquette, assistant engineer, Lt. David Gamache, Capt. William Latendresse, Capt. Paul Cahill, Deputy Chief Richard J. Lapierre, Chief Michael J. Cosetta, former Chief Edward Bertholic Sr., Stephen Fitts, chief engineer, Lt. Warren Steere and Lt. Joseph Bertholic.

Oakland, Mapleville FD To Observe 50th Jubilee

By DONALD O. MENARD

CALL Staff Writer

MAPLEVILLE — Born of tragedy, the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department, which will celebrate its golden anniversary on July 8, is recognized throughout as one of the state's finest volunteer firefighting units.

In December, 1932, a fire destroyed Our Lady of Good Help convent and only the efforts of the Harrisville Fire Department prevented the blaze from spreading.

Shortly thereafter, Chief Clarence Cook of Harrisville urged residents of Oakland and Mapleville to form their own organization to offer fire protection to the twin villages. Several months later fire gutted a home on New Street.

As a result, a mass meeting was held at the Oakland Hall and committees were formed, charged with the formation of a fire district.

The late Austin T. Levy gave the fire district use of hydrants and pumps of the former Stillwater Worsted Mills in Mapleville and the

Oakland Worsted Co. joined the program.

The district was organized in the summer of 1933 and a charter was granted in January, 1934. In July of that year the fire department was formed with the late Adelbert J. Reynolds as chief and John Maher as president. Chief Cook and the late Chief Frank A. Shaw Sr. of Pascoag drilled the new company's personnel in the use of apparatus.

The company's first truck, a pumper, was delivered in 1935 and a ladder truck was purchased from Pascoag in 1936. Since that time the fire company and district have updated equipment so that two engines, a tanker and a rescue truck are housed in the four-bay station on Victory Highway. The station was expanded to its present size in 1960.

Seven of the department's charter members survive, including John Veherek, Harold Smith, John Maher, Chester F. Reynolds Sr., Leo Lee, Joseph Guilbault and Leon Lataille. Howard Smith is an honorary charter member.

Deceased charter members include Adelbert Reynolds, John J. Aylward, Peter Trinquet, Edmund St. Pierre, Eugene Trinquet, Joseph Danault, Charles Goodrow, John Williams, Russell Wilcox, Harris Gendron, Abraham Letondresse, Arthur K. St. Pierre, Frank J. Cavanaugh, Edward Lavallee, Clinton O. Remington Jr., Arthur St. Pierre, Howard Quigley, J. Ernest Gaucher, Byron MacKinnon, Joseph Lavallee, George Miller, Archie Messier, Napoleon Lataille, Aram Dextrase, Raymond Balcom, Ralph Caswell, Joseph Letondresse, John Polacek and Jack Mandeville.

Since its inception, the fire company has had seven chiefs, including Adelbert Reynolds, 1934-52; Chester Reynolds Sr., 1952-55; John J. Aylward, 1955-63; Harold W. Potter, 1963-68; Raymond P. Balcom, 1968-74; Edward J. Bertholic, 1974-81, and Michael J. Cosetta, 1981 to present. All but Balcom, Bertholic and Cosetta are deceased.

Present company officers besides Cosetta are Deputy Chief Richard A. Lapierre, Capt. Paul Cahill, Res-

cue Capt. William Latendresse, Lts. David Gamache, Joseph Bertholic, Warren Steere; Stephen Fitts, chief engineer; Paul Paquette and Marc Frigon, assistant engineers.

Also, firefighters Edward Bertholic, Eugene Hebert, Emile Jacquart, Richard Mulligan, Kevin Pepler, Kevin Henault, Richard Lamothe, John Machacz, Thomas Laflamme Jr., William Glidden, Robert Bertholic, Edward Bertholic Jr., Eric Jacquart, David Nobles, Rodney Dubois, John Mousseau and Roger Levesque. Terry Medbery is an honorary chief. On military leaves of absence are Michael Hebert, John Cahill, Val Miccucci, Joseph Henault and Paul Gallant Jr.

The anniversary banquet will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a cocktail hour, followed by dinner at 7, a speaking program and dancing to the Frank Gubala orchestra.

The committee includes Chief Cosetta, Edward J. Bertholic, David Gamache and Stephen Fitts.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



In Recognition of

Ellsworth Steere
and
Warren Steere



The Oakland/Mapleville
Fire Department and Fire District
wish to express our sincere gratitude to
Ellsworth and Warren Steere
for their extraordinary donation of land required for
the construction of a much needed new Fire Station.
Their dedication and devotion to the town will continue
to be an inspiration to the people of our community.

Presented by the members
of the Oakland/Mapleville
Fire Department and Fire District

May 2004

Three youths admit setting church fire in Burrillville

MAPLEVILLE — Three Burrillville teenagers have admitted setting a fire Saturday night which caused about \$15,000 damage at Our Lady of Good Help Church.

The boys, one 12-year-old and two 13-year-olds, were apprehended yesterday afternoon during an investigation by Sgt. Wallace F. Lees, Deputy Chief Richard J. Lapierre of Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department and Gerald Leddy, investigator for the state fire marshal's office. They were assisted by Police Chief Joseph A. Menard and Everett Ignagni, chief state fire marshal.

Police said the investigators learned the boys' names during the probe. They said the trio admitted setting the 10:30 p.m. blaze while being questioned at the police sta-

tion.

Police said the boys were released in the custody of their parents. Leddy said the boys could possibly be referred for counseling to the state's new juvenile fire setter program. However, he added, a final determination has not yet been made.

According to authorities, the boys piled leaves against a rear door of the church and ignited them with a cigarette lighter. Officials said the boys thought they had extinguished the fire before they left the scene.

The fire was discovered by Dale Dulude of Oakland who cut through the church parking lot on his way home from work. Dulude said he saw smoke coming from the rear

door area and called the fire department.

The fire burned its way through a partition and into the ceiling area of the basement, heavily damaging a small chapel used for daily Mass. The Harrisville, Glendale and Chepachet Fire Departments were called to assist Oakland-Mapleville in quelling the blaze.

Ignagni credited quick work by firefighters with preventing a major disaster.

While the blaze was contained in the basement area, the main body of the church sustained smoke damage. However, regular Masses were held in the church on Sunday.

The large wood-frame church was constructed in 1907.

\$15,000 Blaze damages section Of Mapleville church

MAPLEVILLE — Firefighters from four Northern Rhode Island Firemen's League companies battled a fire Saturday night which caused an estimated \$15,000 damage to the 78-year-old Our Lady of Good Help Church on Old Victory Highway.

The blaze, which is still under investigation by the state fire marshal's office, was discovered about 10:30 p.m., by Dale Dulude of Whipple Avenue, Oakland, who was passing through the rear parking lot on his way home from work.

Dulude said he saw smoke coming from a door in the church's rear. Unable to gain access to the rectory, Dulude said he ran across the street to call the fire department.

Arriving first on scene, Deputy Chief Richard J. Lapierre of Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department said smoke was coming from the rear area. He immediately placed calls for assistance to the Harrisville, Glendale and Chepachet fire departments.

Lapierre said when firefighters opened the door, flames had burned through a partition near the rear door which separates the basement from a small chapel which is used daily for Mass. He said quick work by firefighters halted the flames as they burned up a rear partition to the main floor of the large, wooden church.

According to officials, the church was closed after the 5 p.m. Mass. Regular Sunday Masses were held.

Actual fire damage was confined to the rear basement and chapel area. However, Lapierre said the entire church interior, which was repainted last year at a cost of nearly \$15,000, sustained smoke damage.

The Rev. Wilfrid Gregoire of St. Agatha's Church, Woonsocket, administrator, was called to the scene during the blaze. Lapierre, who is a eucharistic minister at the church and chairman of the parish council removed the Blessed Sacrament

from the chapel to the tabernacle on the main church altar.

The parish was founded in 1907 and the church was dedicated on Memorial Day in 1907. Observers said the church was slightly damaged in 1955 by a fire in the main body of the church. In May, 1973, another fire gutted the parish parochial school, leading to a decision to close it permanently. Since that time, the building has been used as a parish center.

OCTOBER
1985

OCTOBER 1992



Call Photo/Louis Bleiweis

Ready to roll

Shown with the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department's new 1992 combination pumper and ladder truck, purchased at a cost of \$55,000 and already in service, are, from left, Chief Edward J. Bertholic, Richard Bishop, district moderator; Fire Commissioner Arthur Thibodeau and Michael Keable of Nelson's Inc., from whom the apparatus was bought.

1988



Making sure

Deputy Chief Michael J. Cosetta, left, checks with Chief Edward Bertholic, on stage, center, following one of the many muster events at the annual Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department field day yesterday at the Oakland-Triangle. Event scorers flank Bertholic.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

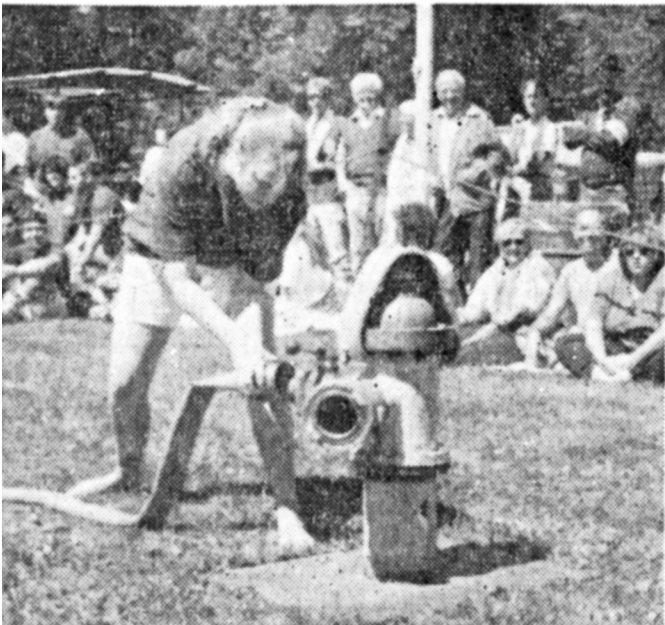


Ready on the line

Call Photos/Donald O. Menard

The weather was beautiful for yesterday's annual Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department field day and muster at the Oakland Triangle in Burrillville. Above, running for Harrisville Fire Department's coed squad are, from left, Brayton Round Jr., Douglas Menard, Lynne Pichette, Karen Woods, Ruth Gingell

and Tim Gingell. At lower left, Kim Bertholic of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department ties a line to a hydrant, while at lower right, Roger Walker, left, and Paul Cosetta keep busy making clam cakes.



SEPTEMBER 1991

APRIL 1993



Call Photo/Louis Bleiweis

Clean-up job

Oakland-Mapleville firemen were still on the scene at daybreak yesterday checking for a possible further outbreak of the fire which ravaged the former Oakland Mill of the Wanskuck Co. The fire, discovered at about 5:30 p.m. Saturday, was fought by nearly all of the Northern Rhode Island Firemen's League companies.

Authorities search rubble for cause of Oakland fire

By LOUIS BLEIWEIS

Written for The Call

BURRILLVILLE — Fire, man's best friend, has proven an implacable foe in a town in which the textile industry was its lifeblood a half-century ago.

The former Oakland Mill of the Wanskuck Co. is the latest victim of the scourge. The interior of one of its seven buildings was gutted by a fire which broke out Saturday at about 5:30 p.m., drawing a response from eight member companies of the Northern Rhode Island Firemen's League.

At daybreak yesterday, Oakland-Mapleville firemen were still at the scene guarding against any further outbreak.

Henry Serbst and Jack Fiore, deputy state fire marshals, joined O-M Chief Edward J. Bertholic and Deputy Chief Richard J. Lapierre in sifting the ruins to discover the cause of the fire.

"At this point it must be labeled suspicious because we don't have an obvious accidental cause," said Lapierre.

He estimated the loss at \$100,000.

Upon the initial arrival of firemen, both floors of a single building where the boiler room is located were fully involved.

The fire was declared under control after three hours.

Bertholic, Lapierre and Deputy Chief Michael Cosetta coordinated the firefighting, with Cosetta responding and remaining on the scene for several hours despite having had a gall bladder operation last Tuesday.

"Containing the fire to one building was a demonstration of great cooperative effort and fortunately we had plenty of water," said Lapierre.

All of the mill buildings have been occupied by Cove Metals, a machinery recycling company.

The 125-year-old brick, stone and wooden buildings on a 25-acre parcel were owned and operated by the Wanskuck Co. for 95 years before closing in 1957.

The latest fire is another chapter in the scourge that wiped out the Green, Prendergast, Premier, Andrew Worsted (formerly Bachmann Uxbridge Worsted Co.'s Granite Mill) mills and sections of the Stillwater Worsted Mills, the latter company at one time the town's largest employer.

Arson definitely was the cause of several of the fires, investigators determined.

The Oakland mill has had several occupants since Wanskuck Co. halted textile production there and at its Mohegan Mill. Two of the owners were Hanora Looms and B-W Footwear, the latter returning to its Webster, Mass., site after a year of local operation. Cove Machinery bought the plant 20 years ago.

MAY 1995



Call Photos/Susan E. Bouchard

Burrillville mill destroyed by suspicious fire

By LOUIS BLEIWEIS

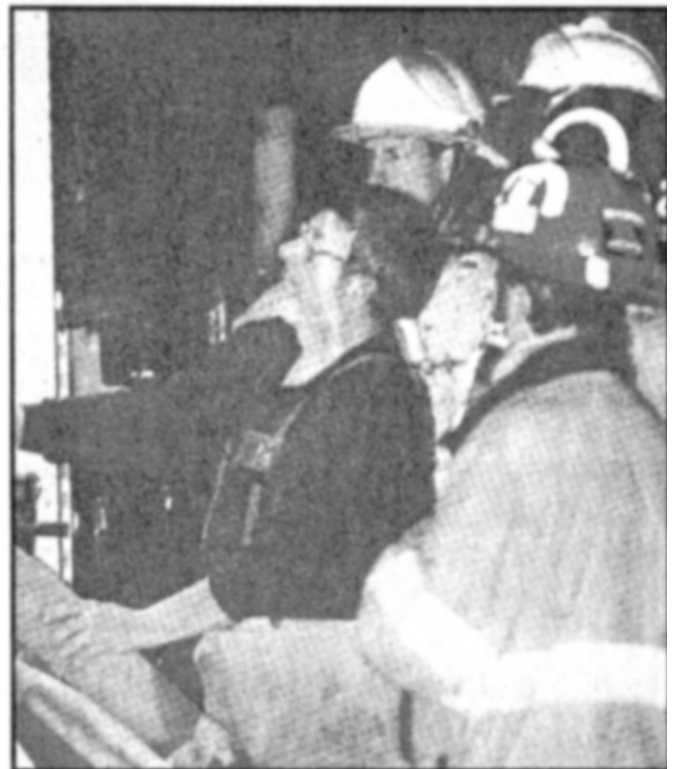
Written for The Call

BURRILLVILLE — Arson is suspected in a fire that destroyed the unoccupied former Oakland Mill of the Wanskuck Co. at Mill Street in Oakland early yesterday.

The spectacular blaze that lit up the sky and was visible for miles around removed another landmark that harkened back to the textile mills' golden era in northern Rhode Island.

"It was definitely suspicious," said Chief Edward J. Bertholic of the

See **FIRE** — Page A-5



Fully engulfed

The unoccupied former Oakland Mill of the Wanskuck Co. at Mill Street, Burrillville (top) was totally destroyed in an early morning blaze yesterday. Above, firefighter David Carpenter checks the water pressure while firefighters representing 1

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

LANDMARK MILL "TORCHED"

Oakland-Mapleville department.

He estimated the loss at "several hundred thousand dollars."

Jack Fiore of the state fire marshal's office joined local firemen and town police in probing the origin of the blaze.

Bertholic said the multi-story building was fully engulfed and beyond saving when firemen arrived on the scene.

Jason Gomes, an Oakland-Mapleville volunteer fireman, was overcome by smoke and heat. He was treated at Woonsocket's Landmark Medical Center and discharged.

The fire was discovered at 1:47 a.m. by Patrolman Maurice Nault on cruiser duty. Heading towards Oakland from an assignment on Mount Pleasant Road, Nasonville, Nault said he smelled smoke and saw a glow in the sky. He radioed to police dispatcher Mary Lou Pepler, who summoned all Burrillville fire departments.

Seconds after Nault's response, Patrolwoman Angela Jalette, likewise on cruiser patrol, observed the mill on fire and notified police headquarters, which is about a mile away from the fire scene.

Ironically, the Oakland-Mapleville company had held a fire drill at the mill Monday evening.

Ten fire companies joined the vain struggle to save the mill. They included Oakland-Mapleville, Glendale, Nasonville, Harrisville, Pascoag Hose Cos. 1 and 2, Wallum Lake, Chepachet, Primrose and Millville.

Sparks from the fire threatened nearby Mill Street residences, and several families used garden hoses to wet down their roofs and walls.

Chief Bertholic recalled that a section of the mill was heavily damaged by fire about 14 months earlier.

Authorities said the mill building last was occupied by Cove Machinery Co.

Firemen expressed their gratitude for the response of the Salvation Army's Providence canteen, which served coffee and doughnuts to the battle-weary firefighters, many of whom were still on duty wetting down the hot spots long after day-break.

The original mill on the site was built in 1850 by John L. Ross, who leased it for three years to the Woonsocket Delaine Co.

Thereafter, Ross operated it himself for manufacturing of cotton yarn.

The original mill was 100-by-38 feet, three stories with a basement.

In 1856, another building, 32-by-40, was erected at the east end. In 1870, a 54-foot-long addition was built with a French roof and tower put on the main building.

On July 12, 1882, the mill burned down. It was quickly rebuilt and remained unused for three years before it was leased to Bogart, Harris & Co. for the manufacturing of silk yarns.

The Oakland Worsted Co., a division of the Wanskuck Co., acquired the mill in 1892 and continued operations until its shutdown in 1957.

The mill was idle for several years before it was bought and run by the First Republic Corp. from 1961 to 1968 for textile manufacturing.

Once again, the lights were dimmed before Charles Cove of Providence, a used machinery dealer, bought the property in 1973 for his operation.

A textile boom town in the World War II era, Burrillville has seen a succession of arson-suspected fires remove mills from the landscape.

Believed to have fallen prey to arsonists in post-war years are the Andrew Worsted Mills (formerly Bachmann Uxbridge Worsted Corp.'s Granite Mill), the Greene Mill, Stillwater Worsted Mill (Harrisville), William H. Prendergast Mill, Lincoln Mill and Premier Mill.

Blue Cross, Red Cross salute local community heroes

WOONSOCKET — Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island and the American Red Cross, Rhode Island chapter, will honor Leo Turgeon of Woonsocket and Edward Bertholic of Burrillville at the fourth annual Community Heroes Breakfast.

The breakfast will be held on Thursday from 8 to 9:30 a.m. at the Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Rhodes Place, Cranston.

Turgeon is a volunteer for



Turgeon

hundreds of hours. During the holidays, he delivers food baskets to needy families.

Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island. In 2005, one year after joining the volunteer team, Turgeon visited 168 patients and assisted with fundraisers and office work for

hundreds of hours. During the holidays, he delivers food baskets to needy families.

Bertholic served as a volunteer firefighter for the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department in Burrillville for nearly five decades. He recently retired after 47 years of volunteer service, including 27 years as chief. Under his leadership, the station acquired a fire



Bertholic

engine, boats and other equipment.

The breakfast will also honor nine additional Rhode Island volunteers. Children from the North Providence Boys and Girls Club will participate in the program and describe what a hero means to them.

A selection committee chose the honorees in 2005.

The Community Heroes program is a collaborative effort

See HEROES — Page A-4

Continued from Page A-1
between Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Rhode Island and the American Red Cross, Rhode Island chapter.

For a complete list of honorees or to nominate an individual for a Community Hero award, call (401) 459-1304 or visit www.riredcross.org or www.BCBSRI.com.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield

of Rhode Island has provided health insurance for 67 years and has more than 670,000 customers. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Rhode Island is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

The American Red Cross, Rhode Island chapter, is a humanitarian organization led by volunteers who pro-

vides relief to disaster victims and helps people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. All Red Cross disaster assistance is free. The American Red Cross, Rhode Island chapter, is not a government agency and relies on private donations to provide emergency assistance to Rhode Island residents in crisis.

OCTOBER
2006



Call Photos/Louis Bleiweis

Chief Edward J. Bertholic, above photo from left, presents plaques to Pvt. Grant Fournier IV, Firefighter of the Year, and Capt. Joseph Bertholic, Officer of the Year, at Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department's 63rd anniversary banquet Saturday at the Village Haven, Forestdale. Installed as department officers, in lower photo, as part of the celebration are, from left, Bertholic, installing officer; Leo Dunn, president; Steven St. Pierre, vice president; Joseph Bertholic, secretary, and Margaret Sormanti, treasurer.



2 honored for meritorious service at O-M banquet

BURRILLVILLE — Two volunteer firemen were singled out for meritorious service at Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department's 63rd anniversary banquet and installation of officers Saturday at Village Haven's Waterford Room in Forestdale.

Pvt. Grant Fournier IV was designated Firefighter of the Year and Capt. Joseph Bertholic Officer of the Year. Chief Edward J. Bertholic presented plaques to the honorees.

The chief officiated at the installation of the following officers: Leo Dunn, president; Steven St. Pierre, vice president; Joseph Bertholic, secretary; and Margaret Sormanti, treasurer. Capt. William Williams, outgoing president, received a plaque.

Deputy Chief Richard J. Lapierre, who served as master of ceremonies, received a 30-

year pin.

Other longevity awards were given to: Warren Steere, 25 years; Emil Jacquart, 20 years; William Glidden, 15 years; Joseph Marcello and David Reilly, 10 years; and Dunn, five years.

Special guests were Chiefs Mark A. St. Pierre of Harrisville and Larry Goodnough of West Gloucester, ex-Chief Robert Mowry of Primrose, Honorary Chief Terry Medbery, Jerry Sharples, Northern Rhode Island Firemen's League president; and Councilman Louis Bleiweis.

District officers attending included Commissioners Arthur Thibodeau and Stephen Fitts; Robert L'Esperance, clerk; Richard Mulligan, tax assessor; and Shelby P. Jackson, tax collector. Dancing followed the program.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

Family, friends, colleagues honor Lapierre at banquet

BURRILLVILLE — He rose from the ranks of a 17-year-old volunteer to deputy chief of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department.

And on Saturday night nearly 150 members of the department, neighboring companies, civic and political leaders gathered at the Columbus Club in Pascoag to pay tribute on the retirement of Richard J. Lapierre.

Responding to an ovation, he said, "Being a firefighter is a noble calling. Dedicate yourself to the task and grow in knowledge."

Even though shedding his fireman's role, Lapierre will continue to wear many hats, figuratively.

Holder of a master's degree in theology from Providence College, he currently teaches at St. Raphael Academy, is a deacon at Our Lady of Good Help Church in Mapleville, and is employed as an emergency medical services supervisor at Brown University and a part-time dispatcher for the Burrillville police department. He formerly owned the Aylward Insurance Agency in Oakland.

Deputy Chief Michael Cosetta served as master of ceremonies and introduced O-M Chief Edward J. Bertholic, recovering from knee surgery; Police Lt. Kevin San Antonio; Terry Medbery, honorary fire chief; Pascoag Deputy Chief Richard E. Peck; Harrisville Hose Co. 1 Captain Michael Gingell; and North Smithfield Chief E. Craig Beausoleil.

The Rev. Timothy Lemlin gave the invocation and also spoke



Call Photo/Louis Bleiweis

Deputy Chief Richard J. Lapierre, left, of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department, is honored by friends, family and colleagues at a banquet Saturday night at the Columbus Club, Pascoag, upon his retirement after 33 years with the local department. He is joined by, from left, his wife, Mary-Lou, Deputy Chief Michael Cosetta, master of ceremonies and committee chairman, and Chief Edward J. Bertholic.

on the topic, "Creation of the Firefighter."

Irving Owens, state fire marshal, presented Lapierre a proclamation from Gov. Lincoln Almond and a plaque on completion of 33 years with the small Burrillville fire department.

Firefighter/EMT Josh Silvia read an original poem dedicated to the honoree.

A congratulatory letter was

read from U.S. Rep. Patrick Kennedy. President Wallace F. Lees presented a Town Council resolution and Councilman Louis Bleiweis spoke of his association with Lapierre for five years on the town Budget Board.

Chief Bertholic presented a chief's speaking trumpet from the department. Nasonville Fire Chief Robert Melville, accompanied by former chief John

Pacheco, Rescue Capt. William Williams and Capt. Joseph Bertholic made plaque presentations, the latter also showing a video of Lapierre's life.

Chief Engineer Troy Phillips presented a plaque holding Lapierre's original membership in 1966.

Floral tributes were given to Lapierre's wife, Mary-Lou, and their two children, Jacqui Lapierre and Aimee Miller.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT BITS & PIECES FROM YESTERYEARS

June- 84 Directive from Operating Committee to cease the sale of beer in the station.

July- 84 50th Anniversary banquet held at Wright's Farm; well attended.

Aug- 87 Promotions Joe Bertholic- Captain; Ron Duquet- Rescue Captain; Warren Steere- Lieutenant; Edward Bertholic, Jr.- Lieutenant; Andy Glasko- Engineer.

Aug- 90 \$1,500.00 to purchase new fryolators.

Sept- 91 Committee- Edward Bertholic, Rick LaPierre, Steve Fitts to look into possibility of buying the Oakland Triangle.

Mar- 94 Air bags put into service.
William Williams promoted to Rescue Lt.

May- 94 Sold food at Foster Old Home Days.

Jan- 96 Purchased a plaque for Leo "Spike" Lee, Jr. retirement.

Jan- 98 Bought black jackets for members.

Mar- 98 New patches. Sold Old E-11 to Lincolnville, KS. Glendale District divided between OMFD, Harrisville, FD. Ice sled purchased.

Apr- 98 New E-11 in service.

Sept- 98 Burrillville Arts Festival food booth.

Dec- 98 Purchased new oven for station.

Jan- 00 Mike Cosetta retires.

June- 00 Steere family donated land at 46 Oakland School Street for new fire station.

Dec- 00 Honorary Chief Terry Medberry passed away.

Aug- 01 Town-wide radio-box system online.

Sept- 01 Sportsmanship trophy in honor of Terry Medberry.

Sept- 01 World Trade Center attacked. 343 Firefighters perished.

Nov- 01 Fuel for vehicles at DPW.

Jan- 02 Purchased first Thermal Imaging Camera. Reviewed by-laws.

Feb- 02 Brick purchased for Terry Medberry.

Feb- 03 Rescue 1 responded to West Warwick for Station Nightclub fire.

Mar- 02 Nasonville Fire Dept. donated an aluminum boat to our department. Burrillville FF Athletic Assoc. presented a banner to Mrs. Pichette to honor her son Eugene.

Jun- 02 Engine 12 attended air show at Hanscom AFB, Bedford, MA.

Nov- 02 Moved into new station Thanksgiving weekend.

Jan- 03 Structure fire 435 Snake Hill Rd. Saved structure.

Apr- 03 Bought memorial stone to put in front of station.

July- 03 Thank you letter from Woonsocket Fire Chief and Captain Finnley expressing their appreciation for June 26th mill fire response.

Nov- 03 Troy Phillip, Kristian Laferriere, Jerry Desroches all passed EMT-B

Apr- 04 Memorial brick for Firemen's Memorial Park in Harrisville.

Nov- 04 Engine 12 put back in service after retrofit.

Feb- 05 Started banquets with Nasonville Fire Dept.

July- 05 Per Diem started.

Mar- 06 Bought brick for Jigger Reynolds

Apr- 07 Congrats to members who assisted on delivering a baby girl on Maureen Circle. Stork Pins awarded and stork placed on Medic 1.

Nov- 07 Chief Edward Bertholic awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from RISFL.

MAY 1998



Call Photo/Louis Bleiweis

Chief Edward J. Bertholic, right, and Deputy Chief Michael Cosetta stand beside the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department's newly delivered \$148,000 pumper-tanker which won the prize for the newest apparatus at the Tri-State Firemen's Meet.



Firemen's meet is chance to show off new pumper

BURRILLVILLE — Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department's new 1998 International pumper is a prizewinner.

It won the award for the newest apparatus in service at the Tri-State Firemen's Association 53rd annual meet Sunday at Webster Lake's Memorial Beach in Webster.

The new vehicle was built by the E.J. Murphy Co. of Hopkinton, Mass., at a cost of \$148,000.

It replaces the 26-year-old 1972 International two-door pumper-tanker.

The new truck has a four-door extended cab, seats five firefighters and is equipped with 1,250 gallons per minute pump and 2,500 gallons water tank.

It features an all polypropylene plastic body and car-

ries a lifetime warranty.

The district purchase committee included Chief Edward J. Bertholic, District Clerk Stuart Pearson, Richard Muligan, Capt. Joseph Bertholic and Chief Engineer Troy Phillips.

Chief Bertholic reported that Deputy Chief Michael Cosetta, Phillips and firefighters Grant Fournier IV and Joshua Silvia recently attended classes at the Cumberland County Fire School in Gorham, Maine, on insurance, officers ratings, pump testing and EMT and fire officials specialized courses.

Firefighters Fournier, Silvia, Charles Rivet and John Wheeler attended advanced training courses last weekend at the Meadowwood Fire School in Fitzwilliam, N.H.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

Firefighters honor their own at joint anniversary celebration

BURRILLVILLE — Together their record of public service totals 161 years.

Special awards highlighted the 95th anniversary celebration of Pascoag Hose Co. 2 and the 66th milestone observance of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department, held jointly Saturday night at the Columbus Club, Pascoag, with a capacity audience in attendance.

Pascoag Fire Chief David Shaw, Deputy Chief David Carpenter and Lt. James Williams of Hose Co. 2 presented the Firefighter of the Year plaque to Pvt. Jeffrey Jenison.

Longevity award recipients included Shaw, 30 years; Williams, 15 years; and Steyen Machowski and Scot Phillips, five years each.

The Oakland-Mapleville department presented its Firefighter of the Year plaque to Michael McGrane and its Officer of the Year award to David Reilly.

Councilman Louis Bleiweis, formerly manager for 40 years of *The Call's* Burrillville and Gloucester office and currently a correspondent for the newspaper, was presented a plaque for outstanding service to the fire company.

Richard Lapierre, retired deputy chief, a 32-year company member, and Albert Lapierre, who served the district for 26 years, were presented plaques in absentia.

Longevity pin awards were presented to retiring Deputy Chief Michael Cosetta, 45 years; Chief Edward Bertholic, 40 years; Warren Steere, 30 years; Deputy Chief Joseph Bertholic, 20 years; Reilly, 15 years; and Josh Sylvia and Charles Rivet, five years.

Fire company officers installed included Reilly, president; Troy Phillips, vice president; David Bourbonniere, secretary; and William Williams, treasurer.

Special guests at the fete included Fire chiefs Mark St. Pierre of Harrisville, Larry Goodnough of West Gloucester, Robert Bishop of Wallum Lake, Stewart Pearson of Harmony and Robert Melville of Nasonville; Deputy Chief Thomas Taylor of West Gloucester; former Chief Robert Mowry of Primrose;



JANUARY 2000

Call Photos/Louis Bleiweis

Above from left, Oakland-Mapleville Fire Chief Edward Bertholic presents Firefighter of the Year plaque to Michael McGrane and Officer of the Year award to David Reilly as Michael Cosetta, retired deputy chief, and Joseph Bertholic, newly appointed deputy chief look on. Below, Pascoag Fire Chief David Shaw, left, presents Pascoag Hose Co. 2 Firefighter of the Year plaque to Pvt. Jeffrey Jenison as Deputy Chief David Carpenter joins them at a joint anniversary celebration of Hose Co. 2 and the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department Saturday at the Columbus Club, Pascoag.



Deputy Chief Richard E. Peck of Pascoag; Capt. Albert Lariviere of Primrose; Capt. Michael Gingell of Harrisville; Capt.

Augustine Eddy of the Burrillville Ambulance Corps; Councilman Norman C. Mainville; and Shelby P. Jackson

III of Wallingford, Conn., former Oakland-Mapleville Fire District tax collector.

Woman dies in house fire

Historic Mapleville home damaged heavily by blaze

By JOSEPH FITZGERALD
Staff Writer

BURRILLVILLE — A Mapleville woman was killed when a fast-moving fire erupted in a historic single-family home on Mapleville Main Street late Tuesday afternoon.

Mary Mozr, age unknown, was pronounced dead at the scene, but her 81-year-old mother-in-law was able to escape the fire with the help of three Burrillville police officers and a neighbor, Kevin Tatro of 20 Main St., who lives across the street from Mozr's home at 41 Main St.

Mozr's husband, Simon B. Mozr, an associate architect with the Boston-based architectural firm of Feingold Alexander & Associates, Inc., was not home when the fire broke out around 5:34 p.m., but arrived a few hours later. The family is originally from Great Britain and moved to Burrillville several years ago, according to neighbors.

Two dogs and at least one cat died in the blaze, Burrillville's first fatal fire in 28 years, according to fire officials.

Tatro said he was alerted to the fire after he heard the sound of



Call Photo/Michael Gleason

FLAMES BLAST through the roof of the Mapleville Main Street home in which a woman died Tuesday afternoon.

breaking glass.

"When I looked out the front door I saw big puffs of black smoke coming from the back yard," said Tatro, who immediately called 911.

Tatro ran to the house, looked through a window and saw the elderly woman pacing back and forth nervously, while fire and smoke began to fill the room.

"She looked like she was confused and didn't know what to do. I started banging on the window and she pointed to the back door," he said.

Burrillville Police Lt. John Connors, Sgt. Angela Jalette and Patrolman Brian Pitts arrived on the scene within two minutes after the fire call came into police headquarters. When Tatro and the officers got the woman outside, she told them that her daughter-in-law was still inside the house.

"We got halfway in and the place was filled with thick black smoke. There wasn't anything we could do," Tatro said.

Burrillville Police Lt. Kevin SanAntonio confirmed last night that the officers made an attempt to find the person who was still in the house and believed to be in a first-floor bedroom, but that they were driven back by the fire and smoke. He said a body was later found on the first floor and removed from the house at around 9 p.m., but could not give the identity of the female victim last night pending an examination of dental records today.

Dozens of firefighters from Oakland-Mapleville, Pascoag, Harrisville, Nasonville and other fire companies spent more than three frigid hours fighting the stubborn blaze, which was still burning as of 8 p.m. At one point, firefighters

appeared to have the blaze knocked down, but it flared up and engulfed the roof, making it difficult to battle the flames over the peak in the roof. There are no fire hydrants in the area and water had to be trucked in by tankers, which were depleted at least twice during the course of fighting the fire. At approximately 6:35 p.m., a siren command was given calling for the evacuation of firefighters inside the house because there were concerns the structure might collapse.

At 6:45 p.m., police cordoned off the Main Street area with yellow police tape as the Red Cross disaster relief truck arrived on the scene. Pascoag emergency medical technicians transferred Mozr's mother to the Red Cross vehicle, where volunteers assisted her.

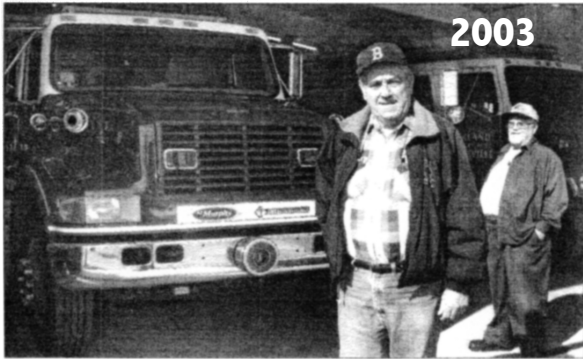
Department of Public Works crews brought in a dump truck of sand to scatter

on the street, which was a sheet of ice. The runoff of water used to fight the fire quickly froze, making it treacherous for firefighters manning equipment on the street.

Simon Mozr arrived home around 7 p.m. and was visibly distraught as Red Cross volunteers comforted him and led him to the disaster relief truck where he was reunited with his mother.

The fire is being investigated by the state Fire Marshal's Office along with Police Detective Wayne Richardson, who was on the scene last night.

According to neighbors, many of homes in that section of Mapleville Main Street were built around the times of the village mills and the home owned by Mozr was once owned by the owner of the local mill. The house was also the longtime homestead of the Lataille family.



Neighbors photo/Donna Riley-Lein
Oakland-Mapleville Fire Chief Edward J. Bertholic stands in front of the bays of the new fire station.

Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department moves to new digs

BY SETH BROMLEY
Staff Reporter

OAKLAND - Over the last year and a half, American citizens have garnered a renewed respect and admiration for public servants who risk their lives to help others. Recent events locally have only served to reinforce that respect. It is fitting, then, that the firefighters who serve Oakland and Mapleville are moving into a brand-new fire station, giving the all-volunteer

department a larger, more modern space that will allow them to serve the community effectively well into the 21st century.

The new station, located on shady Oakland School Street, is a huge improvement over the company's previous facility, which was located a short distance away on Victory Highway. Built in 1934, the old station was no longer large enough to accommodate modern fire apparatus.

See STATION - Page 3

STATION

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

"It served us well until now, but we've got to step into the future or get out," said fire district commissioner Tom Demers.

The new station has a spacious layout that includes a new office for the chief, a fire district meeting room, a training room, a large day room, and a kitchen. Most importantly, the new station houses four double bays,

with ample room for personnel to move between and around trucks.

"We give them the best we can afford to give them," said Demers.

Fire Chief Edward J. Bertholic said that the department is still in the process of adjusting to its new quarters.

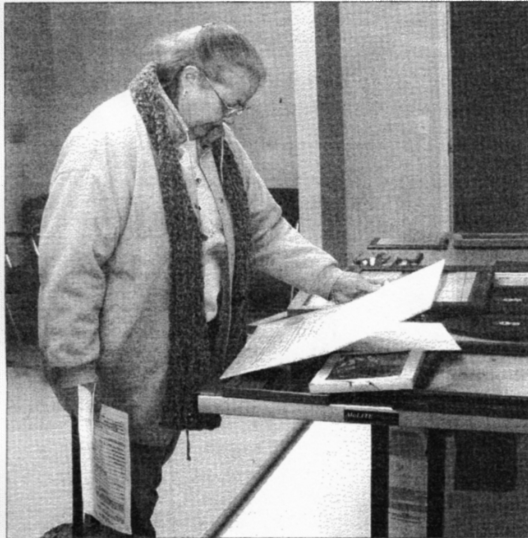
"Everything is moved in, we just don't have it all in place," he said. "We expect to have an open house some time in March."

Bertholic noted that although



Neighbors photos/Donna Riley-Lein

Above is a view of the new Oakland-Mapleville Fire Station. Directly below, members of the company set up a sign for a spaghetti dinner. Middle, Cpt. Warren Steere starts cooking. Bottom left, Mike McGrant checks a new phone.



Neighbors photos/Donna Riley-Lein

While the station is fully functional, there are some last-minute details to take care of. Above, Fire District Treasurer Pat St. Pierre examines some department memorabilia. Below, Fire District Commissioner Tom Demers shows Pvt. Keith LaPierre where to stack some dishes.



the new station's location was a good compromise, he would have preferred to see it built near the Burrillville police headquarters.

"We tried to build down by the police station, but the town wouldn't let us in," he said.

Despite some unpacked boxes and a somewhat disorganized office, the station is fully operational, which was a boon on the night of February 25, when the department was dispatched to a deadly fire at 41 Mapleville Main Street.

Three fire engines and a rescue from Oakland-Mapleville were sent to the house, where they were joined by firefighters from Pascoag, Harrisville, Nasonville, Chepachet, and Harmony. After battling the blaze in the below-freezing temperatures throughout the night, Chief Bertholic had to order his men out of the structure because of the danger of collapse.

Resident Mary Mozr lost her life in the town's first fatal fire in 28 years, but her 81-year-old mother in law was rescued.

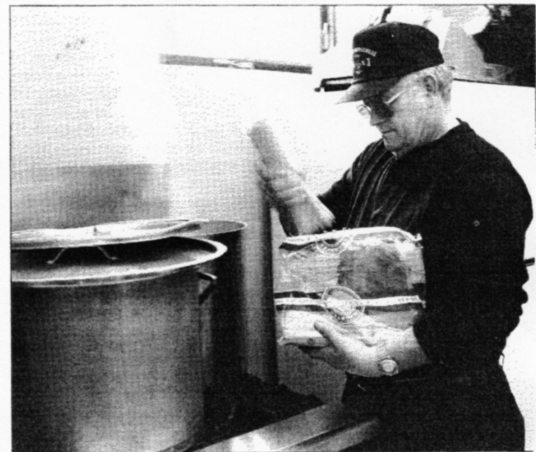
Oakland-Mapleville also dispatched a rescue to The Station nightclub fire on February 20, as did Harrisville.

State Rep. Richard Aubin, once a volunteer firefighter in Harrisville, issued a statement thanking the firefighters of Oakland-Mapleville and the surrounding districts.

"These are volunteers - just regular people in town - who have put their lives at risk and seen the worst, some twice in just a few days," he said.

"They've been through an awful lot this week. I'd like to thank all of them from the bottom of my heart for what they've done this week and for their dedication every day."

Chief Bertholic said that the district welcomes anyone who is



seeking to volunteer their service. Right now the company is comprised of about 30 members.

"We're always looking for more volunteers," he said. "It's been a busy winter."

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



1998 Engine 11 Ready To Leave For Lincolnville, KS



1934 75th Anniversary 2009



Front Row: L-R Jim Hearn, Eric Rouleau, Bill Latendresse, Rob Bertholic, Mike Polacek, Paul Cahill, David Rouleau, Emile Jacquart.
Back Row L-R Troy Phillips, Ed Bertholic Jr., David Reilly, Scott Phillips, Kevin Henault

O-M ends Harrisville's reign as hockey champs

BURRILLVILLE — Harrisville Fire Department's four-year reign in the Pichette Memorial Hockey Tournament has ended.

A fired-up Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department team upset Harrisville, 6-5, in the finals of the sixth annual tourney, and were presented the championship trophy by Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Pichette of Mapleville at Levy Community Rink.

In the consolation game, the Nasonville firemen outlasted their Pascoag counterpart, 7-5, to capture third place.

The tourney earned \$270 for the Burrillville High School senior class graduation breakfast fund. O-M will skate against area police departments at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Levy Rink to benefit the same fund.

In the title game, Harrisville built up a 2-1 first period lead on goals by Dennis Menard and Matt Misiaszek. Emile Jacquart scored for O-M. The

eventual titlist stormed back for a 3-2 lead after two periods on scores by Jacquart and Ed Bertholic Jr.

O-M upped its lead in the final frame to 5-2 on tallies by Tom Pichette and Bertholic. Bruce Fournier's goal closed the gap to 5-3 before Bertholic's third goal, completing a hat trick, proved the eventual winner. Menard and Fournier clicked for Harrisville in a late rally that fell short.

Bill Latondress had 18 stops in the nets for O-M and Rick Marini 31 for the loser.

Tim Hagerty and Marcel Fontenault each scored three goals and Don Skeene one for Nasonville in the consolation game. Richard Jenks registered two goals, Tom Fagan, Don Levsque and Kevin San Antonio one each for Pascoag. Ray Belisle had 15 stops at goal for the winner. Glen Reiff recorded 13 saves at the opposite net.



1934 75th Anniversary 2009



**OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT
2009**

CHIEF

Joseph Bertholic

DEPUTY CHIEF

Joseph Marcello

RESCUE CAPTAIN

William Williams

FIRE CAPTAIN

Warren Steere

LIEUTENANTS

Troy Phillips Leo Dunn Richard Jalette Michael McGrane

ENGINEERS

John Wheeler Gerald Desroches

FIREFIGHTERS

Edward Bertholic, Chief Emeritus

Rebecca Bertholic

William Smith

Andrew Bennett

Peter Sawyer

Krystle Poirier

Jamison Delgizzi

John Trottier

William Williams

Aaron Doughty

Jason Gomes

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

**OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE
FIRE DISTRICT OFFICERS
2009**

MODERATOR

Robert L'Esperance

CLERK

Peter Leone

TREASURER

Patricia St. Pierre

TAX COLLECTOR

Doris Beaulieu

TAX ASSESSORS

Alice Lavigne
Michael Cosetta
Albert Lavigne

COMMISSIONERS

Thomas Demers
Edward Bertholic
Eric Jacquart



Left: Commissioner Larry Henault, Right: Joseph Bertholic In Front of Engine 3 - Circa Early 90's

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



2009 FIRE DEPT.: 1st Row L-R William Smith, Dep. Chief Joseph Marcello, Chief Joseph Bertholic, Chief Emeritus Edward Bertholic, Rebecca Bertholic; 2nd Row L-R Aaron Doughty, Engineer Gerald Desroches, Capt. Warren Steere, Lt. Troy Phillips, Rescue Capt. William Williams, Lt. Richard Jalette, Engineer John Wheeler; 3rd Row L-R: Jamison Delgizzi, Andrew Bennett, Krystle Poirier, Jason Gomes, William H. Williams, Peter Sawyer, Jonathon Trottier. Missing Lt. Leo Dunn & Lt. Michael McGane



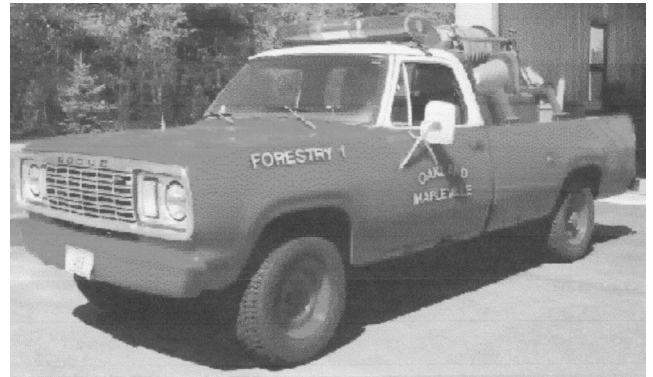
2009 FIRE OFFICERS: Sitting Chief Emeritus Edward Bertholic, Back Row L-R Engineer-John Wheeler, Lt. Troy Phillips, Capt. Warren Steere, Deputy Chief Joseph Marcello, Chief Joseph Bertholic, Rescue Capt. William Williams, Lt. Richard Jalette, Engineer Gerald Desroches. Missing Lt. Leo Dunn and Lt. Michael McGane

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



ENGINE 13

1992 International Cab And Chassis And A 750 GPM Front End Pump With New Upgraded Body By East Coast Fire Rescue In 2004



FORESTRY-1

Before Change Over To Current Brush-1 In 2008



CHIEF'S VEHICLE

1999 Chevrolet Blazer



RESCUE-14

1986 Chevy With A Front Line Body That Was Replace By Rescue-1



TRUCK-1

A 2005 GMC 4 Wheel Dr., 4 Dr. Cab



MEDIC-1 - A 2007 Ford Osage



FORESTRY-1

1963 Military 2 1/2 Ton State Surplus Forestry Truck With 1200 Gallon Water Tank And A Diesel 300 GPM Pump In Rear Compartment



RESCUE-1

1999 Ford Horton, Currently Running As A Reserve Rescue And Back-up To Medic-1

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE NEW FIRE STATION



Air Supply Trailer Purchased With A National Fire Grant For \$75,000, Has Air Compressor And Cascade System To Fill SCBA Bottles And A 12KW Generator.



BRUSH-1

1977 Dodge Federal/State Surplus Truck Equipped By OM Firefighters With 250 GPM Portable Pump And 180 Gallon Booster Tank



ENGINE 12

1977 International/Farrar With Upgraded Body In 2004 By East Coast Fire & Rescue, 1250 GPM Pump, 1000 Gallon Water Tank, Reel With 3000 ft. 4" Supply Hose



ENGINE 11

1998 International/Farrar, 1250 GPM Pump, 2500 Gallon Water Tank

1934 75th Anniversary 2009



In Memory Of Edmond J. LaVallee

Charter Member 1935-1950 Tenure Ladder Truck Driver

With Love

*Art LaVallee, Lt. Retired R9 State Police
& Loving Wife JoAnn*

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Congratulations.....

To All The Men And Women Of The Oakland-Mapleville Fire Dept. Who Graciously Gave Their Time And Talent, In Good Weather And Bad, At All Times Of The Day And Night, To Answer The Call To Aid A Neighbor In Need, For The Last 75 Years. You Are The Spirit And Voice Of The True Volunteer In The Community And Nation. A Noble Breed Indeed! 75 Years Of Great Friendship And Memories!

Former Chief Michael J. and Veronica S. Cosetta

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

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Thank You For Taking Your Time To Respond To Fires, Accidents, Medical Assists, And False Alarms.

A Very Special Thank You, For Sponsoring The Muster Every Year. An Event That Starts With The Town's Fire Truck Parade, And Neighbors And Families Sharing The Day.

We Are Very Fortunate To Have Such Dedicated Men And Women Serving Our Community.

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Nasonville Fire Department

Chief Augustine Eddy

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401-710-9520(fax)



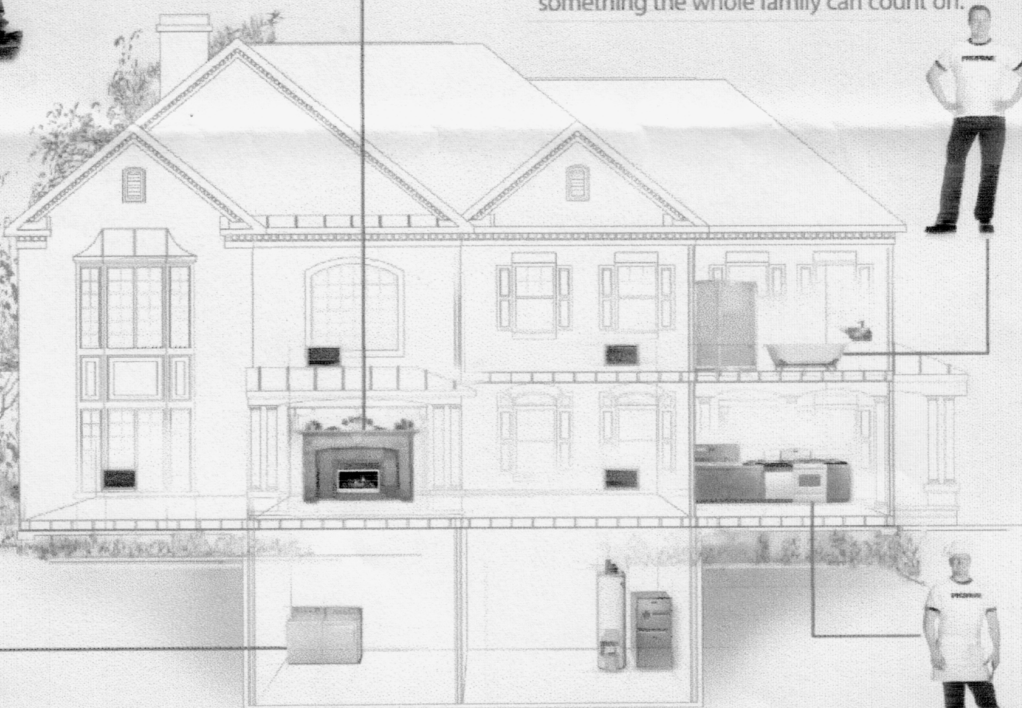
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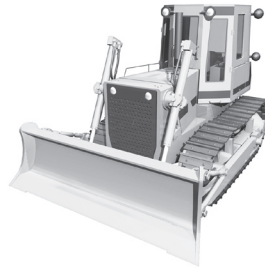
Joel D. Jillson Fire Chief

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Sarah Calapai, Banquest Coordinator/Office Manager

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Congratulations

On 75 Years Of Service
Oakland-Mapleville
Fire Department

Townsmen Club

*Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department
Congratulations on Your 75th Anniversary*

*Norman "Chuck" Mainville
Safety Officer*



*Norman "Chip" Mainville
Rescue Captain*

Harrisville Hose Co. #1

"Loyal To Our Duty"

"To our brothers and sisters - that you always go home safe!"

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

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CONGRATULATES THE OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE FIRE DEPT. ON 75 YEARS
OF DEDICATED AND UNSELFISH SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY & TOWN!**

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Mike Cosetta, Albert Lavigne, Doris Beaulieu**

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**Congratulations, Oakland Mapleville Fire Department
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**Congratulations To The
Oakland-Mapleville
Fire Department
On Their 75th Anniversary
FROM THE**

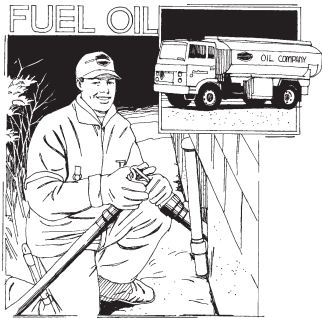
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1934 75th Anniversary 2009

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BE SAFE WITH OMFD

*Congratulations On 75 Years
Of Service To The residents Of The
Oakland-Mapleville Fire District!!*

*"A Volunteer Firefighter is defined by courage,
honor, strength, endurance, brotherhood,
commitment, love of the community, and putting
your family life aside to help others in need."*

The Men and Women (Past, Present and Future)
of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department
live up to this definition each and every time
that they answer the alarm. I am proud to be
a part of this ongoing tradition.

Thank You to all who have given to their community!

Best Wishes

*Joseph, Maureen, Erica, Ashley,
Kathryn and Joey Bertholic*

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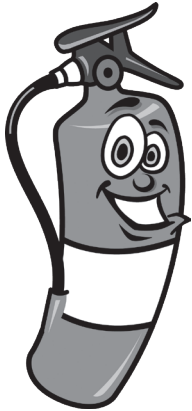
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EDWARD "TED" GARTLAND

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Congrats O.M.F.D
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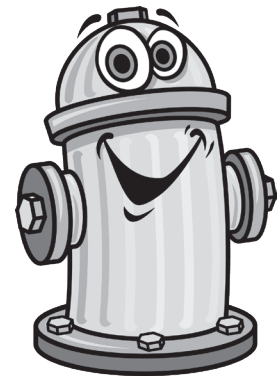


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**Best Wishes
Stay Safe**



*Mike & Brenda Gingell
Jim & Stacy Richard
Chris & Amanda Piccardi*

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*In Loving Memory Of Former
Rescue Captain
Roger D. Walker
Marie, Linda, Paul & Bethany*

Congratulations

***On Your 75 Years Of Service
To The Community!***

***Best of Luck For Many More
Years To Come***

Pascoag Fire Dept. Hose Co. #2



Pascoag Fire Hose Company #1

Congratulates

Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department

On 75 Years Of Loyal And Dedicated

Service To The Community!!!

We Look Forward To Working With

You For Many Years To Come!!

FRIENDS

LAWRENCE BROS. HARDWARE

MRS IRENE NOLDA

MRS. KATHERINE ADAMS

ALIZA & DEVON RICHARD





75TH



ANNIVERSARY



**OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to the entire membership, both past and present, of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department. Without the unselfish devotion of these men and women, the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department would never have become the modern, well-trained and active fire company that it is today. There isn't a member who hasn't seen one of his fellow firemen give of his time, talents and even money to keep the equipment running and the building in repair. It also takes knowledgeable men to pass along the instruction and training that is necessary to have one of the most modern and up-to-date volunteer fire departments in existence today. To these men, the volunteer firemen of the Oakland-Mapleville Fire Department, this book is dedicated.



You'll need more than the right shoe size to fill these boots.

1934 75th Anniversary 2009

A FIREFIGHTERS PRAYER

*When I am called to duty, God
Wherever flames may rage,
Give me strength to save some life
Whatever be its age.
Help me embrace a little child
Before it is too late
Or save an older person from
The horror of that fate.
Enable me to be alert and hear the weakest shout
And quickly and efficiently
To put the fire out.
I want to fill my calling and
To give the best in me,
To guard my every neighbor and
Protect his property.
And if according to my fate
I am to lose my life,
Please bless with your protecting hand
My children and my wife.*



75TH



ANNIVERSARY



**OAKLAND-MAPLEVILLE
FIRE DEPARTMENT**