



THE MUSEUM TRUMPET



Vol. 15. No. 4

The Official Newsletter of the San Jose Fire Museum

October 2024

ANOTHER BIRTHDAY FOR SAM, #105!



We celebrated another wonderful moment. About 60 people attended Sam Seibert's 105th Birthday Party at Old Fire Station One. Everyone felt honored to be with Sam and watch his enjoyment and happiness for this incredible moment.

Sam was entertained by Jim True, Anthony Radzanowski (Raz) and Jeff Webber with some great tunes. There were a few great speeches including a very moving speech from the man himself. We ended the event with cake & ice cream.



SAM, JUST BEFORE HIS 105TH BIRTHDAY ENJOYING THE FINAL ARTWORK OF THE 1955 CHEIM LUMBER COMPANY AND PACIFIC HARDWARE FIRE PAINTING BY ARTIST BILL VUJEVICH.

An exciting moment for the party was notifying everyone that the historic 1954 Cheim Lumber Fire Painting, located just under the rear awning, was just completed a couple of days before. What was exciting about this moment is that Sam was a major donor for this painting with a donation of \$10,000.



A CLOSEUP OF COMPLETED SQUAD 11 IN 1955 CHEIM LUMBER COMPANY AND PACIFIC HARDWARE FIRE PAINTING UNDER AWNING AT OLD FIRE STATION ONE. THE ACTUAL APPARATUS IS COMPLETELY RESTORED AND SITS ON OUR APPARATUS FLOOR CLOSE BY THIS PAINTING.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, FALL 2024

By John A. McMillan



The San Jose Fire Museum (SJFM) is enjoying our 9th year owning Old Fire Station One (OFS1). Time is flying by as we continue to have success with raising donations and using the donations to restore OFS1, preserve the collection, and develop our program to tell the story of firefighting in San Jose & America.

We had a very busy summer with events and projects. As for events, we continue to allow community groups access to OFS1 for meetings. We hosted Sam Seiberts 105th Birthday Party on August 27th. We also hosted a gathering of firefighters who participated in the Silicon Valley Pride Parade on September 25th. We participated in the Santos Car Show in Alviso on August 31st and Cars in the Park on September 14th at History San Jose.

We are now moving forward on our next two (2) projects at OFS1 that we mentioned in our Summer Newsletter:

1. We mentioned we are gearing up for the new bathroom project that will be located in the old boiler room off the kitchen. Well the project is moving along. The construction documents requiring permits are about finished. But a lot of prep work is happening. The boiler room and mop room concrete floors are removed. Garden City Construction has finished the new rough plumbing and waiting for City Inspectors. Also, the original ceiling in the boiler room is gone. When this project is completed we will have four (4) new bathrooms, including two (2) handicap bathrooms. This project will end up costing a little over \$300,000 because of some issues with the original and very old sewer line.
- 2 You may remember we started a programming project back in April to update our thinking on how the Fire Museum will best function when restoration is complete at OFS1. We are finished with the program update and will now move into creating construction documents. Our strategy is to get the construction documents finished and ready for submitting to the City of San Jose. Then get Garden City Construction to develop construction costs based on these documents. Since we will only have a million dollars available, we will use the construction cost estimate in search of other funds whether through grants or private donations. We suspect we will need another two (2) to three (3) million dollars to finish the project. Our thought is to have this project ready for construction so we look to be well prepared to move forward with a successful completion.



THE NEW ROUGH PLUMBING GETTING INSTALLED IN THE OLD BOILER ROOM.



THE SJFM TORPEDO PARTICIPATING IN THE 2024 SAN JOSE PRIDE PARADE. COUNCILMEMBER BIEN DOAN RIDING IN THE BED WITH STAFF MEMBER JONATHAN FLEMING AT THE WHEEL.



THE SJFM DISPLAYED TWO (2) OF OUR VEHICLES AT THE CARS IN THE PARK EVENT AT HISTORY SAN JOSE, 2024. THE APPARATUS INCLUDED THE 1929 REO FIRE CHIEFS CAR, THE LITTLE GIANT AND THE CALLOPE.

FIREFIGHTER DONATIONS UPDATE FOR 2024



We are writing this article to help all active & retired firefighters understand how our San Jose Fire Museum (SJFM) “Institution of Extramen” Donation Program works. Many of you have been donating to us for many years and we thank you. Some of you have just started recently and the information in this article will help you understand how it works.

The Institution of Extramen Program was established over 12 years ago and is very important for the future of the SJFM development at Old Fire Station One (OFS1). All of the donations go towards construction projects at OFS1, ongoing maintenance & repairs, utilities and preservation of our collection.

The word Extraman was a term used back in 1876 when the San Jose Fire Department used volunteers (Extraman) to supplement the new paid firefighter department. We decided to create 8 levels of rank for 8 donation levels. The breakdown of donation levels are as follows:

Extramen - \$150 or greater	Tillerman - \$3,000 or greater
Hydrantman - \$750 or greater	Engineer - \$3,750 or greater
Pipeman - \$1,500 or greater	Forman - \$4,500 or greater
Driver - \$2,250 or greater	Chief Engineer - \$5,250 or greater

Each level achieved will result in a corresponding pin for recognition. The program also includes City Employees who worked for the SJFD, and their family members. Once an individual reaches Chief Engineer status, they move up into the Partnership Level. The Partnership Level will be explained in further detail in the Winter Newsletter.

We hope this info will help all firefighters understand how this program works so you are not surprised when you receive a pin in the mail. We have also included a picture of what your “Institution Of Extramen” pin collection should look like.

TOY DRIVE ON NOVEMBER 9 AT OLD FIRE STATION ONE

The San Jose Fire Museum in partnership with Los Bomberos of Northern California and the Rod and Wheelers Car Club will be having a Toy Drive on November 9, 2024, beginning at 9 a.m. and concluding at 1 p.m.

The toy drop off will be an event where you will enter with your car via the rear parking lot of the museum (Old Fire Station One), drive through the apparatus bay, drop off your new unwrapped toy with the volunteers on the apparatus floor, and exit through the front fire station apparatus door onto Market Street.

The toys will be donated to the Los Bomberos organization and distributed by them during their Christmas gift giving program.



San Jose Fire Museum



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DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF THE SAN JOSE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Important Meeting

Surviving Spouses

Meeting with Lunch on
October 22nd, 12:30pm at
Old Fire Station One.

Home of San Jose Fire Museum
201N. Market Street, San Jose 95110

Please RSVP to Maria Wardall at
Mariabennett3@aol.com

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