

The 1950s

The 1950s saw the fire company come of age. Having survived many of their growing pains, the company expanded their presence in both the community and in the region. They joined both the State and County Fireman's Associations. Their mutual aid calls increased as they began to be called by surrounding fire companies. The "new" Rt. 15 was constructed. They changed the name of the organization in hopes of having a greater appeal to all of Upper Allen Township during fund drives. The company held Halloween and Christmas parties for the community's children each year and treated hundreds of attendees and their parents. Their fund raising efforts expanded, as well. This decade saw an expanded annual festival, the introduction of "coin cards", the beginning of the longstanding ham and oyster suppers, water hauling, shooting matches, and the addition of a kitchen.

Administratively, the company decided to purchase insurance for the building, the apparatus, and offered group life insurance for its members. They began to borrow money from banks rather than members, and held the first fire company banquets. They bought lots adjoining the fire station to create parking and plan for expansion, chartered the fireman's relief association, and unanimously rejected smoking at company meetings! The Korean Conflict was ongoing and the company did their part by manning "spotting stations", participating in civilian defense drills, and honoring members and residents called to serve by writing letters, mounting a plaque in their honor, and adopting a tradition that continues today – waiving dues for active military personnel. Much consternation was created by outside cash solicitations and the company aggressively defended their territory against surrounding fire companies that persisted in soliciting township residents.

Operationally, the fire company bought their first new fire engine – "the Federal" – which has since been bought and restored by current member Stony Miller. They also bought a tank truck – well, the chassis – and fabricated the rest of it themselves. And finally, a rescue truck was purchased to carry spare equipment. The siren was moved from Keefer's store to the fire house, but phone calls to report fires were still received by Danny Keefer. A countywide radio system went into effect making communications significantly easier and more effective. The 1950s also saw the beginning of ambulance service run by the company with the acceptance of a donated ambulance. The first documentation of major fires was seen, both in the minutes and in newspaper clippings. Perhaps the greatest fire in the history of the company occurred when the Aircraft Engine and Parts facility burned in Grantham (see separate entry in the history page for this fire). The first of many major fires at the Holiday Motor Hotel also occurred keeping the company in service there for nearly three days. The Fire Chief of the day proposed such contemporary concepts as dry hydrants, invalid stickers, and rider assignments.

And last, but certainly not least, the 1950s saw the acceptance into membership several fellows who left their mark on the company for years to come – Ray Wadsworth, Dick Thompson, Ray Trimmer, Ken Bushey, Jr., Dick Eberly, Jack Shambaugh, John Brillhart, Jacob Kuhns, Harry Banzhoff, and Glenn Martin.

1950

January 4

\$393.98 in the treasury; no fires; no drills; ladies auxiliary granted permission for use of social room; insurance investigating committee “given full power to contact a reliable company and secure the best possible insurance plan for our members”; moved to join County and State Fireman’s associations; discussion regarding ambulance for sale at the navy depot – tabled; solicited new members for Blue Shield (28 members needed)

January 24

Special meeting – deciding whether a new fire engine should be purchased; moved to buy new engine; present fire truck has to be inspected and the two wheel brakes would not pass inspection; it would cost \$200-\$300 to equip the front wheels with brakes; it needs new lights, clutch is slipping, transmission pretty well shot; fire chief believed that changing the name to Upper Allen Township Fire Company would increase finds solicited – motion carried; John Hess, our township supervisor, was approached as to what we could expect from the township. He said \$350.00 a year for a four-year period; authority was invested in the Executive Committee to procure the needed funds from the Second National Bank and take care of the purchasing of the fire engine.

February 8

\$289.05 in the treasury; Fire Chief reported on the new fire truck. It is a Federal with Boyer Apparatus (body?) – a 500 gal. capacity Hale pump – also a 500 gallon booster (tank). The truck is on order – delivery date by April 1st or before; Mr. S. R. Keefer received the okay from the Second National Bank to obtain the money for the new truck; the Fire Chief has been given authority to have the truck and equipment “underwritten tested” before we receive it; “A motion was made and carried that the boys who use the fire house recreation room do their boxing outside”; committee appointed to advertise for disposal of the old truck

March 8

\$41.80 in the treasury; four calls for the month – brush and chimney fires; the fire school teacher would carry on classes after the new truck is received; donations for new truck - \$636.00 non-members, \$286.00 members; lawyer consulted regarding correct procedure to change the fire company name - ten day notice to each member in writing; special meeting called

March 21

Special meeting – purpose of meeting to vote on changing the name from Grantham Volunteer Fire Co., Inc., to Upper Allen Township Fire Co.; unanimous vote to change name

April 4

\$176.42 in the treasury; three calls for the month; fire school over – all who took the final exam passed; truck donations - \$2,392.18; new truck would be here on or about April 22, 1950; janitor to assume full responsibility of heating the engine room; Homer Kraybill wished to be relieved of either his duties as the Scoutmaster or Treasurer – he was relieved of the Treasurer duties; approved to finish decorating the engine room

May 9

\$5.60 in the treasury; one fire call for the month; Fire Chief and Homer Kraybill went to Indiana to pick up the new fire engine; bids received for old fire truck; \$3,400 in new truck fund; reimbursed the two members expenses for travel to pick up new engine; Fire Chief reported that we need new hose – 1000' 2 ½" hose (600' more needed) and 900' 1 ½" hose; committee appointed to locate and buy used hose; motion made to participate in the dedication of the Dillsburg fire house

June 6

\$370.00 in the treasury; one fire call; old truck sold for \$358.00; new truck fund - \$3,726.50; Recording Secretary resigning

July 5

\$15.38 in the treasury; no fires; one fire drill with oil; 68 present at the banquet and the banquet should be continued another year; the Pennsylvania Fire School will be held at Lewistown August 14 thru 18 – on the night of August 17th is the century review of fire apparatus of 1900 to 1950. The Chief thinks “it would be profitable (?) if the members group together and go that evening, if possible”; festival sub-committees – chicken corn soup, waitress, novelty stand, pie and cake, arrangement, and light arrangement; motion made to borrow from the new truck fund until we build up our regular treasury funds but must be paid back to new truck fund by September 1; planned dedication of the new fire truck August 19; after the meeting, the Fire Chief showed some very interesting movies which all present enjoyed

August 1

No fires during the month; another fire school is being arranged, and also another oil fire drill is being arranged; the Fire Chief gave a brief talk on his visit to the LaFrance Fire Apparatus Co. while on his vacation; eight fire companies were invited to the new truck dedication; a booklet is being arranged which will sell at .25 each; all visiting firemen in uniform will be given a free meal ticket; \$3,950.00 in the new truck fund; Jacob Kuhns accepted as a member (Jake Kuhns was a long-time school teacher; he resided in the farm at the intersection of Grantham and Lisburn Rds. – now the site of Messiah College's President Residence)

September 5

Two small brush fires; fire drill this Thursday at 7:00 at the College; advanced fire school begins next Tuesday evening; festival net profit - \$405.81; cleared \$100.00 in dedication books; moved to pay dues of any member who goes into service until his return from service (this practice is still in effect today) (the United States had become involved in the Korean Conflict in July of this year); also moved to write letters to company members and community members in the service whenever possible; plaque erected in the station for boys in the service; Harry Banzhoff elected as a member (Harry Banzhoff donated the land where the annual Mud Race fundraiser was held and has always been a friend of the fire department; his son, Jeff, served as an active member)

October 3

One fire call; "Fire Chief read from a magazine an article "Let's Have Action on Civil Defense"; 1000 membership cards purchased with the new truck's picture on them; approved \$25.00 for a community Halloween party; motion made to table all activities for the rest of the year; Mr. George Lenhart appointed to fill the Treasurer position vacated by Harry Trout; \$5.00 donation from Mr. Rowe – it was his tractor fire the constituted the one fire call; bank safety deposit box opened; Mr. Ilgenfritz made a statement that anyone knowing of any physically handicapped, please report them or have them report to the physical handicapped agency, or Mr. Ilgenfritz, that they can be given employment of which they are capable of doing; "Daniel showed movies of the atomic bomb and civilian defense"

November 7

No fires; advanced firefighting course completed; insured fire truck for \$88.00; request of Cumberland County Fireman's Association to have fire company host March, 1951 meeting; Cumberland County Fireman's County Fair will be held September 5 – 12; Board of Trustees presented a request by the Union of the Grantham Sewing Factory to meet in the fire house social room (tabled); Mr. Kratz to notify women of this action; it is the wish of the company that the Engineer appoint an assistant engineer; two members donated blood to the blood bank for Mrs. Keefer; Mr. Wadsworth, teacher of advanced firefighting school, gave 14 certificates and an interesting talk to the company

December 5

No fires; temporary permission granted for Sewing Factory Union to hold one meeting; motion made to draw up rules for use of the social room and for the Trustees to manage the policy

One dollar in 1950 is worth \$8.98 in 2008

President: Samuel R. Keefer

Fire Chief: Daniel S. Keefer

1951

January 2

Two fires; article read on air raid signal and discussion on air raid shelters; "Treasurer could not serve due to the impact of the tobacco smoke at meetings on his health"

February 6

\$123.97 in the treasury; \$261.58 in Fireman's Relief; tire chains for the fire truck donated by R.W. Miller; Chief gave report on civilian defense as he received a letter from the state in regards if we were all arranged in our signal and spotting stations (spotting stations were posts established to scan the skies for potential enemy aircraft; if spotted, they were to be reported to authorities); secret vote taken regarding smoking during meeting hour – 100% in favor of no smoking; Engineer installed a bell on the new truck

March 6

\$161.64 in the treasury; no fires; air raid test signal came through “mixed” – company has not received any definite instructions as yet; motion made to have an oyster supper in April, unless the women’s auxiliary has something planned (this is the first mention of oyster suppers; this fundraising activity existed through the 1980s)

March 20

Minutes book includes a newspaper clipping describing a fire at the Wertz residence, R.D. #2, Dillsburg; Mrs. Wertz suffered first degree burns of her hand attempting to extinguish the flames. “The husband was at work in York”. Upper Allen firemen traveled weight miles to the scene. Firemen used water from their new pumper’s booster tank and from a nearby stream to extinguish the flames. \$3,500.00 damage

April 3

\$114.11 in the treasury; two fires (one mentioned above); Chief requested newspaper article to be included in the minutes; company invited to the Cumberland-Carlisle Bicentennial Celebration June 17-23, and to the fireman’s parade on June 22 at 7:00 PM (motion to participate in the parade carried); the company spearheaded the effort to solicit donations for the Wertz family (March 20 fire victims) and requested letters of thanks be sent to radio stations WCMB, Lemoyne, and WHP, Harrisburg, for their assistance in publicizing the requests for donations; janitor salary shown as \$8.50 per month; \$200.00 donation for the new truck from the college; balance on new truck - \$2,100.00

May 1

Four fires; including Mr. Hoffman’s garage, automobile, and tractor, and Harold Mowery’s “tenant house” on Brown’s Hill; Chief requested purchase of brush fire equipment and a canvas to cover the rear of the fire truck; copy of social room rules provided for the Grantham Sewing Factory union; discussion on safe driving of fire truck and personal vehicles going to fires; \$198.16 profit from the supper; company suggested and approved erection of a flag pole on the roof of the fire house and fly a flag donated by Norman Brubaker (time for completion of project – May 30); Mr. Graves suggested exploring State-supplied forest fire equipment and whatever requirements were tied to it; Daniel Keefer talked about a banquet in June and said “to use good horse sense and take the women with us”

June 5

\$201.84 in the treasury; no fires; one courtesy call; State forest fire equipment received – no stated associated obligation; committee appointed to look into constructing a kitchen (20 x 20) on the back of the fire house; posts should be replaced in front of the station - rotting; sign above door painted

July 3

\$159.69 in the treasury; ten members attending the Bicentennial Fireman's Parade; kitchen size to be 16' x 24' – cost of materials = \$375.00, if contracted labor used – total cost \$800.00; if gratis labor used - \$400.00; canvassed community to see if \$400.00 can be raised

August 7

\$158.12 in the treasury; no fires; “truck was run on the road several times”; college granted permission to have fire drills across the run from the fire house; the Chief gave talk on international fire chief organization as to the cost of fire prevention, the advertisement and the distribution (of fire prevention materials?), and the prevention of fire hazards; Carroll Township donated \$35.00 for the truck fund

September 4

\$660.98 in the treasury; no fires; some activity with the truck; “some folks from Mt. Pleasant were without water and ask to have some hauled with the fire truck. Some of the local boys hauled water to supply their cisterns. \$42.00 were received in donations for hauling this water”; Festival Committee gave a report of something over \$500.00 clear after all expenses; Russell Smith sold over 100 tickets – he was complemented for his fine work

October 2

\$302.06 in the treasury; one fire – a tractor trailer; company banquet to be held October 23; the price of the meal - \$1.75; all expenses up to \$25.00 to come out of the company treasury; Pioneer Girls given permission to install a curtain in the social room in order to hold both meetings the same evening; motion to make the truck room more secure by putting a lock between the two rooms on the truck room side; also at the foot of the stairs on the inside of the door; also key to outside door more secure; all referred to Trustees

November 6

\$270.40 in the treasury; no fires; Mr. White suggested sending a donation to Mrs. Heckert whose husband was a fire police of the Enola fire company and was killed directing traffic at a fire; motion to donate \$25.00; hot chocolate and doughnuts served after adjournment

December 11

\$216.01 in the treasury; one fire – Hollinger's Butcher's Shop; Chief said that the other companies that were called to assist with the Hollinger fire were very friendly and courteous in their assistance; election of officers postponed until January due to low meeting attendance – current officers serve until then; much discussion to create interest in the meeting and to have more members attend the meetings; committee appointed to plan a program and serve refreshments following the January meeting – expense not to exceed \$25.00

One dollar in 1951 is equal to \$8.31 in 2008

President: A.J. White

Fire Chief: Daniel Keefer

1952

January 8

\$216.01 in the treasury; no fires; pumped a well for Mr. Swope in Andersontown - \$15.00 donation; a new lock was placed on the truck room door and members can secure a key for same for the amount of 25 cents; request to appoint seven additional fire police for a total of ten; township gave \$250.00 to the truck fund; 31 members and 5 visitors in attendance; the (entertainment) program was two vocal numbers by James Whitcomb and Vance Weber; string music played by Chick and Johnnie, two members of the county chorus, and a speaker, Harold Park of the Cumberland County Cooperative of Carlisle

February 5

\$196.85 in the treasury; no fires; the Fire Chief appointed the following drivers – Robert Bierbower, Stanley Renard, Norman Toward, Homer Kraybill, James Davis, Sr., John Ruth, and Ray Graves; decided to send notices to members advising that their dues were in arrears on March 1st; motion to install turn signals on the fire truck; a representative from the State Forestry Department offered any kind of equipment which is available from State Forestry ; purchased new stationary – 2,000 envelopes and 2,000 letterhead; mail box rented at the post office; 18 members present

March 4

\$193.16 in the treasury; five calls; Chief asked the company to secure an adapter to hook to the hose of other companies with different style threads; a motion was made for the company to sponsor a petition and present it to the State Highway Department to have the banks cut back at the intersection of Rt. 15 and Grantham Rd.; Samuel Keefer spoke about purchasing the adjoining ground of 100' wide by 140' deep on the east side of the fire house belonging to the Benjamin S. Brubaker estate; Chief spoke of getting some members interested in attending the State Fire School this year; oyster and ham supper to be held March 29; 22 members present

April 1

\$122.34 in the treasury; no fires; new adapter purchased; \$140.00 cleared at the ham and oyster supper; Ray Graves had signed petition available to send reference the Rt. 15 and Grantham Rd. intersection; adjoining property belonging to the Brubaker estate can be purchased anyway suitable to the company; motion made to purchase property; purchased a French fryer from Keefer's for \$70.00; 16 members present

May 6

\$69.99 in the treasury; two fires; also pumped out a cellar in Brandtsville; Chief spoke on the use of the 1 ½" line along with the booster line off of the booster tank as being very successful; motion to borrow \$300.00 and buy the Brewbaker property with the understanding it has a clear deed; janitor position vacant; Raymond Wadsworth accepted a member (Raymond Wadsworth – "Wadsy" - lived directly next to the fire station and remained active in the fire department into the 1980s; he had a career in the Naval fire service and brought with him advanced fire service knowledge; he ascended to the rank of Assistant Fire Chief; he and his wife, Ann, were mainstays in Upper Allen EMS for many years; the two of them were the primary non-emergency, EMS transport crew); \$300.00 of relief fund (\$412.29 total) put on interest; 14 members present

June 3

\$49.95 in the treasury; no fires; Mr. Wadsworth retained as janitor; \$732.50 received from solicitation for truck; 18 members present

July 1

No fires; no charge for hauling water; \$819.50 total received from truck solicitation; festival to be held August 16; company to pay \$5.00 enrollment fee for anyone “willing” to attend State Fire School; treasurer S.S. Keefer has resigned due to sickness; Harry Beitzel to fill vacancy; 16 members present

August 5

\$43.85 in the treasury; five fires; one fire drill; one load of water hauled; one large water supply tank washed out; \$962.50 on truck find solicitation; Brubaker brothers securing deed to property – settlement to occur once that has happened; motion to drop all members who have been duly notified but have not paid dues; motion withdrawn after one member offered to personally contact those n arrears before next meeting; motion to raise janitor’s pay to \$10.00 a month – carried; Mr. Wadsworth to receive back pay

September 2

\$894.37 in the treasury; one fire call in Lisburn; \$839.94 cleared at the festival; \$1173.00 total for truck solicitation; legal papers for Brubaker property are at lawyer’s office; motion to create Upper Allen Township relief Association; three person committee appointed as the relief association; any member attending Lewistown Fire School (State Fire School) shall be reimbursed of dues paid; “Mr. Wadsworth spoke on the fire that the company answered the call to at Lisburn s doing the proper thing as not applying water due to the high voltage wires connected to the tree. He also made mention that it is the wrong thing for cars to follow too close to the truck in going to or from a fire”; 19 members present

October 7

\$859.08 in the treasury; no fires; Chief stated the State and Federal government are setting up more civilian defense and a representative would like to come here and set up a demonstration to all the company members; request by the Republican Club of Dillsburg to hold a food sale at the fire house denied because the general rule of the company is not to have a money raising activity outside of this community to use the fire house; \$100.00 donation from Messiah College (first reference to “Messiah College”); Halloween party for the children of the community to be held October 31; because no fire had been made, the fire house was cold and damp and unfit to host this (fire company) meeting; the meeting was held at Danny Keefer’s place; 14 members present

November 7

\$864.00 in the treasury; two fires; numerous loads of water hauled; deeds to the Brubaker lots are ready for delivery; total truck solicitation - \$1,208.00; the Chief requested two substitute numbers to be placed in the phone book another year; December 9 was set for the next meeting due to hunting season; 16 members present

December 9

\$496.94 in the treasury; no fires; Relief Association constitution read and approved; also approved to have fire company officers serve as relief association officers, and to have the Relief Association Committee apply for a charter; deed for Brubaker lots in hand; Mr. J.E. Brechbeil would like the money he has invested in the mortgage against the Grantham Fire House by December 26, 1952; motion made to arrange to place the building mortgage in the hands of a bank that will accept it from J.E. Brechbeil; motion to purchase an addressograph machine (an addressograph machine automatically prints addresses on letters, etc., from prepared stencils – like older model credit card machines); proposal to do “a little Christmas deed for Mrs. Cora Gallagher” – company agreed to pay one month’s rent and buy one ton of coal for Mrs. Gallagher – several members offered to make cash donations to this cause – moved to use \$25.00 of fire company money supplemented by personal donations; 12 members present

“Resolution – Resolved that President A.J. White and Secretary W. Leroy Stoner of the Upper Allen Township Fire Company be and are hereby authorized to execute a mortgage and bond to the Second National Bank of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, in the sum of thirty-two hundred (\$3,200.00) dollars upon the land whereon the fire house is erected, for the purpose of paying off the mortgage held by J.E. Brechbeil on the same property”

One dollar in 1952 is worth \$7.97 in 2008

President: John Neff

Fire Chief:

Daniel Keefer

1953

January 6

\$429.52 in the treasury; no fires; drivers for the year – Homer Kraybill; John Ruth; Junior Davis; Joseph Renard; James Davis; Raymond Wadsworth; Bernard Rife, and William Mann; Chief is creating a log to record mileage on new truck; Mrs. Gallagher received a total of \$50.00 for a Christmas donation; motion to investigate the cost of installing the siren on the fire house to be controlled at the store (Keefer's store) and other substitute call numbers; \$25.00 allocated for entertainment and refreshments for the Cumberland County Fireman's association meeting at our fire house February 12; 16 members present

February 3

\$426.74 in the treasury; one fire; discussion regarding the great expense to buy all of the civilian defense items necessary to receive half the cost from the government; 26 members and one guest present

March 3

\$419.65 in the treasury; two fires; clutch went out on the fire truck – repaired by the Engineer and another member; Fire Chief thought anyone 16 years of age or older who had any training and was capable of fighting fires should be allowed to go into active service at a fire, but this should be up to the one in charge at a fire to decide; Fire Chief to rewrite pertinent section of bylaws to provide for 16 year olds participation; ham and oyster supper to be held during the latter part of March; mention of civilian defense courses and civilian defense officers being organized; fire police caps and badges to be purchased by the company; donations to be collected for monthly meeting refreshments to be supplemented by the company; 23 members and two new members present

April 7

\$349.14 in the treasury; one fire at the Bowmansdale dump; it was suggested that when addressing the President, he should be referred to by his title, not his name; Fireman's Relief charter signed; ham and oyster supper cleared \$173.95; new constitution and bylaws adopted to include 16 year olds in active service; motion to build a kitchen on the rear of the station – withdrawn in favor of an exploratory committee to look into plans, costs, and ladies auxiliary input; leniency granted those in arrears of dues – new bylaws state those 90 days past due be dropped – extended to next meeting for just this year; proposed social membership roundly rejected by the company; 20

members present; first meeting of the Relief Association held immediately following the regular company meeting

May 5

\$325.30 in the treasury; three fires – including Hollinger's Meat Market and Silver Springs Auction; invitation to attend the Lebanon County Convention received, but refused; "Chief said he wishes to thank the students from the college who helped with the fire at Silver Springs Auction house as he was very short of help from our own company"; suggestion to some alternative to movies as entertainment at monthly meetings deferred; flowers sent in memory of members to be paid out of general fund; Kitchen Committee proposed 16' x 30' kitchen with an 8' x 8' boiler room in the one corner at a cost of approximately \$650.00 – motion carried; 18 members present

June 2

\$293.28 in the treasury; no fires; the fire truck was used to pump out the water from Sidle's Warehouse cellar and to pull the school bus out of the water at Trout Run; due to the dangerous way the siren is on the store (Keefer's store) roof, a motion was made to change it to the fire house roof and place the control at the outside of the fire house in a closed box with a glass on it which can be broken, if necessary, so no one can give a false alarm; change the control to the store when permission is granted by the electric company to use their poles; fire police will need a second, separate badge top properly function as special police; township to be lobbied for funds for badges; kitchen addition progressing – more volunteers needed; annual festival to be held August 22nd; suggest that an attempt be made to book the VFW Singer Band for this date; funding for kitchen coming from donations at this time – any loans to be discussed at next meeting; "no member who has not paid their dues should ride on the truck – insurance issue; 20 members present

July 7

\$51.46 in the treasury; one fire; any reference to members in the minutes should include first and last names; PP + L gave permission to use poles for the siren if cross arms were installed to carry the wires for operating the siren; the Singer Band was booked for the annual festival; \$400.00 borrowed from the second National bank to pay for the kitchen; suggestion made to install a suction pipe to the creek where it is hard to hook up suction hose to the truck, such as Bowmansdale bridge and other places; committee appointed to consult adjoining municipalities on installation and usage ideas; permission granted to move the siren and control as suggested at the June meeting, to include the PP + L requirement; 21 members present

August 4

\$388.78 in the treasury; no fires; nine runs with the truck; pipe into the creek would cost approximately \$40.00; tower being built to support siren – siren will be moved when tower is completed; motion made to give \$25.00 toward the new Mechanicsburg Ambulance and solicits donations at the festival; committee appointed to landscape the fire house grounds; Chief spoke about portable pumps – they will look into the prices and a demonstration; accepted invitation to participate in the Cumberland County Fireman's Association Parade in Dillsburg on September 12th; bill for new kitchen equipment - \$309.20

September 1

\$1330.19 in the treasury; no fires; net profit from the festival - \$1206.17; discussion regarding a 3-way (?) radio system – demonstration at Washington Fire Co. September 21 – company to go along with 3-way (?) radio system if installed; state-wide air raid test on October 6th; chiefs will investigate what stand-by support is available if the truck goes to Mechanicsburg for the air raid test; October company meeting moved to October 5th so as not to conflict with the air raid test; Richard Thompson accepted as a new member (Dick Thompson lived directly across from the fire house and was a contributing member for many years his wife, Alice, was an active ambulance crewperson; two of his sons, Jay and Tim, also were future contributors to the company; the Thompson family contributed for more than 30 years); Glenn Martin will automatically become a member when he turns 16 years of age as thanks for his assistance in building the new kitchen; kitchen loan paid off; a nice attendance was present at this meeting

October 5

Chief spoke of the train wreck and fire at Grantham; he said a word of thanks should be given to the women and friends serving coffee and refreshments at the wreck; letter of appreciation to be sent to the commander of the Naval Supply Depot for their cooperation; company will participate in air raid test drill in Mechanicsburg on Tuesday, September 6; all men are to report to the Chief and not to leave until dismissed by him; a man from our company is to be placed at the Washington Fire Company to stand by with their rural truck as they have consented to answer our calls at that time, if any; siren to be placed on the fire house very soon as the tower has been erected; President commented that anyone leaving a fire should return any equipment belonging to the company which he may be using, as another fireman may be working without equipment at the next fire (refers to the fact that turnout gear was

shared, not personally assigned; this practice continued well into the 1970s); motion to buy 30 badges for members for identification purposes – a \$2.00 deposit is required for each badge; moved to purchase one set of 2 ½” couplings and two portable lights for \$75.00 each; cost for lumber for new kitchen split with the auxiliary – auxiliary to pay for lumber used to build cupboards; shooting match to be held before Thanksgiving; company to sponsor and host a Halloween party for the community’s children

November 2

\$619.62 in the treasury; truck is paid off; four calls, including a fire at the Martin Myers farm house – formerly the H.B. McCormick farm, and a call to a wreck on Gettysburg Pike at Rosegarden Hill; four portable lights have been purchased; Chief reports he received word on the 2-way radio (no further information); shooting match to be held November 24th; committee appointed to research the possible purchase of an auxiliary truck; 80 or 90 children attended the Halloween party; S.S. Keefer resigned as Trustee; next meeting to be postponed one week (until December 8) so as not to conflict with deer season; Earl Williams showed personal films of hunting and fishing trips

November 23

** Special meeting called to nominate officers**

December 8

\$621.30 in the treasury; one call; committee appointed to investigate how to properly heat the room used by the Boy Scouts for their weekly meeting; the shooting match netted \$90.00; next shooting match scheduled for December 15th; truck fund closed – money transferred to general fund; Christmas party to be held for community children

One dollar in 1953 is worth \$7.94 in 2008

President: John Neff

Chief: Daniel Keefer

1954

January 5

\$556.43 in the treasury; two calls; heating experts offered their opinions on the heating problem in the building, suggesting hot water or steam heat, with an estimated cost of \$1,300-\$1,400; moved to install a suburban closed-type heating system; any auxiliary truck would cost about \$2,400-\$2,500 – action tabled; building to be insured for \$5,000, contents for \$1,000; \$10.00 rental fee

received for use of the kitchen for a cooking demonstration; the Christmas party was cancelled due to a lack of heat – Santa was driven around the community and handed out oranges and ten-cent candy bars

February 2

One call – a two-hour chimney fire at the Miller residence; drivers for the upcoming year – James Davis; Jack Roth; Raymond Wadsworth; Homer Kraybill; George Lenhart; William Mann; Doug O’Handley; Wes Runkle; and Albert Wolfe, Jr.; the Chief requests a book to record fires and members present at fires; upcoming fundraisers – turkey supper February 27, ham and oyster supper March 27, a strawberry festival at a later date, chicken corn soup supper August 14, and shooting matches October 26, November 18, and December 14; members suggested getting several patches and plant corn and have the farmers cultivate them; this would provide the corn for the chicken corn soup supper; heating system installed – cost not exceed \$1,100.00; representatives of Grantham water Company present to explain why fire company is being billed for their water; also explained usage of hydrant on the college campus

March 2

\$650.78 in the treasury; three fires – one being Hollinger’s Market in Bowmansdale caused by an overheated furnace; volunteers needed to put the cross arms on the new siren tower; Ray Trimmer accepted as a new member (Ray Trimmer went on to become a life member of the fire department and served as a Township Commissioner for many years; he always supported the fire department in that capacity; his wife, Sylvia, was always willing to cook following major incidents; his son Scott, and daughter Renee, also served the fire department and ambulance in various capacities, and his grandson Ray is a new member of the fire department in 2008); turkey supper netted \$309.07; moved to purchase a deep-fryer and pots and pans; two people have volunteered to turn over ground to plant sweet corn to be used for the chicken corn soup supper; motion to buy the ground on the west side of the fire station from Matthew Brubaker for \$400.00 (lot size 120’ x 400’); Financial secretary Lloyd Heffelfinger hospitalized

April 6

\$661.84 in the treasury; three fires – one chimney fire that was extinguished using a chimney fuse; live fire drills to take place in the field by the dam in the rear of the fire house; \$245.22 net profit from the ham and oyster supper; editor’s note - new auxiliary truck now being referred to as a rescue truck; State and National civil defense drill to be held June 14; Raymond

Wadsworth gave a ten-minute demonstration on the use of smoke masks; approved purchase of 150' of 2 ½" hose to replace others that was bad

May 4

\$371.23 in the treasury; one fire; motion carried to purchase a portable pump; the Citizens Fire Company #1 of Lemoyne asked if the company could participate in the dedication of a new addition to their fire house; ten men would accompany the fire truck for a parade; no foot paraders; Boy Scout Troup # 190 of Grantham planted shrubbery in front of the fire house

June 1

\$328.25 in the treasury; major fire on May 13 at 7:00 PM at the Franklintown Basket Company; ten fire companies were in service and we used the booster pump, all the hose, and portable pump; all equipment of the Upper Allen Township Fire Company was in use; damage was estimated to the building of \$150,000 and \$50,000 to contents – total damage \$200,000; a shortage of water hampered the firefighting on this building; 22 members were present; on May 17 at 7:30 PM, a call to Miller's Orchard for a pile of logs on fire at the edge of the woods – fire company stood by, but could not extinguish the fire due to a lack of water; Darley portable pump purchased for \$395.00; Aircraft Engine and Parts Corporation donated \$100.00 towards the purchase of the pump; the fire company will have a lunch stand during a conference at the college; there will be a drawing for gifts at the chicken corn soup supper

July 6

Three calls; July 4 at 9:15 – a disastrous fire and explosion at Grantham – a trailer owned by Junior Davis (listed as a driver for the fire company in previous years) exploded just beside the home of his father James Davis (also an active member of the fire company); six members of the family received serious burns; the cause is being investigated; 150' of the hose has been received

August 3

\$162.04 in the treasury; two fires; deed for new lots is ready; payment suggested so the fire company can get the deeds; committee to investigate water-proofing the front of the fire house as well as putting down a 10' x 40' area of macadam; will pay \$100.00 per quarter on the lots beginning in September; the Baby Beef Club will be renting the fire house; motion to buy a tank truck for an amount not to exceed \$3,000; the company will participate in the Cumberland County Fireman's Parade in Mechanicsburg on September 11

August 17

** Special meeting – for the purpose of purchasing a tank truck. Truck Committee reports a 1948 KB7 International chassis for \$450.00; mid-ship pump, 250 gpm, two intakes and two outlets, pressure gauge and vacuum gauge – cost \$530.00; round tank option, no baffles - \$118.00; square tank option, with baffles - \$250.00; committee authorized to purchase any and all necessary equipment; motions made to reinforce the fire house floor and enlarge doors, as necessary

September 7

\$1626.89 in the treasury; no fires; lights and siren installed on new truck – pump is to be here in a week or ten days; civil defense drill and air raid drill on September 23; social area on first floor being converted to apparatus bay for new truck; borrowed \$3,000.00 from the bank at Mechanicsburg to be used on the new truck and repairs needed to the building to house the truck; \$512.00 to W.S. Darley for hose, connections, and pump

October 5

\$118.66 in the treasury; “no fires that the siren had to be blown off”; two sections of hose busted at the civil defense drill September 23; “on October 4 we had an air raid drill. It caught all by surprise. This drill proved successful. It has been suggested that members who wish to be notified of air raid drills give their phone numbers to D. Keefer. Chief requests that we purchase some new hose to replace the hose that busted at the civil defense drill. Chief stated after the completion of new truck he would like to have three fire drills. One in Grantham, Bowmansdale, and Shepherdstown”; committee to clean up fire house to house new truck, remove furniture from Scout room, and to inspect all furniture before it can be put in fire house; shooting matches October 26, November 18, and December 14; persons appointed to the following positions for the shooting match: signers, judges, block setters, shell handlers, refreshments, and police; the pump came for the new truck and Jim Davis, the engineer installed the pump on the truck; the tank is being built at Potts Manufacturing Co. (Potts Manufacturing Co. was located in Mechanicsburg on the northwest corner of Allendale Rd. and Simpson St., current site of the Giant Food and Wine and Spirits Store; they also were major producer of fire poles at one time); the door is on order for the fire house; moved to have stove gas tank installed underground by Suburban Gas Co.; discussion regarding entering the telephone number in the Yellow Pages; authorized to get a permanent “call” (?) for the fire house; discussed getting an extension put in one of the members’ homes in case the Chief wants to go away; the company will pay for this and the number in the classified ads of the telephone directory; 50 tags for the front

of members' automobiles - \$1.00 each – this will help you get the right of way going to a fire

November 9

\$2659.72 in the treasury; no fires; the new truck is coming along in fine shape; the truck should be home after the first of next week; there will be plenty of help needed to work on the truck and building after the truck arrives; \$103.87 profit from shooting match; phone extension to another member's home too expensive, so a phone will be put in the fire house and volunteers will take duty on Sundays; Muscular Dystrophy to be dropped from soliciting this year due to solicitation for new truck; \$561.54 from ticket sales (raffle?); request for 30 pints of blood for the blood bank

December 7

\$2142.03 in the treasury; no fires; for the year – 21 fire calls, 1 false alarm, 3 civil defense drills, and 100 loads of water hauled; there were six fire drills; budget for 1955 - \$4101.85; a wooden rack had to be installed on the new truck to carry the portable pump and the light plant; \$300.00 has been allocated for six pairs of boots, six hats, six raincoats, and two new nozzles; the telephone has been ordered and should be installed in the near future

One dollar in 1954 is worth in \$7.85 in 2008

President – Charles Morgan

Fire Chief – Daniel Keefer

1955

January 4

\$1690.61 in treasury; three fire calls; a car fire in Bowmansdale, December 26 to assist at a fire in “Colertown” since “Colertown” is without fire hydrants (“Colertown” is believed to be Kohlertown – the cluster of houses in the 900 blk. of S. York St., near Diehl Rd.), a fire at the Bowmansdale dump started by a locomotive, also called to standby for Mechanicsburg on December 30 while they were at a bad fire; Asst. Chief Raymond Wadsworth gave a complete explanation of the operation of the pump on the new fire truck; sealed and insulated the ceiling in the former scout room for \$105.00; shooting match profit - \$50.00; four hundred children in Upper Allen Township received candy and oranges from the fire company; drivers for 1955 – Raymond Wadsworth, Jack Roth, Douglas O’Hanley, Arthur Musser, Nelson Wingert, James Davis, Sr., James Davis, Jr., Lester Martin, Homer Kraybill, Clarence Sholley, and William Mann

February 2

\$1690.61 in the treasury; upcoming Ways and Means events – February 26, turkey Supper, March 26 – ham supper, a strawberry festival when strawberries are in season, August 13 – annual chicken corn supper, October 22 – oyster supper, October 27 – shooting match, and November 15 – shooting match; fire police sponsoring shooting matches on February 8, 15, and 22 and using proceeds to purchase uniforms; civil defense cards will be needed to cross any civil defense line either during defense or actual fire fighting

February 23

** Special meeting – the Fire Chief discussed a new siren available through civil defense with matching funds from the U.S. Government; our cost not to exceed \$350.00; it would be a ten horsepower siren with up to date sound efficiency (no further information given)

March 1

\$1237.38 in the treasury; three fire calls – February 9, a building occupied by “Hypmensteel” (pos. Hippensteel?) in York County was burned out; February 13 – civil defense (probably County communications) called for assistance at the Herbert Hoover School (Linglestown Rd., Susquehanna Township) for the service of our tank truck – the truck was in service on the scene from 9:30 PM until 2:00 AM – the portable light unit was also in service at the fire; February 17, a house at Williams Grove – both apparatus were in service at this fire – it was extinguished in $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour; \$136.00 bill for turkeys for the turkey supper; profit for the turkey supper - \$149.84; fire victim – Mr. Hippensteel (?) requested information as to the availability of a small building for living quarters since his was destroyed by fire; cost of new siren to be \$900.00 – 50% to be reimbursed

April 5

\$1245.28 in the treasury; four fires – a school bus at Shepherdstown, chimney fire at Spidel’s on March 24, mountain fire near Pinetown April 4; “due to lack of proper information, the trucks did not arrive at the scene of a grass fire at Stony Run school house on April 3; ham supper net profit - \$180.91; “the family style in serving was a welcome success”; motion made to participate in the Lemoyne Convention Parade

May 3

\$925.48 in the treasury; no fires; Lemoyne parade on May 21; (unknown why there is no more information for this month...)

June 7

\$844.38 in the treasury; one fire – a mountain fire in Mt. Holly Springs – this fire was the first time the radios were used; June 14 drill when firemen will receive instruction on the 2-way radios; Brubaker lots paid off; strawberry festival to be held Saturday – men will be needed to wait on tables; company Trustees to purchase paint at the company's expense to paint the upstairs of the fire house; moved to pave the front apron in front of the fire house at a cost not to exceed \$175.00; Sunday Roster Committee presented the roster schedule; "this arrangement relieves responsibility for Danny Keefer, and requires five hours of duty for each current fire company member for the next twelve months"; Trustees are to purchase the necessary material for the mounting of letters on the front of the building

July 5

\$452.15 in the treasury; one fire; at the June 14 civil defense drill, difficulty was experienced in hooking up due to lack of double male and double female couplings at the civil defense drill – this has been corrected by acquiring such couplings; paint acquired for both the inside and outside of the fire house; approved to have apron properly paved for \$228.00 as quoted by Hempt Brothers – a cold mix method will not prove satisfactory for paving the apron; Kenneth Bushey, Jr accepted for membership ("Kenny" Bushey remained active in the fire department until the late 1970s, continuing to respond out of the Grantham station the entire time while driving E223 – 1963 Chevy Darley; he was affiliated with Bushey's Meat Market in Bowmasndale, the current site of PM Maintenance); materials have been secured for mounting letters on the front of the firehouse; "an ambulance will be presented to the fire company by businessmen of Upper Allen Township if the fire company will maintain and man the ambulance for community service. A supported motion carried that the fire company accept an ambulance, maintain it, and provide personnel to render ambulance service to our area, provided we use fire company funds for this purpose"; the Kiwanis Club will be contacted for support of the new ambulance service; permission granted to purchase an additional burner to cook chicken corn soup outside at the annual supper in August

August 2

\$362.47 in the treasury; one fire – July 28 at Don Sidle's Feed Mill (now the Messiah College property at the intersection of Lisburn Rd. and Bumblebee Hollow Rd.; later to be Sidle's Hardware) ; July 18 – a drill at the Holiday Motel (formerly located on the northeast corner of Rt. 15 and Winding Hill Rd., now the location of an office and educational complex; the property had numerous, tiered wings of hotel rooms that extended out from the main

building along Winding Hill Rd. and overlooking the Turnpike); authorized to replace the cess pool with a septic tank; \$444.00 received by solicitation support for the ambulance has been pledged by local businessmen and the Kiwanis Club; a first aid class will be started in September

September 6

\$1923.10 in the treasury; three fires; the generator on the Federal truck was checked with the result that it does not provide enough amperage output; Assistant Fire Chief resigned (unknown which one); first aid class starts September 13; painting project complete; men needed to dig the hole for the septic tank on September 12; a 750 gallon septic tank will cost \$100.00; profit from annual festival - \$1549.64; members chastised for not selling all of the festival tickets costing the company \$200.00; Trustees authorized to repair the kitchen roof (new built-up roof needed)

October 3

\$1294.60 in the treasury; two fires – one fire the dump in Bowmansdale; the ambulance answered a call to Shepherdstown (the first on record); the ambulance also stood by at the Silver Spring races; a county-wide drill is scheduled for October 16; discussion over a suggestion of a “publicity man”; meeting between company officers and township Supervisors to “present our current fire protection facilities” with the hopes of increasing the Township’s annual contribution

November 7

\$926.11 in the treasury; four calls - October 13 – the portable light plant and resuscitator were in service in an attempt to revive a soldier who drowned; October 19 – Williams Grove house fire; October 31 – Jacob Stoner’s for a chimney fire and Rosegarden for a truck fire; the Citizen’s Fire Company of Dillsburg suggested the installation of radio units to call between stations; septic tank installed; oyster supper profit - \$72.95; shooting match profit - \$2.88; authorized to investigate joint radio system with Dillsburg “due to county line barriers”; cost not to exceed \$60.00; two small portable lights to be purchased ; Halloween party attendance – 80 children in costume, 40 without; authorized the purchase of three coats and helmets for the Chiefs

December 2

\$772.80 in the treasury; “the fire at the Holiday Motor Hotel set a new record of fire company service – 68 hours of continuous duty”; the fire company responded to a request by civil defense to assist in the search for an airplane supposedly down in the mountainous area of Mt. Holly Springs and

Dillsburg; company purchasing a foam nozzle, five gallons of liquid foam, and one 1 ½" nozzle for \$118.75; the company purchased two Santa Claus suits for \$14.00; the suggestion of a fireman's banquet was supported; the banquet to be held annually not later than the end of February; "the official or officials in charge of equipment are requested to make someone responsible for the smoke masks"

One dollar in 1955 is worth \$7.91 in 2008

President – Charles Morgan

Fire Chief – Daniel Keefer

1956

January 3

\$1045.42 in the treasury; Fire Chief reported two fires for which he did not blow the siren – one on the hill in Bowmansdale and one in Brandtsville; fireman's banquet will be February 6, \$2.00 a plate, at the firehouse; Secretary resigned; between 350 and 400 candy bars and oranges distributed as Christmas treats

February 7

\$452.95 in the treasury; two fires – both chimney fires – on one, several men stayed to help set up the stove again; the hot water heater has been changed over to the furnace; the Mt. Rose Sunday School class of the Andersontown Church of God granted permission to use the firehouse for a festival; the Chief will meet with first aid personnel to set up bylaws for a first aid organization; proposal to change the term of the fire police captain from one to five years; budget presented; running debt – mortgage - \$1697.00, tank truck - \$2500.00, heating system - \$575.00; the Fire Chief and President have been invited to a banquet at the Washington Fire Company of Mechanicsburg

March 6

\$804.79 in the treasury; two grass fires; each driver is to drive the trucks once a month; gross receipts at the turkey dinner - \$520.22; constitution and bylaws for the Upper Allen Fire Company First Aid and Ambulance Service approved; "one of the lots we bought from the Brubaker estate does not belong to us"; a land swap was offered; turned over to the Board of Directors for further investigation and action; civil defense will pay for half of the cost of new coats and helmets; proposal to buy fire police uniforms; committee

organized to meet with fire police to discuss further; parade at Penbrook on June 9th to dedicate the fire hall

April 3

\$463.64 in the treasury; two fires; could not use the radios at a drill with Lewisberry because the York County trucks don't have radios; there will be a civil defense rally April 4, 1956 at Cumberland Valley Joint High School in New Kingston – we will be taking the Federal truck; the new instructions for drivers and radio operators have been placed on the bulletin board; fund raisers for the year – April 7 – ham supper, August 18 – chicken corn soup supper, October 20 – oyster supper, October 26 – shooting match with drawing, November 15 – shooting match; profit from turkey supper - \$237.47; \$100.00 donation received from the college; Sunday standby committee appointed; “a standing vote was taken to determine the type of music which was preferred at this year's annual chicken corn soup supper and the result was a hillbilly band”

May 1

\$513.21 in the treasury; on the way to the Cumberland Valley civil defense rally (April 4), the truck was called to put water on the Silver Springs Auction; “the most fire was at the Aircraft Engine and Parts Corp.. There was about \$30,000 damage estimated and one person burned in the fire. The injured man was taken to Harrisburg Hospital and released with first-degree burns. There were about 15 different companies called by Fire Chief Daniel Keefer. Lower Allen rendered the best cooperation but all the companies rendered excellent service. The truck arrived back at the firehouse about 11:00 on Monday evening, April 30 – then on May 1 it broke out again. A stranger from Baltimore complimented the fire company and members on the swift action on the building. He gave Jim White a donation of \$7.00 for the fire company”; proposed purchases – 350' of hose, two 5 gallon cans of foam, one wye (two if the other is not returned), one gas mask from government surplus, overhaul the International truck; gasoline bill (400-500 gallons) used at the fire, and one new pike pole handle or repair the old one; suggested to buy Dacron hose which costs 40 cents per foot more; S.S. Keefer offered to purchase the extra 40 cents per foot for Dacron hose to the extent of 200 ' (\$80.00) and pay \$20.00 towards the gasoline bill; moved to borrow \$1000.00 to buy this equipment; a motion was made to add to the cards that the siren will be blown for the meeting for the next three months, then the use of the cards will be discontinued and the siren will be used

June 5

\$419.81 in the treasury; no calls; fire drills to be held every other Monday night; parade at Penbrook, Saturday, June 9th, 1956; the truck will leave the firehouse at 12:30; received an invitation from the State Fireman's Association to the convention in October 4, 5, and 6, 1956; we will not go to the parade because of the distance

July 3

\$99.03 in the treasury; no fires; land surveyed; plans and blueprints are being made for the fire company's records; all land owned by the fire company will be on one deed; roof over the kitchen has been taken care of; \$200.00 bill from Donson's Garage for overhaul of the International truck; company looking into the possibility of getting some folding chairs, dishwasher, and a typewriter for the Secretary; "a motion has been made that we purchase new couplings that we do not buy the lightweight couplings. The motion was defeated to leave it up to the Chief to decide"

August 7

\$481.13 in the treasury; there was a fire on the night of the last meeting at Bentzel's Orchard, although the fire was out when we got there; we received our walkie-talkie in time to use at our drill at Shepherdstown; we got extra copies of *Fire Engineering* which has (an) article about our fire in it; copies may be purchased for 40 cents; cash donations are down this year - \$315.25 has been received; letters will be sent out to the community; Richard Renard has offered two ????????; \$19.06 paid to "Yellow Breeches Press" for tickets; we are staying within our budget; company to send a representative to a meeting to prepare for a Kiwanis Club sponsored event "Farm City"; discussion regarding buying insurance for the rides at the festival - deferred to Trustees

September 4

\$1487.91 in the treasury; one call; attendance at fire calls has been good; attendance at drills has been poor; profit from chicken corn soup supper - \$1627.10; instead of marching for muscular dystrophy, the company will send a \$15.00 donation; idea of a two way radio system between the company and Dillsburg has been tabled; bill to Earl Brooks - \$827.70; suggested that the executive committee should prepare a revision of the bylaws as the effect of active and inactive membership and bring it to the company at some future meeting; questionnaire to be sent to each member to find out what they could do to improve attendance

October 2

\$285.79 in the treasury; one false alarm since last meeting; one drill at the Bowmansdale dump; there is a committee of eight men to work up the fire drills; in conjunction with fire prevention week, we will participate in a joint drill with Dillsburg at Northern Joint High School on October 13, 1956; the 1 ½” hose on the Federal truck is very bad – approval to replace it will be sought later in the meeting; shooting match October 15, 1956 and November 15, 1956; there will be an oyster supper November 17, 1956 if the women think it is not too close to Thanksgiving

October 22

** Special meeting – discussion on telephone answering service; it will be a “mechanical machine” hooked to the telephone at the store; when the Fire Chief wants to go away, he will make a recording of the number to call for fire or ambulance service; after some discussion, a motion was made and carried that we purchase this service

November 6

\$245.74 in the treasury; one call (?) – a tree fire near McCormick’s woods; “at a fire drill with Dillsburg, the short line was broken because water was put to the truck before the valve was open”; there was a fire call to Aircraft Engine and Parts – the call was to stand by because the degreaser was acting up – the degreaser was to be fire proof – we gave them a few fire extinguishers; oyster supper called off – it is “unhandy”; the ladies auxiliary gave a donation of \$216.00; \$11.25 in donations collected for the Halloween party; only \$2.00 was spent on films; the remaining \$9.25 was turned over to the fire company for use at the Christmas party; next meeting date changed from December 3 to December 11 because of deer season; Trustees to take action on the draining of the water at the foot of our drive; a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Stettler

December 11

\$543.13 in the treasury; one fire – a car fire in York County; Township Supervisors consulted on the driveway drainage issue; the following were decided on as raffle drawing prizes – 1st – portable television; 2nd – spinning type rod and reel; 3rd – Dormyer electric fryer; 4th – portable ice box; 5th – camera; gift to be given to the three fire companies that participated in the Aircraft fire – gift to be four color pictures of the fire hung in one frame with a note of appreciation; “let us all turn out the day before Christmas to hand out the treats to the kids”

One dollar in 1956 is worth in \$7.88 in 2008

President – Edgar Keefer

Fire Chief – Daniel Keefer

1957

January 8

\$499.04 in the treasury; no fires; 1956 totals – 35 loads of water; 10 fire calls; 6 fire drills; 1 false alarm; 2 pumped out wells; although our calls were reduced, our expenses (losses?) have been the greatest ever due to the Aircraft fire; the Christmas committee distributed three crates of oranges, 24 boxes of candy, contacted 524 children and received \$12.00 in donations; sloop sink to be installed to keep the trucks and firehouse clean; company took on a fire extinguisher sales fundraising program; line to be drawn between the company and the Lisburn Fire Company to segregate solicitations; \$164.45 for a civil defense radio

February 5

\$377.27 in the treasury; two fires; standby for Dillsburg and Jack Eshelman's smoke house; upcoming events – June 1 – strawberry “supper” (festival); shooting matches – October 31, November 21, and December 19; ticket selling cash rewards as follows – 1st - \$15.00, 2nd - \$10.00, 3rd - \$5.00; a “miscellaneous” account to be added to the budget - \$2000.00; 1957 budget proposal; outstanding debts – mortgage - \$1197.00; tank truck - \$2500.00; heating system - \$450.00; Jack Shambaugh becomes a member (Jack Shambaugh went on to hold several offices and was a charter life member of the fire department; his children, Jack and Dawn, went on to volunteer for the Lisburn Fire Company; Jack and his wife still attend every fire company banquet and he is the most senior member to do so); \$10.00 bill for a “radio frequency check”; motion made to appoint a committee to organize a fireman's banquet at the Chalet Restaurant and the prizes for selling the tickets and extinguishers be presented there

March 5

\$432.49 in the treasury; no fires; one load of water hauled; Mr. Sholly offered to paint the firehouse at \$1.25 per hour and deduct ¼, or paint three sides and paint the other side free; ticket committee – 1000 books of tickets given out and only a few have been returned; extinguisher committee – “the campaign will continue one week longer than the allotted time. So far we have only covered approximately ¼ to 1/3 of our territory; banquet committee – “the

date for the banquet has been set for April 15, 1957 at 6:30 prompt at the Chalet Restaurant – the price of the tickets are set at \$2.00 per person. Judge Robert L Jacobs (it appears that Judge Jacobs may have been a Cumberland County Court of Common Pleas judge at the time; he went on to become President Judge of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania) will be the speaker; a motion was made and carried “that letters be sent out to all members of the fire company and ladies auxiliary inviting them to the banquet”; ways and means committee – there will be a turkey supper on April 6, 1957; new business – “there has been some discussion on giving a certain percent of the money to the ambulance fund since the ambulance association is mentioned on the tickets. It has been decided that we would not give anything from the ticket money and that the proceeds go to the ambulance fund”

April 2

\$2274.00 in the treasury; three fire calls and one fire drill; Neil Miller from Williams Grove made and donated a gas tank for the Federal truck; the oil line on the International was shot and that has been repaired; ways and means committee – “there is plenty of work at the firehouse on Friday night to clean up and set up tables for the turkey supper”; ticket committee – “Wilbur Stough got first prize for selling tickets . He sold 150 tickets. Second prize goes to Kenny Bushey who sold 110 tickets, and Edgar Keefer got third prize with 70 tickets. We cleared about \$658.41”; extinguisher committee – “there has been 256 extinguishers sold which is not near our goal. The first order of extinguishers are here”; insurance committee - “we got statements (estimates?) from Myers in Dillsburg and Blair Paden from Nationwide Insurance Company. A suggestion was made that we set up a basic policy (idea?) on what we should have, then get bids from several insurance companies. A motion was made that a committee get prices on various levels and also on collision insurance for all equipment and bring it before the fire company”; banquet committee – so far there has only been a few tickets sold; a suggestion was made that the committee make up a publicity (?) and an invitation letter informing them of our 15th Anniversary banquet; good of the company – “the mobile x-ray unit is going to be in our territory and would like to know whether we would like to have them here at the firehouse. A motion was made and carried that we have the x-ray unit at the firehouse from 6:30 – 8:30 in the evening”; “since the ladies auxiliary do so much work at the suppers to make them a success, a motion has been made and carried that we give the ladies auxiliary a plaque as a token of appreciation for the splendid work that they have been doing”

May 7

\$613.30 in the treasury; no fire calls, but we had several fire drills; insurance committee – after hearing all the bids from several insurance companies, a tentative motion was made that we take the Nationwide Insurance with the understanding that if there are any changes that it be reviewed at the next regular meeting; new business – “since we have used the \$2000.00 allotted us for miscellaneous, a motion was made that we increase this account from \$2000.00 to \$5000.00 the motion carried”; good of the company – “the Lisburn Fire Company has invited us to play donkey basketball against them at Lisburn on June 8, 1957”

“The annual banquet of the Upper Allen Township Fire Company was held on April 15, 1957 at the Chalet Restaurant in Dillsburg, PA. At this banquet we celebrated our 15th Anniversary. We were honored by a turkey dinner after which Judge Robert E Jacobs was our speaker. The entertainment was given by some of our local children. The talent consisted of the Bussee Brothers, Renard Sisters, and Stanley Werzyn’s daughter. The Master of Ceremonies was the Fire Chief Daniel S Keefer. The guests that were present were Assistant Fire Chief Clyde King from Dillsburg, Fire Chief Glen Hawbecker from Lower Allen Township, and President Dale Dentler from Lisburn. One of the charter members of the Upper Allen Township Fire Company, Harry Mann, gave a brief talk on the history of the fire company. The Township Supervisors were also present. They consist of H.H. Whitcomb, Latimore Anderson, and Russell Eberly. The prizes for selling the most chance tickets and fire extinguishers were also given out. The winners and prizes are as follows: for the chance tickets – first – Wilbur Stough - \$15.00; second - Kenneth Bushey - \$10.00; third - Edgar Keefer - \$5.00; for the extinguishers – first – Leroy Stoner - \$25.00; second – Edgar Keefer - \$15.00; third – Mark Wogelmuth - \$10.00. There were about 108 adults and 8 children which made a total of 116.”

June 4

No fire calls, but we had several fire drills; “Earl Brooks from Coatesville will be here on Tuesday evening to demonstrate some gas masks”; we now have a number for our portable radio which is #49, the same number as our truck; since the weight limit on the covered bridge in Bowmansdale is 2 ½ tons, we should not use it with our heavy loads (the covered bridge in Bowmansdale, also known as the Stoner Bridge, spanned the Yellow Breeches Creek between what is now S. Market St. and Bishop Rd.; it was moved to its current location on the Messiah College campus in 1972; the abutments are still present at the former bridge location in Bowmansdale); Insurance Committee – “after having the process read of the different kinds of insurance for the two

trucks and the house and contents, the motion was made and carried that we accept the Nationwide Insurance. The motion was made and carried that the two trucks come due at the same time”; Ways and Means Committee – “The chicken corn soup festival will be held on August 3, 1957 with the Singer Band from Mechanicsburg, PA”; it has been decided not to sell tickets to the festival this year; New business – “the Fire Chief asks permission to purchase a new strainer for the 2 ½” suction hose since our other strainer is broken. A motion was made and carried that we give him permission to buy the new strainer”; Good of the Company – “the meeting place for the Cumberland County Fireman’s Association has been changed from Franklinton to the Empire Hook and Ladder Company in Carlisle”

July 2

\$210.62 in the treasury; two fire calls – one was a grass fire at Mark Winger’s and the other was a barn fire in York County; “after having looked at different kinds of masks and having looked at the prices we have decided to keep the two masks we do have at the present time”: the tire on the International truck need recapping – we are leaving this up to the fire company (?); Trustees – after some discussion on cutting the grass around the firehouse, a motion was made and carried that we give Clarence Sholly the job for not more than \$4.00 per cutting; Good of the Company – there was a motion made and carried that the President appoint a new committee to take care of filling in of the ground of the fire house and not exceed the price of \$150.00 – the committee consists of Daniel Keefer, Chairman, Jack Roth, and Dr. A.W. Climenhaga.

August 7

\$185.47 in the treasury; three fires – all grass fires; the one tire on the International truck has been recapped and the other tire is being recapped; there will be a fire drill every Tuesday night if the fire company is interested and we have a good turnout; Festival committee – there has been \$1046.07 taken in at the festival and there has been \$805.10 taken in in donations which makes a total of \$1851.17 – this does not include the bills we have to pay; trustees – a motion was made and carried that a committee be appointed to look into the cost of building a pole building and putting up a permanent lighting system. The committee consists of Bill Mann, Chairman, Jim White, and Leroy Stoner; New business – “a new method of soliciting money for the fire company by using coin saver cards. After some discussion, it was decided to let it ride until some later meeting; a motion was made and carried that we pay \$125.00 a quarter on the International truck like we did with the furnace; Good of the

Company – the Trustees were asked to bring a recommendation to the next meeting about a new flag pole

September 3

Ten fire calls – nine of which the siren was sounded; out of the ten fires, two were house fires, one barn fire, and all the rest were grass fires; we have had a good turnout at all fire drills and all fires; during one of our drills we encountered some difficulty with the power take-off on the International truck; Flag pole committee – “the committee thought it better not to put the flag pole on top of the firehouse; a recommendation was brought to the company about putting a pole about three feet in front of the fire house with a v-shaped cement block – a motion was made and carried that the recommendation be accepted”; total profit from the festival - \$1182.17; New business – a recommendation was brought before the company that we buy 300’ of 2 ½” hose; a motion was made that we pay for it next year; Good of the Company – a letter was read from the Mechanicsburg Halloween Parade committee asking for a representative to appear at a meeting on September 5 to discuss plans for the parade – the representatives are Jim White and John Neff; there will be a fire drill every Tuesday night of this month; a motion was made and carried that we authorize the ways and means committee to have another drawing this current year

October 1

\$820.65 in the treasury; no fire calls; “the power take-off on the International truck has been fixed but now the drive shaft broke.” there will be two fire drills this month – one on Wednesday night, October 9, 1957, and one on Saturday afternoon, October 12, 1957, leaving the firehouse 1:30 sharp on Saturday afternoon; Ticket committee – the date for the shooting match and the drawing of the turkeys has been set for December 19, 1957, and anyone selling 25 books or more gets a free turkey; a recommendation from the Treasurer was made that we increase our firefighting account in our budget another \$300.00 since we are now \$150.00 overdrawn and increase our administrative account \$150.00. A motion was made and carried that we accept this recommendation; Good of the Company – it was suggested that a committee be appointed for the Halloween party and not to spend more than \$25.00 - the committee consists of Arthur Musser, Phil Keefer, and Harry Beitzel; the Shepherdstown Sunday School has asked for permission to use the firehouse for their Halloween party – permission granted

November 5

\$429.28 in the treasury; two fire calls – October 11, at fire at Clyde Kimmel’s farm and on October 26, a fire at Frank Davis’s; Halloween committee – the committee reported that there were 74 children present under the age of 12; motion made that a committee be appointed to bring a recommendation before the company for the revision of the bylaws – motion carried – the committee consists of Bill Fields, Leroy Stoner, and Daniel Keefer; motion made that the company purchase 50 identification signs (license plates?) and that the Chief have charge of the sale of these “signs”; committee to be appointed to look in to the possibility and charge (cost?) of putting a telephone in the firehouse with an unlisted number – committee consists of Bill Neitz, E. Fanus, and Edgar Keefer

December

** Note included in the January 1958 minutes – “The December meeting was called to order and immediately adjourned in respect for the death of Mr. S.S. Keefer. Moment of silent prayer was offered for Mr. S.S. Keefer”

One dollar in 1957 is equal to \$7.65 in 2008

President – Bill Fields

Fire Chief – Bill Mann

1958

January 7

\$234.67 in the treasury; three fire calls in November, none in December – one was to help Dillsburg in Uno and a chimney fire; there were 23 fire calls in 1957; motion made that we accept Fire Chief Daniel Keefer’s request to remove his name from the ballot for Fire Chief; Christmas treats – 700 children were treated with candy and oranges - \$20.80 was donated; Bylaws committee – motion made that we change article 6, section 1, that the rental or loan of the firehouse from the company in between meetings be left to the Trustees – carried; committee be retained for the change of the bylaws; Telephone committee – motion for the phone to be tabled until we can get it at a cheaper rate; Bill Mann reported on a 40’ x 60’ building for festivals - \$807.50 was the estimated price – tabled; committee appointed to take care of the entertainment at the Cumberland County Fireman’s Association meeting; motion made that we have a 50% majority vote for elections – carried: “motion made that the retiring Fire Chief Daniel Keefer and Engineer Jim Davis be presented with a

plaque for their ten years or more of service with the Upper Allen Township Fire Company for which we are very thankful”

February 4

\$75.47 in the treasury; two fire calls – one which was a grass fire in Bowmansdale and the other was an oil burner at the Shepherdstown church; “we had a one man fire company when Albert Wolfe put (out) a chimney fire in York County”; the drivers of the fire trucks for the year of 1958 will be the same; committees for the year – membership, flower fund, ways and means, financial, and bylaws; “the building for the festivals was left in the hands of the committee to see how much it will cost for labor and materials and just the materials alone to see the difference – report and action next meeting; the insurance policy for the building and contents of the building were \$5,000.00 for the building and \$2,000.00 for equipment; “the President seen to it the first payment was made so we would have some coverage”; there was a motion we renew or open a new account for our accident insurance covering anyone who is hurt while working with the fire company; dues paid to International and Keystone Fire Chiefs Association for information which will be sent to our Fire Chief; “motion we subscribe and pay for the magazine called Fire Engineering in the Chief Bill Mann’s name – two year subscription - \$4.00 – carried; also brought forth why can’t we have some kind of entertainment for the children of the community with the parents as chaperones – committee appointed to investigate and report back; “Fire Chief Bill Mann appointed Daniel Keefer Fire Captain to handle fire in case no chiefs are here”; talked about maybe having the Captain of the State Police come and talk of arson

March 4

\$361.02 in the treasury; one fire call at the stone quarry in Bowmansdale; no report on the new building for the festival; ladies auxiliary in favor of the entertainment for the children; Ways and Means – turkey supper Saturday night, March 8 starting at 4:00; Insurance – Mr. Blair Paden and Mr. Davis explained accident insurance and public liability insurance; workman’s compensation will cover any accident to a person while going or coming from a fire or at the fire itself; our new accident policy with \$500.00 medical and \$35.00 a week payment (lost wages?) to any person injured up to \$1000.00 principal – will cover anything that happens to a person while he is working for the fire company or fighting fire; motion to take out the \$500.00 medical insurance at the cost of \$52.50 a year – carried; public liability insurance policy to cover any person that would be hurt while coming to any activities at the fire hall; it would also cover any person who is working in the kitchen or any other work that is non-paying; the policy would provide \$25,000.00 for one person

injured, \$50,000.00 for two or more persons, \$10,000.00 property damage to anything like an automobile, and \$250.00 medical coverage; the cost of this policy would be \$53.69 a year; motion passed to take his policy; Edgar Keefer asked to be relieved of his duties as 2nd Assistant Fire Chief – Jack Roth was elected to replace him; “fire trucks are to be cleaned by whoever takes them out – order of the Fire Chief”; “also the Fire Chief would like to try something different when we go to a fire – that each man have a certain job assigned to him

April 1

\$170.87 in the treasury; a moment of silence for Mr. Pope; one fire in Bowmansdale – a grass fire; also pumped out two cellars; \$217.20 profit from the supper; plaques presented to Daniel Keefer and Jim Davis for their devoted service to the company; motion (carried) to buy oil from Wayne Bishop Oil Company; received a donation of \$100.00 from the Messiah Bible College; siren fixed to be blown from the store; the siren to be blown every Monday night at 6:00 PM

May 6

\$60.41 in the treasury; two fire calls – a grass fire at John McCrae’s and a chimney fire at Keefer’s; invited to come to a drill at Dillsburg – we are sending one truck; received a \$200.00 check from the ladies auxiliary to purchase new hose for the fire company; we received our policies for the insurance to protect the fire company and its help; received an invitation to come to the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Fireman’s Association convention August 23, 1958; motion we purchase 200’ of new hose and take out the additional money out of the treasury; the ham supper reports a profit of between \$75.00 and \$100.00; Entertainment – appointment made to find out more information on entertainment programs for children – also try to get the opinion of the teenagers; John Brillhart and Richard Eberly accepted as members; Good of the Company – “try to find out about getting a fire hydrant in the new development along Rt. 15”

June 3

\$512.14 in the treasury; one fire call along the railroad tracks; hauled five loads of water; reported that after due consideration, it had been decided that Lisburn be given the privilege of soliciting property owners beyond the Reading Railroad underpass (Lisburn Rd & Mt. Allen Dr.) and that we solicit on the upper side of the railroad tracks; it was also decided to have a committee appointed to contact the supervisors of Monaghan Township to establish a line of solicitation in York County (the Monaghan Township Fire Company was not

up and running until the early 1960s); the Fire Chief was asked to recommend a system of signals for blowing the fire siren; motion made that we have bingo for the purpose of raising funds for the fire company (see letter from Messiah College regarding this suggestion); decided to have the meetings start at 8:00 PM during summer until September

July 1

\$64.28 in the treasury; three fire calls – one house fire, one grass fire, and a clothes dryer; also had lots of water to haul; Entertainment – need more attendance of the children. They are going to write letters to a lot of children to try to get more attendance; Ways and Means – chicken barbeque July 19, chicken corn soup festival to be held August 15 & 16, Good of the Company – the Fire Chief has set Monday night of each week when he needs some help to clean and repair equipment of the fire company

August 5

Two fires – one at Messiah College and one at Rice's; chicken barbeque report – receipts \$635.02; general appraisal (of the chicken barbeque) – a real success; complaints – not enough to eat and “unpleasant comparisons with barbeques of other companies; feeling is that another barbeque should be tried in September; will likely add another side dish to the meal; chicken corn soup festival – discussed source of corn – need 250 dozen - the plan is to have it for two nights stands for games need to be built; discussed door prizes – the President and the Assistant Fire Chief to plan for them; received tax notice on grounds – referred to attorney; Glenn Keefer resigned as Fire Police Captain – Jack Roth elected Fire Police Captain; Fire Chief read letter from civilian defense relative to drill on August 28 – discussed participation of equipment – plan to send fire engine and ambulance to participate; bill from Wayne Bishop was held for investigation of the furnace cleaning item on the bill – the President will see into this; possible adoption of a fire company calendar project was filed for future consideration

September 2

\$1,555.47 in the treasury; one fire at Bowmansdale bridge; one civil defense drill at Lower Allen; participated in the Cumberland Valley Fireman's Association parade in Mechanicsburg; the Chief asked to have help on Friday evening to clean the Federal truck to go to the Cumberland County Fireman's Association parade on Saturday, September 6 in West Fairview; profit from chicken barbeque - \$129.31; festival profit (incomplete) - \$1,334.00; after some discussion on the oil bill as to the charge of cleaning and repairing, it was learned that Wayne Bishop had been contacted and he said it was a mistake

made when it was said cleaning and repairs were made free of charge; electric bill has been higher than it has ever been; Daniel Keefer made a motion to have the light bill investigated; seconded by Jack Roth – carried; John Neff asked to send a card to Pennsylvania Power and Light Company asking to have a check made on this bill; Fire Chief reports more fire call cards are needed – after some discussion as to a new type of card and new call numbers on the siren call as to different locations were talked about; committee appointed to work with the Chief to act on call cards and solicitation cards and report at next meeting; discussion regarding provisions/preparation for annual drawing and motion made to give half the proceeds to the ambulance association

October 7

\$1,344.19 in the treasury; three fire calls – one at Weaver’s to assist Dillsburg, one at Rossmoyne at Hillumm Feed Co. to assist Lower Allen, and the other was at Sanders in Bowmansdale with assistance from Lower Allen, Washies and Lisburn; Trustees investigating whether taxes have to be paid on lots; shooting matches every Thursday night starting October 9, 1958; no report on the light bill; subject of first aid class raised to measure interest; suggested that the profits from shooting matches be split 1/3 to ambulance association and 2/3 to fire company instead of 50/50; suggestion that the ambulance association treasury be merged with the fire company treasury; ladies auxiliary present complaining about the lack of participation from the men at suppers – threatened to stop participating if situation does not improve

November 4

\$1,219.24 in the treasury; no fire calls; hauled some water; “washed out road tiles for Nello Leer for the new road”; there were two pieces of hose damaged – received \$235.00 for the work done for Nello Leer; took one truck to the Halloween parade at Mechanicsburg; the light bill was taken care of; Trustees to act on the loaning of the fire hall to the Cub Scouts; Trustees to determine whether Bishop’s Oil offers us a discount – Dillsburg Grain and Milling has submitted a bid for our business; the tank truck needs repair if the tank is to be saved – it is rusting out and should be undercoated – Chief and Engineer to look into it; December meeting will be changed to December 9th because of deer hunting; motion that nominating committee mail a list of the people who are up for nomination to all members; the tuberculosis clinic will give x-rays on November 20 from 9:00 – 12:30 at Messiah Bible College

December 9

\$1,415.80 in the treasury; profits from shooting matches – October - \$105.54 – November - \$185.00; 20 fires to date (for the year?) and hauled 78

loads of water; Harry Beitzel to stop and see Earl Brooks – all voted no money until we get a bill to see what we owe

One dollar in 1958 is worth \$7.38 in 2008

President – Daniel Keefer

Fire Chief – Bill Mann

1959

January 5

Twenty-eight members present; one fire – grass fire; 27 fires for the year; 80 loads of water hauled; profits from shooting matches – December 11 - \$42.21; December 18 - \$37.32; January 1 - .09 clear; December drawing - \$264.14 net receipts – ½ to ambulance, ½ to fire company; no bill fro Earl Brooks; “undercoating of truck proceeding with difficulty”; Trustees to see that a sink be installed upstairs; Board of Trustees to “bring a report to every meeting regarding plant, equipment, and general conduct of matters”; drivers for the year – Arthur Musser, Archie Noss, James Davis – Lieutenant, Bob watts, Bob Vogelsong, Ken Bushey, Jack Shambaugh, and Les Martin – Lieutenant; Mr. Metzler reported on some needed repairs for the furnace; “also suggested an outdoor switch for the lights on the pond to avoid unclosed doors and tampered switches”; budget proposed – doesn’t include obligations to Earl Brooks; auditing committee has examined the financial records of this fire company and their relief association for the years 1957 and 1958 and find they balance satisfactorily

February 3

\$1,614.17 in the treasury; 38 members present; one fire call at Martin Smith’s – fire was contained; six loads of water hauled; Paul Davis added as another driver; President Keefer appointed as Captain; driver’s meeting February 9th; Board of Trustees – furnace repair progressing; shopping for bids on oil; sink installed; investigating installation and advantages of new, 1,000 gallon tank – cost \$128.00; ways and means – duties delegated – John Neff official buyer for all suppers; Bollinger will manage the parking; Mr White will be the official cashier; received word from the County solicitor that the fire company lots are exempt fro taxation; upcoming “fire company demonstrations and contests in Mechanicsburg – contest to be limited to the 500 gallon class

pumpers and a team of five”; Chief reported on stickers that may be used on and in houses containing invalids – motion passed that the Fire Chief order a proper amount of stickers; Trustees to secure a refrigerator replacement interest in fire company jackets solicited – committee to be appointed to follow up; dues to be paid before or after the meeting, not during; among the bills - \$24.52 for typewriter repair; “Chief reported on monitor exchange with Dillsburg” (believed to be a radio to “monitor” each other’s frequencies); “the Chief popularized the idea of men washing dishes and waiting tables”; cleared \$80.74 in the January shooting matches; blood donors were sought for Rosemary Eberly

March 3

\$1,553.43 in the treasury; 26 members present; one fire call at the Bowmansdale dump; five loads of water hauled; Trustees – oil supply to be left as is until Spring; refrigerator purchased; report on donation of oxygen supply “tanks” and masks to the company by the Halls - letter of appreciation to be sent to the Halls signed by the fire company and ambulance association; ; 50 ton of stone (cost - \$76.02) “installed” in the parking lot; recommended installation of 1000 gallon oil tank when weather permits; ham supper – profit \$182.30; one ham left to be used at the turkey supper; \$105.33 cleared in four shooting matches in February; “Mr. Wogelmuth reported on the importance of insurance policies listing the township as well as the post office address for relief association purposes; motion made to move the time of the business meeting to 8:00 instead of 7:30; proposed films be shown at business meetings to stimulate interest; “motion for President to appoint a committee to study and execute an educational program in fire fighting and fire prevention (trips, training, school, films) – motion passed”

April 7

\$1,134.85 in the treasury; 21 members present; four fires – all grass and brush; committee appointed for education program in fire fighting – John Paine – chairman, Jack Roth, Bill Mann, and Glenn Martin; secretary appointed to care for the flower fund; advice given that all fellows fighting fire wear boots, helmets, and rain coats’ all equipment is to be put back clean and in order; “members not to be over eager at unloading hose before proper survey and direction”; Trustees – crack in floor repaired; report on the progress of tank purchase and installation; report on shooting matches for winter - \$637.68 profit – 1/3 for ambulance, 2/3 for fire company; \$44.00 profit last month; ways and means – two weeks of solicitation in July, turkey supper - August 18; new business – Mr. Miller hired to repair tank truck; “engineering study” of the heating system be made at the direction of the Trustees; firehouse to be made

available to the West Shore Fire Chiefs for their meeting on the third Tuesday of August and amended that the Fire Chiefs have authority to serve refreshments; “motion that the township supervisors receive our appreciation for the increase in allocation and that a protest be registered regarding township monies paid to non-township companies”; a movie followed the business meeting

May 5

\$1,151.85 in the treasury; one grass fire; Joe Cocklin house fire (total loss); requested notification of invalids in Upper Allen Township – info to Chief or President Keefer; oil tank installed; brief report on heating survey; profit from turkey supper - \$200.10; “general discussion as to new fire station location. Motion made that committee be appointed to consider and report on possible options. Moved and seconded. Motion carried.”; ‘letter of protest to Reading (Railroad) Company as to blocking right-of-way as to our only access to York County and college. Motion made and seconded.’; issue to be addressed is the blocking of the crossings for excessive periods of time”; motion made that registered mail letter be sent to Mr. Earl A. Brooks, RD# 2, Coatesville, PA, specifically demanding an itemized bill of our account – incorporate in that letter that if this bill in itemized form is not received by this company in 30 days from the date of letter, we shall consider the account closed”; 36 persons present at the County Fire Chief’s meeting

June 2

\$1,075.49 in the treasury; 30 members present; one fire in Brandtsville; our company same in fourth in the Mechanicsburg contests – similar contests scheduled for the coming year; invalid markers will soon be obtained; Trustees – asked for help in a decision regarding an oil supplier; attention called to the need of our grounds to be trimmed – Wilbur Stough volunteered to mow the grass; barbeque committee – requested publicity help, menu – ½ chicken, buns, pepper slaw, French fries, coffee or milk, and ice cream – request for help and help assignments given – tickets made available to the group to sell; deferred business – “Mr. Myers reported on a survey of new fire station location. The committee reported a favorable reaction to a lot on other side of Neff’s Garage. The Township Supervisors, too, favored the lot as being a very good location. The owner, Mr. McClellan, indicated that the piece of land would be available for \$2,500.00, providing that we cannot find anything else we like as well or better. Motion passed that the Trustees secure the best option possible on the lot, keeping in mind the \$2,500.00 sale price offered to the company”; new business – Fire Chief reported on touch-up paint bids on the trucks – he was instructed to check two-tone paint bids; the Fire Chief also reported on hose

bids; "Bill Neitz requested \$10.00 to cover cost of room to State Convention – motion passed that the company take care of the room"; eight members volunteered for fire police patrol of campus and town during general (?) conference; \$10.26 to fix the siren on the International; Fire Chief announced some coming fire drills

July 7 (date not included in minutes – assumed based on first Tuesday of the month)

26 members present; no fires; water hauled; invalid markers not yet here; "fire truck to be painted all red due to economy reasons"; barbecue report – "good weather, good help, short returns - \$50.00 profit"; deferred business – President Keefer reported on the lot option – option is \$2,500.00 until February, 1960 – cost of the option is \$1.00; \$50.00 presented to the fire police captain (for duty during conference?); letter read from Reading railroad; new business – Fire Chief reported on intentions to purchase two new tires; Mr. Wogelmuth promoted the solicitation campaign which is to begin July 15; good of the company – "Wolgemuth expressed concern for fire training school; Phil Keefer showed the new jackets; Trustees – volunteers solicited to bring mowers and help mow the lot; "Don Sidle presented Harry Newman who demonstrated fire-retardant paint"

August 4

\$474.09 in the treasury; Fire Chief – no fires; hauled water; truck painted and will be lettered; tank truck lid enlarged to facilitate maintenance; deferred business – Chuck Wagon Luncheon reported on by President Keefer; solicitation committee - \$1,040.46 to date; option agreement to purchase lot next to Neff's Garage read to company – approximate 355 at full purchase price of \$2,500.00 (355 = length of lot?); ways and means – no entertainment for August 15 – War Mothers (renters of social space?); bill to Harry's Body Shop \$85.00 (painting of truck); good of the company – group life insurance discussed at September meeting; letter of thanks to "Orr Force Besserre" (Air Force Reserve?) for post hole digging for light posts; letter to Neal Miller in appreciation of tank truck work

September 1

\$2,730.44 in the treasury; Fire Chief – one fire at Wellsville; tires have been installed on International; fire drill needed and will be called; parade September 12 at Carlisle – Cumberland Valley Convention (Cumberland County Convention?); Trustees – Dillsburg Milling Company now the oil suppliers; chicken corn soup profit - \$2,184.88; deferred business – Chuck wagon tickets presented – September 19 – 11:00 – 2:30 PM serving time;

invalid stickers now available; new business – “moved that the Treasurer and Financial Secretary have discretionary power to pay bills up to \$50.00 between meeting dates - passed”; “motion that the company recommend the continuation of the monthly letter and that the company pay the monthly postage”; “Bill Neitz asked the company if he wanted them to take any problem to the convention – red light (?); \$171.24 for tires and tubes; “motion made and passed that the tank truck note be paid in full if sufficient balance is left for operations”; good of the company – shooting matches to begin October 8; Mr. Basehore reported on group life insurance; motion that the relief association officers make definite recommendation regarding minimum requirements, etc., related to group life insurance

October 6

\$791.10 in the treasury; Fire Chief – one truck fire on Rt. 15; Federal truck is not drafting properly and this should be rectified soon; lettering of truck has not been accomplished yet. Chief Mann will contact letterer; purchase of more 2 ½” hose is desired; fire drill will probably be held next Monday or Tuesday evening; Chief Mann gave orders for drivers to stay in Upper Allen Township except for emergencies; Chief Mann also said trucks will no longer be washed on Sundays; Chuck wagon report - \$211.25 received to date – 30 tickets still unaccounted for; ham supper profit - \$106.45; deferred business – moved that Halloween party be held for he children – passed; good of the company – motion made and passed that the company participate in the Mechanicsburg Halloween Parade; motion made and passed that the Cumberland County Fireman’s Association be the guests at our firehouse on November 10, 1960; fireman’ relief – recommendation that for a fire company member to be eligible for group insurance the following requirements be met – they must serve at 50% of fires or attend 50% of the meetings and holding an office, or serving on two committees, or the equivalent of three evenings of fire company activity (festivals, dinners, solicitations, or helping at shooting matches) to be considered equivalent to one committee appointment – motion to table the recommendation until next meeting

November 2

\$611.16 in the treasury; 25 members present; three fire calls – a tree fore in Siddonsburg; grass fire in Bowmansdale; standby call at the Country Side Inn; Federal truck repaired – didn’t draft water; two fire drills since last month; Trustees – the big oil tank has now been connected; Halloween party – 80 children – letters of thanks to he two women who helped – Doris Barr and Mrs. Richard Rynard; shooting matches – cleared \$180.00 for the four matches; deferred business – problem of Christmas treats for he children was discussed –

motion made and passed that the children be treated and that a committee be appointed to carry this out; motion made and passed that the farm bureau be contacted for a rate before any other insurance be bought from any other company; include names and addresses of Township Supervisors in next letter; nomination of officers for 1960; motion made that the company request that the Township Supervisors consider giving approval for installation of a hydrant at the corner of Lisburn and Grantham Rd. intersection at the Jacob Kuhn farm – passed

December 8

\$929.10 in the treasury; 26 members present; Fire Chief – Herbert Ritter barn fire and Merv Miller chimney fire; “invalid stickers to mark homes which have folks who cannot help themselves”; deferred business – installation of the fire hydrant at the corner of Lisburn & Grantham Rd. at Jacob Kuhns farm; committee for Christmas party appointed and places named where children will meet to receive gifts; good of the company – motion made and passed to purchase land at Neff’s Garage; received a letter of appreciation form Northern High School for standing by at their peep rally; all equipment is to be placed in order when you leave the fire house; treasurer suggests that a file be secured to keep all important letters and papers

One dollar in 1959 is worth \$7.28 in 2008

President – Daniel Keefer

Fire Chief – Bill Mann