

# Third Alarm



A Publication of the OFBA

Volume 42, No. 2 March-April 2012



Your 2012-2013 OFBA Executive hard at work in the Herscovitch's lovely abode in Toronto. From left to right, our new secretary, Bob Rupert, treasurer Jim Stronach, membership secretary Robert Herscovitch, director/editor Desmond Brett, events coordinator Herb Galloway, president Rick Loiselle, directors Dave Mollison and Walt McCall. (Ruth Herscovitch photo)

## THIRD ALARM

#### Volume 42 Number 2 March – April 2012

# OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER of the ONTARIO FIRE BUFF ASSOCIATES

(Incorporated in 1979)

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

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#### From the office of the Chief...

It is that time of year again. The first OFBA photo tour is just a few short weeks away and our 41st year kicks into full swing. Since I have purchased a new camera, I can't wait to get started. Check the activities page, as once again Activities Director Herb Galloway has a full slate of tours planned. And please, do not forget the IFBA Toronto Convention in August. GTMAA wants and needs our support.

If you will indulge me here for a moment... By now most of us are aware of the St Patrick's Day riot by a large number of young people. Many were students at the local college, but not all of them. And all were fuelled by a day of heavy consumption of various beverages. Several fires were started including a CTV2 news vehicle. At least 14 London Police cars were damaged from being pelted from beer bottles, fencing and even a sink! London's Emergency services showed great restraint by containing the area and not allowing it to spread. I have never been so ashamed and embarrassed to call London my home than I was in the next few days that followed. I hope these young folks wake up and understand that the very targets their projectiles were raining down on are the exact same people who will without question or hesitation help them in whatever emergency they may find themselves in.

Rick Loiselle, President, OFBA

#### From our Membership Secretary...

I trust that all our readers enjoyed our sixth Annual Photo Issue, which again had some great shots of both local and foreign vehicles. And those of you who elected to receive the electronic version had a special treat, being able to view all the photos in living colour. Although my preference is still red for fire vehicles, I must admit that there are some outstanding colour combinations out there.

As of the end of March, we have collected dues from approximately 80% of our paying members. You may be interested to know that roughly 30% of the members elected to receive the electronic version only, with another 20% asking to receive both paper and electronic. There are still a fair number from whom we have not as yet heard from and we look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible, especially with the changes we have made. Remember that if you are requesting the electronic version, please be sure to include your email address, as we do not have all of them on file and some have changed.

Due to the rising cost, we will hold off printing copies of the T/A for those members whose dues remain unpaid prior to the next printing. Hopefully, this is simply an oversight and we hope to hear from you soon. If you elect to receive the electronic version, we will see that you receive the appropriate back copies for this year. If you have already sent your dues in, please accept our thanks.

As you are reading this issue, the first photo tour of the year is not far off. And this promises to be another exciting year of buffing organized by Herb and Co. Hope to see many of you at one of the stations.

Robert Herscovitch, Membership Secretary

#### From the Editor...

It looks like we've been blessed with an early start to the buffing season and there have already been many photographic contributions as a result. On that note, I would like to thank Neil McCarten, Dave Stewardson, Terry Yip, Doug Holmes, Ian Duke, Bill Fairhurst and Rob Simpson. Thanks are also due to Doug again for the Burlington roster, John Dybus for the article on the Welland Museum and to Terry Yip, Bob Dubbert, Bertrand Campo, Reed Wannamaker, Rick Loiselle and Dean Nickerson (fire wiki) for apparatus info. You'll notice a minor change in the apparatus roundup, serial numbers are now being included where available.

Lastly, a sad note: OFBA member **Glenn Smeltzer** (No. 526) passed away on March 30 in the Chatham Hospital due to ill health. Glenn was an ardent apparatus buff, contributing to many restorations and known most recently for his immaculate 1926 LaFrance city service ladder truck (ex-Timmins) which he presented at both St. Thomas and WAMBO. Glenn was a retired volunteer firefighter with St. Clair Twp. (Becher) F.D. The rig was featured on the cover the Sept./Oct. 2010 TA.

Desmond Brett, Editor, Third Alarm

#### **Calendar of Coming Events**

May 6 & 7 OAFC Trade Show, Toronto Congress Centre

May 12 Photo Tour - St. Mary's, Granton, Lucan, Ilderton, Lobo,

(Coldstream), Arva, Bryanston & Thorndale. (see below).

June 9 Photo Tour - Bracebridge, Gravenhurst & Area

July 14 & 15 Photo Tour - 2 days, Mississauga.

July 25 – 28 SPAAMFAA National Convention & Muster, Frankenmuth, MI

August 11 WAMBO Fire Apparatus Muster, Wallaceburg

August 15 – 18 60<sup>th</sup> Annual IFBA Convention, Toronto (for info: <a href="http://www.torcon2012.com">http://www.torcon2012.com</a>)

September 8 Photo Tour - Guelph – Eramosa Twp.

October 6 Photo Tour - Town of Caledon

#### OFBA PHOTO TOUR - Saturday May 12, 2012

09:00 - St. Marys --172 James Street S

10:00 - Granton - 511 Station Street

10:45 - Lucan - 216 Main Street

11:45 - Arva - 14352 Medway Road

12:30 - 1:30: LUNCH

1:30 - London Station 14 Hyde Park Road

2:15 - Coldstream - 10284 Ilderton Road

3:00 - Ilderton - 225314 Hyde Park Road

3:45 - Bryanston - 15321 Plover Mills Road

4:30 - Thorndale - 160 King Street

#### DIRECTIONS TO FIRST STOP - ST MARYS

FROM THE EAST: Hwy 401 W to exit 222, Cty Road 6 Embro/Stratford

Go north to traffic circle at old Hwy 2. Go east (L) to Thamesford. Turn right (N) on Oxford Cty Road 119 Continue North to stop sign at Hwy 7. Turn Left (W) Turn right on James Street. Fire Station will be on left

just past the top of the hill.

FROM THE WEST: Hwy 401 to London. Take Highbury Ave exit and go north

through the city, and continue to Hwy 7. Turn right (E).

Follow Hwy 7 to James Street. Turn Left



#### Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Association

Founded 1975 Incorporated 1994

P.O. Box 173, Station D, Toronto, Ont., M9A 4X2

### TORCON2012 CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

The tradition continues...



The Greater Toronto Multiple Alarm Association invites you to attend the 60th Annual International Fire Buff Associates Convention that will be held August 14-18, 2012 in Toronto, Ontario. We have a wonderful week planned for you. A copy of our tentative schedule with the events we have planned, a registration form as well as an ad copy order form for our Convention Book are all available at the convention web site.

Our convention hotel is located in the heart of downtown Toronto at the Sheraton Centre (123 Queen Street West). The hotel rate is \$199 CDN plus taxes per night. To book by phone call (416) 361-1000 or Toll Free: 1-888-627-7175 or book online at: www.sheratontoronto.com. Remember to mention our reservation code "TORCON" when reserving your room. The early bird registration is \$300 CDN per person. The late registration (after June 1, 2012) will be \$340 CDN. With the award-winning Sheraton Centre Hotel in downtown Toronto as your base, enjoy our airconditioned coaches as we visit the world-famous Niagara Falls and surrounding area. Or, set out on your own over the largest streetcar network in North America. Our safe, walkable downtown is a premier tourist destination for visitors the world over. Top-rated restaurants, superb shopping and outstanding sights abound in this world-class city of 3 million people. Make this the year you and your family experience something different. Make this the year you come and experience Toronto. Whether you are traveling by planes, trains or automobiles, Toronto has you covered. Toronto Pearson International Airport is Canada's busiest air hub and is serviced by most North American and International airlines. It is approximately 20 miles (30 kilometres) from downtown and the trip averages 30 to 40 minutes by car or coach. The Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport is conveniently located near downtown and has service to numerous U.S. and Canadian cities via Porter Airlines. Access downtown via the 509 streetcar or take the free shuttle service that runs every 15 minutes between the airport and the corner of Front and York. Porter Airlines is offering convention attendees a 15% discount on all fare classes. Save time by flying into the Toronto City Airport, just steps from our convention hotel and the city centre. Porter also offers free in-flight snacks and beverages (including beer and wine). The discounted fare is available for travel between August 9 and 23, 2012. Book online at www.flyporter.com using the promo code "IFBA12" or call 1-888-619-8622. Check with Porter Airlines for terms and conditions. Amtrak offers direct service between New York Penn Station and Toronto Union Station. Greyhound provides direct access to downtown Toronto from throughout Canada and the United States.

A passport, passport card or Nexus card is required when traveling to and from Canada. Make sure you have the proper documentation for your form of travel to Toronto. Please check our website at <a href="https://www.torcon2012.com">www.torcon2012.com</a> for regular updates or send us an email at <a href="mailto:torcon2012@gmail.com">torcon2012@gmail.com</a>. We look forward to seeing you in Toronto in August!



Cluny, AB's Wagon 11, a 2011 Freightliner M2/Fort Garry 420igpm/2500gwt tanker. It's all black except for the metalwork in chrome and aluminum.



Fishing Lake Metis put this 2012 Freightliner M2/Fort Garry 840igpm/1000gwt pumper-tanker into service in October. Only the red cab and wheels are painted, the rest is chrome plated steel or aluminum. Based in Sputinow, AB, it also has a Foam Pro 1600 FS. (Dave Stewardson photos).



The Mildmay Carrick Station of the South Bruce Fire Department, located at 9 Absalom St. in Mildmay. The hall is home to a pumper, tanker, light rescue and a parade rig.



Lucknow Fire Hall, also in Bruce County, is home to a pumper, two tankers and a rescue. Built in 2010, it's located at 725 Campbell St. (Neil McCarten photos).



One of a number of trucks Fort Garry shipped via ice roads to Northern Ontario First Nations, this 1050/800/25 pumper was built on a 2012 IHC 4400 chassis, SN M303. It was delivered to the Wunnumin Lake First Nation. (Dave Stewardson photo)



Brampton's newest acquisition is this 2011 Emergency One Cyclone II tower has a 2500gpm pump, 300gwt and 25gft. (Rob Simpson photo)

**Condolences**...Long time Box 43 (Hamilton) member **Les Clark** passed away last month. Les was quite an active member of the group, looking after obtaining donations and maintaining the club's substantial patch collection. His contributions will certainly be missed. Les's son Gary is storekeeper for Hamilton Emergency Services, Division of Fire.

#### The apparatus floor...

Terry Yip and Bob Dubbert supplied the following info from out west: Hub has a Spartan rear mounted pumper under construction for **Abbotsford B.C.**, another mid mount pumper for **Misson B.C.**, (change of paint scheme to black over red), a rescue on a GMC 4400 for **North Fraser B.C.**, and just delivered a pumper to **Salmon Arm B.C.** on a FL M2 and a Ford F550 4x4 CAFS unit to **Hope B.C.**. They also have a bunch of stuff on the board, including tankers for **Trail B.C.** (M2 2door), **Fruitvale B.C.** (M2 4 door), **Tappen**, **Swan Sea**, **Malakwa**, in the Columbia Shuswap R.D. (M2 2 door), and pumpers for **Shellglen**, **B.C.**, **St. Walburg**, **SK**, **Colwood**, **B.C. Mission**, **B.C.** (this one a M2 4 door 4WD), **Salmo**, **B.C.**, **Joe Rich B.C.**, and **Harrison Hot Srings B.C.** Also, CAFS units on F550's for **Lower Nicola B.C.**, and **Yellowhead AB**.

**Grande Prairie**, **AB** has received no fewer than four new rigs recently, Pumps 1, 2 and 3 now sport 2011 Spartan Gladiator/Safetek/Smeal 2250igpm/750gwt/25A&25Bgft pumpers, and Tender 1 is now running a 2011 Kenworth T300/Crimson 420igpm/2500gwt tanker. The department has a brush truck on order from Decca on a 2012 Ford F450 chassis and is building a third station at 9606 118th St. in the south west portion of the city. This should open in the summer, P3 will run from there.

Reed Wanamaker alerted us to the efforts of **Central Huron FD** to donate a 1981 Chevrolet C70/King pumper to **Bird Cove, NL**. The small Atlantic community is currently using a pick up to transport firefighting equipment. Once they announced the project, several other area departments donated equipment, a local firm rust-proofed the vehicle against the sea air and Darch fire and a local garage made sure the vehicle was mechanically sound. The original plan called for volunteer firefighters to drive the vehicle the entire 2800km but a generator company stepped up and offered to transport it as far as Moncton, chopping 1800km off the journey, which began February 18.

Halifax news: A new Station 40 opened in Dutch Settlement in October. The three bay hall houses a pump, tanker and mini-pump. Four new pumpers went into service the end of January. Assigned to Pumps 2,3,4 & 8, they were built by Carl Thibault on 2011 Spartan Metro Star chassis with 1250igpm pumps and 500gwts. They have five man cabs and feature bumper-mount trash lines, a first for Halifax. All are red with white upper cabs. Expected soon is another light rescue, for Station 56, on a 2012 Ford F350 4x4 chassis from Reading truck Bodies. Similar models went into service at stations 19, 36 and 42 last year, on 2011 Ford F350 chassis.

Betrand Campo reports **Montreal** has awarded the 5 year contract (2012-2016) to provide 35 pumpers (7 per year) to Maxi Incendie (Maxi-Métal Inc.), the company is located in Saint-Georges de Beauce, QC.

Darch fire has delivered four more Pierce pumpers to Ontario First Nations on Freightliner M2 or Kenworth T-370 chassis. The recipients are **Wabigoon**, **Mitaanjigaming**, **Shoal Lake** and **Iskatewizaagegan**.

From Rick Loiselle: **London**'s new tanker arrived in town on March 19. It is a 500/2500 Carl Thibault on a International MaxForce chassis. It is a very large rig, and is slated to go to Tanker 11. The current Tanker 11 (a Kenworth/MetalFab 500/1500) will go to Tanker 5. The chassis for the 3 new pumpers are being built now and will soon be delivered to Carl Thibault to have the pump bodies mounted. They should be here late summer of early fall. London will be calling for tenders soon for another tanker and a 75' quint.

John Bowerman alerted me to impressive new rigs just delivered to **Syncrude**, one by Ferrera. Built on an Inferno custom chassis, it includes 3000gpm water and 300gpm foam pumps, a Williams Hot Shot II foam system, an 850gwt, two Monsoon 2000gpm monitors and a Schwing 85' 4000gpm boom. It has a rearmount pump with top mount controls and an arctic insulation package for the four-man cab. The entire rig is white with red striping. **Syncrude** also received a Rosenbauer 115' T-Rex, details next issue.



Peterborough just put this 2011 Rosenbauer T-Rex platform in service. Running from HQ, the rig is equipped with a 1250igpm pump, 300gwt, 30gft and a three-piece 115' tower.



Another quint tower in service, belongs to Caledon and is currently being kept in Station 307 until larger accommodations are built in Bolton. The Crimson/DEV product was constructed on a Spartan Gladiator Classic chassis and was purchased from Dependable as a demo. (Larry Thorne photo)

#### Ontario

Brampton	2011	Spartan Gladiator/Crimson/DEV 1250igpm/400gwt/20gft Foam Pro 2001
Caledon	2011	Spartan Gladiator/Crimson/DEV
Caledon	2011	IHC Workstar/DEV
Caledon	2011	Freightliner M2/DEV 420igpm/2000gwt/25gft Foam Pro 2001 (Cheltenham)
Burlington (2)	2011	Spartan Metro Star/DEV 1050gpm/500gwt/30gft
Peterborough	2011	Spartan Gladiator/Rosenbauer T-Rex 1250igpm/300gwt/30gft/115'
Central Huron	2011	Pierce Sabre 1050gpm/800gwt
Muskoka Lakes	2011	Pierce Sabre 1050gpm/800gwt
Assiginack Twp	2012	Freightliner M2/Pierce 1050igpm/1250gwt/20gft SN#24421
McDougall	2012	IHC Durastar 4400/Pierce 1050igpm/1250gwt
Ottawa Airport	2011	Rosenbauer Panther ARFF 1850gpm/3000gwt/400gft SN#3071
Ottawa Airport	2011	Rosenbauer Panther ARFF 1850gpm/3000gwt/400gft SN#3072
Smith-Ennismo	re-Lakef	field 2012 GMC 2500 4x4 light rescue (Young's Point)
Gore Bay/Gord	on Barri	e Island 2012 Freightliner M2/Pierce tanker

#### Quebec

SteAlexis, QC 2011	Freigh	tliner M2/Maxi 1050igpm/1500gwt/30gft Advantus FS & CAFS	
StGermain 2011	IHC 43	IHC 4300/Maxi command post	
Mansfield 2011	Freigh	tliner/Rosenbauer 1050igpm/2000gwt SN#2960	
Rimouski 2011	Sparta	n Metro Star/Maxi 1250gpm/1500gwt/25 & 50gfts Foam Pro 2002	
New Carlisle 2011	Freigh	tliner M2/Maxi 1050igpm/800gwt/30gft Advantus FS & CAFS	
StHilarion 2011	IHC 76	600/Maxi 1050igpm/2000gwt/40gft Foam Pro 2001	
SteClare 2011	Ford F	550/Maxi light rescue	
Cap-Santé 2011	IHC 75	500/Maxi 1050igpm/1500gwt/30gft Foam Pro 2001	
StCyrille 2011	Freigh	tliner M2/Maxi 1050igpm/1500gwt/25gft Foam Logix 2.1 FS	
Dolbeau-Mistassini	2011	Freightliner M2/Maxi 1050igpm/1500gwt/25gft Foam Pro 1600	
StBasile le Grand	2012	Ford F550/Maxi light rescue	
Pratt & Whitney, Longueuil		Freightliner M2/Rosenbauer 1050igpm/1200gwt SN#15385	
Campus Notre-Dame-de-Foy		Freightliner M2/Maxi 1050igpm/1500gwt/25gft FoamLogix 2.1 FS	
<b>3</b> .			
Rimouski 2011 New Carlisle 2011 StHilarion 2011 SteClare 2011 Cap-Santé 2011 StCyrille 2011 Dolbeau-Mistassini StBasile le Grand Pratt & Whitney, Lon	Sparta Freigh IHC 76 Ford F IHC 75 Freigh 2011 2012 gueuil	In Metro Star/Maxi 1250gpm/1500gwt/25 & 50gfts Foam Pro 2002 Itliner M2/Maxi 1050igpm/800gwt/30gft Advantus FS & CAFS 600/Maxi 1050igpm/2000gwt/40gft Foam Pro 2001 550/Maxi light rescue 600/Maxi 1050igpm/1500gwt/30gft Foam Pro 2001 Itliner M2/Maxi 1050igpm/1500gwt/25gft Foam Logix 2.1 FS Freightliner M2/Maxi 1050igpm/1500gwt/25gft Foam Pro 1600 Ford F550/Maxi light rescue Freightliner M2/Rosenbauer 1050igpm/1200gwt SN#15385	

#### Maritimes

St. John, NB	2011	Ford F550/Metalfab CAFS/250gwt
Metagan, NS	2011	Ford F750/Metalfab walk-in rescue
Great Village	2011	Dodge 5500 4x4/Lantz light rescue
Charlottetown	2011	Spartan Metro Star/Metalfab 1250gpm/832gwt FoamPro 3012 FS
St. Johns, NL	2011	Dodge 5500 4x4/Carl Thibault light rescue (SN#2579)
St. Johns, NL	2011	Dodge 5500 4x4/Carl Thibault light rescue (SN#2580)
St. Johns, NL	2011	Spartan Metro Star/Carl Thibault 1500gpm/500gwt
St. Johns, NL	2011	Spartan Metro Star/Carl Thibault 1500gpm/500gwt

#### Out West

Morris, MB	2011	Spartan Metro Star/Fort Garry 1050gpm/1000gwt Foam Pro 2001 (M243)
Leduc Cnty, AE	3 2011	Spartan Metro Star/Fort Garry heavy rescue/cascade (M222)
Coalhurst	2011	IHC/Pierce non-walk-in medium rescue
Lesser Slave R	liver Reg	g.2011 Freightliner M2/Pierce 1000gpm/3000gwt
Hinton	2012	Ford F350 4x4/Hub command
Syncrude	2012	Ferrara Inferno Custom 3000gpm/850gwt/85' Schwing boom Hot Shot FS (H-4648)
Chilliwack, BC	2011	Spartan Metro Star/Hub 1500igpm/500gwt/65' Snozzle Foam Pro 2002
West Kelowna	2011	Spartan Sirius/Smeal 1750gpm/500gwt/50gft CAFS
Salmon Arm	2011	Freightliner M2/Hub 1500igpm/800gwt Foam Pro 2001
Dist. Of Hope	2012	Ford F550 4x4/Hub 250igpm/200gwt
Pemberton	2012	Ford F550 4x4/Hub light rescue
New Westmins	ter	2012 Pierce Velocity PUC



This large wine coloured rig is operated by Classic Fire and Vapor Suppression of Saskatchewan. It is a 2009 Green Acres product on a Western Star 4900 SA chassis. It has a 1500igpm pump, 1000gwt and 60gft. (Dave Stewardson photo)



An even bigger industrial rig, this red and chrome one belongs to the Shell Refinery in Scotford, AB. Built on a 2011 Freightliner M2 chassis by Dependable, this is a 4000g foam tanker with a 468gpm pump, it was delivered last spring. (Bill Fairhurst photo)



The District of Hope, BC recently took delivery of this 2012 Ford F550 4x4/Hub min-pumper. It has a 210igpm pump, 267gwt, 20gft and CAFS. It runs from Station 1. (Terry Yip photo).



A pair of Osh Kosh Striker 1500s at Puntacana Airport, in their unusual fire station. These Snozzle equipped crash trucks come with 2000gpm pumps, 1500gwts and 210gfts. (Doug Holmes photo).



Burlington Ladder 342, a 2010 Spartan Sirius/Smeal 1050igpm/400gwt/20gft/105'.



One of a pair delivered earlier this year, this is Burlington Pump 321, a 2011 Spartan Metro Star/DEV 1050gpm/500gwt/30gft. (Doug Holmes photos).

#### **Burlington Fire Service** by Doug Holmes

<u>Headquarters</u>		1255 Fairview St. (Built 1983)
Car 30	2007	Chevrolet Suburban (Platoon Chief)
Pump 301	1996	Spartan Gladiator/Saulsbury 1050igpm/800gwt
Pump 311	2011	Spartan Metro Star/DEV 1050gpm/500gwt/30gft
Rescue 316	2006	Spartan Diamond/SVI heavy rescue
Support Unit	1985	Hahn/Saulsbury 200gpm/200gwt (ex Packanack Lake, NJ)
Station 2		2300 Upper Middle Rd. (Built 1994)
Pump 321	2011	Spartan Metro Star/DEV 1050gpm/500gwt/30gft
Station 3		1044 Waterdown Rd., Aldershot (Built 1959)
Pump 331	2003	Spartan Gladiator/Smeal 1250ipgm/500gwt/2x30gft
Station 4		711 Appleby Line (Built 1971)
Pump 341	2006	Spartan Diamond/Smeal 1050gpm/500gwt/30gft
Ladder 342	2010	Spartan Sirius/Smeal 1050gpm/400gwt/20gft/105'
Station 5		2241 Kilbride Rd., Kilbride (Built 1978)
Pump 305	1996	Spartan Gladiator/Saulsbury 1050igpm/800gwt
Tanker 305	2003	IHC/Crimson Fire /Quality 500igpm/3000gwt (Red)
Support 305	1999	Chevrolet Suburban
Parade	1922	REO Speedwagon
Parade	1937	Ford/Bickle pumper
Station 6		455 Cumberland Ave., Port Nelson (Built 1994)
Quint 361	2003	Spartan Gladiator/Smeal 1750ipgm/400gwt/20gft/55'
Station 7		4100 Dundas St. (Built 2000)
Pump 371	2006	Spartan Diamond/Smeal 1050gpm/500gwt/30gft
	2000	
Rescue 372	2003	Ford F550/Fire Pro 500igpm/250gwt/10gft (Red)
•		



Burlington Station 8 (picture courtesy of Rob Simpson)

#### Study to consider fire hall museum, gallery.

#### By ALLAN BENNER/Welland Tribune Staff February 8, 2012.

WELLAND — John Dybus has spent many years dreaming about transforming the old Central Fire Station into a firefighting museum and art gallery. He helped found the Welland Merrittsville Fire Brigade in 1984, and the members got to work restoring historic firefighting equipment and ensuring the fire hall that opened its doors in 1920 would one day become a museum. "I don't think people realize what we have here," he said, referring to the unique building angled at the corner of Division St. and Hellems Ave. "For Welland to have a fire hall like that is really something special."

Heritage Welland and Welland Historical Museum are teaming up in the hope of making Dybus's dream a reality. Architect George Giovinazzo from Heritage Welland was at Tuesday's city council meeting with museum executive director Nora Reid to urge councilors to set the wheels in motion to finally create a museum and art gallery inside. The two asked council for a feasibility study on the fire hall: assess the condition of the building, develop schematics and designs for a museum, and assess costs and its potential as a cultural resource.

City parks and recreation manager Bill Fenwick said there's about \$50,000 in funding set aside in the 2011 budget to pay for a feasibility study, and that money is still available. Fenwick said the Art Gallery of Niagara Falls has run a branch office in Welland for the past few years. He said he will contact the organization for comment on the proposal. Ward 3 Coun. Dan Fortier, council's representative on the city's arts and culture advisory committee, said the municipality has been working towards establishing a museum and art gallery "for many years. We want to move quickly," he said.

Arts and culture advisory committee chairman George Doros presented a letter to city councilors during the meeting in support of the proposal. During his presentation, Giovinazzo discussed the importance of preserving the community's cultural heritage to help attract investment. "We used to think that economic development was about attracting business and industry, and if you attract business and industry the people will follow," he said. "In fact, the opposite is true." He said business and industry follow people — not the other way around. And embracing the community's heritage will help make it a place where people want to live and work.

The city recently lost two historic buildings: Welland High School and the Welland Club. Giovinazzo called Central Fire Station "a perfectly preserved historic building" and a "piece of cultural capital" that must be preserved and "used to benefit our community." Meanwhile, he said, the Welland Merrittsville Fire Brigade has been quietly putting together an impressive collection of historic firefighting equipment that would fill museum displays. Dybus said brigade members are "very, very happy" to see renewed interest in such a project. "We're hoping it's going to go ahead. We do hope that we get the support from different clubs and residents," he said. Welland Merrittsville Fire Brigade is looking for new members. Anyone interested can call Dybus at 905-732-1394.





Another rig displayed at the OAFC last year, this 2011 KME custom pumper was delivered to Station 60 in Elora. SN#GSO 8146.



One more from the show, this 2010 IHC Workstar 4x6 chassied 2500g tanker was traveling from Eastway to Turner Valley, AB. Assigned to MD of Foothills Station 2, this rig now runs as Tender 2. (Ian Duke photos)



Chilliwack, BC now has two of these Spartan Gladiator/Hub pumpers. Engine 1, delivered last year, has a 1250igpm pump, 500gwt & 25gft, Engine 4 arrived last month, with a 1500gpm pump, 485gwt and 65' Snozzle . (Terry Yip photos)





Midland Pumper 1, a 2010 HME/Ferrera with 1050igpm pump, 500gwt and 20gft.



Peterborough Unit 3, a 2005 GMC 3500 4x4 chassis equipped with a portable pump and 200gwt. (Neil McCarten photos)



This snazzy looking vehicle is Pickering Fire Services' Command Unit, running out of Station 5. It's a 2006 Chevrolet C1500 pick-up. Note the flame motif on the grill. (Kenneth Lai photo)



Seen on an OFBA tour, this is Kawartha Lakes Pump 0611, in Emily. This former township rig was built by Fort Garry on a 1995 GMC Top Kick chassis with 1050igpm pump and 900gwt. Unique units like this are fast disappearing from the KL roster as they standardize to Spartan chassis. (Larry Ward photo)



One of an order of six identical trucks delivered to first nations departments in Manitoba, this is a 2012 IHC 4300/Green Acres 840igpm/1000gwt. They were delivered to communities accessible only by ice road or air. (Dave Stewardson photo)



This 2002 HME 1871/Central States apparatus runs as Fort Erie Pump 3. It has a 1050igpm pump and 700gwt. (Jon Lasiuk photo)



A couple from last year's IFBA convention: Newark's Collapse Unit, a 2006 Spartan Advantage/Rescue 1 product, and Jersey City Engine 18, a 2007 ALF 1500/500.

