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National Fire Prevention Week observed by local fire companies: Pioneer in Marietta, Florin & Friendship in Mount Joy, Maytown in East Donegal, and Bainbridge in Conoy

Pioneer Fire Co. No. 1

Photo by James E. Beck



Howe pumper mounted on an International Chassis, the pump 750 GPM, also a 500 gallon booster tank. The company received this truck June 4, 1960. In the year 1969, the fire company purchased a squad truck, also the fire co. purchased a building lot located on North Locust Street off North Waterford Ave. The construction of the new building started in October 1974 and was completed April 1975. This is the first move since the company was formed in 1840.

Officers of the Fire Co. are:

Pres., - Kenneth D. Geesey, Sr., 1st Vice Pres., - William Bailey, 2nd Vice Pres., - Charles Loucks, Secretary - Kenneth Kauffman, Ass't. Secretary - Stephen Bailey, Treasurer - Harold McKain;

Fire Chief - Kenneth D. Geesey Sr., 1st Ass't. - Harold McKain, 2nd Ass't. - Stephen Bailey, Trustees - William Bailey, Richard Daveler, and Harold McKain, Steward - Elmer Appley.

It is said that a very disastrous fire, consuming nearly a block of frame houses along Front Street in Marietta, about the year 1838 started a movement to organize a fire company for the community.

In the early spring of 1840 a group of citizens met in the interest of the fire prevention and fire fighting. They applied for a state act

of incorporation under the Pioneer Fire Co. of Marietta. The first incorporate meeting was held in January, 1841. John L. Libhart, was elected the first president. A new hand pumper for two men was bought and housed on April 24, 1841.

The next piece of equipment, a used suction type pump, was bought June 16, 1869. Other pieces of equipment included a Silsby

Rotary Steam Engine in 1872, a hook and ladder, also in 1872, a chemical truck in 1920, and a rotary pump, motorized by members of the company in 1927 and used until December 1959. In 1946 they received a 2 stage centrifugal 750 GPM American La France pumper. Late in the fall of 1959 an order was placed with the Howe Co. of Anerson, Indiana, for a new

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Maytown Fire Co.

The citizens of Maytown realized, that with the many frame constructions lining the streets of their thriving community, a fire department was necessary.

In March, 1916, the need for that organization materialized, for a fire swept through and destroyed the wagon shop of H. P. Frank, and damaged a portion of the Reformed Church and two large barns. This was the first major fire, so the time to organize a fire department had arrived.

The Maytown Volunteer Fire Department held its first meeting in 1916 in the town barber shop. A shed was built at the rear of the town band hall to house the first engine, a hand pumper. This was in service until the first motorized engine, a Model T Ford equipped with two forty-gallon chemical tanks was purchased in 1919. In 1925 the Ford Truck was replaced by a Reo chemical engine.

In June 1925, the company decided to purchase ground to build a new fire station. This was accomplished and dedication services for the new building were held November 16, 1926.

The need for more modern and efficient fire apparatus arose; consequently, a new Reo truck equipped

with a 450 GPM pump was purchased, and the two trucks were in service until 1953, when a new Reo 500 GPM pumper replaced both trucks.

The present fire station was constructed in 1965 due to the need for more spacious facilities. In 1971 the company purchased a Ford 1000 GPM pumper to replace the aging 1953 Reo. The Ford pumper is equipped to lay dual 3 in. hose lines simultaneously for supplying large volumes of water. This modern piece of

equipment stands as an example of the up to date equipment the company is striving to maintain for the protection of life and property in the community. The company also maintains the following equipment: a 2000 gal. Water Tank Truck, a 1970 Cadillac Ambulance, and a 1953 Rep pumper as a reserve unit. The company is also very proud of an active ladies auxiliary, who are invaluable in fund raising projects.

Officers for the Company are:

Pres., - Paul Linard, Vice Pres., - John Singer, Secretary, - Bob Herr, Ass't. Secretary - Dick Shirk, Treasurer - Larry Warfel, Trustees - Bigler Nye, and Hiram Mayers;

Fire Chief - Donald Mayers, 1st Ass't. Chief - Charles Johns, 2nd Ass't. Chief - Larry Henderson, Engineer - Melvin Scheuing, Hose Director - Chris Leese, Ass't. Hose Director - Dick Estep, Capt. Fire Police - Bigler Nye.

Photo by James E. Beck



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