

# The Fire Mark

The Newsletter of the Canadian Fire Fighters Museum

PORT HOPE, ONTARIO, CANADA • SEPTEMBER 2013

## What's Happening at CFFM?

As I write this, the CFFM is awaiting a special delivery; a 1945 Aerial Ladder Truck! Perhaps the first all steel aerial ladder truck in Canada, this beautiful vehicle has been in service all over Toronto and is currently owned by the Toronto Professional Fire Fighters Association — who have generously donated it to CFFM. We are very excited to have this truck and look forward to showing it off during upcoming events. See a short video of its arrival on [www.facebook.com/FireMuseumCanada](http://www.facebook.com/FireMuseumCanada)

Amidst the regular activities going on at CFFM we will be participating in the Port Hope All-Canadian Jazz Festival Parade as well as the Port Hope Santa Claus Parade. Come on out and see us!

## A Summer to Remember

This past season at CFFM has been a busy and memorable one. Kicking off the season with our First Annual "Fire Sale" was a big success. Not only did we host many local residents from the area to support us in our fundraising, but we also enjoyed visitors from around the world.

Those that came out enjoyed a bbq lunch while browsing and shopping which helped CFFM generate over \$1000 towards our planned relocation. We divested many items that no longer fit into the museums collection strategy while sharing the fun of discovery and treasure



Above: Museum summer student, Boudicca Buteau-Duitschaever, carefully cleans a vintage "hose stake" to help preserve it for years to come.

hunting. No doubt the people that purchased are enjoying their finds!

July found CFFM in the Port Hope Canada Day Parade with a Bang! Thanks to Jude and Steve Smiley for being in charge of decorating and staffing the 1941 GMC and float.

"It wasn't hard", laughs Jude, Marketing Chair on the CFFM Board, "I posted on my Facebook page that I was looking for kids to ride the fire truck in the Parade and waited. After ten minutes I had to turn kids down because we just didn't have space. Everyone wore their newly designed CFFM t-shirts with pride."

The Port Hope Sidewalk Sale this summer was also a big success thanks to a robot. Generously loaned to us from Primitive Designs, the famous Bumblebee look-alike got a lot of attention and many people paid a "Loonie" to have their picture taken with him. Thanks to Ron Dacey and Rhonda Cook of Primitive Designs.

## Engaging Generation "Y" and Beyond

Hopefully you caught our feature article in *Northumberland Today* this summer where our summer students, Katrina Weyer of Trenton, and Boudicca Buteau-Duitschaever of Fergus, were profiled. If you missed it, you can find the link on our Facebook page.

Graduates of Sir Sandford Fleming College's Collections Conservation and Management Program, Katrina and Boudicca brought youthful energy and innovative spirit to the museum that is sure to engage not only history buffs, but the next generation as well, with many overhauled displays, a new interactive kids area and much more.

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## At CFFM, People Make ALL the Difference

After receiving “The Chair’s Award” for volunteer of the year 2012, Marielle Lambert hasn’t slowed down! Taking on a newly-designed Volunteer Coordinator position on the Board, Marielle has been a force to be reckoned with. Her hard work and extreme organization skills have helped CFFM to not only recruit some amazing volunteers this year, but ensure that the Museum is staffed and staying relevant for the entire season. A big “Thank You” goes out to Marielle and her team.

Who will receive this year’s Chair Award? Will it be you?

If you have just a few hours a week to donate to “Canada’s Hottest Museum” you will be eligible to receive this prestigious award celebrating your commitment to your community! Call Marielle Lambert at the Museum, 905.885.8985 to volunteer.

## In the Spotlight

We have many wonderful volunteers who help us in many different ways. Each newsletter, we will be spotlighting two. Here are our first two:

**Ruth Marvin**, one of our new volunteers, has taken on a special project: to develop the part of the Museum’s collection representing Canada’s forest fire fighters. Always a special interest of Ruth, she is making contacts who can provide information and artifacts from the forestry sector and has sent a request to a long list of people. Ironically, one of the first replies she received was a call from a gentleman at the Ministry of Natural Resources in Lac du Bonnet, Manitoba — and he has family in Port Hope! He formerly worked at Matthews Conveyor Co., in Port Hope, which happens to be where Ruth’s father and grandfather

worked! We look forward to seeing the list of artifacts he will be able to supply to our museum!

**Marg Graham-Trottman** was born and raised in Port Hope where she attended Port Hope High School and proceeded on to college graduating as a legal secretary. Marg is very active in the community and as well as dedicating time to the CFFM she also volunteers time with Community Care Port Hope helping with fundraising. Since a back injury in 1989, Marg has spent a lot of time trying to give back to her community through volunteering. When she isn’t in Port Hope, she spends her winters in Florida and in her spare time she’s working on an extensive family history project. Marg began volunteering at the Museum this season and is working on a Fire Hall Badge Database and labeling display. We are grateful and excited to benefit from Marg’s keen eye for detail and esthetic flair.

## The Big Ask — On the Path to National

If you never ask, you’ll never get. Over the past year we’ve been busy with not only fundraising which will allow us to move into a newer and more spacious location, but with enlisting the support and representation of fire fighters across Canada. Working with the many Fire Fighting Associations and Advocacy Groups will help us build our National Advisory Committee. Designed to encourage and enlist the counsel of a variety of fire fighting perspectives, this Committee will help us in representing all of Canada in appropriate artifacts and displays.

It’s been an incredible experience

to hear from so many different and diverse agencies that support the mission of CFFM; to preserve, protect and promote Canada’s Fire Fighting History.

Over the next 12 to 18 months you will see a big fundraising effort from the CFFM as we strive to reach our vision. If you or your organization would like to be part of that vision by donating, contact our Chair, Ken Burgin, at 905.885.2510.

## Thank YOU!

CFFM wants to thank the companies and supporters who came out in a big way this year! Particularly:

- Giant Tiger
- RONA Port Hope
- Home Depot Cobourg
- Reflections Glass & Accessories
- Primitive Designs
- Fire Services Credit Union
- Mobil ...and many others.



Above: Ace mechanic, Ray Easby, “eases” our 26 Gottfredson out of the garage for the first time in many years!

The Fire Mark is the Newsletter of the Canadian Fire Fighters Museum, 95 Mill Street S., Port Hope ON L1A 3W4  
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