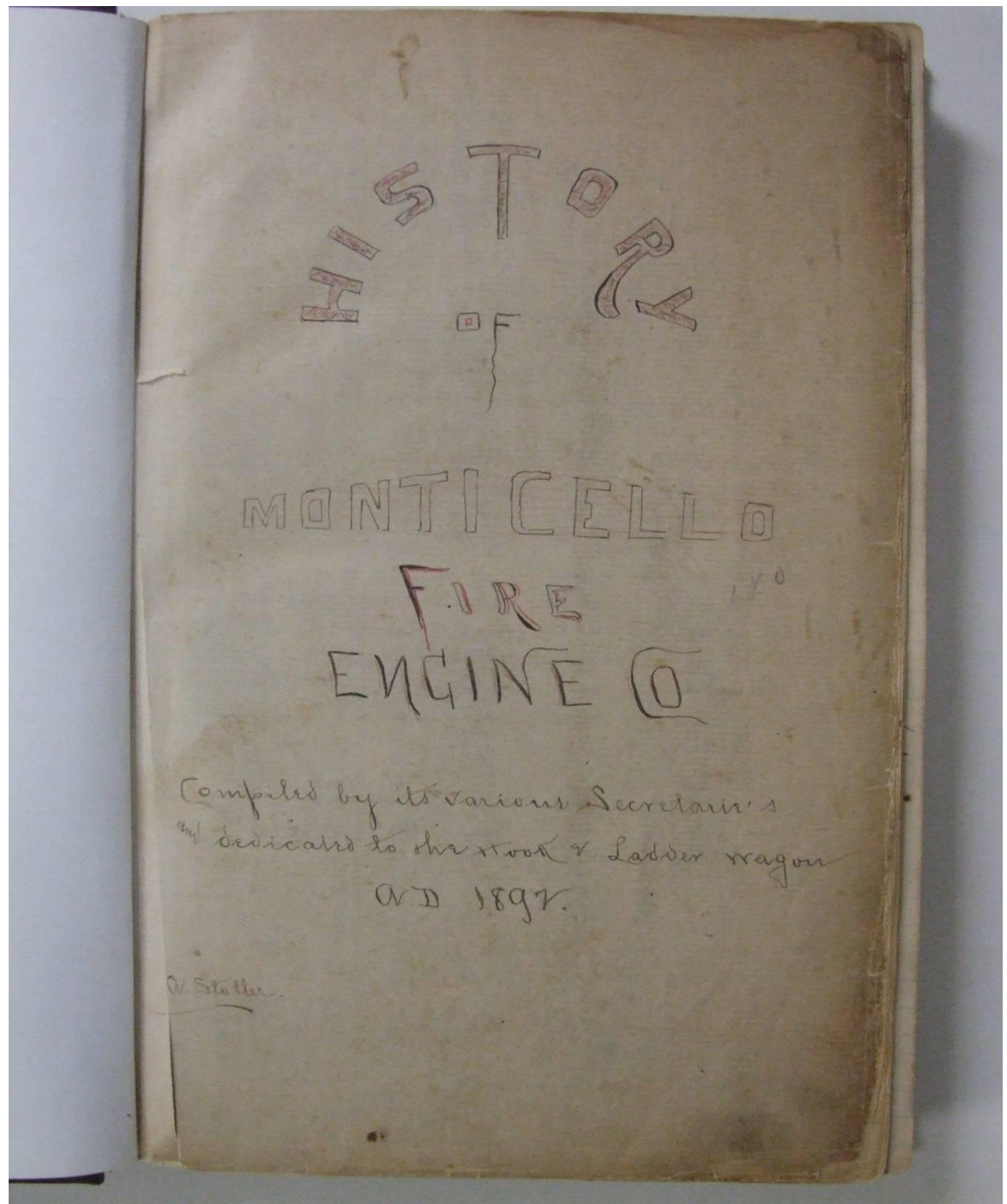


# Monticello Fire Department 1892-Present

By Roger Babler and Ron Blumer



Pictured at the left the first page from the original meetings record's book. The department was formed on Sept. 19 1892. A governing body was formed and department officers elected. The first Chief of the department was Fred Knobel. Actual number attending is unknown but about 17 different names are mentioned when appointing positions in the department.





1892

32 1



On Monday evening, the 19th day of September A.D. 1892, an assembly of young men met in Wittwers Hall for the purpose of organizing a Fire Company.

The meeting was called to order by Mr Fred Knobel, & Albert Stoller appointed as Secretary for the evening.

The object of the meeting was explained to the audience, & the election of Officers then followed with nominations as follows.

President.

A. R. Milner

Vice President

Geo. Barlow

Treasurer

H. L. Babler

Secretary

Albert Stoller

A Motion was then made & carried that the President appoint a committee of three to draft a set of By Laws.

Committee Geo Barlow. Fred

Pictured below is the first fire house as it was about to be remodeled in to a tavern which is now “Donna’s Place” . The firemen held their first meeting in the new “station” on Dec. 5 1892. They voted to hold their first Fireman's dance at a meeting the next week. The date was set but had to be postponed due to a Diphtheria epidemic. The dance was finally held on Feb 22 with a total profit of \$ 37.00.

In October of 1893 they bought 12 fire coats, helmets, a 16 ft. ladder and a “Fire Bell.” The bell is now part of the display at the present station.





We have no pictures of the original “Steamer” the department had. From the meeting minutes book it was noted as having 2 steamers in 1902. At the left are our original ladder wagon and hose cart. The cart was purchased on Sept. 3, 1894. In order to get the Steamer to a fire scene it was voted to reward a prize of \$ 5.00 to the first man that showed up at the station with a team and wagon when the alarm was sounded.

In May of 1895 the department appointed Joe Booher as Janitor for the department and paid him the grand sum of \$10.00 a year this continued for a number of years.





## From meeting records June 7 1897

A fire alarm was done for practice before the meeting. Time from the first tap of the bell to first stream of water on the Baptist Church was 4 ½ Min.

Also in 1897 July 19 Meeting proposed to purchase additional fire coats were purchased at a cost of \$ 2.75 each and helmets were also purchased at a cost of \$4.00 each. That evening a fire was discovered at “ Frehner’s Saloon” between 11 and 12 o’clock pm.





# Fireman's Tournament's

Tournaments or competition between area departments was a large social event at the turn of the century. The fireman would travel "mostly by train" to the event at the hosting town. Activities would include completion events between departments, Ball Games, Diner and Dance's later. In order to look more professional the department requested from the village to purchase "Dress Shirts & Trousers" took several tries to get this through the village.

Also in June of 1898 members S. E. Breylinger and Frank Wescott were appointed to give members instructions in "Military Movements." We assume that means marching skills.

The next slide shows the department results from a tournament at Monroe held in July or August of 1897.

Frank Wescott.  
Sec.

Monticello Fire Co attended Live mens  
Tournament at Monroe Aug 10 1897.

33 members present. who took part in  
the following contests

Hub and Hub race - 12 men - 2 <sup>nd</sup> prize	\$5.00
Chiefs foot race - Gerber - 1 <sup>st</sup> "	3.00
Hook and Ladder " - 12 men - 2 <sup>nd</sup> prize	5.00
Tug of war - 12 men - 1 <sup>st</sup> "	10.00
Bicycle race - F. Pierce - 3 <sup>rd</sup> prize	1.00
+ Hose race - 12 men - 2 <sup>nd</sup> "	1.00

dinner and supper furnished by Monroe  
Fire Co at City Hotel

Ball game at Fair grounds 10 A.M.  
Monroe 14 Plattville 10





# Other Social Events

Noted that in December of 1896 the fireman held a Oyster Supper invited the wives and the families of the village board members. Was a practice for a good number of years to hold a Banquet with the wives in December or January then after that they would hold a “Stag Night” fireman only.

Also Card games VS other area departments were held in the 30's and 40's Euchre and Yass being played.

In 1935 in cooperation with the local Legion Post the firemen built a Ball Diamond with lights (at the school?) and ran summer ball leagues for a number of years.

And of course the Local Fireman's dance this was held in various locations. The 2 Hotels on Main St., Kalen's Hall and finally the Fire Station when it was opened on E Coates Ave.

May - 6<sup>th</sup> 1935May 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting called to Order by Chief C.M. Stauffer

29-Members present

Minutes of last regular Meeting was read  
& approvedMotion made seconded and carried that Monticello  
Dept turn out with American Legion on Memorial  
Day with uniformBallot was spread about going in with  
American Legion on Base Park. Lights not to  
Exceed over \$500.00 <sup>together</sup> was carried by  
17-Yes - 7-No - 1-BlankThe following committee appointed about Poles -  
Parker Patterson and Adam A. Schuler  
Motion made seconded & carried to adjourn.C. M. Stauffer  
Acting Secy

June 3 - 1935



# Hasenpfeffer Feed's

- Taken from the F.D. meeting minutes 1930's
- 11/7/1933 voted to furnish 3 boxes of shells for hunters for rabbit feed
- 11/4/1935 voted to buy 4 boxes of shells for rabbit feed.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1907.

## FIRE DESTROYS DWELLING

Residence Occupied by Wm. Hyde Total Loss

Albany L  
plains

The dwelling occupied by Wm. Hyde and family, adjoining the north side school grounds, was practically destroyed by fire at about noon on Friday last. The blaze originated in the kitchen while Mrs. Hyde was preparing the noon day meal, and rapidly spread to the main part. The fire department responded promptly and had it not been for the fact that the chemical engine—the first to arrive upon the scene—was found to be out of working order, the fire would have been easily subdued before any great amount of damage had resulted. It required some little time to get the gasoline engine under headway, but when once it was started it required but the space of a few minutes to put an end to the conflagration. The shell of the structure still stands, but it is of little value aside from what it is worth for kindling wood.

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In 1907 had both a Chemical and "Gasoline" Engine per this article from the Messenger March 20 1907

Mrs. Henry Hancock carried \$300 insurance on the house and Mr. Hyde had \$200 insurance on his household goods and other property. The property was insured in the Phoenix Insurance company and a representative of the company was here yesterday and satisfactorily adjusted the losses. Mrs. Hancock was allowed the full amount of her policy and Mr. Hyde was allowed \$62.50.

Miss Henrietta Pierce had just moved into a portion of the house the day before. Her effects were removed with very little, if any, damage.



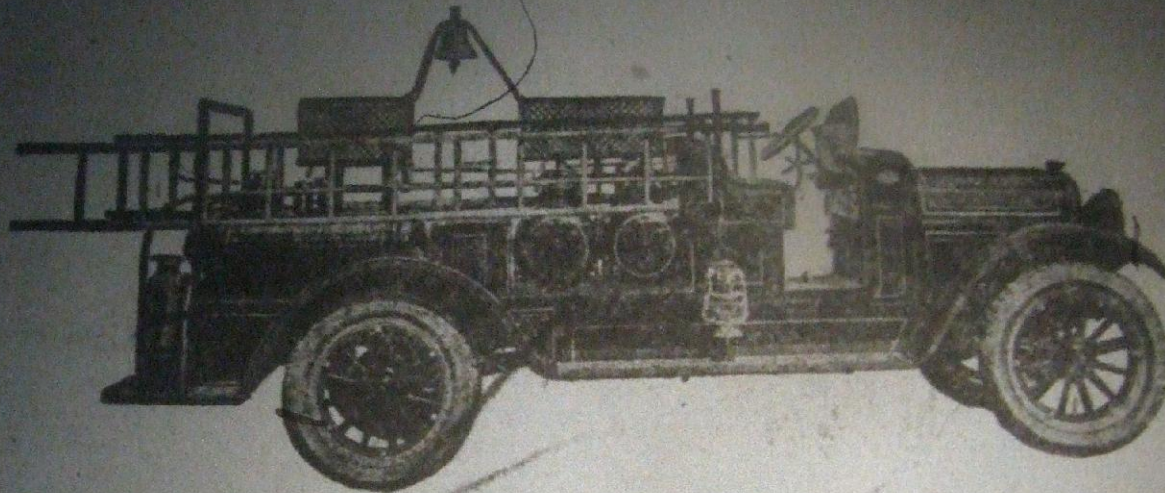
# Previous Engine Notes

In going through the department minutes here are some remarks associated with “Pumping Apparatus” Aug. 1902 department records suggest we had 2 “Pumping Engines .”

In Dec. of 1913 members were appointed to approach the village board to see about trade “Old Engine” for a Chemical Truck no further mention on this till 1926.



# Chemical Truck purchased in 1927



## Four Tank Chemical Fire Truck

Above is an illustration of a 4-tank chemical fire truck, the purchase of which is being considered by the towns of Mt. Pleasant and Washington and the village of Monticello. The outfit is practically the same as that recently purchased at New Glarus for use in the village and surrounding country.

Sentiment in the two townships appears to be in favor of the pro-

ject, while the village board stands ready to co-operate in the purchase in case of a favorable rural "verdict." In Washington township the proposition will be voted upon at the election next Tuesday, while in Mt. Pleasant township it is planned to raise the necessary funds by subscription. The cost of the contemplated equipment will be in the neighborhood of \$4,000—approximately \$1,300 for each district.

# Chemical Trucks from Boyer Co.

PUMPS: A-American/B-Barton/D-Darley/E-Evinrude/H-Hale/V-Viking/VP-Van  
Pelt/W-Waterous - 3 45Gal refers to number and size of chemical tanks.

FIRE DEPT	STATE	NO.	YR	CHASSIS	NO	PUMP NO.	PHOTO
Montezuma	Ind.	11993	1967	Ford	F95KUA33378	H 27469	Y
Monticello	Ind.	7806	1930	Indiana	120M398	H 1997	Y
(at Hand & Hand Restoration-Jackson Mich.-1997)							
Monticello	Iowa	8555	1932	Studebaker	3426004	H 2351	N
Monticello	Ky.	2704	1924	Ford	3 35Gal	N	
Monticello	Wisc.	5952	1927	GMC	512 Model-T	2 45Gal	
					2 35Gal	N	
Monticello	Wisc.	8466	1931	GMC	512 Model-T-40-B	B C27414	N
Montpelier	Ind.	4504	1925	Int.	6442	H 1075	N
New Glarus	Wisc.	5457	1926	Reo	141401	4 35Gal	N
Belleville	Wisc.	8105	1930	Int.	A-4-3452	H 2142	
					2 40Gal	N	
Evansville	Wisc.	7805	1930	GMC	1836B	H 1983	
					2 40Gal	N	

The early "Chemical" trucks worked much like a old "Soda-Acid" extinguishers which propelled the water out of it by inducing a chemical reaction

.





Chemical Truck fitted with Water Pump in 1931 for a cost of \$ 1,125.00

**Farmers Advised to Build Inexpensive Reservoirs For Protection**

Throwing a stream of 672 gallons of water a minute when attached to a Main street hydrant and tossing out 450 gallons a minute while pumping the water from Lake Staedtler, the new Barton water pump on the Monticello Community Fire truck fully lived up to expectations in tests which have been conducted during the past week. The water pump was purchased recently at an expenditure of \$1,125.

## Take Monticello Fire Truck to Logansport

John Bergman, Lake Mills, district representative of the Boyer Fire Apparatus company, Logansport, Ind., was here Sunday evening to get the Monticello Community Fire truck with which he left on the following morning for Logansport where the local fire fighting unit will be equipped with a Barton water pumper.

The village of Monticello and towns of Washington and Mt. Pleasant, which are jointly interested in the community truck, recently ordered the Barton, which has a capacity of 350 gallons of water a minute and represents an expenditure of \$1,125.

While the Monticello truck is in Logansport, another fire fighting unit, owned by the Boyer company and mounted on a Ford Model T truck, is in Monticello ready to answer fire alarms. Although this outfit is far inferior to the local truck and it had been hoped that a better vehicle would be available, the machine here now was the only unit the Boyer company had at its plant at the present time.

**Missionary Picnic**



# Chemical Truck Aids at Monroe Fire

Excerpts from a Messenger story on Monticello Assisting Monroe FD back in the early 1930's. A fire was discovered by Marvin Zimmerman and C. M. Stauffer as they were returning from Monroe the fire was on the J.E. Dorthy farm that was rented by Charles Keegan near "Round Grove" in all 7 buildings were burned. Also arriving from Monticello was Henry J Elmer A. Chief and Otto Bontly they had to call a second time for Monroe to respond and also called Monticello to respond. The Chemical truck from Monroe FD proved to be useless as the chemical tanks were empty. The Monticello Engine arriving later put out a fire in the chicken house and prevented flames from spreading to the house. Cars lined up on the highway for 2 miles to watch as they all were returning from a circus at Monroe. This was noted as the largest fire in the area for "quite some time".

# Geigel Cheese Factory Fire

## LOCAL FIREMEN IN QUICK RUN TO SAVE FACTORY

Extinguish Stubborn Fire  
After Fight Lasting  
Three Hours

Shooting a steady stream of water onto the flaming structure for a period of three hours, members of the Monticello Community Fire truck squad extinguished the fire which destroyed the living quarters of the Geigel cheese factory in Mount Pleasant township and were successful in saving the factory section and cellar Saturday morning.

The community truck squad made an unusually fast run to the scene of the fire, and although the roof of the living room was already caving in, the members, under the direction of Chief C. M. Stauffer, were able to put out the flames and save most of the building after a three-hour fight which lasted from 9:30 until 12:30 noon. The commendable work of the firemen in overwhelming the flames made it possible for cheese-making operations at the factory to continue without interruption despite the fire.

By stringing 500 feet of hose from a nearby creek, the local firemen were able to utilize a constant water supply and the new pumper on the community truck performed in great fashion. The fight against the flames would have been futile without it.

Jacob Sauter is maker at the Geigel factory, and it was while he was taking in milk from a patron that he sensed there was a fire in the building. Investigation found flames in the living quarters, believed to have been caused by an overheated stove. The operator at the Monticello telephone exchange was immediately notified and a silent alarm given to squad members.

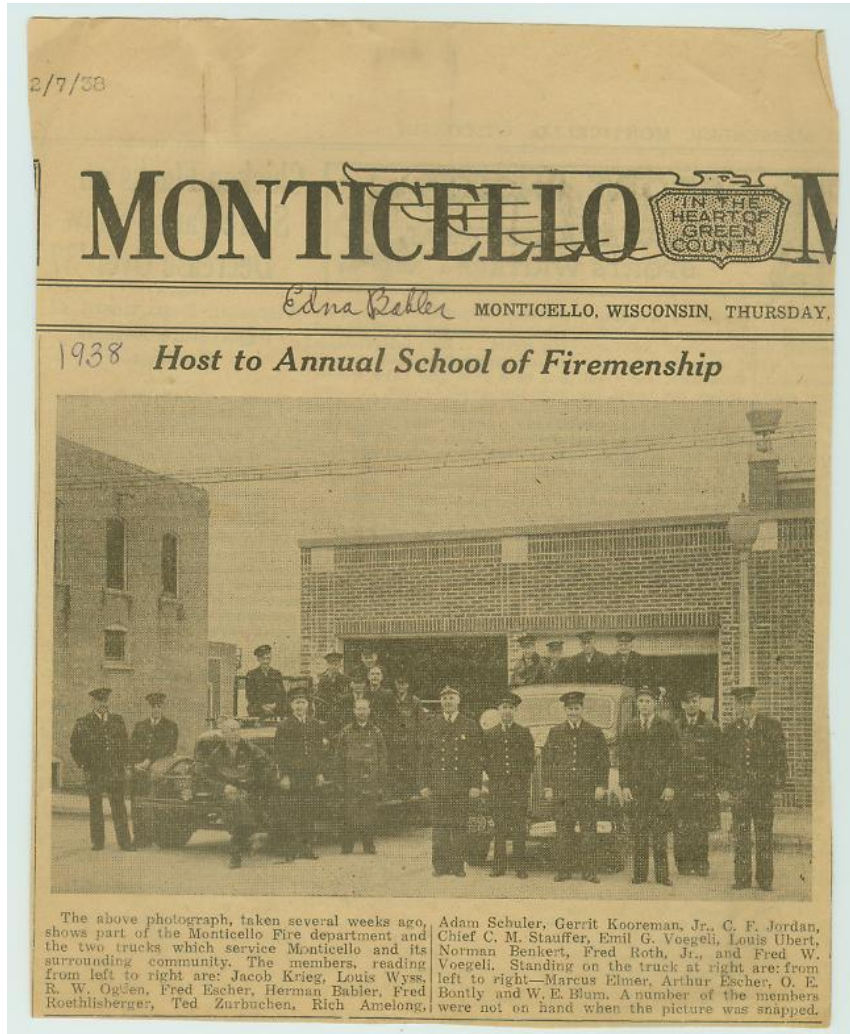
After the truck motor had been pumping water for an hour, one of the lengths of hose "blew out" in the center. The length was quickly removed and fire fighting soon resumed. The hose, a new one tested to stand 300 pounds of pressure, has only had 75 pounds pressure shot through it and examination revealed no flaws. Circumstances indicate that some one may have cut the hose, but this is considered unlikely. The length of hose is valued at \$35.



# Monticello Fire & Rescue

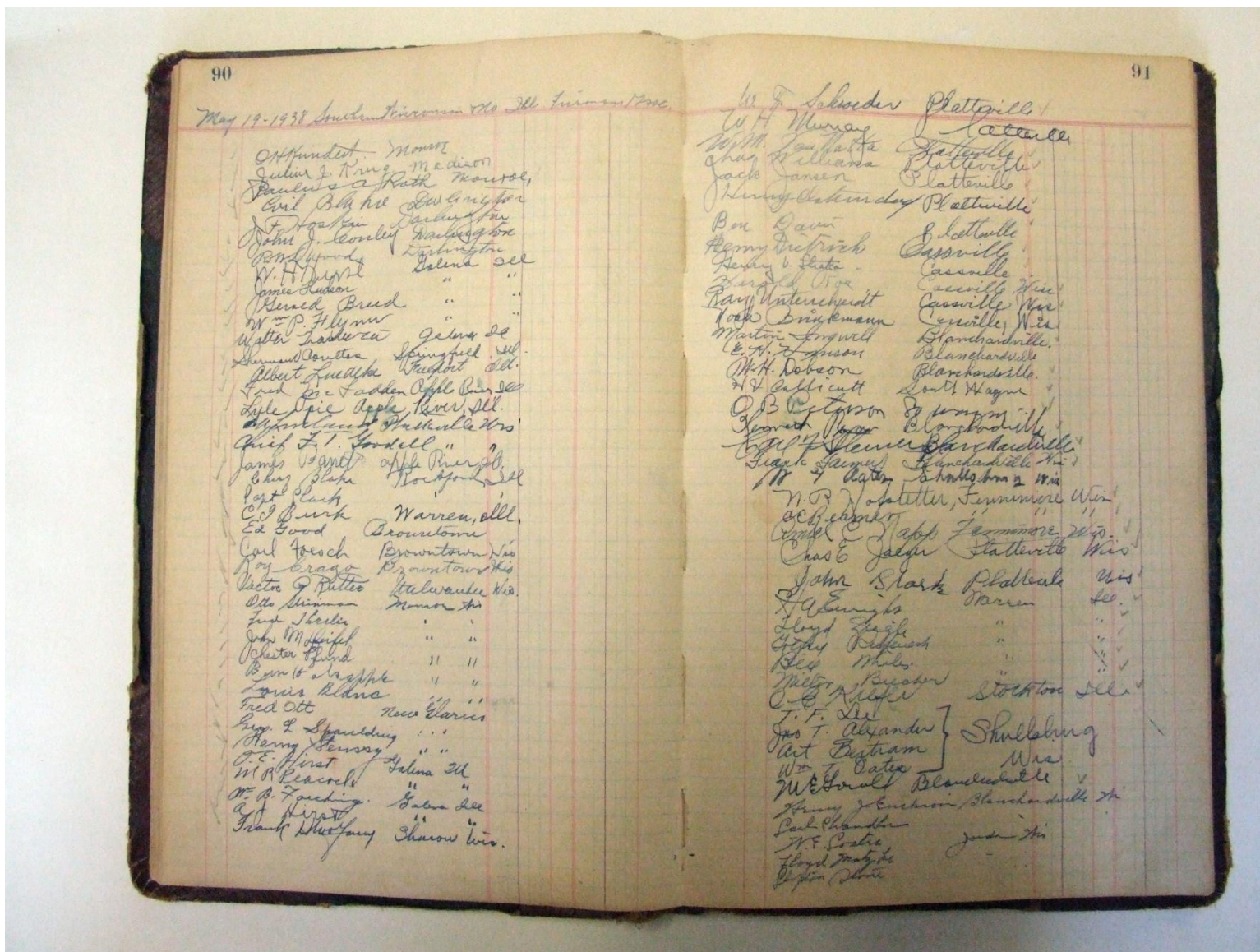
Picture is from 1938 Prior to hosting the Southern Wisconsin Northern Illinois Fireman's Association Spring Convention

The firemen are shown with the 1927 converted Chemical Unit and just received that year the 1937 GMC pumper

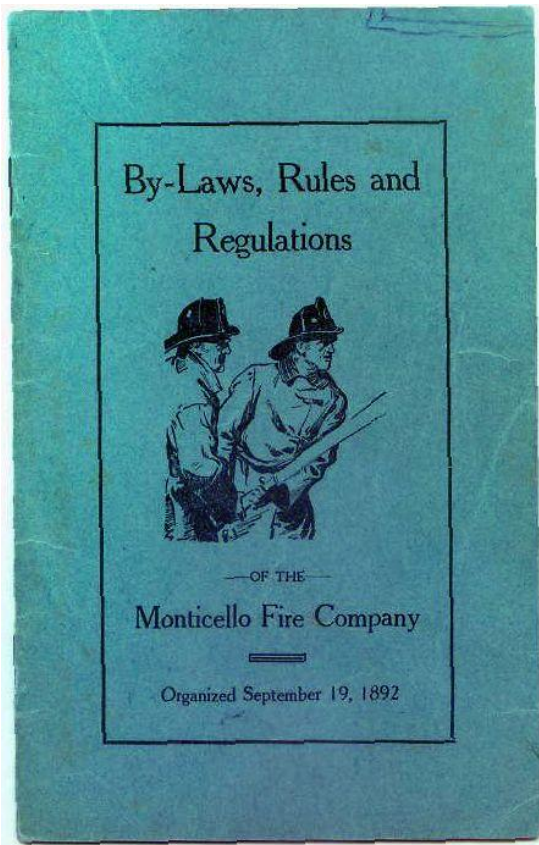




# Guest Book Spring Convention 1938







a motion was made and seconded to go on record to demand the original first minutes of the fire dept. from E.M. Stauffer, who being property of the fire dept. and with the help of its contents to be used in rewriting our new by-laws.

A committee of Dean Zimm, Chairman, Fred Escher, Ben Kroll & Ed Quade was appointed to check old by-laws.

Roll call

Motioned seconded & carried to adjourn —

Dean Zimmerman  
Secy.

On the left is a copy of the By-Laws a rework done in 1939 at that time the name was changed from Monticello Fire Company to Monticello Fire Department. In April of 1956 the above appears in the department records. We also rewrote the By-Laws 3 years ago.

# 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

On July 21, 1942 the department celebrated it's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary by honoring 4 surviving original members. They were Albert Stoller he was the first Sect. of the department, J. C. Steinmann Sr., Robert Barney and Charles Rolph Sr.

Also surviving was Henry Hancock who was not present at the event.

Following is a reproduction from the Department records' of that event and a Messenger article on the same.



July 21, 1942

A special party was held to honor the original charter members of the Fire Dept. Five old timers were present as follows:

Albert Stoller - First Sec.  
of Dept organized in 1892.  
J. Steinmann - Sr.  
Henry Hancock  
Robert Barney  
Charles Rolph - Sr.

The meeting opened with a welcome speech by Chief Stauffer. Mr. Stoller & Mr. Steinmann responded.

After the talps, cigars were passed, and refreshments were served.

The secretary was asked to express the appreciation of the dept. to Karl Holsinger for the box of cigars he donated.

Adam Schuler  
Sec.



# Founders of Local Fire Dept. Honored

## Five Remaining Members Recall Early Days of Local Company

A special meeting of the Monticello Fire department was held at the fire station Tuesday evening honoring the five living charter members of the organization, which was formed in September 1892 and will be 50 years old in September of this year.

The five remaining members are: Albert Stoller, Brookline, Mass., who was the department's first secretary, and who is visiting in Monticello at present, Charles M. Rolph, Sr., J. C. Steinmann, Sr., Henry Hancock and Robert Barney, Monroe.

The four charter members in Monticello were whisked to the fire station and home again in the department's fire truck, a new and modern machine which is a far cry from the vehicle the founders used to "rush" to fires with 50 years ago. Needless to mention the fire laddies of the '90's received quite a thrill from the experience.

Fire Chief C. M. Stauffer gave the welcome address and each of the five charter members responded with short talks during the course of the program.

Mr. Barney came for the meeting with Sheriff R. H. Schoonover, who also attended the affair.

Refreshments followed the program.



# 1943 Air Raid Drill

no day out  
Adam Schuler  
Sec.

Prior to meeting, a  
7 o'clock lunch was served.

Feb. 3, 1943  
Official blackout, county  
wide. The yellow light was  
announced at 7:35 P.M. the  
blue light at 7:50 and the  
red light at 8:03. The fire  
siren was sounded, and  
Chief Stauffer made a tour  
of the village sounding his  
siren. Practically 100% of  
cooperation from civilian  
defense workers and residents  
followed.

Three incidents took place.  
At 8:06  $\frac{1}{2}$ , a call came from  
Sector 7 notifying us that  
Zwingli Reformed Church had  
been struck by an incendiary  
bomb. A truck was



promptly dispatched.

At 8:07, a call announced that a fire bomb had struck Art Escher's house. Truck No. 2 was dispatched.

At 8:09, a call announced that a demolition bomb had struck Albert Knobel's house and that two people were injured and in need of medical aid.

The ambulance with Driver Frederick Voegeli and Medical Chief Dr. Harden responded.

The all clear was sounded at 8:18.

Both trucks and ambulance returned safely.

No accidents were reported.  
64 civilian defense workers were on hand as follows:  
Control Room

C. W. Karlen - Commander

W. E. Klassy - Transportation

J. Dahnke - Messenger

A. A. Watters & Bill Benkert - Utility

Medical



at 8:18.

Both trucks and ambulance returned safely.

No accidents were reported.  
64 civilian defense workers were on hand as follows:

Control Room

C. W. Karlen - Commander

W. E. Klassy - Transportation

J. Dahnke - Messenger

H. A. Watters & Bill Benkert - Utility

Dr. Harden - Medical

Dr. Babler & Al Knobel - Air Raid Warden

H. J. Wirth - Police

G. M. Stauffer - Fire

Adam Schuler - Registrar & Clerk

All firemen except 3, who were out of town, were present.

Adam Schuler  
Sec.



# Annual Spring Convention

A association of fire departments from Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois hold a spring convention at different locations around the area.

In 1946 this was held a Cassville, WI. The following 3 slides are notations from that trip by Adam Schuler department sect. at that time.

May 19, 1946

So. Wis. No. Ill. Fireman's  
Convention at Cassville.

Ten from Monticello + ten from  
New Glarus attended. <sup>Charters</sup> <sup>at Bus.</sup>

Monticello Firemen were  
C. M. Stauffer, Henry Duerst,  
Chip Babler, E. Broge, Emil G.  
Voegeli, O. D. Curtis, Paul  
Vedise, Albert Moritz, Ray  
Gessler and your secretary.

Had a swell dinner  
at Lancaster and a good  
supper at Cassville.

Meeting on the bank  
of the Mississippi 1 mile so.  
of Nelson Dewey Park, Cassville  
is a sleepy river town on  
the main line of the C. B. & Q.  
between Chicago & Memphis.  
We saw 2 past Zephyrs  
go thru the town on the line  
it comes there it goes basis.  
convinced refreshments



We saw 2 fast Zephyrs  
go thru the town on the wire  
it comes in there it goes back.

We also enjoyed refreshments  
in the hotel where Nelson  
Dewey died and we were  
of the opinion that the present  
operators of the hotel were  
neither glad nor honest  
altho shaky. Being jipped  
at the refreshment joint  
aroused our anger so we  
walked out with an engineer's  
cap and a rubber apron  
had a ride on a wheel  
barrow and had E. Chief  
Widman Madison present  
the apron to our Chief  
for use in his blacksmith  
shop. A good time was  
had by all.

Monroe this fall and  
New Glarus next spring  
are the sites of school  
convention.



P.S. We didn't meet the editor's daughter but we did meet the editor's wife. She was tall, lean & lanky and a good scout.

N.B. New Glarus Chief Bruner and 9 other firemen were good sports and assisted in making the trip a lot of fun. The Monticello gang can thank Bruner for the swell feed at Lancaster. He arranged for it and did a good job. Louis Ubert wore a cap so he wasn't cold. Louis also saw a mountain goat with legs longer on one side than on the other so it could stand straight on the side of a bluff. In appreciation for the sportsmanship of New Glarus firemen we almost let them beat us at baseball Sunday. Score Monticello 3 New Glarus 2.

Adam Schuler  
Sec.



# Photo from Bank Calendar



Mid 1950's Monticello Volunteer Fire Department.

Front row - (left to right) John Zimmerman, Adam Schuler, Bob Durtschi, Emil G. Voegeli, Marvin Zimmerman, Dean Zimmerman, Harold M. Babler

Second Row - Don Knobel, Karl Freitag, John Stenbroten, Ervin Broge (Chief), Dr. Ray Woodruff, Herman Babler, Fred Escher, Clarence Elmer

Third row - Ray Gessler, Armin Loeffel, Norman Benkert, Dr. C. J. Klooster, Leo Gempler, Fred Minder, Wilbert Stauffer

Top row - Ed Quade, Irving Eichorst, Barney Karlen, Willard Prisk, John Smith, Lawrence Arn, Alfred Aeberhard, Jr., Fred Durtschi

# Fire Department at Homecoming

June 6, 1967  
meeting called to order by Chief Dean Zimmerman  
minutes of last regular meeting read and approved as read  
motion by Harold Schulz, sec. by Ed Guade  
& carried to have turtle races at homecoming  
Harold Schulz to get table ready & Ed Reese to get turtles  
Discussion on burning buildings. attention to be brought up to Fire Board.  
motion made by ~~Paul Berber~~ John Zimmerman sec. by Harold

Annual "Water Fights" among area departments could be considered an offshoot of the early "Fireman's Tournaments." In 1931 when movies were shown on Wednesday nights the firemen also staged water fights 3 man team's took place. Also in 1967 in a effort to raise some money, for a project, the fireman started turtle races. As turtles proved to move rather slowly they were replaced with "Hamsters" in later years. The speed increased revenue. This came to an abrupt halt as some "Do-gooder" had a fit about animal cruelty



## NEXT WEDNES. NIGHT

### Members of Local Fire Department to Stage Battle

A novel attraction in the series of free entertainments, being sponsored during the summer months under the auspices of the Monticello Business Men's association, will be staged next Wednesday night, July 5th, when a water fight will be pulled off on Main street.

The water fighting teams will be selected from the personnel of the Monticello Fire department and there is a possibility that two fights will be staged for the entertainment of Wednesday night visitors in the village. C. H. Stauffer, chief of the department, and Wm. H. Benkert, assistant chief, have charge of the arrangements for the exhibition.

Three probable participants in the water fights are Jake Krieg, A. M. Lauridsen, and Marvin Zimmerman. Other selections are to be announced later. There is a possibility that some high school boys will participate in one of the fights should permission be obtained from their parents, several of the youths having indicated a desire to take a part in one of the exhibitions.

A large crowd of people were in Monticello last evening to attend the first free movie of the season, "West of Santa Fe," a western thriller featuring the redoubtable Bob Custer. Save for the drill by the Freeport Legion Drum and Bugle corps, all of the entertainments had been furnished by band music until last evening.

## Firemen Make Good Showing at Tourney

Capturing \$38.50 in prize money, the Monticello Fire department running team "crashed" through with a very creditable performance at the annual Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois Firemen's tournament which was held in conjunction with the Fourth of July celebration at Shullsburg.

The Monticello team finished second in the hook and ladder race, losing out for first place by only three-quarters of a second to Darlington. Other placings made by the local outfit were first in the relay bucket and ladder contest; "second" in the water fight against Cuba City; second in the relay coupling contest; and third in the single man's ladder climbing contest. Jake Krieg and Herman Disch represented Monticello in the water fight, while Marvin Zimmerman performed in the ladder climbing contest.

Those who ran on the Monticello team were Will Amstutz, Edwin Kenendy, Richard Amelung, Frank Clark, A. M. Lauridsen, Herman Disch, Colie Blum, Ted Zurbuchen, Marvin Zimmerman, Jake Krieg, Jake Disch, Raymond Pierce, Burt Eagan, Parker Patterson, Fred Roethlisgerger, and Will Feldt.



# FWD Arrives 1952

## New Community Fire Truck Arrives

The new Four Wheel Drive Monticello Community fire truck arrived here Tuesday night and yesterday (Wednesday) underwent a three-hour pumping test conducted by the Fire Rating Bureau.

The shiny, massive new truck is powered by a 200 horse power motor. The truck carries a 500-gallon tank and pumps 750 gallons of water per minute.

The cost of the new truck, fully equipped except for discharge hoses and nozzles is \$13,900, which will be shared equally by Mt. Pleasant and Washington townships and the village of Monticello.

The new truck, which was selected by officials of the three precincts only after thorough investigation, replaces an old truck that has been in service for 25 years.

A custom built apparatus, the entire truck and all equipment was built and assembled at the Four Wheel Drive factory in Clintonville. The new truck was ordered late last fall.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1952

MONTICELLO MESSENGER, MONTICELLO.

## New Community Fire Truck Delivered by 4-Wheel Drive Co.



Pictured above is the new 4-Wheel Drive community fire truck which has been purchased by Mt. Pleasant and Washington townships and the village of Monticello. The massive truck is powered by a 200 horse power engine. The pumping equipment pumps 750 gallons of water per minute. The truck carries a 500-gallon water tank. The annual firemen's dance will be held in Karlen's hall Friday night, Nov. 7.



DECEMBER 11, 1952

## Water Tanker

Ordered for Fire Runs  
by Townships

Realizing the fact that an adequate supply of water in time may often prevent serious loss, the townships of Mt. Pleasant and Washington have purchased a 2,200-gallon tank truck to augment the 500-gallon supply carried by the new Community fire truck.

The vehicle is of the tractor-trailer type. The truck is a 1946 model F. W. D., while the tank and trailer are also used equipment.

The unit will be housed in the stone building, at the north end of Main street, owned by the village of Monticello.

The truck will have a regular crew of two men, both of whom will be members of the Monticello Fire department.

The tanker will follow the fire truck on all runs where the water supply is known to be inadequate. Main purpose of the additional equipment will be to serve as "insurance" against loss to buildings which are located in a danger area when a serious farm fire is in progress.

Delivery of the truck and water tanker is expected within a few days.

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AUXILIARY MEETING

We have no photo of the original tractor trailer tanker this was purchased in Dec of 1952. Below is the truck that replaced it and the latest tanker





May 1 - 1961

The meeting was called to order by Chief Broge - for the practice before the meeting the pond was burned off. A date for the firemens dance was set for Nov. 12 with Jack Busch playing for \$12.00. Chief Broge brought up the possibility of getting a "Clear" truck for a rescue truck. He was to look into it further. It was decided to get 8 tickets for the firemens convention at New Glarus - no tell - roll call & a motion to adjourn.

Dean J. Sleg - Treas.







# Grass Fire Units





# Pumping Engines from start to now







## Fire Station from start to now



# Alerting for Fires

- Early Days



Alarm Bell installed in the Fire House in July of 1893



Then alerting was done through the local telephone operator

- New Technology



After a local operator was not needed “Fire Phones” were installed in 10 locations around the village.



Finally alerting via radio that we now use today Monticello was the first department in the area to use “paggers” to replace the “Plectron” receivers.



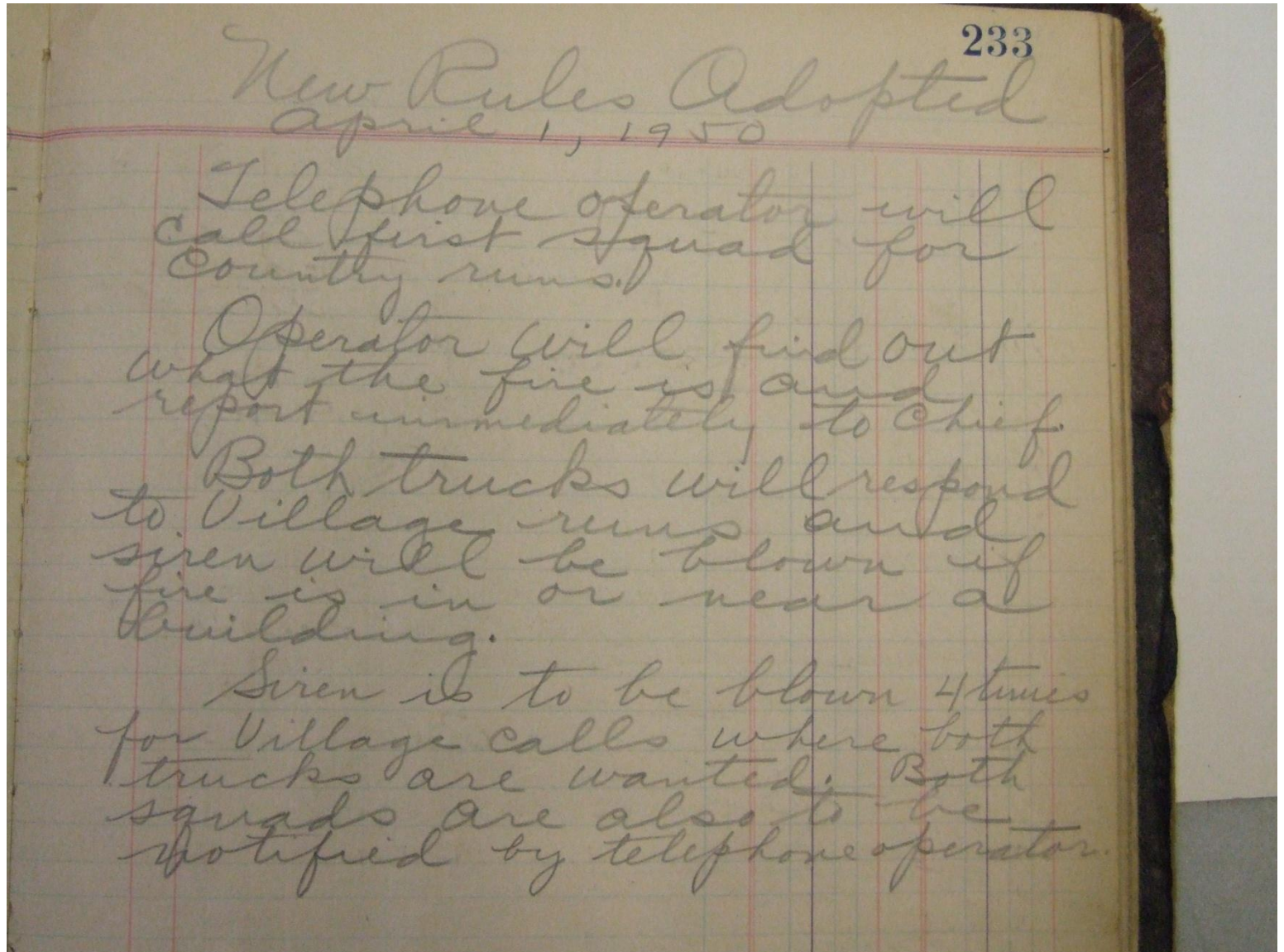


# Siren for Alerting

- Old Siren from 1929
- New Siren installed 2009



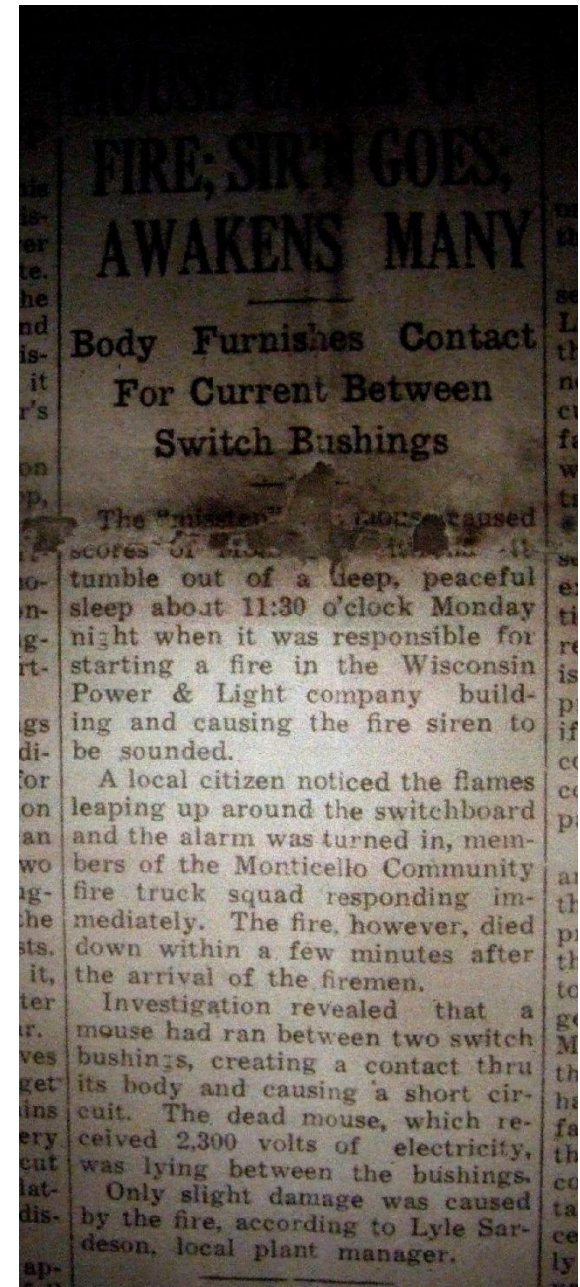
# Siren Use April 1950







Some what hard to read but this took place in Sept. of 1931. Seems that a mouse shorted out a electrical connection that in turn triggered the siren to alert the firemen about the call. ***Early Fire Alarm System !!***

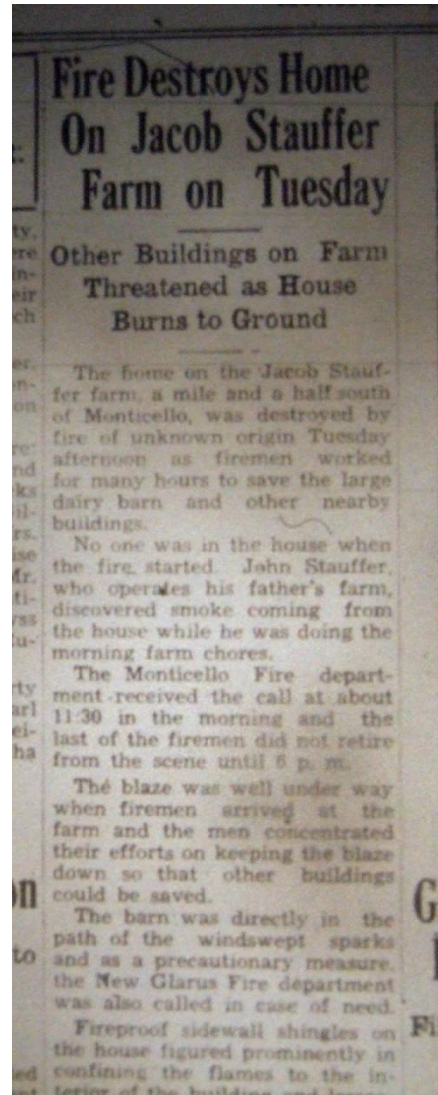


# Karlen & Steinmann Mill Run

Karlen & Steinmann Mill			
March 14, 1954			
Heine Babler	8 hrs.	8.50	Pd 4-5-54
Dr. Woodruff	7 hrs.	7.50	Pd 4-5-54
Bud Benkert	12 hrs.	12.50	Pd 4-5-54
E. Guade	10 hrs.	10.50	Pd 4-5-54
Louis Wyss	10 hrs.	10.50	Pd 4-5-54
E. Brooge	11 hrs.	11.50	Pd 4-5-54
W. Prisk	11 hrs.	11.50	Pd 4-5-54
Ray Gessler	11 hrs.	11.50	Pd 4-5-54
M. R. Zimmerman	10 hrs.	10.50	Pd 4-5-54
Dean Zimmerman	10 hrs.	10.50	Pd 4-5-54
E. Eickhorst	10 hrs.	10.50	Pd 4-5-54
R. Elmer	5 hrs.	5.50	Pd 4-5-54
Don Knobel	11 hrs.	11.50	Pd 4-5-54
Karl Freitag	10 hrs.	10.50	Pd 4-5-54
Jno. Zimmerman	10 hrs.	10.50	Pd 4-5-54
Ray Stettler	11 hrs.	11.50	Pd 4-5-54
Fred Escher	12 hrs.	12.50	Pd 4-5-54
Barney K.	11 hrs.	11.50	Pd 4-5-54
Geo. Taylor	10 hrs.	10.50	Pd 4-5-54
A. Ackhard	7 hrs.	7.50	Pd 4-5-54
Don Schuler	11 hrs.	11.50	Pd 4-5-54
Ieland H.	11 hrs.	11.50	Pd 4-5-54
A. Schuler	5 hrs.	5.50	Pd 4-5-54
Mrs. Root		1.00	Pd 4-5-54
Village - Paid		226.50	



# John Stauffer house fire



Motioned, seconded & carried  
to pay Ken Klassy for  
a milk can used at  
John Stauffer fire.  
Karl Freitag, Jr. Elmer  
and Armin Soeffel were  
appointed as a dance  
committee to check  
on a dance band for  
our annual dance next  
fall.  
Motioned, seconded  
& carried to have



Before the availability of local EMS services Life Safety issues were basically treated as a “Scoop-up and Run” Here in 1931 F. W. Voegeli installed a cot and fan conversion in the funeral home hearse. Later on the village purchased a station wagon for use by the village constable. Now we enjoy the use of the Departments First Responder services coupled with area EMS units and in more serious cases the use of Medical Helicopters.

## Equips Local Hearse For Ambulance Use

Equipping his Henney “8” hearse so that it can be used as an ambulance, Fred W. Voegeli, local furniture dealer and undertaker, has provided the Monticello community with a service which is available to few places of similar size.

Mr. Voegeli has purchased an ambulance cot for the Henney, which is especially built so that it can be used as an ambulance. An electric fan has been installed and the Voegeli vehicle has an added advantage over most ambulances in that it has considerably more room.

Ambulance service will be given at all hours of the day and night by Mr. Voegeli, who will go to hospitals in any surrounding city, regardless of the distance. New Glarus physicians plan to make use of the Voegeli ambulance service when needed, it is said.





# MFD First Responder Service

True First responder service was started by the department after a meeting with “Sister Ann” from St. Clare Hospital in August of 1976. The department in previous years had members trained in basic “Red Cross First Aid”.

The department now has a group of members that are certified “First Responders or EMT’S”



# MFD First's

We like to think we are a progressive department and have a couple items that we are very proud of.

Our Department was the first in Green County to utilize the use of pagers for alerting.

Also we were the first department in the county to obtain a “rural rating” from the I.S.O. Office for rural protection.

And the department has been very successful in obtaining various grants that kept us equipped and lowering our operating costs.





# MFD Patch Project

Since the early 1990'S after receiving a letter from Galen Logen a firefighter from Monticello Indiana requesting a department patch. We also took up the collection of all the Monticello's across the USA. With 17 Cities or Villages taking the name Monticello it took some time to complete the collection so with 2 villages not responding after numerous attempts to get in touch we finally have the collection framed and displayed in our meeting room. In all we have 19 different patches ranging from "Monticello's" to Thomas Jefferson's home security unit and a pair of "Lake Monticello "areas. And also we could not forget our friends at **"Montello"**

You may view the completed collection on-line at our department web site.

<http://www.monticello-fire.org>

# Monticello Patch Project





# Active in the Community

- Annual Dinner
  - Monticello House
  - Pig Roast May 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Homecoming
  - Food stands
  - Chicken BBQ Delivery
  - Waterfights
  - Parade
  - Ball Park/ Mud Volleyball



# Community Continued

- Halloween
  - Parade
  - Judges
- Santa Claus
  - Empty Christmas Stocking
    - Donations
    - Toys
    - Food
  - Snacks for the public





# Monticello Schools

- K – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade
  - Fire Prevention Program
  - Station Tours
  - Fire Truck rides
- Middle School/High School
  - Different Programs to encourage Safe Behavior
    - Drinking and Driving
    - Seatbelt



# Monticello's Line of Duty Death

- Herman “Hermie” Schultz
  - Belleville Waterfights
  - Nozzleman
- Other Sacrifices have been made
  - Broken bones
  - Fingers cut off
  - Etc...





# Calls

- 100-120 calls/year
  - 80% Medical
  - 20% Fire
- Hazardous Materials, Water Rescue, Wildland Certified



# Our Thanks

- Community
  - Donations
  - Support
- Businesses
  - Donations
  - Planning
  - Letting workers respond
- Family





# Thank You



- Questions???
- Web Page
  - [Monticello-fire.org](http://Monticello-fire.org)