

2015 Events Calendar

For more info on any Fire Co. event, call 717-392-0112

- Sat. May 23 **Chicken BBQ** 10:30am-6:30pm
 Thurs. Jun 25 **Preview, Food & Auction** 3:30-8:00pm
 Fri. June 26 **Lancaster County Carriage & Antique Auction** 8am
 www.birdinhandauction.com
 Sat. Sep. 5 **Chicken BBQ** 10:30am-6:30pm
 Sep. 11,12,13 **Run, Ride, Soar**
 5K Race, BIH Half Marathon, Bike & Balloon Race, Hot Air Balloon Launch, Pasta Dinner & Community Picnic
 www.bihhalf.com

Got Blood?

Just 1 pint can save 3 lives!

Blood Drives @ BIHFC

**May 6
July 8
September 9
November 11**

(Wednesdays) 2:00-7:00pm
 (No appointment necessary. Just show up!)

Sharing this list with your friends, family & employees contributes greatly to our community!



Hosting a Meeting or Party? Stay Close to Home & Rent Here!



Capacity: Seats 100 theater style or at tables

Handicapped-accessibility: Entire facility, including parking spaces and restrooms, no steps

Kitchenette: Counter space, refrigerator with freezer, coffee station, sink & outlets for crockpots, ideal staging area for caterers

Technology: Sound system, video projector & screen, Internet access

Parking: 25 level spaces close to the building & horse tie rails

Types of Rentals: One-time event or weekly/monthly rental

Cost: Meeting room is \$175 for 8 hours. Kitchen is rented on a case-by-case basis (requires food safety certified person on site for entire event.)

Contact: Stephen or Johnny Stoltzfus
 717-468-0883

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT: Bird-in-Hand Corporation and the Fire Company

Committed to the well-being of our community

There is a long-standing relationship between the Fire Company and the Bird-in-Hand Corporation, which is owned by members of the Smucker family. The Smuckers have been a part of the Bird-in-Hand community for over 100 years, since they bought their farm east of the village in 1911.

As the Smuckers farmed their land, they developed close ties with their neighbors and became involved in community life by joining the Fire Company. Eighty-five-year-old John I. Smucker remembers leaving the farm chores as a young man to drive the engine to the fires. These family members served as Fire Company chiefs: Paul Smucker in 1972-1977 and Jerry Smucker in 1978 and 1982-1986.

This multi-generational relationship between the Smucker family and the Fire Company still benefits the community today. Presently two of the largest fundraisers for the Fire Company have been developed in collaboration with the Smuckers.

In the late 2000s the Fire Company made a strategic shift in their approach to fundraising by seeking out a few large events instead of many small fundraisers. At the same time Bird-in-Hand Corporation wanted to use its land on the Smucker Homestead as an event venue. In June 2008 with the help of Jake King, Paul Stoltzfus and Elam Petersheim, they worked together to bring the Lancaster County Carriage and Antique Auction to the village. A successful partnership was formed with Bird-in-Hand, which provides the event site and also financial and technical assistance.

Many of the Smucker Family are avid runners, including Jim and John Smucker. In November 2010 Jim and John were instrumental in promoting and organizing

Bird-in-Hand Corporation provides the infrastructure for events. Darryl Hassler, Restaurant Operations Manager, consults with Fire Company Vice-President Paul Fisher. Together they offer the Friday evening Pasta Dinner on the Run, Ride, and Soar weekend under the big tent on the Smucker Homestead.



the first Amish Country Bird-in-Hand Half Marathon. They also had the innovative idea to connect the race and the Fire Company. The event on the Homestead has evolved into the Run, Ride, and Soar weekend in early September, bringing thousands of people to the village. This has become a very profitable event for the Fire Company whose members serve as volunteers.

Bird-in-Hand and the Fire Company are committed to grow this event and make it more efficient. The emphasis is on friendly hospitality that creates an unforgettable experience in our picturesque community for the runners and other Guests.

John Smucker of the Bird-in-Hand Corporation explains the relationship, "We call on the Fire Company for protection and support and in return want to provide support and resources to them. As our business has experienced development and growth, the Fire Company has also developed into a professional organization. We appreciate that they are able to minimize damage when responding to a call for a company of our size. They reach for the appropriate techniques and tools. It is a sign of their level of training, sophisticated equipment, and their innovations and commitment."

John also comments, "Our business is particularly interested in how the Fire Company is planning for its future in order to stay sustainable. Together we both share a strong vision for our community. And together we can accomplish our goals and make our community a good place to live and work."

ARE YOU SPRING CLEANING?

Have an Item to Donate to the Carriage Auction?

Your donation of an item to our 16th annual consignment auction generates 100% profit for the Fire Company. Here are some ideas:

- Gather a few friends to collaborate on a homemade project such as a quilt, piece of furniture, or a gift basket
- Pull together some business associates and donate a high value item for our noon specialty sale. We will recognize your businesses in our flyer and on the auction block.

JOIN the CURRENT DONATIONS that already include a carriage (still looking for a few more sponsors), quilts & framed prints.

Receipts for tax deductions are available for items over \$250.

For questions or to donate an item, please contact Jake King 717-768-3299.



Sign Up Early...Events are Selling Out!

All proceeds benefit the Bird-in-Hand Fire Company

The Bird-in-Hand Half Marathon is sold out, but there's still time to register for the 5k. There is a hard cap on both events - 1,800 max for half marathon and 1,000 max for the 5k.

Register online now at www.BIHHalf.com

If you do not have internet access, please contact Paul Fisher 717-380-1109.



Be a part of the race, without leaving home!

If you live along the race route, runners greatly appreciate cheering, encouraging posters, a misting hose, or a little entertainment. Show your community spirit and do something that suits you or if you're short on ideas, contact Fire Company Chaplain **Stanley Shrock 717-587-6284**.



2014 Firefighter of the Year



Stanley Shrock joined the Fire Company in 2000 when Stephen Stoltzfus invited him to become a member. Since Stanley had worked at Carriage Machine and had transported their employees to the fires, it was natural for him to become a firefighter too.

The fact that Stanley worked in Bird-in-Hand and was close by during the day when calls came in was a big advantage. Plus he had always worked with trucks and was available to drive the fire engines. Now he also lives in the village in a home that is very close to the station and he is a big part of the Fire Company activities.

Stanley serves as an active firefighter, an engineer, chaplain, and helps with driver training and fundraising. He has great passion for his work as chaplain, a position he has officially held for the past three years. "I have been given a servant's heart and reach out where I can to assist others. I try to be a bridge builder and a mentor to those who struggle in making connections with others."

The chaplain's responsibilities include prayers at meetings and meals, sending flowers and giving meal cards during sickness and death, organizing firefighters to pay tribute to those who have passed away, providing emotional and spiritual support at times of crisis, and addressing needs in the community. Stanley counts it a blessing to be able to work with other firefighters to do this important work, all for the glory of God.



The Fireman of the Year is chosen through a nomination process.

25-YEAR SERVICE AWARD
 (announced at the Thanksgiving Banquet)

Jake King 1988-2013

HAND-IN-HAND



Spring 2015

& neighbor-to-neighbor

A Newsletter of the Hand-in-Hand Fire Company • Supporting Each Other, Growing Together



Local Businesses Lend Manpower to Fire Company

Businesses that allow their employees to respond to calls during work hours are a very special gift to volunteer fire companies. At the Bird-in-Hand Fire Company this cooperation is vital to the fire company's existence since there are no paid firefighters on the team. Personnel leave their places of work at a moment's notice and are absent for the duration of the fire or accident.

To show the impact that responding to fire calls has on a company's daily operations, local business leaders were interviewed. **These companies are only a sampling of those who lend daytime manpower to the Fire Company; all local businesses are equally appreciated.**

WHO? Business leaders and their featured companies...

- CARRIAGE MACHINE SHOP, LLC** Christian Stoltzfus
- LANCASTER AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS** Reuben Stoltzfus
- GLICK FIRE EQUIPMENT COMPANY, INC.** Doug Glick
- KAUFFMAN'S FRUIT FARM & MARKET** Dave Kauffman
- SHROCK FABRICATION** Stanley Shrock
- J&R METAL PRODUCTS** John Petersheim
- SEASIDE TOWN COACH BODIES** Jake King

These business leaders are or have been firefighters or EMTs who respond to calls while on the job. They understand firsthand the importance of the volunteer system.

HOW MANY? Number of employees involved...

These numbers change from year to year as new firefighters are trained and long-time firefighters transition into supportive roles. Presently, these companies release 1-8 people when a call is dispatched. While one company interviewed has a long history of firefighters, it currently doesn't have anyone actively firefighting. Employees do serve the Fire Company in other ways during their workdays.

WHAT? The specific policies that are in place...

Only one company has a written policy about responding during work hours. The other businesses have pre-planned what will happen when the siren sounds. The season of the year and the work projects that are underway at the time of the call determine how many will respond and which individuals are free to go. *(continued on page 2)*



BIHFC Mission Statement

Approved by Board of Directors 10/27/2009

We are compassionate volunteers trained to serve our community by preventing and resolving emergencies within our capabilities. We draw on the character and convictions of all who are willing to serve, using the resources provided by our community while always promoting an atmosphere that encourages our citizens to help their neighbors.

BIHFC Vision Statement

Approved by General Membership 9/2010

To continue our mission into the future, we will instill our core values of trust, stability, and integrity into the organization. We will also:

1. Invite people to participate in all aspects of the organization and provide a structure for them to use their individual talents, skills, and abilities to the betterment of our organization and the community.
2. Maintain an environment that invites people to express their ideas.
3. Promote an open forum to ensure innovation and new ideas, and to understand technology and adopt it when justified.
4. Identify and prepare for changes well ahead of when they will occur.
5. Operate the company using responsible financial management that provides resources for responders today and into the future.

2015 Officers

- Chief Lonnie Kauffman
- Deputy Chief Steve Petersheim
- Assistant Chief Lyndon Beiler
- Captain 1 Ephraim Stoltzfus
- Captain 2 Christian Stoltzfus, Jr.
- Lieutenant 1 Michael Burkholder
- Lieutenant 2 Mark Beiler
- Fire Police Captain Norm Decker
- Chief Engineer Lance Watt
- President Tim Hoerner
- Vice President Paul Fisher
- Recording Secretary Lavelle Beiler
- Treasurer Ivan Stoltzfus
- Financial Secretary Sam King
- Trustees Dan S. Fisher, Doug Glick, Aaron Fisher
- Board Members at Large Dan J. Fisher, Reuben Stoltzfus, Don Boyer
- Chaplain Stanley Shrock



Local Businesses Lend Manpower (continued from page 1)

HOW? The way the work is covered...

When the pagers go off, other employees need to step in for the firefighters who leave to respond to the calls. These employees are also volunteering since they go the second mile and take on extra work. In fact, it takes the cooperation of the whole company to make the volunteer system work, since there can be situations when customers need to wait to be served.

There are times when work tasks cannot be covered, such as certain painting procedures; disruption of an assembly line process; or when there are priority projects. Then a split-second decision is made determining who will respond and who will stay back. Other types of work wait until the firefighters return. Then firefighters must give the extra effort to catch up with their work.

WHY? Reasons companies share their manpower...

"It's always been this way. We know if we need help, there will be people coming to help us."

"The community supports us as customers, so we support the community. We want to give back. Plus, we want the Fire Company to be well-staffed."

"At the Bird-in-Hand Fire Company we have a good thing going. It is a good team and we are glad to do our part."

"We want to be involved in our community and help our neighbors."

"Giving is a natural part of my being, so we encourage our employees to get involved."

"We feel strongly about supporting our local communities in East Lampeter Township with our time and resources. We value the goodwill aspect of serving our community."

"There is give and take in a community. We want to serve mankind for the greater good of everyone."



PHOTO CAPTIONS (pages 1 & 2):

- a. Tanker 41 assists Lampeter Fire Company with a building fire.
- b. Tanker 41 assists Upper Leacock Fire Company with a building fire at Skyline Homes.
- c. Crews clean up absorbant that was applied upon arrival to prevent fluids from vehicles from contaminating the stream in front of Good & Plenty Restaurant.
- d. Chief Lonnie Kauffman discusses with the County Hazmat Chief how to control some nasty liquids in the creek after a serious vehicle accident.
- e. Firefighters train with a foam handline at our station.
- f. Firefighters practice wall breaching and firefighter survival skills at the old Dutch Wonderland Theater.
- g. Crews make entry during a RIT (rapid intervention team) scenario at the old Dutch Wonderland Theater.

Financial Report

Contributed by Paul Fisher & Ivan Stoltzfus

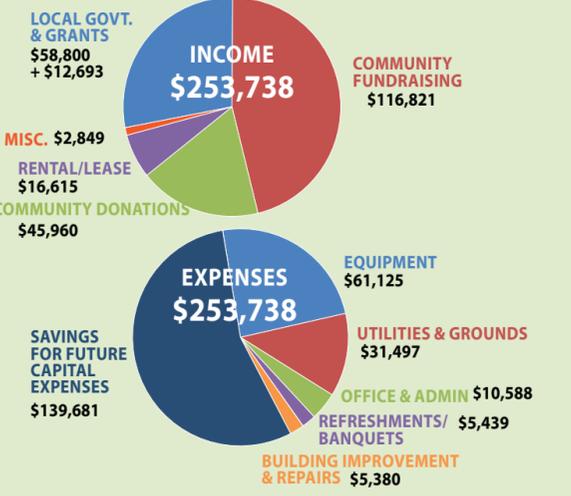
The year 2014 was again financially successful for our fire company. We held three fire company fundraising dinners, had a successful Carriage and Antique Auction, and managed a sold-out Half Marathon event. Due to the success of these events, along with your donations and our township support, we paid all of our operating costs and then set aside nearly \$140,000 for our next major fire apparatus purchase currently scheduled for 2020.

We've made a very conscious effort over the past 10 years to engage our community and ask for your help to strengthen our finances and to build a solid financial foundation for our next generation of volunteers. Thanks to your strong support, we continue to meet all of our financial goals and remain 100% debt free!

During 2014, over 365 residents and businesses from our community donated more than \$45,000 in cash contributions. Our volunteers greatly appreciate your support and we would like to assure you that we will do everything in our ability to use these funds in a responsible manner.

Please consider supporting our volunteers again this year by making a generous financial contribution. Thank you for all that you do for our fire company and our community!

2014 TOTAL INCOME & EXPENSES



A Note From the Chief... JOIN OUR TEAM!

Written by Chief Lonnie Kauffman

You have seen them...big red shiny fire trucks hurrying to an emergency. Maybe a fire company has even helped you. When those fire trucks pull up to a scene of chaos and the parking brakes are set with a who-o-o-sh, men and women scamper out and go to work. We call them firefighters.

There is a huge amount of work that goes into making sure a fire company is prepared...

- fire truck maintenance
- training coordination & record keeping
- tactical planning ("if this building ever burns, use this driveway for...")
- financial planning
- fundraising

What all have they been through to earn that title? The time your volunteers give to answering fire calls is only a small part of the total hours they donate to their community.

Have you ever thought about joining the fantastic team at the Bird-in-Hand Fire Company? **No matter what your talents, skill set, or interests are, there is a task at the fire station that will be a good fit for you!**



Crews practice vehicle rescue training in Witmer Fire Co. parking lot.

CAUTION: Avoid Starting Brush Fires on Windy Days

Burning brush on a windy day is a fire hazard that has led to a current rash of wildfires. Careless open burning is a big safety issue that impacts firefighting resources in our area. Firefighters leave their places of work and lose money and company time to fight brush fires.

Wildfires that start on windy days are fires that can be avoided. Use common sense, be patient and wait for a calm, still day to burn brush. Please note that this also applies to residents in townships that prohibit trash fires, but still permit some brush fires and doggie-roast type "ceremonial" fires.

Buggy Accidents Increase in Lancaster County



Recently Lancaster County residents have heard about an increase in the number of vehicle accidents involving Amish buggies. Speed and carelessness are the culprits in almost every case. Carelessness can be the fault of either the car or buggy driver.

Motorists should be aware that even though most horses are trained for the road, they can still spook. When passing a buggy under normal driving conditions, motorists should **primarily watch the horse**. Watching only the buggy is a mistake. Safe driving requires vigilance and focus by all buggy and motor vehicle drivers.



Thank you, Sheryl Golicher, for volunteering and taking photos over the past few months! She welcomes a buddy!

2014 Fire Company Responses

Chief Lonnie Kauffman has announced the summary of the Bird-in-Hand Fire Company responses in 2014.

Total Calls in 2014 124

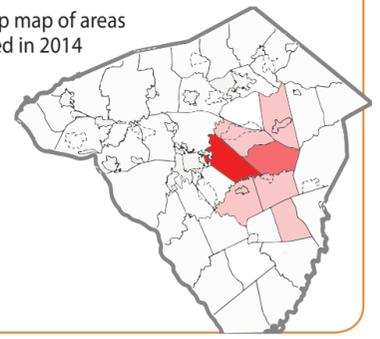
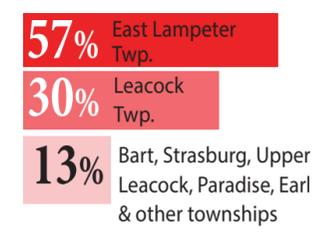


First Due 65 responses

Assist 59 responses where we assisted other fire companies & their communities

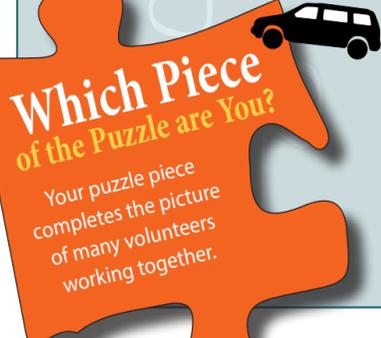
Areas Served

Township map of areas we served in 2014



Thank you to the dedicated volunteers we have had over the years! We are grateful for your service!

Volunteer OPPORTUNITIES @ Hand-in-Hand Fire Company



Delivery Driver for Dinners

Time Commitment: 2.5 hrs.

Equipment: car (no van necessary!) & valid drivers license

Details: Time slots are 10:30am-Noon and 3:30-5pm. Insulated food carriers are provided and delivery is within a 4-mile radius.

Contact: Paul Fisher 717-380-1109

Building Electrical Wiring, Radios, Computer Equipment/Systems

Do you have interest and knowledge of maintaining and improving computer equipment/systems, radios, or building electrical wiring? We have a variety of systems needing attention and could really use your help. Call for details!

Contact: Tim Hoerner 717-291-1687 or timhoerner@comcast.net

Fire Company Photographer

Time Commitment: Various

Equipment: Digital camera (SLR preferred, but point-and-shoot will also work) or digital video camera

Details: We're looking for someone to photograph on the scene during fire calls and at trainings. Photos would be used for archival and fire company educational/promotional purposes.

Contact: Amy Wissing 717-330-3149 or amywissing@gmail.com

Dinner Help: Ages 12 - 102!

Time Commitment: 4-6 hours per event

Details: There are many roles available including serving, bussing tables, dishwashing, food prep, setup/cleanup, greeting guests, and answering phones during an event. If you can help at just one event, we'd love to have you!

If interested in volunteering at a dinner, please call the Fire Hall 717-392-0112 & leave a message with your contact info. Someone will call you back!

Do You Ever Feel Like Ripping Something Apart?

Time Commitment: 4-6 hours in February

Details: Help is needed in de-boning cooked chicken for the pot pie dinner next February.

Contact: Jake King 717-768-3299

Event Closer

Time Commitment: 6:00pm-8:30pm on the Monday after an event

Details: Even after event day cleanup, there's always some odds & ends such as laundry, dishwasher wrap-up, organizing supplies, etc.

Contact: Eli Esh 717-656-9147