

HAND-IN-HAND

Winter 2018

& neighbor-to-neighbor

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

JUNIOR FIREFIGHTERS ARE COMMITTED TO THE FIRE COMPANY

A very special group of Junior Firefighters gathered at the Fire Hall on the evening of December 20, 2017 to answer questions about their commitment to the Fire Company. There were two sets of brothers, the Fisher brothers Matt (17) and Luke (16) and the Miller brothers Arlan (18) and Christian (14), and a friend Ervin Zook (17). Here are the questions and their answers.

What was your earliest contact with the Fire Company?

The Fishers and Millers come from families in which family members have been firefighters for several generations. As boys they attended fire meetings with their fathers. The Millers took turns coming along. The Fishers came along for the food and often fell asleep! Ervin was in the same grade in school as Matt and was intrigued with Matt's stories about the Fire Company.

When did you realize that you wanted to become a firefighter?

For Ervin it was a conscious decision a year ago when he was 16. His buddies were talking about their experiences as Junior Firefighters and he was interested in what they were learning. The Fisher brothers live close to the Fire Hall so as young boys they could readily help with the barbecues and other events. Their interest has evolved from being present at events and activities. As long as Arlan can remember he has been interested in fire trucks and could hardly wait to turn 14 to become a Junior Firefighter. Every time Christian heard a fire siren, he thought about becoming a firefighter.

Did someone encourage you to get involved?

When Arlan was young, he asked his dad lots of questions after he came home from fighting a fire. His dad thought it would be a good thing for Arlan to become a firefighter because of his keen interest. Then Arlan encouraged two of his younger brothers. One was not interested but his brother Christian definitely is. Ervin's mother thought about the dangers involved and rightfully so, but she and his dad have given their consent.

For Matt and Luke, joining was the next step in following the examples of their great-grandfather, grandfather, and dad. If the fire siren went off, family members jumped up to respond. It was always a part of life. Their relatives had conversations till midnight about the activities at the Fire Hall and the boys loved to listen in until the grown-ups said, "Go to bed!"

What is your current status?

Arlan (18) has completed his Junior Firefighter training and is now an active firefighter. Matt and Ervin (both 17) are working on their checklists as Junior Firefighters. Luke (16) and Christian (14) are attending fire meetings and are in the very beginning stages of their Junior Firefighter training. *(continued on page 2)*



Fire Dues Contribution Envelope Inside!
We sincerely appreciate your support!

HAND-IN-HAND
FIRE COMPANY
11325 Millersburg Pike, Millersburg, IA 50555
712.242.0212

Enclosed is my
FIRE DUES CONTRIBUTION
in the amount of \$.....

Please make checks payable to "Hand-in-Hand Fire Co."

NAME _____
STREET ADDRESS _____
PO BOX NUMBER _____ ZIP _____
CITY _____
EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Please consider donating
to the Hand-in-Hand Fire Co.
in your estate plans.
Contact Tom Johnson
712.217.3192 with
questions or for more
information.

(continued from page 1)

What is the best part of being a firefighter?

Matt is interested in the administrative side because he likes numbers while Arlan likes the firefighting side. Matt appreciates the close ties between community residents and the Fire Company during the Carriage Auction and Half Marathon. He is inspired when the firefighters gather at the Fire Hall and stand ready to help others when there is pending danger.

Recently Arlan and Christian helped to assist when an area resident fell at home and are starting to see how much the Fire Company is really needed in the community. Luke wants to help his community and

Ervin wants to make a difference in others' lives. At this point in the conversation, there were nods around the circle. An amazing group of Junior Firefighters are training at Bird-in-Hand!

An Invitation for You!

This is an open invitation for the young people ages 14-18 in our area to come to the Bird-in-Hand Fire Hall to check out what all is involved in the Junior Firefighter training. You will meet enthusiastic firefighters who will take you under their wing and teach you the skills you need to help protect our community. Remember, helping others is personally rewarding, gives purpose to life, and leaves us with a sense of well being.



FIRE COMPANY FINANCES

Our Principled Approach to Financial Management

We would like to take this opportunity to provide you with a full update on Hand-in-Hand Fire Company's finances today, and more importantly, our philosophy regarding financial plans for the future. We're committed to a principled approach to managing our finances. These principles include the following:

A Strong Work Ethic

Over 70% of our 2017 income was from fundraising events and donations from our community. We believe strongly that for our community-based volunteer fire company to remain viable and healthy for the long run, we must rely on our volunteers and community for the majority of our financial support. Without this community support and the can-do spirit of our volunteers, the Fire Company will not long endure.

Community Engagement

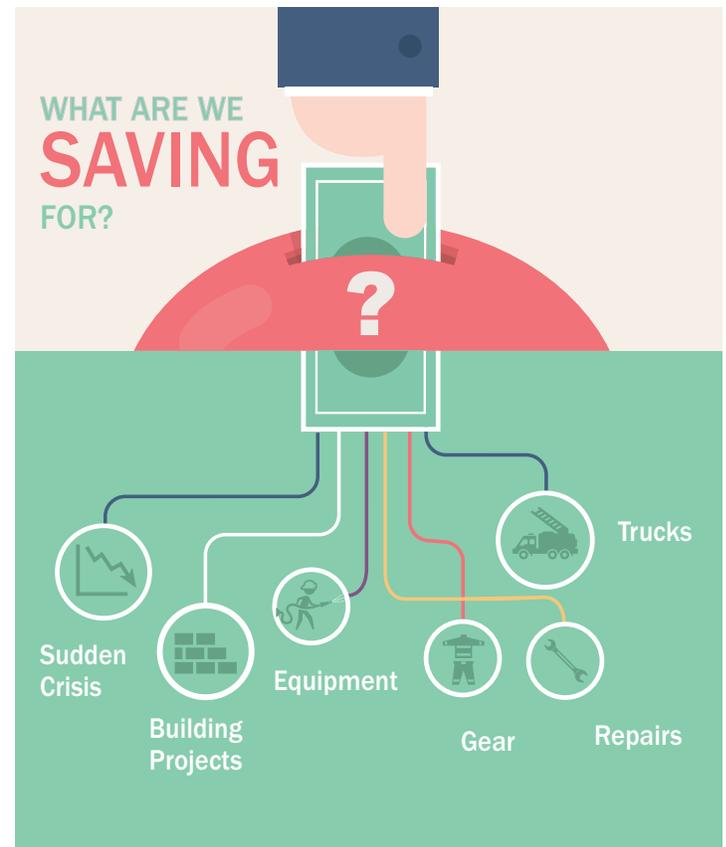
Community engagement is an absolute necessity for us. We rely heavily on our community for financial contributions and for donations of time, resources and expertise in many different areas. The Half Marathon, auction, and Fire Company dinners are possible only because of the heavy involvement of individuals from all aspects of our community. These fundraising events are critically important to our Fire Company for many reasons. They raise funds while also building relationships within the community that lead to life-long friendships, a strong community, and a steady stream of volunteer firefighters.

Stewardship

Our desire to be good stewards with the funds provided by the community involves many different aspects. It includes a disciplined approach to spending, including a project charter process that involves the entire Fire Company in making sound purchasing decisions. It includes planning for the future and saving funds well in advance for large capital purchases. It includes investing funds in ways that maximize our income while protecting our strong balance sheet. It includes making short-term sacrifices, when necessary, to achieve our long-term goal of protecting our community.

Planning for the Future

Time has changed the realities of modern volunteer firefighting. Gone are the days when a few fundraising dinners and an annual fund drive provided all of the financial resources needed. Also gone are the days



when we averaged merely one emergency call per week. Changing times require changing strategies, and we're working very hard to ensure that we can meet these challenges and continue to thrive as a volunteer fire company.

As you will see from our balance sheet on page 3, we are saving funds now that will be needed for future purchases. At a time when a single fire truck can cost \$1,000,000 and annual overhead expenses require tens of thousands of dollars, we need to be proactively saving funds for major purchases while actively managing our annual budget.

Building renovations, equipment purchases and repairs are also increasingly expensive. You can be assured that we are well aware of these challenges and are taking the necessary steps to survive and thrive in this changing environment. We have a very sound fundraising, budgeting, investing, and spending plan in place. We're asking you to please continue to provide us with your financial support. In return, we pledge to do our very best to use that support in a principled manner to protect and strengthen our very special community.

Thank you for your support!

FINANCIAL REPORT 2017

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & GRANTS... \$ 73,559

East Lampeter Twp.....61,200
Grants.....12,359

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING..... \$ 147,445

Carriage/Antique Auction...36,148
Dinners37,216
Marathon 74,081

COMMUNITY DONATIONS \$ 39,849

Donations 5,595
Fire Dues Contributions34,254

RENTAL/LEASE \$ 15,955

Meeting Room Rent14,455
Sign Lease..... 1,500

MISC \$ 4,951

Miscellaneous Income..... 2,963
Refreshments/Banquet 1,129
Merchandise Sales859

INVESTMENTS \$ 10,673

Interest Income.....\$ 1,844
Investment Income.....\$ 8,829

TOTAL INCOME 2017  **\$ 292,432**

ACCOUNT BALANCES 12/31/17

Checking and Savings Accounts.....\$ 193,337
Certificates of Deposit.....\$ 250,000
Investment Fund.....\$ 159,279
Total Assets\$ 602,616
Total Liabilities\$ 0

TOTAL EXPENSES 2017  **\$ 292,432**

EQUIPMENT\$ 75,595

New Equipment.....56,185
Equipment Repair/Maint. 17,018
Computer/Electronics.....944
Base Station..... 1,448

UTILITIES/GROUNDS\$ 28,558

Janitor Services & Supplies ... 3,016
Facilities Repairs/Maint. 7,038
Insurance.....5,385
Electric7,646
Heating.....3,029
Telephone/Internet2,058
Sewer.....386

FIRE PREVENTION/TRAINING \$ 1,363

OFFICE & ADMIN\$ 12,030

Office Supplies 1,583
Postage & Printing6,879
Dues.....70
Contract Services 3,498

MISCELLANEOUS\$ 4,586

Refreshments/Banquets3,035
Other 1,551

BUILDING IMPROV. & REPAIRS.....\$ 2,998

TRANSFER TO SAVINGS \$ 167,302

Volunteer HELP WANTED

MARATHON/5K CLEAN UP CREW

Time Commitment: 3-4 hours on Saturday afternoon Sep. 8

Details: Breaking down tables & chairs, folding & boxing leftover t-shirts, picking up trash, and more. If you want to help at an event, but don't particularly like talking to lots of people, this is a job for you!

For more info or if interested, call Paul Fisher 717-380-1109.

ASSEMBLE & DELIVER REMINDER NOTICES

Time Commitment: 4 hours on Tues. Sep. 4

Details: To inform residents & businesses affected by the Half Marathon & 5k, we need someone to photocopy, bag & deliver road closure notices. Great project for a group of friends or family.

For more info or if interested, call Tim Hoerner 717-917-9192.

SIGN CREW FOR MARATHON/5K

Time Commitment: 4-6 hours

Details: Looking for someone to put out signs in particular places for the half marathon & 5k weekend. Do it yourself or sign up with a friend. Signs need put out on Monday evening Sep. 3 and collected/organized in our shed on Sat. Sep. 8 after the event.

For more info or if interested, call Tim Hoerner 717-917-9192.

BOUNCER/CROWD CONTROL

Time Commitment: 4:00p-9:00p on Fri. Sep. 7 and/or 5:00a-1:00p on Sat. Sep. 8.

Details: At the Half Marathon & 5k in September, we're looking for 2-3 individuals to be firm, yet friendly monitors of the finish line area to ensure safety for runners, staff & community.

For more info or if interested, call Tim Hoerner 717-917-9192.

Sponsor Spotlight:

BELMONT SOLAR & STOLTZFUS STRUCTURES

The Fire Company Community Picnic on Saturday morning is one of the most appreciated events of the Half Marathon weekend in September. Thanks to two local businesses, the food is free to all who attend: local supporters of the Fire Company, race volunteers, the runners, and their friends and family who accompany them.

Belmont Solar and Stoltzfus Structures have come on board as sponsors for the picnic because their owners love to run. It is a valuable sponsorship because this meal fosters much goodwill among race participants. They love mingling with the local residents, plus the food is delicious.

As Ben Zook, owner, technical designer, and innovator at Belmont Solar, says, "It is the best after-race meal!" He should know because he has run in races across the country. Ben first met Jim and John Smucker at the Full Moon Runs and became friends with Bird-in-Hand area runners. From the very beginning, he has been a part of the Half Marathon events and has run all of them except for one year when he had a foot injury. He has been a pacer for the past three years, most recently at the 1 hour and 40 minutes mark.

Ben's solar company is located near Inter-course where his staff serves clients in a two-hour radius around the shop. Just as Ben is passionate about running, he is also passionate about solar power. He explains that 100 years after electricity became a trusted source of power, solar power is also becoming a trusted source. His company

strives for PEN: performance, education, and neatness.

Dave Zook, partner and advisor at Stoltzfus Structures in Atglen, approached Ben two years ago and asked him to join him in sponsoring the picnic. Although the two men are not related, they are friends and both want their companies to give back to the local community that supports their businesses. They feel the picnic is meaningful and helpful to the recipients and the overall event is a well-done cause. That is why they give their generous sponsorships.

Dave works in his family's business along with his brothers and father. They manufacture all types of structures such as garden sheds, man caves, she sheds, garages, mini-barns, pool houses, gazebos, pergolas, and pavilions and sell them nationwide. Portable sheds from Stoltzfus Structures are moved onto the event grounds for use during the Half Marathon weekend.

Running is a passion for Dave, something he does every day. Because he has friends who are members of the Bird-in-Hand Fire Company, he has run the Half Marathon several times. And it is through his friends and his running that he has become involved as a sponsor of the community picnic. Banners for Belmont Solar and Stoltzfus Structures are displayed so that as picnic attendees enter the tent, they know these two companies are doing a great service for our community.



Belmont Solar is a co-sponsor of the community picnic. Randy Swanger, Director of Sales and Design, and Owner Ben Zook promote their company located at 3376 Harvest Drive, Gordonville.



Stoltzfus Structures is also a co-sponsor of the community picnic. Partner Dave Zook stands in front of his family's business at 5075 Lower Valley Road, Atglen.



DO YOU NEED A LARGE SPACE FOR A BIRTHDAY?

Stay Close to Home & Rent Here!

- **Capacity:** Seats 100 theater style or at tables
- **Handicapped-Accessible:** Entire facility, including parking spaces and restrooms is handicapped-accessible. 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
- **Parking & Horse Tie Rails:** 59 level parking spaces close to the building & 5 buggy spaces under roof
- **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:** Johnny Stoltzfus 717-468-0883



FLICKERING EMBERS

FROM THE PAST

STORIES FROM THE FOOD TRAILER

Special thanks to Jane Barge, Barbara Fazekas, Lucinda Groff, and Lois Kauffman who were interviewed for this story.

For many years one of the main ways that the Ladies Auxiliary raised funds for the Fire Company was by holding food stands at public auctions. Their one regular stand was at the monthly Smoketown Quality Dairy Sales, owned by Gordon Fritz and more commonly known as the Fritz Cow Sale.

At the Fritz Sale the food stand was housed in a garage. At other sales the ladies were never quite sure what the accommodations would be. After years of hauling tables and supplies in the back of station wagons, the ladies decided to make it easier for themselves by purchasing a food trailer. In April 1979 they began designing a trailer to match their needs.

Stauffer Custom Trailers in Martindale built the trailer body. The ladies enlisted the help of the men of the Fire Company to finish the interior. Manny Fisher made the cabinets and installed the appliances. Jacob Miller made the countertops and Abner Esh laid the flooring. The total price for the trailer was \$4,700.

The food trailer was first put into service on September 8, 1979 at the Eberly sale. For the next two and a half years the ladies hooked the trailer up to vans and pickup trucks and drove it to real estate, farm, and household sales in the area. Thankfully many of the women had grown up on farms and had experience driving large equipment. Nonetheless, it was school bus driver Lucinda Groff who was the expert at backing the trailer around. It was either parked at her farm on Mill Creek School Road or at the Fire Hall.

The menu was basic and only varied slightly, but was loved by all who attended auctions. At one Fritz Sale, they sold 100 hot dogs with the option of sauerkraut, 4 gallons of chicken corn soup, doughnuts, 55 cups of coffee, 1 box each of chewing gum, Reeses Peanut Butter Cups, Milky Way Bars, and Hershey Bars.



(left) The Ladies Auxiliary food trailer was used at sales from 1979-1982
(right) Mary Haldeman



At a large farm sale they sold 300 barbecue sandwiches, 260 hot dogs, 250 cups of coffee, 14 pies, and 12 boxes of candy. The children especially loved the candy and it always sold well.

Since the trailer went to the Fritz Cow Sale at least once a month and sometimes more, the ladies got to know the young fellows who worked the sales for Gordie Fritz. Their employer gave them a food allowance at the trailer and for fun, they would wheel and deal and try to get more than their share. Years later Jane Barge was at a local store and she and the proprietor recognized each other. Sure enough, he had worked the Fritz Sales and said to Jane, "I thought you looked familiar!"

Eventually the number of volunteers from the Ladies Auxiliary became fewer and fewer. At one time Jane Barge and her daughter Kim and Lois Kauffman and her son Bryan worked together. Even though their children enjoyed the sales, they became teenagers and soon had other activities. The last two recorded sales were in 1982, a Fritz Sale on March 23 and a household sale on Millcreek Road on March 31.

The food trailer was sold for \$4,000 marking the end of an era. But it was an era filled with lots of dedicated hard work that yielded a nice profit. The Ladies Auxiliary had done very well with their food stands because from 1976 to 1981 they gave the Fire Company \$23,500.

Help Identify These Photos!

Call Myrna Smucker 717-201-4221 if you recognize yourself or a friend. Also, if you have any photos you'd be willing to share in this newsletter, please contact Amy Wissing 717-330-3149.



Positions within the Fire Company:

TRUSTEES

The following article continues a series detailing various positions that our firefighters fill. From basic skills to top management, all roles are vitally important in making our Fire Company function well. We hope these articles help community members better understand how we function as a team using everyone's strengths within a chain of command.

The office of trustee at Bird-in-Hand is a relatively new position, having been added seven or eight years ago. Before the Fire Company appointed trustees to oversee the building and grounds, different members performed the maintenance and repairs in an informal manner. Since no one was specifically in charge, some important upkeep was not getting done. Therefore the position of trustee evolved because there was a need.

Important upkeep was not getting done. Therefore the position of trustee evolved.

Two of the trustees who are presently serving, Dan S. Fisher and Doug Glick, are the original appointees. A third trustee, Aaron Fisher, was added three years ago.

They are responsible for keeping the Fire Hall and the outside grounds in good repair. This includes securing janitorial services and outside contracts for maintaining the generator, alarm system, and the heating and cooling systems. They make sure all repairs are done and also oversee the housecleaning at the Fire Hall that happens three evenings throughout the winter.

Each of the trustees adds his expertise to the position. Doug Glick works with the electrical systems, Dan Fisher concentrates on construction, and Aaron Fisher oversees the outside grounds. They meet monthly, work within a budget, and submit a report of their decisions and accomplishments to the Board. This trustee report is also read at the regular Fire Company meetings. For larger projects of \$2,000 or more, they fill out forms, get quotes, and work through a two-month approval process.

One of the recent repairs that they have been working on is replacing the rotten railroad ties that were used along the boundary fence, where curbing is needed to direct the water. Another repair is upgrading the lights in the engine room to LED bulbs. The advantage is better lighting but also less maintenance. In the future, clearer lines are needed on the engine bay floor as well as sealing the parking lot and painting new lines.

In addition to their trustee duties, these three Fire Company members also have other assignments as firefighters. Doug is an engineer who drives the trucks. Dan helps with cleanup at all events. Aaron is an active firefighter, plus has responsibilities at the fundraising dinners.

The trustees are a committed team and share the workload. All of them give many hours to the task of keeping the Fire Hall in fine working order. They know that the building is an investment and needs to be well maintained. It helps that they understand the building's systems and have technical know-how and handyman skills.

Walk Left & Ride Right



When it's dark at night, wear something bright!

SUPER REFLECTIVE SAFETY VEST

Great for:

- pedestrians
- school crossing guards
- scooter riders
- bicyclists
- horse back riders
- roadside safety



450 ft
350 ft
250 ft
100 ft

Actual nighttime photograph under low beam illumination!

Available at: Weavertown Coach Shop 717-768-3299
3007 Old Phila. Pike Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505



EVENTS CALENDAR

- Feb. 24 (Sat.) Chicken Pot Pie 10:30a-6:30p
- May 26 (Sat.) Chicken BBQ 10:30a-6:30p
- June 28-29 Lancaster Co. Carriage & Antique Auction
Thursday evening: 3:30p-8:00p
Friday: 8:00a-6:00p
www.birdinhandauction.com
- Sep. 1 (Sat.) Chicken BBQ 10:30a-6:30p
- Sep. 7-8 (Fri & Sat) BIH Half Marathon & 5k
www.BIHhalf.com



Locations: Chicken BBQ & Pot Pie dinners are held at Bird-in-Hand Fire Hall - 313 Enterprise Dr. Bird-in-Hand, PA. Auction & Marathon events are held in Downtown Bird-in-Hand, Rt. 340 & Ronks Rd.

For more info on any event, call 717-392-0112 or email amywissing@birdinhandfire.com

2017 FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Rick Niels was posthumously awarded 2017 Firefighter of the Year at the November 15, 2017 Thanksgiving Banquet. He passed away of a heart attack at age 55 on June 21, 2017. His wife Betty, son Randy, and daughter Jennifer accepted the award on his behalf from Chief Lonnie Kauffman.

When Rick was 16 years old in 1978, he became a member of the Fire Company. He served faithfully for the next 39 years. Since Dave Haldeman's Garage and Jack Robinson's Garage, the auto repair shops where he worked as a mechanic, were located in Bird-in-Hand, he was conveniently nearby to answer fire calls during the day.

Positions that Rick held were active firefighter, chief engineer, and serving on the Squad Committee. He was trained and qualified to drive the engine, tanker, and squad. Rick's favorite task at the Fire Company was driving the tanker in the Mother's Day convoy for Make-A-Wish. He took firemen's hats and coloring books along to hand out to the children. For the child who rode in his truck, he always had a large stuffed animal as a memory of the special day.

Rick Niels was a compassionate, generous, and faithful firefighter. The Fire Company honors his memory with this award.

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

Chief Lonnie Kauffman makes the Firefighter of the Year presentation at the Thanksgiving Dinner. Receiving the award on behalf of Rick Niels are his wife Betty, daughter Jen, son Randy, and Jen's fiancé Tyler Kemp.



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.

2018 Fire Co. Leadership

- President** Tim Hoerner
- Vice President** Paul Fisher
- Recording Secretary** Lavelle Beiler
- Treasurer** Ivan Stoltzfus
- Financial Secretary** Melvin B. Stoltzfus
- Board Members at Large** Dan J. Fisher,
..... Ben Beiler, Sam King
- Chief** Lonnie Kauffman
- Deputy Chief** Steve Petersheim
- Assistant Chief** David Riehl
- Fire Police Captain** Norm Decker
- Chaplain** Stanley Shrock
- Captain 1** Ephraim Stoltzfus
- Captain 2** Christian Stoltzfus, Jr.
- Lieutenant 1** Mannie Glick
- Lieutenant 2** Lavelle Beiler
- Lieutenant 3** Doug Clark
- Chief Engineer** Lance Watt
- Trustees** Dan S. Fisher,
..... Doug Glick, Aaron Fisher



313 Enterprise Dr. Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505
717-392-0112

HAND-IN-HAND



FIRE COMPANY

313 Enterprise Drive
Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505
717-392-0112



CHICKEN POT PIE DINNER SATURDAY, FEB. 24

10:30 am - 6:30 pm (or till sellout)
Take-outs begin @ 9:00 am

Cost \$13.50 family style or buffet • \$5.50 ages 3-10
FREE under 3 • \$11 take-out • Quarts: \$5.50/ea.

Menu Chicken pot pie, peas, pepper cabbage, applesauce, rolls w/ apple butter, pie & ice cream, apple cider, homemade lemonade, coffee

Delivery Complimentary delivery is available in a 4 mile radius at 11:00 & 4:00.

**Get chicken pot
pie delivered to
your door on
Sat. Feb. 24, 2018!**

For home or business delivery...
Call 717-392-0112 and leave a voicemail
w/ the following info by Sat. morning, Feb. 24, 2018:

1. **Your Name**
2. **Phone #**
3. **Address & House #**
(we deliver in a 4 mile radius from the fire hall)
4. **Description of House / Location**
5. **How many dinners or quarts of pot pie**
6. **What delivery time window you'd like:**
Choose 11:00-12:00 OR 4:00-5:00



Please have cash or check ready upon delivery
(payable to Hand-in-Hand Fire Co.)

Thanks for your support!