



Plain Township Newsletter

Plain Township
Board of Trustees

Published Quarterly
Volume 6, Issue 1
Winter 2011

PTFD Takes Delivery of New Fire Rescue Truck



The Fire Department has purchased a "first of its kind" fire engine, built by Sutphens and equipped with a Darley Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS). Sutphens is a Columbus-based family-owned company that has been building fire equipment since 1890. W.S. Darley & Co., is also a family-owned company in business since 1908 in Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin. These two companies came together to build this new fire apparatus.



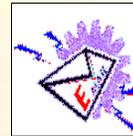
The new fire engine was delivered in December and will be placed in service in early 2011. You will recognize the new truck approaching by the patriotic American flag painted on the grill.



Township to Launch E-News Updates by E-mail

In an effort to keep our residents informed about recent or future events affecting the township, we will begin to build a database of residents interested in receiving e-mail updates of Township activities.

If you'd like to receive our E-News, please send a request via email to:
E-news@plaintownship.org



E-news topics would include news from the Township, Fire Department, Aquatic Center, Maintenance, Maplewood Cemetery, Zoning and other pertinent information and events beneficial to Township residents.

Township Seeks Zoning Board Members

Plain Township is seeking residents to serve on the township zoning boards. The Zoning Commission meets the second Thursday and the Zoning Board of Appeals meets the second Tuesday of each month. Both boards meet at 7:00 pm at the fire station. Members must reside within the unincorporated territory of Plain Township.

Interested residents are encouraged to submit a resume and letter of interest to Plain Township, Board of Trustees, P.O. Box 273, New Albany, Ohio, 43054. For further information, please contact the zoning office at 855-2085.

Trustees Close on Property As Part Of New Metro Park

The Board of Trustees recently closed on the sale of approximately 30 acres of land on Walnut Street to the Metro Parks Board. This land will become part of the Rocky Fork Metro Park that is planned for Plain Township.

The Board of Trustees is glad to partner with Metro Parks as progress is made towards bringing a metro park to Plain Township.

Metro Parks will continue to pursue land acquisitions in 2011, utilizing funds provided by Columbus and New Albany and hopes to begin initial planning for the park in late 2011.



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Words of Wisdom

- If you economize time, health and means, you will never have to beg.
- If everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
- In spite of the cost of living, it's still popular.
- We chose our president from only 2 people, but chose Miss America from 50.
- Why is the man who invests all of your money called a "broker"?
- A true friend thinks you are a good egg, even though he thinks you're slightly cracked.
- Your life equals the sum of all your choices.
- A good leader recognizes a problem before it becomes an emergency.
- It's not what you pay a man, it's what a man costs.

Welcome PTFD Three New Full-Time Firefighters

Jason Bates was born and raised in Westerville, Ohio. He is a 2000 graduate of Westerville South High School where he was the captain of the varsity baseball team.

Jason completed the Police Academy program through Eastland Career Center in 2004.

He received his Firefighter certification through the State of Ohio Fire Academy in 2004 and in 2006 Jason received his paramedic certification from Columbus State Community College.

Jason had previously worked with Beavercreek Township, Jefferson Township and Plain Township as a part-time firefighter. Jason had also worked at Mifflin Township as a full-time firefighter since 2009.

Matthew Temple is a 2003 Reynoldsburg High School graduate. Matt attended the Ohio Fire Academy in 2004 where he attained his Firefighter



Certification and his EMT basic card. He went on to attend Columbus State and received his paramedic certification in 2008.

Matt has been employed with Jefferson Township Fire Department since 2007 and Plain Township since 2009 as a part-time firefighter. Matt is looking forward to 25 years of service.

Last February, Matt married his long time love and beautiful wife, Kylie. (cont'd on col. 3)

Outside of work, Matt is an active member of Discovery Church, serves on mission trips, enjoys playing sports, and occasionally dabbles in video games.

Beau Zierk graduated from Bishop Hartley in 1997. He is a 2002 graduate of Ohio State University, College of Social & Behavioral Sciences. He holds a Fire Science degree and his paramedic certification from Columbus State.

Previously, Beau worked for several Fire Departments including Mifflin, Jefferson, and Washington Townships. Outside of work, Beau likes to play soccer and work-out in his free time.

His mother is Isolde Zierk (great cook) and Lt. Guy Zierk, (USMC) is his brother and best friend who is currently deployed in Afghanistan.

And through all of this is Cassondra Hoskinson, formerly known as his girlfriend, now fiancée. She is the love of his life. And no....they have not yet set a date!

PTFD Hires Three Full-Time Firefighters

The Fire Department has hired three additional full-time firefighter-paramedics: **Jason Bates, Beau Zierk, and Matt Temple.** Firefighter Bates and Temple were part-time firefighters for Plain Township.

These new full-time hires will help the department achieve important benchmarks of the National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) and the Insurance Services Office (ISO).

Cell Phones and Texting Alarming Facts - Adults vs. Kids

Nearly **47% of all adults** have read or sent a text compared to **34% of teens** (age 16-17) who text while driving.

Almost **74 % of adult drivers** have used the cell phone while driving, compared to **52% of teen drivers.** (Insurance Institute of Highway Safety)

SAFE DRIVING is a matter of personal responsibility. You can't drive and text at the same time, no matter how good you are at multi-tasking.

Parents are urged to encourage their teens to take the "no texting" pledge at: "TeensAgainstDistractedDriving.com".

A large number of the Fire Department's EMS runs are for auto accidents. PTFD logged 1,148 EMS runs for 2010. Your life is worth more than a text message. You are 23 times more likely to be in a crash while texting.

Fire Department Promotes Continuing Education for Staff

Training and Upcoming Classes Scheduled: Deb Bessler, EMTB, CPST, has attended or will be taking several upcoming classes:

- ~ Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist I
- ~ Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist II - classes given by Ohio Fire Academy (OFA).
- ~ Grant Writing class at Columbus State to assist PTFD in applying for public Grants.
- ~ Fire Safety for Young Child (OFA)
- ~ Fire Safety for Older Children (OFA)
- ~ Fire Safety for Elderly (OFA)

Other classes taken by several firefighters this winter as part of on-going training:

- ~ Fire Safety Inspector: PSS Certified
- ~ Fire Inspector Safety C.E. Class
- ~ Abdominal Emergencies
- ~ Hemophilia & Blood Disorders
- ~ Head Trauma

Cemetery Record Keeping

Staff continues to work on the creation of an electronic database of cemetery records that will improve access to interment information and help residents locate graves. Maplewood Cemetery has served the community for nearly 130 years and will continue to serve future generations.

Plain Township is reviewing plans to maximize the useful life of the cemetery and will continue to make improvements to this historic cemetery.

Maplewood Cemetery Improvements

Plain Township's historic Maplewood Cemetery received improvements in 2010 including brick columns and ornamental iron fencing, made locally by Fortin Ironworks of Columbus, along Reynoldsburg-New Albany Road.

Entryway displays a new bronze name plate, dedication plaque and street address on the lighted brick columns.



New Columns & Fencing



Old Chain Link Fencing

Other planned improvements are being evaluated as specifications, priorities and estimates are reviewed including the repair of the cemetery roadways.

Township Road Resurfacing and Repairs Completed

Several road maintenance and resurfacing projects took place this fall. Crack Sealing was done on Pine Meadows Road and Pine Meadows Drive, Clouse Road and Walnut Street (East of Johnstown Road) and Wilbur Road. Albanyview Drive and Albanyview Lane were also resurfaced.

All work was contracted through the Franklin County Engineer's office. The Franklin County Engineer's crew also installed a retaining wall at the edge of the culvert bridge on Bevelhymer Road just south of Walnut Street.

Central Ohio Stormwater and Erosion Control Expo

Bob Pharris, Maintenance Supervisor, will be attending the 9th Annual Stormwater & Erosion Control Expo sponsored by Franklin Soil & Water Conservation Districts, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, and Heart of Ohio RC & D. Agenda includes Incorporating "Green" into Stormwater Utilities, Rain Gardens: A Community & Municipal Partnership Project Update, and other topics including the latest on green infrastructure research & updates.

PTFD Prevention News - Burn Awareness Week (Feb. 6-12)

Every year, about 14,500 Americans die from burn injuries and burn-related infections. Another 1.1 million suffer burn injuries that require medical attention, according to Shriners Hospitals for Children.

Most prevention efforts are common sense but can be easily overlooked during the hustle and bustle of a busy day.

Safe Kids USA's website offers a wealth of information on burn prevention and numerous safety issues to keep our children safe.

For more information about burn prevention in your home go to www.safekids.org, click on safety basics, safety spotlight and scroll through the topics until you locate "**Burn Awareness Week: Feb 6 - 12, 2011**".

- Every day, more than 300 young children with scald burns are taken to emergency rooms.
- The mortality rates from scald burn injuries are highest for children under the age of 4.
- Most children's scald injuries occur while bathing.

Tornado Sirens Upgraded

Plain Township owns seven warning system sirens, known as tornado sirens, in the community. Two of these sirens are older models that will need front panel upgrades.

The Township Board of Trustees has purchased the upgrades through Franklin County Emergency Management, which will install upgrades in early 2011.

The sirens provide invaluable warning to our community in the event of severe weather. The sirens were activated on several occasions in 2010, including a funnel cloud sighting on June 2nd and during severe weather in September.

Plain Township Zoning Department News

Many residents may not be aware that the following **ZONING** information may be found on the Plain Township's website: www.plaintownship.org

Click on "Zoning Dept." in the menu bar from our home page for the following:

- ⇒ Contact Information
- ⇒ Zoning Officer & the Duties
- ⇒ Map of Township Zoning
- ⇒ Zoning Resolution
- ⇒ Fees and Permits
- ⇒ Zoning Forms

Meeting Schedule: the Zoning Commission meets the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise notified.

Office Hours: Monday - Friday weekdays 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Closed weekends & Federal Holidays)

Rumpke and Senior Citizens

Did you know??? Rumpke offers Plain Township senior citizens a 10% discount on their trash bills.

Stop by the Township office with a copy of your driver's license and we will see that Rumpke is notified of your eligibility!



Plain Township Aquatic Center Gears Up



After a very successful year with Hastings Waterworks, the Township has entered into a two-year agreement with HWW to manage the Aquatic Center.

As we prepare for another great summer of **fun at the pool**, we invite you to stop by if you have not been to our beautiful Aquatic Center and bring the kids or grandkids. The pool opens Saturday, May 28 at 11 a.m.

Daily Fees are \$8 (adults), \$6 (child), and after 4 p.m., the fees drop to \$4. Children 2 years and under are **free**.

We've added visits to the "Daily Patron Guest Card" - 12-visits for \$60.00 (a \$36 savings). The Patron Guest Card can be used by anyone or given as a gift card.

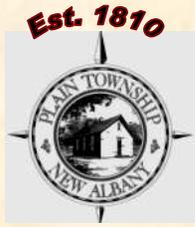
We offer **pool rentals** on Saturday evenings starting at 7:30 p.m. up to midnight. Consider renting the pool for an evening neighborhood block party by sharing the cost.

Other ideas: a family reunion, anniversary or birthday party, a customer appreciation party, an employee appreciation picnic, a bar mitzvah, a sweet-16 birthday party, a sports banquet pool party. Enhance your get-together with a band, karaoke, DJ or your own music. The concession is available or you can arrange for catered food and drinks.

For more information about this activity, visit our website: www.plaintownship.org and click on Aquatic Center - Pool Rentals.



**Plain Township
Board of Trustees**



Bicentennial - 200 Years

**Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Phone: (614) 855-7770
Fax: (614) 855-7761**



PTAC Big Pool

**Plain Township
P.O. Box 273
45 Second Street
New Albany, OH 43054**

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
New Albany, OH
Permit # _____

POSTAL CUSTOMER

Upcoming Events

- ⇒ **February 6-12** - Burn Awareness Week (Fire Prevention)
- ⇒ **March 31** - Last Day of the early-bird discount for pool memberships. Registration form is on website.
- ⇒ **May 22** - (11 a.m. - 2 p.m.) - MEMBERS ONLY- early sign-up for pool memberships, swim lessons and swim team at the Aquatic Center.
- ⇒ **May 28** - (11 a.m. - 8 p.m.) Plain Township Aquatic Center opens for the summer.
- ⇒ **June 20 and July 5** - The Plain Township Fire Department in conjunction with the New Albany Police Department and the Plain Local School District will be holding Safety Town.

Important Dates

Board of Trustee Meetings
Plain Twp. Fire Station, 9500
Johnstown Road, New Albany
Meets the 1st & 3rd Wednesday
of each month at 7 p.m.

February 2 and 16
March 2 and 16
April 6 and 20
May 4 and 18

Zoning Commission

Meets the 2nd Thursday of
each month

Zoning Board of Appeals

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of
each month

**** Meeting changes will be
posted on our website.**

Important Names

Board of Trustees
David Ferguson, Chairman
Bud Zappitelli
David Olmstead

Fiscal Officer
John A. Brandt

Township Administrator
Ben Collins

Zoning Officer
Ben Collins

Fire Chiefs
Chief John Hoovler
Asst. Chief Jack Rupp

Maintenance Supervisor
Bobby Pharris

NAPL Parks District Rep
Tim Sokol & Ted Coss

Rocky Fork-Blacklick Accord Rep.
Don Ballard
Gary Stelluti

Phone Numbers

Plain Township Office
614-855-7770 (Phone)
614-855-7761 or 855-2087 (Fax)

Plain Township Fire Dept.
614-855-7370 (Non-Emergency)

**Plain Township Maintenance
Department**
614-855-9015
www.maplewoodcemetery@att.net

Plain Township Aquatic Center
614-775-9430 (Seasonal)

Board of Trustees
David Ferguson
(614) 570-9196 (Cell)

Bud Zappitelli
(614) 855-4620 (Home)

David Olmstead
(614) 855-2283 (Home)

Trash Collection

**Trash collection and recycling is
provided by RUMPKE. To set
up service or for information,
call 800-828-8171 or visit their
website: www.rumpke.com**

**Weekly collection is scheduled
for Thursdays. Seniors receive
a 10% discount.**

Curbside recycling includes:

- Newspaper, magazines, catalogs, telephone books
- Mail, computer paper, brown bags
- Paperboard (i.e. cereal boxes)
- Cardboard boxes (broken down into 3 feet by 3 feet sections)
- Plastic and glass bottles and jars
- Aluminum cans, siding and gutters
- Steel soup, food and aerosol cans

