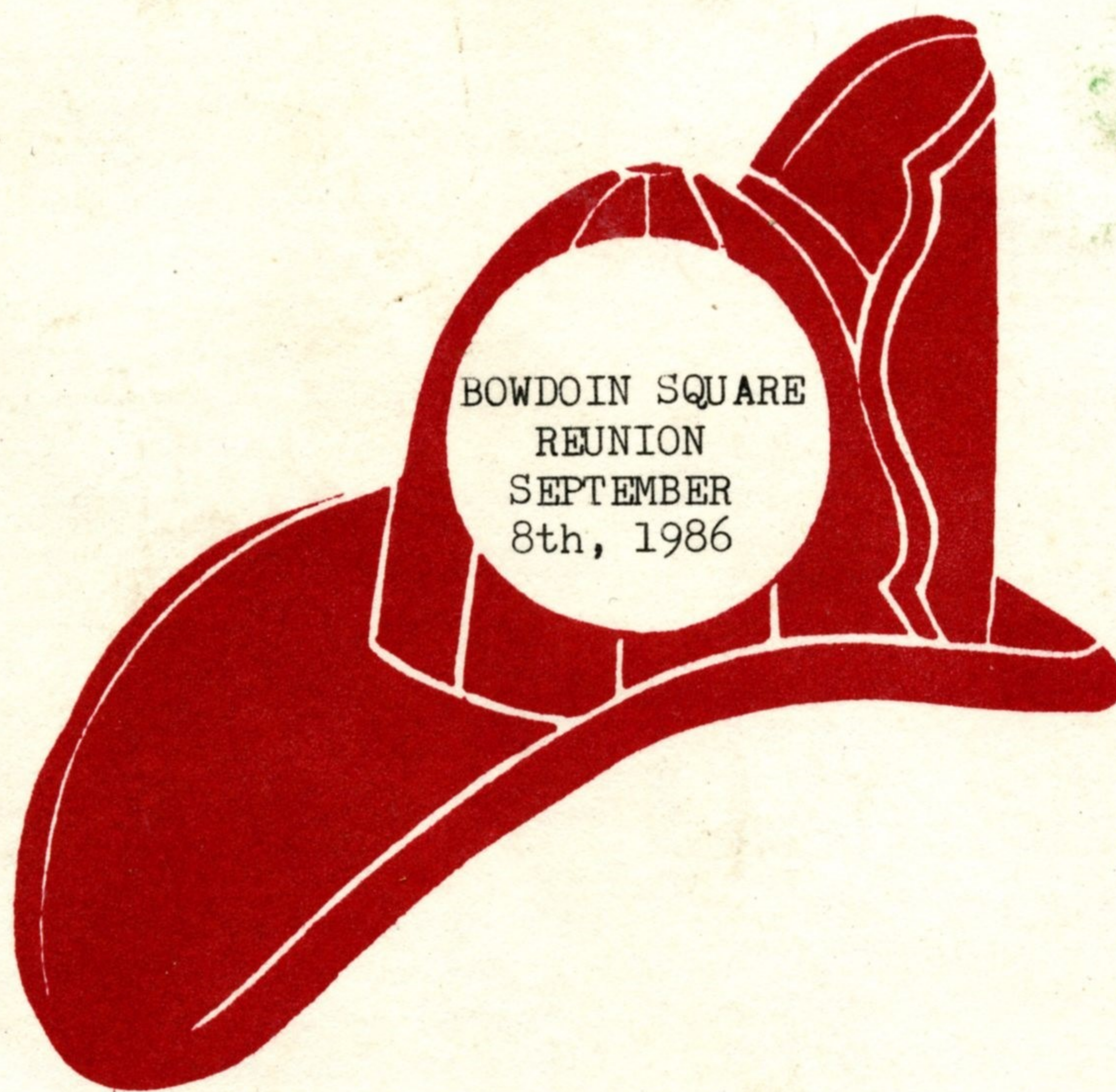


Souvenir Program



BOWDOIN SQUARE FIREHOUSE 1930-1962

Internationally known as "The Big House".

BOWDOIN SQUARE REUNION - SEPTEMBER 8, 1986

PROLOGUE:

The old Bowdoin Square firehouse was in existence from November 1930 thru October 1963; and during the period February 15, 1946 and February 4, 1947; it became Internationally known as the "Big House". for in all the World, there was no equal in manpower and fire companies. Manning Engines 4, 6 and 10; Ladders 1 and 24; Rescue 3 and District Chief 4; were 14 Company Officers; 80 Firefighters, and two Chief Officers; each working 84-hours a week.

As result of a campaign lead by Local 718, Boston voters reduced the work-week to 48-hours, effective February 4th, 1947. The current 42-hours a week became effective June 29, 1971.

Engine 6 was deactivated February 4th, 1947; reactivated April 27, 1949; and again deactivated July 13, 1954. Ladder 1 relocated to Hanover street on September 22, 1948. Engine 10 left for the new house on River Street, Beacon Hill, on April 14, 1949; and Rescue (minus the "3") was relocated to Fort Hill Square on June 11, 1960. Engine 4 and Ladder 24 left Bowdoin Square on October 28, 1963.

A "break-up Party was held on the main floor of the "Big House" on May 26th, 1962; and in November 1963, the firehouse of World reknown, was demolished, and replaced by today's "Saltonstall Building."

A RECORD TO BE PROUD OF:

Available records reveal that 280 men served time in the "Big House"; 1945 thru 1962; and were an intricate part of the Boston Fire Department. Taking nothing from other Firefighters; the "Big House" gang was "unique"; having fought on first alarm basis; every conceivable type of fire encountered by an urban department.

Indocrinated by their respected predecessors, the 1945-1962 group well-served the BFD and Boston's citizenry; as their firefighting experience extended to ALL Fire Districts via transfers and promotions.

The experienced men of FIREFIGHTER rank; were supplemented by SEVENTY (25%) of that group who became FIRE OFFICERS: 24 Lieutenants; 16 Captains; one Supt. of Maintenance; 22 District Chiefs and 7 Deputy Chiefs.

Of the 280 men named, SIX men died in Line of Duty; many were permanently injured; and TWENTY-FOUR were officially honored by the BFD for heroics above and beyond regular fire duty.

It is of vital importance to note here, that when Boston Firefighters Local 718 was Chartered on April 17, 1942; TWELVE (12) men of the sixteen (16) signing the Charter, were at that time, assigned to fire companies in the "Big House". Their foresight 44 years ago; inspired HUNDREDS of men over the years, to join Local 718 in working for and gaining the MANY benefits enjoyed today, by active and retired BFD men; their widows and families.

The above clearly indicates that the men who served in the Bowdoin Square firehouse during 1945 thru 1962, have in firefighting and in Unionism; A RECORD TO BE PROUD OF.

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REUNION OF MEN WHO SERVED ON COMPANIES
IN BOWDOIN SQUARE FIREHOUSE 1945-1962
held in

FLORIAN HALL - DORCHESTER, MASS.
MONDAY - SEPTEMBER 8, 1986 - 7:30 P.M.

PROGRAM FOR THE EVENING

- 7:00 p.m.- 7:30 p.m. - Dancing to "Oldies" music furnished by Larry O'Donell, and "table-hopping" by the "inmates from the Big-House".
- 7:30 - sharp - roast chicken dinner by Domenic's of Quincy
- 8:30 - "Greetings" by Chairman Pitman
- 8:32 - Introduction of M.C.
- 8:33 - Rendition of our National Anthem
- Moment of Silent Prayer for our departed members
- Remarks by Fire Commissioner Leo D. Stapleton
- Remarks by Local 718 President Neal Santangelo
- A little bit of "Slapstick"
- 9:03 - until??? - Dancing and "Fire Stories" and only Heaven above knows what else might happen.

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BOWDOIN SQUARE REUNION - SEPTEMBER 8, 1986

Who is here tonight ?

[At press time, the following named
had purchased tickets.]

Dick Berninger L24
Ralph Berry E4
Tom Callaghan R3

Frank Callahan L24
Bert Camick L24
Harvey Campbell E4

John Campbell T1
George Comfrey R3
Leo Corcoran L24

Bob Crawford D3
Frank Danze ~~E4~~ LAD.24
Bob Dean E4

Bill Desmond R3
Bob Drew L1
Charlie Famulari E4

Ed Fitzgerald R3
Don Flynn L24
Bill Foley R3

Ray Frazel L24
Mike Galvin E6
Tom Getherall E6

Charlie Griffin R3
Ernie Grimm R3
Larry Gunning E4

Bob Hardiman L24
Joe Houghton R3
Ed Hurley E4

Tom Hurley E6
Ed Kelly R3
Charlie Kenney R3

Angie Koutrouba R3
Frank La Cambria E10
Mike Laurano L24

Louis Liberatore E4
John Luongo R3
Joe Mahoney L24

Tony Masiello E6
John Mc Carthy D3
John Mc Kenna E4

Jim Mc Kernon L1
Steve Mc Mahon E4

Dan Moynihan R3
Jack Mullen R3
John Mullen E4

Marty Nee R3
Mike Nee L24
Ray Ochs L1

Buddy O'Neill L24
Nelson Pitman R3
Con Quinlan E6

Jack Reardon R3
Joe Roper R3
John Rose E6

Tony Serra E4
Bill Shea R3
Al Spitz E4

Ernie Thompson L24
Pete Thompson L24
Russ Tracey L1

Rakes Walsh L24
Joe White L24
Arthur Zahn E10

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Who is NOT here tonight ?

Letters were mailed to the members listed below; but for one reason or another, they are unable to be present here tonight.

Al Abramoski L24
Bill Ahern E4
Charlie Bunker E10

Bob Ceurvels E10
Bob Compston L1
Angelo Corolla R

Mike Corrigan T1
Tom Coyne L1
Paul Curran L24

Bill Curtis E4
Paul Dewan E4
Bob Doheney E6

Paul Doherty L24
Joe Dolan D3
Arthur Dolber R

John Dovi E4
John Dundon E10
Charlie Eckler E4

Joe Falcone E4
Frank Finnegan E4
Mike Flammia L24

Jim Foley L24
Jim Freeman R
John Frongillo R

Frank Gallagher R
Jim Gallivan L1
Joe Gavin L24

Jim Giger E10
John Gregor E10
Frank Gunning R

John Harrington L1
Louis Harrington E4
Bill Hart E10

Jack Hayes L1
Jim Holland E6
Harry Heuther L24

John Kraft E4
Joe Landry R
Arthur Larvey E4

Vinny Liotta L24
Toney Mahoney R
Joe Manning R

Leo Manning R
Arthur Marr E6
Dick Kemp R

Vinny Mc Cauley E4
Gene Mc Devitt E10
John Mc Guire E4

Don Mc Kenna E6
Bill Mc Kernon E4
Ed Mc Nulty E10

Tom Moran E4
Al Mosely E4
Jim Murphy D3

BOWDOIN SQUARE REUNION - SEPTEMBER 8, 1986

Who is NOT here tonight ?

Tim O'Brien R
Tom O'Connell L24
Steve Ostis L24

Ed Owens E6
Jimmy Parks R
Charlie Pierce L1

Bill Pineo E10
Bernie Pritchard E10

Jim "Tiger" Riley E6
Steve Riley L24
Tom Riley L1

Joe Savage L24
Jimmy Sheehan E6
George Stanton E4

Dan Sullivan E10
Dennis Sullivan E4
John Sullivan D3

Ed Sullivan R
John Vaughan L24
John "Apples" Walsh E10

Larry Westholm L24
Jim White D3
Leo White L24

Leo Wisentaner L24
Ed Wright R
Harry Yandle E4

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WHO ELSE is NOT HERE Tonight?

The Committee was unable to locate: Ralph Di Carolas E6; Fred Hearn R; George Leighton L24; Joe Murray L1; Al Panasuk E6, and Ed Rooney R. If you know the whereabouts of any of these men, please drop a note to "Reunion, P.O. Box 356, Boston, Ma. 02129".

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OBITUARIES

The following named members passed away since our last Reunion on September 10th, 1984.

NAME	CO.NO.	APPOINTED	RETIRED	DIED	AGE
Harold Matulaitis	R1	Feb. 17, 1943	Apr. 15, 1981	Oct. 8, 1984	64
James Curran	E6	Feb. 18, 1921	Jan. 13, 1954	Oct. 17, 1984	91
Henry Rose	E10	Apr. 27, 1949	Apr. 1, 1982	Mar. 18, 1985	59
Leo Mc Carthy	E4	July 16, 1937	Nov. 22, 1967	May 23, 1985	74
John O'Connor	E4	Feb. 3, 1947	July 1, 1955	Mar. 10, 1986	65
Walter Kurpeski	R1	Jan. 22, 1947	-----	May 17, 1986	63

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Acknowledgements:

Your Committee extends sincere Thanks to the following named, for their help and cooperation in making this Reunion a success:

Manager Fred Fiumara, Directors and employees of Florian Hall; Fire Commissioner Leo Stapleton; members of the Community Relations and Personnel Divisions, and BFD Photographer Mike King; Local 718 President Neal Santangelo and his staff; our "DJ" Larry O'Donnell, and Domenic Caterers, Quincy.

To each person present tonight: We trust that you will have an enjoyable evening.

Your Committee

Nelson Pitman, Chrm.

Tom Getherall, Sec. Bill Shea, Treas.
Joe Houghton D1 Mike Nee, E10
Dan Moynihan, R Marty Nee, R1
Buddy O'Neill, L24

Do you remember when ?

Before the House Fund, when Joe & Nemo would fill the coffee pail for 25¢ [today, you can get half a cup of coffee for 25¢]... Charlie Gove carrying a suitcase to North Station, and finding it loaded with sidewalk bricks....how Barney Monagle would take the heat, if a small guy called him "Shorty" when Frank brought in the Boston Post at 3:00 a.m....the day Santo was sent to buy six HERMITS and brought back six TURNIPS....certainly you can add your own "favorite" incident which aided in making the "Big House" a place to remember.....

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