



RESPONDER

Annual Newsletter of the Point Pleasant Fire Company #1 • November 2019

All volunteer fire and rescue services since 1924 - Serving portions of Plumstead, Solebury & Tinicum Townships

Our Members

Darrin Bodisch
Brent Bromiley
Aimee Carroll
Beth Carroll
Darren Carroll
Joe Cummings
Evan Davidson
Bill Dobron
Maryfran Dobron
Matt Dobron
Will Dobron III
Robbie Esswein
John Fezzuogilo
Samuel Fleischer
Sara Fleischer
Scott Fleischer
Steve Fleischer
Dan Froehlich
Robin Glenn
Jim Hadland
Rick Hadland
John Heinz
Dave Jones
Quinten Jones
Dave Kerr
Justin Kling
Rebecca Kolbe
Bryce Long
Pat Mangione
Michael Nyari
Steph Osbourne
Alexandra Piu
Justin Reeser
Tim Schea
Lanny Schneider
Ryan Shafik
Brent Stever
Mark Stever
Ryan Suber
Eric Tarby
Tom Tinsman

Marine 41-2 Boat Upgrade Coming in 2020

One thing that sets Point Pleasant Fire Company apart from other local fire companies is their proximity to the Delaware River. Most especially during the summer months, the influx of visitors to the area brings increased river rescues during the day and night. Add to that the wrath of Mother Nature's storms and the need for updated Marine Rescue equipment becomes highly essential. Working with sister fire companies like New Hope, Upper Black Eddy, Delaware Valley and New Jersey stations, Point Pleasant needs to be ready and able to handle the ever changing, very rocky topography of the Delaware River.

In 2018, Point Pleasant Fire Company was fortunate enough to receive a grant for \$5,000 from the Fargo Family Foundation. This grant allowed us to get the ball rolling on replacing our Marine 41-2 rescue boat. The Marine 41-2 Upgrade Committee has been working tirelessly to find a boat that will serve the needs of the Company and the River Communities. During their research, the committee has visited other Fire Companies along the Delaware to see what boat would be the best fit for Point Pleasant. After much consideration, the Committee has recommended a boat from Rockproof Boats, located in Marysville, Pa.

Rockproof Boats builds a boat specifically designed to withstand the abuse from rock infested Rivers...like the Delaware. The special custom boat hull is constructed from one piece of tempered aluminum (0.190" bottom) that is sheeted with ½" UHMW plastic, which gives the boat the ability to just slide across rocks. We hope to have the new Marine 41-2 River Boat in service by Spring 2020!!

The current Marine 41-2 will be available for sale shortly. For more details, visit our website at www.engine41.com.



A conceptual photo of the future Marine 41-2

How to Contact Us



@Engine41

www.engine41.com

Emergencies: Dial 9-1-1

Non-emergencies: 215-297-5167

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box #1
Point Pleasant, PA 18950
Street Address:
6500 Point Pleasant Pike
New Hope, PA 18938

TEST YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS MONTHLY AND REPLACE THE BATTERIES TWICE A YEAR

Technology Improves Dive Team Effectiveness and Safety

With your help, the fire company was able to raise the level of the SCUBA gear used by our Marine Unit by adding Dive Computers. Dive Computers are specialized devices that provide critical information to divers during rescue operations. Previously, our team used analog gauges that displayed basic information, but during a rescue operation, getting that data was an awkward and distracting effort. They are not illuminated and often require two hands to see the data, especially in environments where visibility is poor. This requires divers to take their attention away from the rescue operation and more importantly, the victim.



The new dive computers are wireless and worn on the diver's wrist like a watch. They track a wide spectrum of data and provide the most critical metrics on a large, backlit display that can be seen even in the darkest situations. One of the main advantages, and one that greatly increases diver safety, is the alarm system. Divers are alerted by visible and audible alarms when their air reaches warning levels, or if they are surfacing too quickly. This system is the most critical feature of the computers and one that greatly increases the safety of our volunteers. Overall, the computers watch over our divers while they are watching over our community.

Our Fund Drive Response

Our annual newsletter fund drive is the largest contribution we receive, after annual tax contributions from the three townships we serve. Over the past 20 years, the response rate to our newsletter fund drive has increased from around 10% to nearly 25%. As a guide, a good response rate to an annual appeal from a non-profit organization is around 10%.

We are extremely grateful for both the increasing response rate as well as the generous donations that we receive. This fund drive, the contributions from our neighbors, and our fundraising efforts allow us to maintain our operations and support the improvements needed to meet the changing fire and rescue needs of our community.

We are an IRS 501c3 non-profit organization, so we are able to directly accept matching gifts from your employer to enhance your tax-free contribution. Our IRS tax ID number is 23-6413644.

Help Us So That We Can Help You!

We love where we live! It's picturesque, quiet and rural. Many of our residents have long, tree lined, private driveways that lead to their beautiful homes. Some residents have address markers at the street, some don't. This may not be something you think about, but we do!

There have been occasions where rescue apparatus cannot access someone's driveway due to low hanging trees. This can be catastrophic or at the minimum, reduce response time to save you or your home. What can you do? Maintain trees and brush along your driveways to allow rescue vehicles easier access. At a minimum, fire engines need 12' wide and 13' high clearance. Additionally, by law, all utility lines (electric, phone, internet) must be 14' 6" high. Please contact your service provider if you have low hanging utility lines.

Local hardware stores sell **reflective** house numbers. Please make sure your house number is visible during the day **and at night**. We are here to help you in an emergency, please help us by making it easier to find you and get to you quickly.

Welcome to Our Newest Members!

Joe Cummings

Evan Davidson

Samuel Fleischer

Sara Fleischer

Quinten Jones

Rebecca Kolbe

MAKE SURE YOUR HOUSE NUMBER IS VISIBLE FROM THE STREET

MATTHEW RYAN DOBRON 2019 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

To say Matthew Dobron has firefighting in his blood would be an understatement. Being a 3rd generation firefighter he has been at the Station pretty much since he was born. Matt spent a lot of time watching and learning from his Grandfather (Will Dobron), Father (Bill Dobron) and Brother (Will Dobron III) and officially joined the Company at age 14. In the 10 years since he's volunteered, Matt has held the position of Lieutenant and currently holds the position of Captain and serves on the Board of Trustees. Matt was an instrumental part of the very successful Sportsman Show Fundraising Committee for many years.

Even though Matt is younger than many of the members in the Company, he has earned their respect as a fair and competent leader. Serving on the Department's High Angle Rescue Team; Marine and Dive Rescue Team; and as a Firefighter, the Point Pleasant Fire Company #1 proudly recognized Matthew Ryan Dobron as their 2019 Firefighter of the Year recipient. Congratulations Matt!!



WINTER SAFETY TIPS

It's not winter yet, but the first snow isn't too far away.

Few people like clearing snow, but it's a must to keep sidewalks and driveways safe and passable. While many of us focus just on clearing a space for our car and the area in front of our residence, please don't forget something else that's just as important, but often overlooked: the area around fire hydrants. It's a critical task. Consider this: if emergency workers need access to water to fight a fire, seconds count. Time they've wasted shoveling out a fire hydrant, so they can connect a hose, is time they could have used to save a home or a life—possibly yours.

A few other winter-weather reminders:

- Make sure you've cleared the area in front of your mailbox to give postal workers easy access.
- Clear a path for meter readers: Utility companies occasionally need to check your electric, gas or water meter. They've likely spent the day trudging through snow and ice – don't make their jobs harder.
- Be sure your sidewalks are clean and salted.
- Whether you're cleaning off the sidewalk or making a space for your car, don't shovel the snow into the street.
- Finally, be safe when you're out shoveling: stretch before shoveling, push rather than lift the snow, use a lighter shovel, take frequent breaks, wear layers to maintain a comfortable body temperature and stay hydrated.

When Seconds Count...



**Which would you rather have
to protect your home?**

**After a snowfall, remember to clear a three-foot
radius around fire hydrants near your home.**

Point Pleasant Fire Company

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Point Pleasant, PA 18950
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Facebook.com/Engine41
215-297-5167



Learn more: www.engine41.com

2020 FIRE COMPANY CALENDAR

AVAILABLE NOVEMBER 2019 we will have a 2020 Point Pleasant Fire Company Calendar featuring our volunteers' beloved dogs posing with various fire company equipment & apparatus. Wait until you see these cuties! We did sneak in a picture of our camera-shy volunteers! Just in time for the holidays, these calendars will make great gifts and help our **all-volunteer** organization!



The cost is \$20. Calendars are available for purchase at various local stores. For a complete list of locations, please visit our website at www.engine41.com.

For more information or to purchase a calendar, contact Maryfrances Dobron at Maryfran8146@comcast.net or Alex Piu at alexandrapiu22@gmail.com.



Thank you for your continued support!