

Loveland Fire Exhibit Update – June 2015

Welcome to the latest edition of the Loveland Fire Exhibit, Inc. newsletter. A few things have happened in the last few months. The election of officers in March saw a change in half of the officers. The new officers are: President-Fran Lyons, Vice President-Ev Roberts (re-elected), Secretary-Chris Klaas, and Treasurer-Diane Lyons (re-elected). A big THANK YOU to Jack Sullivan for all the years of his leadership as president and to Lela Bonser for her dedication and hard work as secretary. Both of these individuals were officers from the very beginning of the organization.

It is good to see some of the charter members are able to come to the meetings and the new folks who are interested. Remember the Loveland Fire Exhibit Inc. is for anyone who is interested in the organization. We are pretty informal and have a good time. We meet every other month, at this time, on the odd number months, the fourth Friday at 1:30 in the conference room of Fire Station #2.

The 1969 Mack Project: First off we want to thank all who donated to obtaining the Mack with monetary and in kind donation. We are sorry to say we do not have a complete list of all who have donated, but we are very appreciative to all who made it possible.

Bob Bentley and his crew, Larry Halsey, Ken Skoglund, Rod Ayres, Ron Buderus and Lela Bonser, went to work after the first of the year to modify the Mack to be used in public displays, parades and funerals. I apologize if I let anyone out. The water tank was removed, lowering the hose bed floor and benches were constructed in the hose bed. New jump seats were constructed and the seat in the cab was re-upholstered. A lot of the electrical that was added by Mancos Fire Department was removed and Bob trouble shot and repaired the electrical problems with the gauges. One set of compartment doors were constructed and whole outside was detailed. Some other internal equipment was removed to lighten the vehicle, but from the outside the Mack appears as it was when Loveland Fire had it in service. There are a couple of things left to complete, but these folks did an excellent job.

Unfortunately while working on the Mack our friend and brother firefighter Bob had a freak accident and passed away. He will be missed by all.





Thank you to Rod Ayres and Merlin Dietz for volunteering to co-chair the equipment committee.

Another sad note is the passing of retired Captain Jim Wilson and Rita Erickson, wife of retired volunteer firefighter Art Erickson. Our condolences to both families.

The Loveland Fire Authority has obtained additional property to the west of the training facility to expand. There are existing buildings on this property and they have offered the small building for a fire exhibit. Right now we are storing the vehicles in this building. The Loveland Museum staff is very supportive of a small exhibit at the training facility. The building committee is now entering the permitting process. The first step is the conceptual review. This will help us determine if it possible for us to continue into the process. Thanks to the Community Safety Division and the Fire Authority administration for their continuing support. This is going to be a long process and we may have to wait until the Fire Authority has their design for the expansion of the training facility.

The annual past members picnic is planned for July 25th. Thanks to Frank and Mary Kauffman for hosting and donating the hamburgers. Also, thanks to Robin Event Rental (Rob and Tera Robben) for donating the tables and chairs. They are only charging us for delivery and pick up charges (\$50) and Ev and Cory Roberts are donating that. Thank you everyone. Hope to see lots of you there.

Loveland Fire Exhibit Inc.

Fran Lyons
President