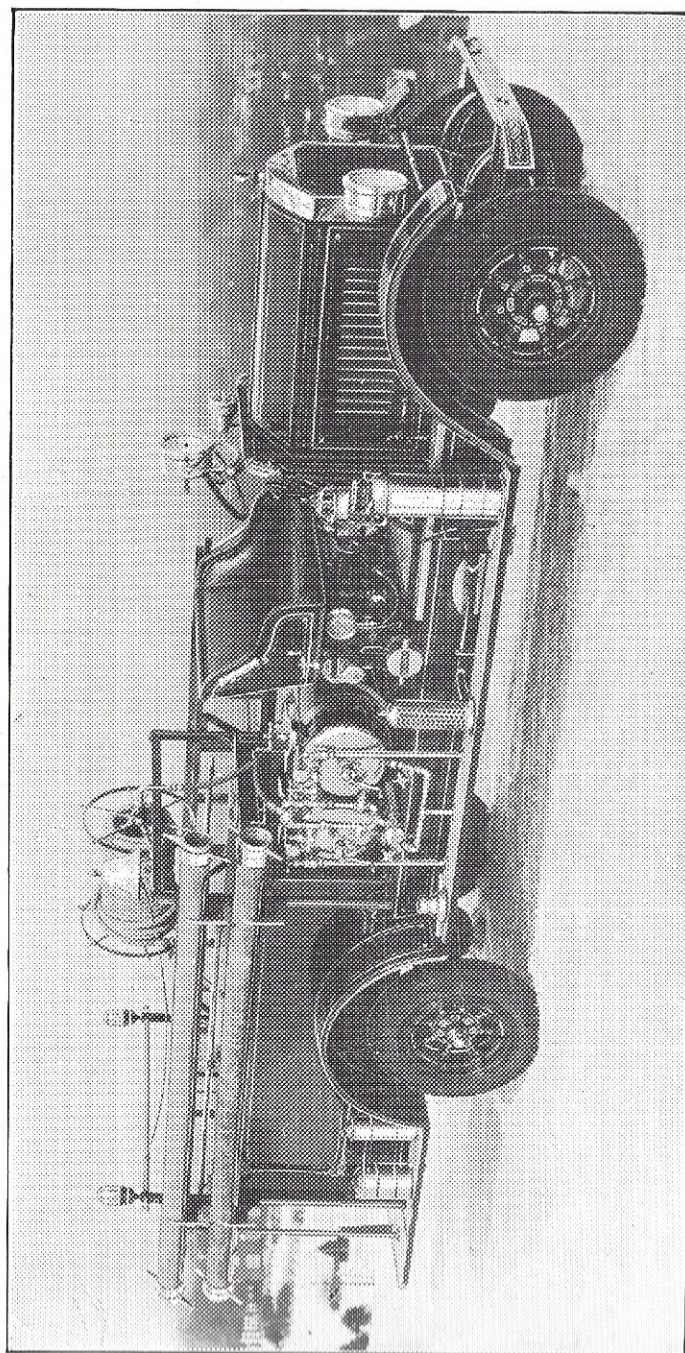


Souvenir of
West Sand Lake
Volunteer
Fire Company

1876-1926

Dedication

With grateful appreciation of faithful service to the company and community in the organization and continuance of the West Sand Lake Volunteer Fire Company, this book is dedicated in loving tribute to the memory of those who have responded to the last great roll call during the past half century.



NEW TRIPLE COMBINATION FIRE APPARATUS
Manufactured by Sanford Motor Truck Corp., Syracuse, N. Y.

Semi-Centennial

West Sand Lake Volunteer Fire Company

West Sand Lake, N. Y.

April 17, 1926

—::—

Board of Fire Commissioners

William Jeram, President

Albert Cipperley, Secretary

Charles E. Brookner

George Fredenburgh

John Schumann

Charles J. Ryemiller, Treasurer

Officers of Fire Company

Allan J. Hitchcock, Foreman

A. C. Ferguson, First Assistant Foreman

Joel P. Hitchcock, Treasurer

Harry G. Werger, Recording Secretary

Harold Hitchcock, Financial Secretary

Shirley B. Swike, Superintendent of Buildings

Trustees

William Jeram, Term expires January 1, 1927

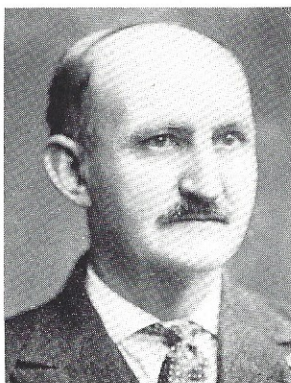
Charles E. Brookner, Term expires January 1, 1928

William J. Rogers, Term expires January 1, 1929

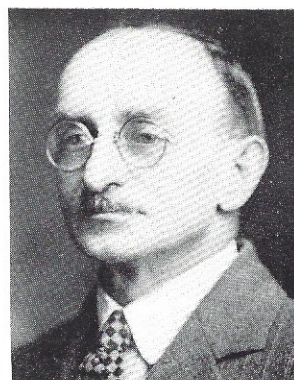
Compiled by

Allan J. Hitchcock

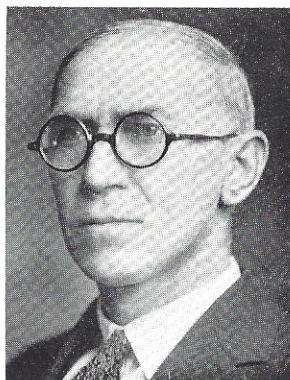
in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of
the incorporation of the company



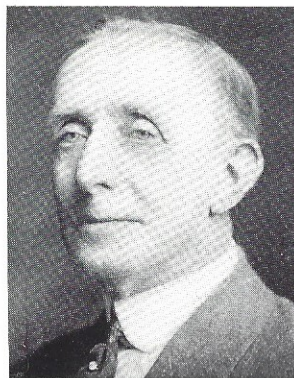
ALBERT CIPPERLEY
Secretary



CHARLES E. BROOKNER



WILLIAM JERAM
President



JOHN SCHUMANN



CHARLES J. RYEMILLER
Treasurer

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Members of the Board of Fire Commissioners

Years given include First and Last Year of Service

Cornelius Snyder	1876-1879
Burton A. Thomas	1876-1880
First President of the Board	
John H. Akin	1876
A. P. Holdridge	1876-1882
Alvin H. Cipperley	1876-1892
Samuel D. Seymour	1876-1892
Milo Robinson	1876-1882
John McLaren	1877-1883 and 1890-1891
Henry Eckes	1880-1889
Nicholas Cipperley	1881-1893 and 1897-1900
James Martin	1883-1884
John Schumann	1883-1911
Robert McLaren	1884-1885
George Craver	1885-1891
George E. Welker	1892-1908 and 1914-1918
Fayette Thomas	1892-1908
William J. Mielenz	1893-1900
Albert U. Vanderpool	1893-1908
Charles Eckes	1893-1895
Coonrad Acknowr	1894-1896 and 1909-1912
George Eweg	1896
Howard McLaren	1897-1908
Peter Bower	1909-1913 and 1915-1920
John Schumann	1913-1917
Arthur C. Ferguson	1909-1915 and 1917-1922
Alvin T. Cipperley	1909-1914
Schuyler Greenman	1916-1921
John Middleton	1920-1923
William Jeram	1920-
Edward S. Burkhart	1924-1925

Present Board of Fire Commissioners

William Jeram, President	Term expires Jan. 1, 1928
Albert Cipperley, Secretary	Term expires Jan. 1, 1930
George Fredenburgh	Term expires Jan. 1, 1927
Charles E. Brookner	Term expires Jan. 1, 1929
John Schumann	Term expires Jan. 1, 1931
Charles J. Ryemiller, Treasurer	Term expires Jan. 1, 1927

A Brief History
of the
Board of Fire Commissioners
West Sand Lake Fire District

At the time of the Incorporation of the Fire District known as the Incorporated Fire District of West Sand Lake which took place on the 17th day of February, 1876, it became necessary to elect seven taxpayers to comprise a board of Fire Commissioners to have supervision over the District, to make By-laws to govern the Fire Company, to have control over the Fire Company, and to authorize the laying of assessments and taxes on the taxable real property of the District to be used for making repairs to house and equipment, and to purchase any hose or other material from time to time as the Fire Company might need.

The first Board of Fire Commissioners was elected on the 18th of March, 1876, and consisted of the following members: Burton A. Thomas, President and Treasurer; Alvin H. Cipperley, Secretary; Cornelius Snyder, John H. Akin, Abner P. Holdridge, Samuel D. Seymour, and Milo Robinson. The first duty of the Board was to procure from Joseph Uline a deed to the property occupied by the Engine House. The original price paid for the lot was \$125.00.

Previous to this time the inhabitants had organized the Fire Company and had purchased from the S. Button Co., of Waterford, N. Y., on April 25, 1874, the hand-drawn apparatus which is still in service, for \$650; paying down on same, \$272, balance to be paid as soon as the money could be raised, and an interest charge of 6% added until full amount was paid. At the organization of the board it assumed this liability which then amounted to \$254, and set about to raise funds to meet same. On December 23, 1876, an assessment of 10c on each \$100 of valuation was laid on the real property and all persons were given two weeks to pay their assessment or be prosecuted. As soon as these assessments were collected, they were at once applied on account. These were laid from

time to time until on the 17th day of January, 1879, each church contributed an amount, each commissioner was assessed \$2.00, and together with the last assessment laid, final payment of \$73.24 was made on January 23, 1879.

It was not until April 9, 1889, that the present hose cart was purchased from the S. Button Co. for \$80.00. On May 21, 1894, an assessment of 20c per \$100 was laid on the District to purchase 300 feet of hose and to put new roof on the Engine House; on March 5, 1901, an assessment of 20c was laid to purchase 500 feet of hose; on November 13, 1909, an assessment of 10c was laid to repair Engine; on January 6, 1912, an assessment of 10c was laid to purchase new hose.

On November 20, 1913, a special meeting of the inhabitants of the Incorporated District was called to vote on selling the lot back of the Engine House to the Fire Company for the purpose of erecting a hall thereon. It was voted to sell the lot for \$10. Deed was executed and lot transferred January 4, 1914. On June 20, 1916, an assessment of \$200 was laid for hose; on June 5, 1922, an assessment of \$250 was laid for hose; on August 1, 1924, an assessment of 10c per \$100 was laid to repair and repaint the Engine House.

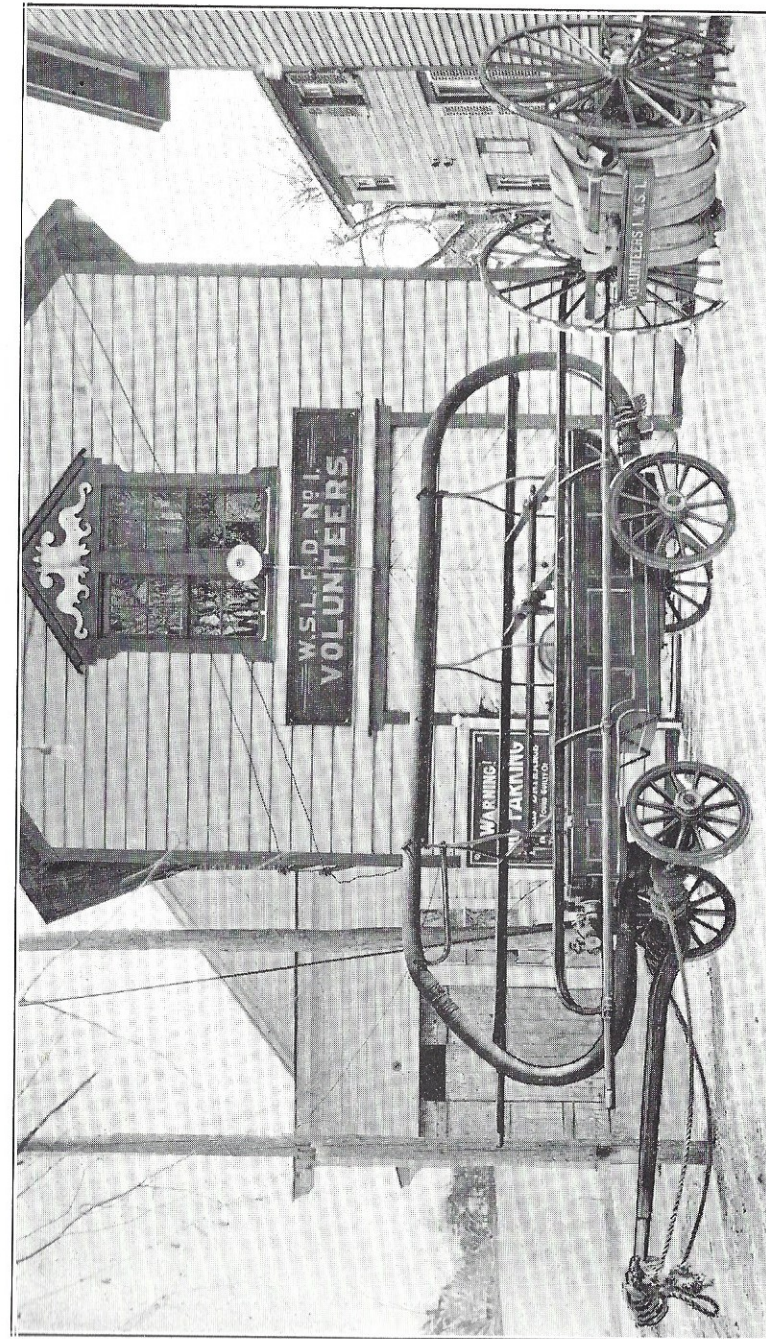
During the year 1924, a Fire Engine Fund Committee was appointed by the fire company to raise funds for the purchase of a new apparatus. When the Board was assured that the company intended to have a new apparatus, it was decided that when it was delivered the district would be re-incorporated and enlarged. In view of this fact the Board on February 5, 1925, appointed a committee to make recommendations for the enlargement of the district. The committee appointed was John Schumann, Harry C. Werger, A. T. Cipperley, Nelson Brookner, and G. E. Welker.

On August 26, 1925, an assessment of \$400 was laid to make necessary repairs to the house in order to house the new apparatus.

On October 9, 1925, at the request of the Engine Fund Committee of the fire company the Board held a special meeting to discuss ways to raise the balance of the money needed to purchase new apparatus. At this meeting the

Engine Fund Committee reported it had raised \$3250.00. After discussing the matter, it was decided to allow the committee to try to raise the balance needed by subscription. On the 10th day of December another meeting was called at the request of the Engine Fund Committee which then reported that it had an amount sufficient to purchase a \$6000 apparatus. After reading a resolution of the fire company asking the Board to favor the purchase of a Sanford apparatus the Board voted to purchase the same and signed a contract with the Sanford Motor Truck Corporation of Syracuse for a triple combination motor apparatus completely equipped for a purchase price of \$6035.00.

The outside boundaries of the new proposed Incorporated Fire District were fixed as follows: Extending east as far as the farm house of Howard Bonesteel, thence in an airline northwest to the farm house formerly owned by George Meyers, following the south and then west shore of Reichard's Lake to the land owned by Herbert Cipperley, thence northwest by airline to the home of Alden Snyder, thence southwest by airline to the Town line on the Albany-Averill Park State road, thence following Town line to the Hempstead home, thence southeast by airline to the home of Arthur Shaver, thence southeast by airline to the home of Edward Leitgeb, thence northeast in an airline to the home of Seymour Miller, thence northeast by airline to Bonesteel's, the place of beginning.



ORIGINAL HAND FIRE ENGINE STILL IN SERVICE

"OLD JOKE"

BUILT IN 1842

Company Officers Since Incorporation

(Years given include first and last year of service)

FOREMAN

Samuel D. Seymour	1876-1878
Nicholas H. Cipperley	1879-1885
Calvin T. Miller	1886
William T. Younghans	1887
Nicholas H. Cipperley	1888-1890
George Breigle	1891
Albert U. Vanderpool	1892-June 8, 1908
William J. Mielenz	June 9, 1908 to Jan. 1, 1909
Joel P. Hitchcock	1909-1917
George Cipperley	1918-1920
Allan J. Hitchcock	1921-

—:—

FIRST ASSISTANT

Nicholas H. Cipperley	1876-1878
William J. Mielenz	1879-1881
Charles Goul	1882
Richard Trembly	1883-1885
Walter S. Wagar	1886
Charles Allendorf	1887-1890
William J. Mielenz	1891-June 8, 1908—Elected Chief
George Fredenburgh	June 8, 1908-1912
Peter Bower	1913-1915
George Cipperley	1916-1917
Erwin Shants	1918-1919
William Jeram	1920
C. Lester Middleton	1921-1922
Arthur C. Ferguson	1923-

—:—

SECOND ASSISTANT

James H. Martin	1876-1881
Horatio Snyder	1882
A. B. Lappens	1883
William J. Mielenz	1884-1885
William Eckes	1886
William E. Gavitt	1887-1889

Position as Second Assistant abolished Jan. 1, 1890

—:—

RECORDING SECRETARY

Addison Uline	1876-1881
Clarence E. Traver	1882
Madison Traver	1883
William T. Younghans	1884-1885
Madison Traver	1886-1889
Hidley Fellows	1890

Collins Harden	1891-1892
	1893-1895
John A. Windorph	1896-1897
Arthur C. Ferguson	1898-1902
George H. Clapper	1903-1908
Harry C. Werger	1909-1913
Arthur C. Ferguson	1914-1916
Albert Cipperley	1917-1918
Allan J. Hitchcock	1919-1920
Harry G. Werger	1921-

—:—

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Position of Financial Secretary created Jan. 1, 1914

Edward W. Bower	1914
Charles Acknowr	1915
Clarence E. Bame	1916-1920
Leamon B. Eweg	1921-1922
Emmor Middleton	1923
Leamon B. Eweg	1924
Harold Hitchcock	1925-

—:—

TREASURER

John Langdon	1876-1881
Albert U. Vanderpool	1882-1891
Madison Traver	1892
Fred M. Green	1893
Albert H. Cipperley	1894-1897
Harry C. Werger	1898-Resigned Feb. 1, 1900
Fred Dittman	Feb. 1, 1900-1902
Alvin T. Cipperley	1903-1908
Charles E. Brookner	1909-1912
Albert Cipperley	1913
George Fredenburgh	1914-1920
Joel P. Hitchcock	1921-

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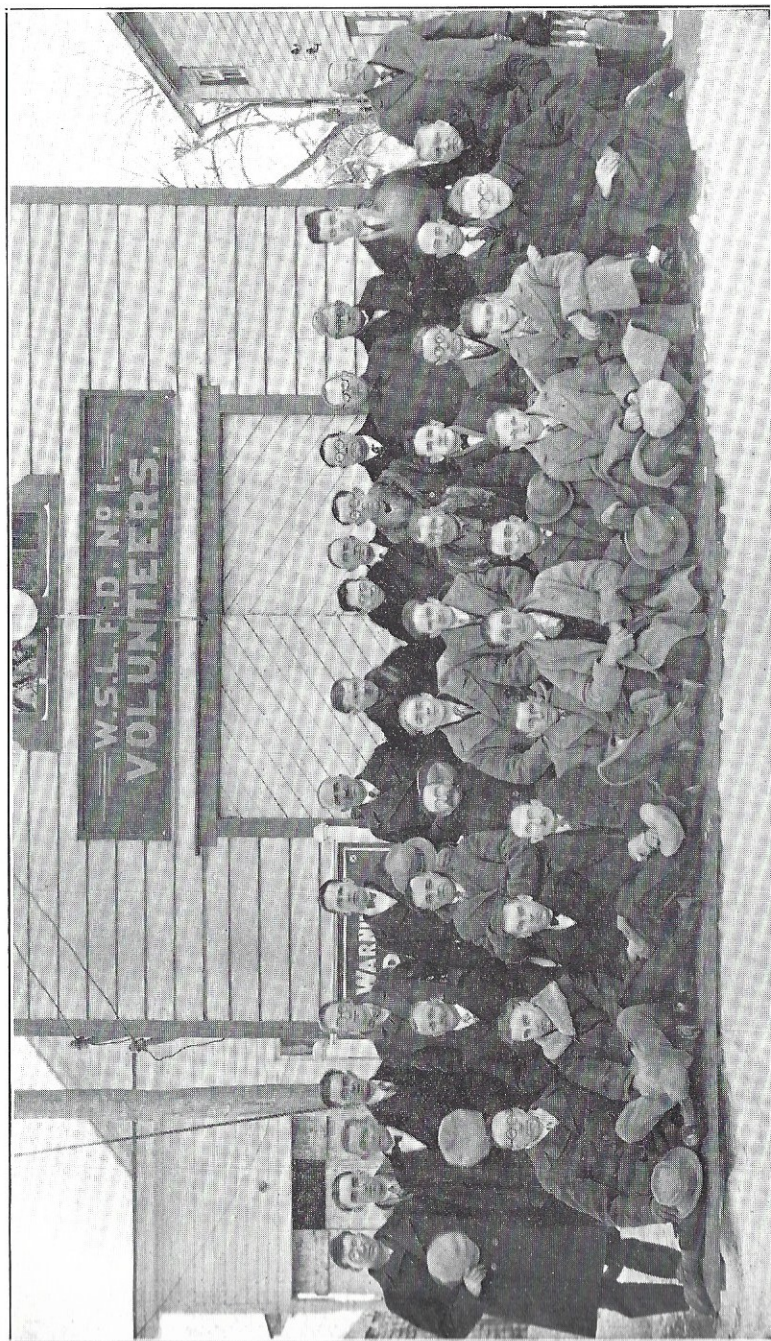
HALL MANAGER

Position of Hall Manager Created Jan. 1, 1915

George W. Fredenburgh	1915-1916
Charles E. Brookner	1917
George W. Fredenburgh	1918-1920
C. Lester Middleton	1921
Clarence E. Bame	1922
Louis Liabach	1923-1924
Shirley B. Swike	1925

Position of Hall Manager abolished Jan. 1, 1926, and

position of Superintendent of Buildings created
Shirley B. Swike 1926-



WEST SAND LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY, 1926

Roll of Members Since Organization

*Denotes Active Members April 17, 1926

**Denotes Deceased Members.

John McLaren**	John P. Crell**
A. T. Holdridge**	William Crell
Washington Snyder**	Clarence Traver
Addison Uline**	Elmer S. Robinson
Alonzo Wright**	Edward Springer
Nicholas Cipperley**	Melvin Sharpe
John Schumann*	Edgar Wagar**
Adelbert B. Lappens	George Calkins
John Langdon	Thomas Gleason**
Madison Traver	William T. Younghans**
William J. Mielenz**	John Smotel**
John F. Deerr	Albert U. Vanderpool**
Adelbert Wagar	Asa Bentley
Charles Goul**	George A. Hilsinger
Winfield Wagar	Albert Gavitt
Peter Parsley**	Richard Trembley
Charles Eckes**	Charles Allendorf
Frank A. Wagar	John M. Hayner**
Samuel D. Seymou**	George Reichard
James H. Martin**	Wesley Moul**
Ellery Holdridge**	Philip Liphite**
William E. Wagar**	Fred R. Allendorf
Warner A. Craver**	Henry S. Meyers**
Walter S. Wagar	Ernest Pfaff
Frank H. Uline**	George Breigle**
W. E. Gavitt	Alvin T. Cipperley*
William H. Nichols**	George Eweg**
George Craver**	Collins Harden
George Hudson, Jr.**	George H. Meyers**
Albert Donaldson**	Frederick Dittman**
Stephen Clapper**	John A. Windorf
Myron W. Rogers**	Albert Taylor
George Effler**	Edwin Gavitt
John Craver	Hidley Fellows**
Calvin T. Miller**	John F. Rehm
Seward T. Cipperley	Charles Fredenburgh
Elmer H. Younghans**	Frank Green
Frederick Hall	George Burwill**
William Eckes**	William H. Lapp**
Horatio Snyder**	Calvin Reichard
George Martin**	Nicholas Acknowr
Alfred Shaver	Rawson Chichester
Marcus Folderman**	John M. Castle**
Andrew P. Lorenzo**	George H. Clapper

Albert H. Cipperley
 Joel P. Hitchcock*
 John R. McLaren
 Fred M. Green**
 Frank S. Clapper
 Fayette Thomas
 Thomas Warren
 W. R. Nichols**
 Fred Mohl
 Burton I. Acknowr
 Olcott Thomas
 Peter J. Bower
 Myron A. Lape**
 A. C. Ferguson*
 Leslie Vanderpool
 Egbert Turner
 Harvey Clapper
 Charles Acknowr
 Harry C. Werger*
 D. Grant McLaren
 Charles Erring
 William Shants**
 Lester Sharp
 LeRoy Gleason
 John F. Liabach
 Alvin S. Goewey**
 John Sowalski
 Anthony Mohl
 William Wright
 Willard Mielenz
 C. C. Hastings
 Charles Branch**
 Harwood Lape
 George Eweg**
 George L. Eckes
 G. W. Fredenburgh*
 Benjamin Mohl
 Erwin Shants*
 M. S. Smith
 Harry Kennicutt*
 Herbert L. Acknowr
 George Cipperley*
 John Vanappledorn**
 Charles Brookner*
 William Higgins
 J. Elwin DeGraaf*
 John J. Flynn**
 Barton Warren
 Lenas Greenman*

S. E. Greenman*
 Clarence E. Bame*
 Wilbur J. Bower*
 John G. Swike*
 Arthur Shaver*
 John R. Greene
 Edward W. Bower
 Gilbert Fisk**
 James Manning
 George H. Lewis
 Charles J. Ryemiller*
 William J. Rogers*
 Willard B. Shants*
 Frank Fredenburgh*
 J. F. McPherson
 Theodore Kalbus
 George Etman*
 William A. Goewey
 Neil B. Johnson
 Warren King*
 Michael Keyes
 Edward Hinkle
 C. Lester Middleton*
 Willis C. Clifford**
 William Jeram*
 Shirley B. Swike*
 John F. Bradwell
 Leamon B. Eweg*
 William Bradwell
 Glen Hitchcock*
 Harry G. Werger*
 Louis Liabach*
 Louis Cipperley*
 Ralph Hall
 Myron Wehnau
 Walter Apple
 Hugh A. Warren
 Herman G. Mastio
 Howard Sowalski
 George W. Bradwell**
 Allan J. Hitchcock*
 Emmor Middleton*
 Charles S. VanBuren*
 Madison Wehnau*
 Arthur Jackson
 Evan B. Cure*
 Alexander D. Rogiero
 Edward Berrigan*
 Harold Hitchcock*

Ross C. Coons*
 Warren Rescott*
 Philip Albert*
 Clarence Liabach*
 Michael Miller*
 Rutherford Hayner*
 Harold S. Hogle*
 Charles W. Albert*
 Nelson A. Brookner*
 Charles Cure*
 Walter Lerch*
 Harvey Wehnau*

Harry N. Sherman*
 Joseph U. Werger*
 Walter Freckleton*
 Erwin Cipperley*
 Everett Williams*
 Edward Berrigan, Jr.*
 Clarence A. Clickner*
 Herbert Wehnau*
 Walter Hitchcock*
 Leslie J. King*
 Robert Hastings*
 T. Edward Bethmann*

FIREMEN'S HALL

WEST SAND LAKE, N. Y.

One of the largest and best equipped halls in this section for shows, dances and entertainments.

This hall is owned by the West Sand Lake Volunteer Fire Company which solicits the patronage of the public. Fitted with stage, scenery, auditorium chairs, electric lights, dining tables, kitchen, dishes, and utensils.

For further information and rates apply to or write

SHIRLEY B. SWIKE
 SUPERINTENDENT OF BUILDINGS
 VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY
 WEST SAND LAKE, N. Y.

OFFICERS OF WEST SAND LAKE



HARRY G. WERGER
Recording Secretary

"Chief" Allan J. Hitchcock, as he will be known when the modern apparatus is installed, has been Foreman of the company since January, 1921, having served the two years previous as Recording Secretary. He has been a member for ten years and his early election as Foreman was due to his active leadership in company affairs.



ALLAN J. HITCHCOCK
Foreman

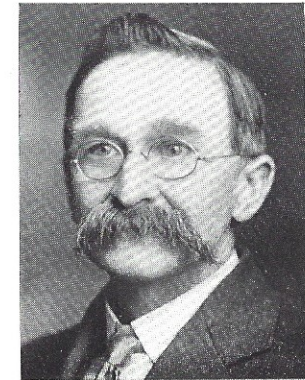
Shirley B. Swike, the present Superintendent of Buildings, was elected Hall Manager in January, 1925, and the active interest and energy with which he performed the exacting duties of that position has resulted in the largest income since the hall was built. Each year Firemen's Hall is in greater demand for social and public events.



SHIRLEY B. SWIKE
Superintendent of Buildings

VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

The second oldest member of the company is Joel F. Hitchcock, who has been a member for thirty-four years. Mr. Hitchcock has been active throughout his long service. Shortly after joining he was appointed on the Finance Committee, serving 12 years; then was elected Foreman, heading the company from 1909 to 1917; and has been successively elected as Treasurer of the company for the last six years.



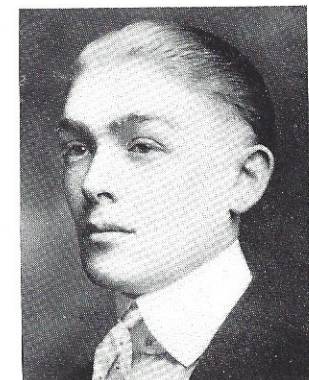
JOEL P. HITCHCOCK
Treasurer

Arthur C. Ferguson has been an active fireman for more than thirty years. For eight years he held the office of Recording Secretary. He was elected by the taxpayers of the Fire District as a member of the Board of Fire Commissioners and served in that position for 12 years. Since January, 1923, he has been Assistant Foreman of the company.



A. C. FERGUSON
Assistant Foreman

Another of the younger members of the company to be given early preference for office is Harold W. Hitchcock, who, following in the footsteps of his father and brother, has served the company in the office of Financial Secretary for the last two years.



HAROLD W. HITCHCOCK
Financial Secretary

Brief History of Fire Company

The West Sand Lake Volunteer Fire Company was organized during the year 1872, but the records of the first few years were very brief and little detailed information of this period of its existence can be given.

The item of greatest importance was the purchase of the hand-drawn apparatus which is still in service, though delivered to them on the 25th day of April, 1874. It was purchased from the S. Button Co. of Waterford, N. Y., for \$650. The first payment, made on delivery, was \$272, which was raised by subscription of the taxpayers of the village. The balance was to be paid in installments at any time the Company saw fit, and they were to pay 6% interest on the account until paid in full.

When the District was incorporated in 1876 and became known as the Incorporated Fire District of West Sand Lake, the newly elected Board of Fire Commissioners assumed the liability from the Company, and in conjunction with the Company raised funds to meet the same.

It was not until January 23, 1879, that final payment was made on the apparatus. On August 3, 1883, Addison Uline and William J. Mielenz were appointed a committee to see if they could procure a hose cart. After looking around for some time they reported that the only second-hand one available was owned by the Troy Fire Department, and after looking at it they decided it was too old for them to purchase, and as funds were very low at this time it was decided to wait until they were able to purchase a new one.

On October 5, 1882, a company picture was taken and a copy was presented to the Chief Engineer of the Troy Fire Department.

On February 1, 1883, the Company purchased one 20-inch and two 18-inch trumpets of Anderson-Jones Company, New York City.

On the 23rd of June, 1883, the present bell was purchased from the Clinton H. Meneely Bell Co. for \$36. James Martin and Madison Traver were appointed a committee to solicit subscriptions to pay for bell and to erect a tower on Engine House. October 4, 1883, the committee reported it had received enough money to pay for the bell and build the tower. The committee was directed to build same, and during the month of October, 1883, the bell was set in its present position on top of the Engine House. On February 7, 1884, the Company's seal was purchased. During the month of October, 1885, the flag staff in front of the Engine House was erected.

The entire company with engine turned out in the parade held by the State Firemen's Association in Troy on August 19, 1887, accompanied by Ferguson's Cornet Band.

On the 28th of June, 1888, the Fire Company was presented with a flag by a committee of young ladies, Misses Ella Cipperley, Carrie Hitchcock, and Carrie Wright. The presentation speech was made by the Rev. Mr. Hoover, the reply by Rev. Mr. Flickinger. Ferguson's Cornet Band furnished music. On July 4, Ferguson's Cornet Band, the Fire Company, and a band of horsemen from the vicinity paraded through the streets of the village and then to the Second Lutheran Church, where a service was held by the four pastors of the village, after which a dinner was served at the Engine House.

On March 19, 1889, a committee was appointed to purchase a new hose cart. The hose cart, purchased March 28 of the Button Fire Engine Co. for \$80, is still in service.

During the year 1892 the by-laws were revised in order to allow the company to purchase new uniforms. The by-laws were made to allow the oldest 34 members of the company in point of service to constitute the Uniformed Company, and when a uniformed member dropped from the company the next member in line took his place. This law is still in force and the present uniformed company consists of 34 members. On April 28, 1892, the uniforms were purchased from Craft & Co., and the hats from Cottrell & Leonard, both firms at Albany. The total cost of the uniforms was \$34.15 each.

On the 19th day of August, 1897, the company attended the State Firemen's Convention at Schenectady, accompanied by Ferguson's Band.

On July 4, 1898, the company held a filibuster parade through the streets of the village and a field day on the lawn of the First Lutheran Church. The net profits of the same were \$110.

On September 6, 1900, the company attended the picnic of the Sand Lake Fire Company in a body, accompanied by a six piece drum corps from Ferguson's Band. The price paid for the drum corps was \$2.00.

On the morning of the 25th of May, 1897, the company fought their largest fire since the existence of the company. At about 2 A. M. Dr. Wm. R. Nichols discovered the hotel, owned by Fred Brewster and occupied by Daniel G. Face, to be on fire. The alarm was sounded and the company was very quick in responding. The engine pumped continuously until 5:30 A. M., when the fire was brought under control. The hotel was destroyed with the exception of the

shed immediately adjoining. Excellent work was performed in saving the adjoining buildings of Dr. Nichols and Elmer Bame.

The uniform lockers in the engine house were built in December, 1904, by John Liabach.

The sixteen-foot extension ladder was purchased on November 2, 1905.

On July 4, 1908, the company held a filibuster parade through the streets of the village and a field day at Brookside Park, which netted them \$135.

On January 7, 1909, William J. Mielenz retired from the chair as Foreman of Company and at their next meeting on February 4, the company presented him with a chair, which was very gratefully received.

At the regular trial of engine held on July 12, 1909, the engine was taken out and it refused to work. This was the only time since the company owned it that it would not work when called upon. The next morning the pumps were taken out and taken to Waterford by a committee and repaired. It was found that the trouble was due to worn out gaskets on the suction valves. The company has never experienced any trouble of any kind with it since that time.

The entire company participated in the Hudson-Fulton Celebration held in the City of Troy on October 9, 1909, accompanied by a drum corps.

The engine house was wired for electricity in March, 1912.

On April 3, 1913, the company adopted the present style of badge.

At the regular meeting on July 3, 1913, the by-laws were amended to allow the election of a Financial Secretary. The first one, elected January, 1914, was Edward Bower.

At the regular meeting held on the 6th of November, 1913, the proposition of purchasing the lot back of engine house from the Board of Fire Commissioners was discussed and a committee was appointed to confer with the board and get a price on same if possible. The intention of the company was to build a hall thereon. A committee consisting of John Liabach, George W. Fredenburgh, A. C. Ferguson, Peter Bower, and Douglas Elliot were appointed and ordered to report at a special meeting to be held on November 12. At this meeting the committee reported lot could be purchased for \$10, provided it would be used for no other purpose than to erect a hall thereon. John Liabach was appointed a committee to lay out foundation for

hall, and on Thanksgiving day ground was broken for same. George Fredenburgh was appointed a committee to have charge of the building of same and to hire labor as he saw fit. The company was then re-incorporated to allow it to deal in real estate to the amount of Five Thousand Dollars. The hall was started immediately and the company set about to raise funds for building of same. The frame of hall was built during the winter and on the 26th, 27th, and 28th of March, 1914, the company held its first fair in hall, the proceeds to be used toward paying for it. At this time the company did not have money enough to complete same, and a mortgage on the hall was given to Mrs. Emily Link of West Sand Lake for \$600 to complete frame work and outside. The company then voted to rent hall to any organization in the Fire District for the sum of \$3 per night and all others \$5.

On June 4, 1914, the Foreman of Company, Joel P. Hitchcock, at the request of the company appointed George W. Fredenburgh to act as Hall Manager for the balance of the year, he to have charge of renting same to any responsible parties applying for it, to collect rents, and to act as janitor of same. On December 3, 1914, the by-laws were revised and another section added to allow the election of a hall manager at the annual election, to serve for one year. The first Hall Manager elected was George W. Fredenburgh.

The first payment on mortgage was made April 1, 1918, of \$100 and interest. During the month of February, 1919, the company held a fair to try and raise enough money to pay balance of mortgage. The fair netted the company nearly \$800, and on April 1, 1919, the balance of mortgage was paid and the company was again out of debt.

During the month of January, 1919, a few of the wives of the firemen started a drive to organize a ladies' auxiliary to the fire company. The auxiliary was organized with the aid of the fire company which felt that it would be a good asset to the company. They held regular meetings in the rooms of the company but for some reason they were unable to continue, although the fire company rendered them every possible aid. They existed for only about two years, and during the year 1921 disbanded and the money in their treasury was held until 1925 and then turned over to the engine fund committee.

After paying the mortgage on the hall the company held various shows, dances, etc., and finally during the year 1920 raised enough money to seal the hall inside and to build a dressing room on the rear, adjoining the stage. The stage settings and scenery were purchased from the East Side Dramatic Club of Troy in April, 1920, for \$30,

and installed on the stage. This completed the building of the hall, which is estimated to have cost the company about \$4500.

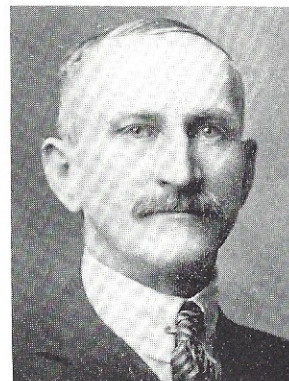
When the company was again out of debt the proposition of raising funds and putting them in a separate account to be used for the purpose of purchasing a modern, up-to-date fire apparatus was discussed.

On May 4, 1922, an invitation to attend the 50th anniversary of the J. N. Ring Hose Co. of kensselaer was received and the company voted to attend in a body and participate in the parade on May 20, 1922. About forty members of the company took part in the parade, and they were awarded second prize for the best dressed and best formed company in line.

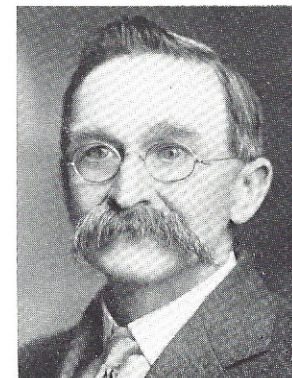
On December 21, 1922, the company advanced the hall rent to \$8 per night.

During the next two years there had been much discussion about raising funds to purchase a new fire apparatus, but nothing had been done by the company as it was waiting for the Board of Fire Commissioners to act. On May 1, 1924, a committee consisting of Harry C. Werger, Joel P. Hitchcock, and George Cipperley was appointed to confer with the board in this regard and see if a fund could be started. The committee after visiting the board reported that the board would not do anything at this time, but would not deter the company if they decided to start a drive for the purpose. With this report and with the company unanimously voting to start a drive to raise money to be used for the purpose of purchasing a new apparatus, on June 5, 1924, two additional members were appointed to act on this committee, to be known as the New Engine Fund Committee. This committee then consisted of Harry C. Werger, Chairman; Joel P. Hitchcock, Treasurer; Wilbur Bower, Secretary; George Cipperley, and Harry Sherman, and they were given the support of the company to raise funds in any way they saw fit.

The first money to be put in the new fund was the entire proceeds of the annual picnic held in August, 1924, which amounted to nearly \$200. It was then decided by the committee to ask each organization within the Fire District to donate what they saw fit to be used expressly for the purpose of purchasing the new engine. The first organizations to contribute were Pleasant Valley Lodge, No. 381, Knights of Pythias, and Pleasant Valley Temple, No. 93, Pythian Sisters, which held a field day on September 1, 1924, and raised \$295, which was contributed to the fund.



GEORGE CIPPERLEY



JOEL P. HITCHCOCK
Treasurer



HARRY C. WERGER
Chairman



WILBUR J. BOWER
Secretary



RUTHERFORD HAYNER
Purchasing Committee

NEW ENGINE FUND COMMITTEE

The committee then made arrangements to hold a fair in the hall on October 2, 3, and 4, for the fund. The proceeds amounted to \$950.

The next contribution came from the disbanded Ladies' Auxiliary of the fire company. The balance of \$18.40 of the Soldiers' Welfare Fund was placed in the engine fund. The Methodist Episcopal Church contributed \$65. The contribution of the Salem Evangelical Church was \$25. Various other contributions were received, and on January 8, 1925, Harry C. Werger, Chairman, reported that the fund amounted to nearly \$1800 for the first six months of the drive.

During the latter part of the month of August the fire company responded to a fire which destroyed the barn of William Galougly in Bloominggrove after being struck by lightning. In appreciation of the valuable service rendered in saving the other outbuildings the company received a check of \$25 from him, which was placed in the fund. This fund then increased rapidly during the next few months by dances and shows held by the company and by other contributions received, among the largest being that of the First Lutheran Church of \$100, Second Lutheran Church of \$35, Society for the Prevention of Horse Thieves \$100, West Sand Lake Grange \$54, and various others.

The committee then decided to make its final drive by holding a fair in the hall on October 21 to 24, 1925, which was done, and the committee reported a profit of \$1100.

At a meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners held on the 9th day of October, Chairman Werger reported to the board that the committee had raised \$3250 during the past year and five months, and steps were then taken to determine how to raise the balance of the money. Mr. Werger reported the company willing to donate \$500 from its treasury if the board would consider the purchase of an apparatus to cost not less than \$6000.

The Board of Fire Commissioners after some discussion decided to allow the Engine Fund Committee the privilege of trying to raise the balance by subscription throughout the present district, and at this time the board mapped out boundaries for the extended district to be created as soon as the apparatus is delivered. The Engine Fund Committee immediately set about with subscription lists, asking all taxpayers both in old and new proposed districts to contribute what they saw fit and assured them a new apparatus would be delivered during the year 1926. They met with success and during the month of November nearly completed their list.

During this time the officers of the company, the Engine Fund Committee and the Board of Fire Commissioners had been active in viewing the actual performances of motor-driven apparatus in towns and villages nearby which have them and having two demonstrations in their own district by apparatus that had been brought for that purpose.

At the regular meeting of the company held on December 3, 1925, the following resolution was adopted by the company:

"Resolution in favor of purchasing Sanford Fire Apparatus.

"Be It Resolved, That we, the Officers and Members of the West Sand Lake Volunteer Fire Company, hereby recommend to the Honorable Board of Fire Commissioners and to the Purchasing Committee of the above company that they favor the purchase of an apparatus of the Sanford Motor Truck Corporation, of the same type and design as was demonstrated to the taxpayers of this district on the 24th day of October, 1925."

At this meeting a Purchasing Committee was appointed to act in conjunction with the Board of Fire Commissioners. The committee consisted of Harry C. Werger, Joel P. Hitchcock, George Cipperley, Wilbur Bower, and Rutherford Hayner. On the 9th day of December, 1925, the Board of Fire Commissioners met in a special meeting and after reading the resolution of the fire company, unanimously adopted it and, together with the Purchasing Committee of the company, signed a contract with the Sanford Motor Truck Corporation for a modern, up-to-date apparatus at a cost of \$6035.

The Fire District of West Sand Lake was incorporated on the 17th day of February, 1876, and the Fiftieth Anniversary of the incorporation will be celebrated on the 17th day of April, 1926, at which time the new apparatus will be accepted by the Board of Fire Commissioners and officially turned over to the Fire Company.

It is the intent of the company to retain the old hand-drawn apparatus and to keep it in condition to be used for emergency purposes.

Announcement

TO TAXPAYERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

Resolution adopted February 4, 1926:

Be It Resolved, That we, the officers and members of the West Sand Lake Volunteer Fire Company extend to the Taxpayers of the Fire District, the Churches, local organizations, and all others who contributed to the New Engine Fund our most hearty thanks for their aid and support in making the purchase of this apparatus possible.

Harry C. Werger, Chairman of the New Engine Fund Committee, wishes to thank the honorable Board of Fire Commissioners, the officers and members of the Fire Company, and the members of the Engine Fund Committee for their earnest co-operation and sincere support in making this a success.



JOHN SCHUMANN

The only original charter member of West Sand Lake Volunteer Fire Company still in active service. Mr. Schumann joined the company before incorporation, having been an active fireman for fifty-two years. For twenty-eight years he has served as a Fire Commissioner in the West Sand Lake Fire District.

Mr. Schumann has been absent only 30 times out of the last 220 consecutive meetings.

An Attractive Village

West Sand Lake, known to auto tourists as the "Village Beautiful," is an attractive hamlet of approximately 500 inhabitants most accessible to both the city of Troy, county seat of Rensselaer County, and the city of Albany, Capital of New York State. Main paved highways from both cities unite at the four corners in the center of the village, which is nine miles from the union railroad stations in each city. It is the headquarters of the K. L. W. M., Inc., which operates a system of modern buses to both cities.

Although a community of well-kept homes surrounded by productive farms, West Sand Lake is proud of its business enterprises, its civic-minded organizations, its churches and institutions and its progressive citizens. Its largest industry is the Thermo Mills, Inc., which gives employment to nearly half of its population. Within its boundaries is the plant of the Wynantskill Hydro-Electric Company which supplies light and power to a chain of surrounding villages. Besides its Postoffice of the third class, grammar school, four churches, and two hotels, the village has a large public garage, two general stores, a meat market, an attractive restaurant, two ice cream parlors, a barber shop, an automobile painting shop, a blacksmith shop, a tin and plumbing shop, cider and grist mill, two physicians, two undertaking establishments, a general trucking and express service, three contracting carpenters, a general electrical contractor, four painting and paper-hanging contractors, two mason contractors, and two real estate agencies.

It is the home of three fraternal organizations, Pleasant Valley Lodge No. 381, Knights of Pythias, Pleasant Valley Temple No. 93, Pythian Sisters, and West Sand Lake Grange No. 947, Patrons of Husbandry.

West Sand Lake Volunteer Fire Company owns modern motor fire apparatus which affords ample fire protection and keeps insurance rates at a minimum. Taxes are low and living costs are kept moderate by the plentiful products of gardens, dairies, poultry yards and farms.

West Sand Lake is in the midst of the famous lake resort region of Rensselaer County, six beautiful natural lakes being situated within one half to five miles of the village. Clean and well-lighted streets, pretty homes, well-cropped lawns, flowers, fruit and shade trees, add to its attractiveness. Building sites in sightly locations are available and those seeking a desirable place to live in a conveniently situated suburban village affording modern conveniences should investigate the attractions of this prosperous and growing community.