

Pennsylvania FFLA Year End Report

2016

On January 5, 2017 I assumed the role of Director for the Pennsylvania Chapter of the FFLA. I was nominated by the past director, Steve Kidd. I wish to thank Steve for his service as Director of our Chapter, his leadership was greatly appreciated!

At the January 14, 2017 meeting of the FFLA, a discussion arose as to the location of historical memorabilia of the late Steve Cummings. In researching the past reports, it was discovered these items are supposedly stored in a non-climate controlled storage unit on the grounds of Caledonia State Park in Fayetteville, PA. It is recommended the exact location of these documents and literature be ascertained. Additionally, these items need to be sorted, and properly archived/ documented/displayed for the benefit of future research of the Commonwealth's fire tower and forest fire protection heritage. In approximately 2003 I copied and sent Steve Cummings all photographs of my visits to Pennsylvania's fire towers circa late 1970's to late 1980's. If these cannot be found in the storage unit, I can have new copies produced and added to the archives.

I will be meeting with Steve Kidd either late March or early April, 2017 in order to learn the proverbial ropes of the director position as well as retrieve any information/documents I may need to be in possession of as the new director.

Our chapter maintains both a Facebook Page as well as a Facebook Group. Please "like" our page and join our group! I have added some of my vintage fire tower photographs to both the Page and Group. I will continue to add photographs from my collection.

The Commonwealth is actively working to rehab some older towers to restore them to active use. In addition, several new towers will be built in the upcoming years. This is great news to see a resurrection of using fire towers instead of air-craft in order to protect Pennsylvania's forests!

Hopefully our Chapter can organize and arrange a group visit to one or several of the towers in the Commonwealth. Such an event would, in all probability, occur either in the northeast or south-central portion of the Commonwealth. Possible time-frame would be late summer or early autumn.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Bubnis

Chapter Director

January 14, 2017