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**The History of Firefighting in St. Helena
Featuring Art Carr
Heritage Center Open House • Wine and Bites**

Sunday, May 1 @ 1:00pm

Art Carr will be sharing history and highlights of firefighting in St. Helena. Art was a St. Helena volunteer fireman for more than 20 years. He's accumulated a formidable collection of fire artifacts--this is the foundation of our new exhibit.

Join us on Sunday, May 1, for our Open House

Art, fire-industry artifacts, wine, bites and good company. All the

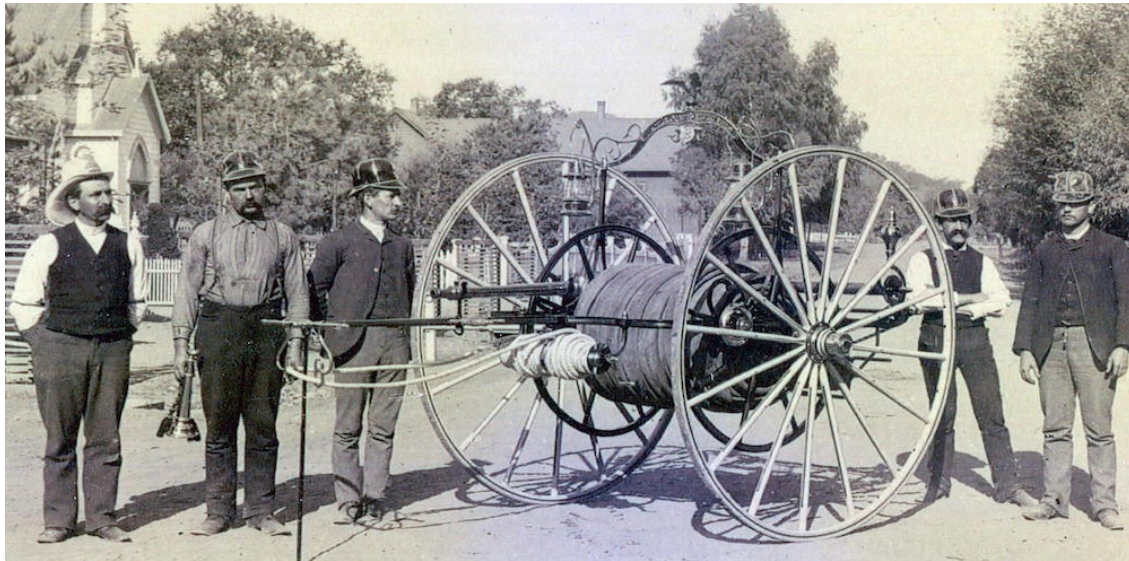
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1:00: Welcome, wine, food and gathering

1:15: Opening remarks, financial summary and discussion

2:00: Art Carr talks about firefighting in St. Helena

3:00: More socializing, food, wine and great company

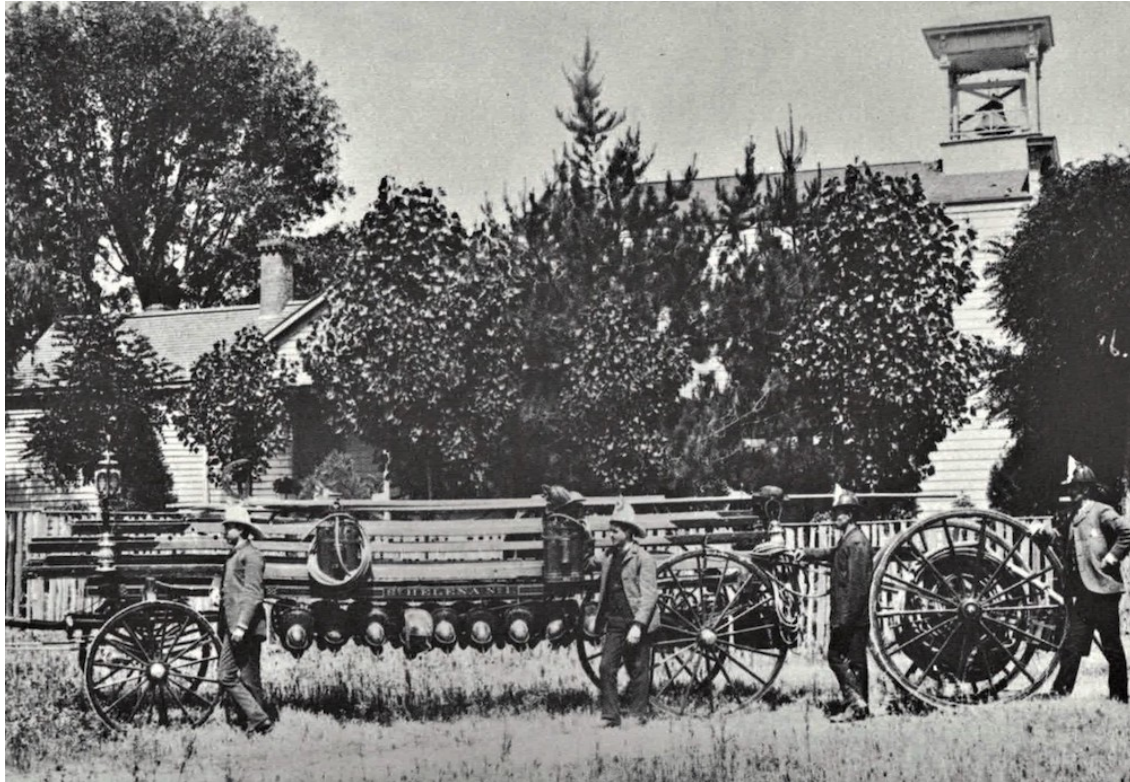


The first hose cart arrived in the fall of 1878 and was housed on Spring Street.

Some fast facts about the development of St. Helena's fire department

- The first hose cart was purchased and arrived in the fall of 1878 and housed on Spring Street.
- A group of businessmen donated funds to purchase a fire bell which was installed in a 20-foot tower in front of company headquarters.
- The bell rang every night at 7:45.
- By 1881, fire assets included a one hose-cart, six hundred feet of hose, hooks, ladders, lanterns, axes, etc.
- The Company numbered twenty-two members. There were ten (10) hydrants, and the head of water was strong enough to force a stream over the highest building in town.

In 1941 a modern Van Pelt White open cab pumper truck arrived. It could carry 300 gallons of water and throw water at a rate of 500 gallons per minute from a hydrant. In 1946 the department purchased an Army surplus Ford, which was used until 1964. In 1952 the International pumper was added. It carried 300 gallons of water and pumped 750 gallons per minute (from the hydrant).



This view of the hose cart company shows the bell tower that called the volunteer force whenever there was a fire.



April's Volunteer of the Month Marilyn Coy, A Lifelong Collector

Marilyn Coy came to St. Helena from Burlingame, CA in 1975 to teach home economics at St. Helena High School. She had just met her future husband, Nick, after their moms had arranged a blind date. They married in 1976 and moved to St. Helena. Marilyn taught sewing, foods, child development, family living and history until 2006. During that time, she also taught homemaking at RLS. Marilyn's kids, Nick and Pam, grew up in St. Helena and each was a student in her foods class for a semester.

"I have always been an American history buff, from the Gold Rush days on"

"I love collecting old things. I started with clothing from relatives, then bottles, books . . . [Read more](#)

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Volunteer to Help Staff the Heritage Center!

We're looking for volunteers to help staff the [Heritage Center](#) on Saturdays from noon-4pm. We also need help with special events, coordinating/scheduling volunteers and helping build new rotating exhibits. Respond to shstory@shstory.org

The Heritage Center Is Now Open Every Saturday! Join us from noon-4:00pm

Explore St. Helena's fascinating past at the Heritage Center
1255 Oak Avenue, St. Helena, CA 94574



A reminder: Our lectures are available on our YouTube Channel

Subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#). Watch videos from our 2021 season, including Mexican Land Grants, the Bale grist mill, the

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APRIL 12, 2022

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