

# Where's The Fire?

February 6, 2002

By Ralph Hall

The Shrine Club of Southeastern Massachusetts visited the New Bedford Antique Fire Museum at 10 A.M. on the first Wednesday of the month in February, the traditional meeting day for the Shriners. At noon they returned to Thad's Steak House for lunch and business. These monthly trips create interest and improves the attendance. Ladies are always invited to attend.

Half of the old South End fire station is jammed full of old, interesting fire equipment that is restored and in working order. This equipment dates back to the bucket brigade days when equipment was pulled by men or horses. There is also more modern engine powered equipment. They have two of only four steam powered pumpers in working order. Much of this equipment is seen in parades.

The other half of the station at 51 Bedford Street is being restored and repaired. When finished it will have twice the amount of display area that is badly needed.

Larry Roy is a retired fireman and the curator of the Fire Museum. Mr. Roy gave an interesting talk explaining the old equipment. If anybody has any old fire equipment to donate call Mr. Roy at 508 354 3322, it will be kept and treasured.



**Pictured: Top - Retired Fire Captain and present Shrine Club President Ernest Torres telling his crew what to do. Driver - Shiner Angelo Puente, V.P. of the Club, Bottom left to right Curator Larry Roy and William Miller, Past President of the Club.**