



City of Akron  
**FIRE DEPARTMENT**



**2009**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

*Photos —*

*Courtesy of the Akron Beacon Journal, Dennis Stoneman,  
Tim Smith, Mike McDonald and Bruce Ford*



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## AKRON FIRE DEPARTMENT **MISSION STATEMENT**



*Our mission is to improve the quality of life within the community by providing a high quality emergency medical service, by providing an excellent fire prevention program, including public education and arson investigation, by providing a firefighting force capable of handling emergencies, which may include structural firefighting, hazardous materials mitigation, all types of rescues and miscellaneous emergencies and catastrophes.*

*We will accomplish this mission while maintaining a high regard for the safety and health of our personnel. We will maintain a high standard of training, a quality occupational and health program, and a superior communication system. We will receive superb backing from our fire and hydrant maintenance programs.*



**Donald L. Plusquellic**  
Mayor



**Larry A. Bunner**  
Chief





## Akron Fire Department

# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

As Chief of the Akron Fire Department and on behalf of the dedicated men and women who put their personal safety at risk to maintain the safety of our city, it brings me great pleasure to present to the honorable Mayor Donald L. Plusquellic, his cabinet, members of Akron City Council, and most importantly the citizens of Akron, the 2009 Akron Fire Department Annual Report.

In 2009, we placed into service a new pumper for Station Eight (Kelly and Archwood) and awarded a bid for a new pumper for Station Seven (North Hill). Additionally, we were able to re-shingle the roofs of Stations Nine and Fourteen and complete the heating ventilating and air conditioning system at Station Five (Ellet), and complete our new Fire Pump Testing facility at our maintenance shop.

Each member of the Akron Fire Department is sworn to protect the life and property of the citizens of Akron. As Chief, it is my job to ensure they have the requisite education, training and equipment to bring their oath to fruition. I pledge as Chief of this extremely proud and dedicated department that we will continue to provide the premier emergency services our city expects and deserves.

On behalf of the men and women of the Akron Fire Department I would like to offer our sincere appreciation to Mayor Donald L. Plusquellic and his cabinet, Akron City Council, and the citizens of Akron for their assistance and support.

Sincerely

*Larry A. Bunner*

Fire Chief

# ORGANIZATION OF THE AKRON FIRE DEPARTMENT



**MAYOR**  
**Donald L. Plusquellic**  
 Safety Director

**FIRE DIVISION CHIEF**  
**Larry A. Bunner**  
 Secretary IV – Mary Ellen Ellis

**Safety Officer**  
**District Chief D. Stoneman**  
 (Shared with Fire Training)

**Benefits Officer**  
 (Vacant)

**Special Services Subdivision**  
**1 Deputy Chief – D. Evans**  
 Secretary III – C. Sasinowski (Secretary II underfilling, shared with HazMat)

**Operations Subdivision**  
**3 Deputy Chiefs (Shift Commanders)**  
 4 Battalions (2, 4, 8, 9)  
 13 Fire Stations

**Administrative Subdivision**  
**1 Deputy Chief – R. Ross**  
 Secretary III – J. Chin (Secretary II underfilling)

**Bureau of EMS**  
**Bureau Manager – Capt. C. Twigg**  
 Secretary III – R. Wagner (underfilling as II)  
 Secretary II – M. Newman

**EMS Training Section**  
**1 Fire/Medic Instructor – Fire Medic A. Minnich**  
**1 Q/A – R. Chamber (Health Dept. Employee)**

**Bureau of Fire Training**  
**Bureau Manager – District Chief D. Stoneman**  
 1 Captain – R. Marmaduke  
 1 Fire/Medic Instructor  
 Secretary III – C. Baughman

**Bureau of Fire Prevention**  
**Bureau Manager – District Chief A. Law**  
 Secretary III – S. Holler

**A – Shift Commander**  
**Deputy Chief J. Rosneck**  
 3 Battalion Commanders (Captains)  
 21 Lieutenant Company Officers  
 67 Fire/Medics

**B – Shift Commander**  
**Deputy Chief J. Green**  
 4 Battalion Commanders (Captains)  
 22 Lieutenant Company Officers  
 71 Fire/Medics

**C – Shift Commander**  
**Deputy Chief E. Hiltbrand**  
 4 Battalion Commanders (Captains)  
 21 Lieutenant Company Officers  
 67 Fire/Medics

**Bureau of Communications**  
**Bureau Manager – (Vacant)**  
 3 Lieutenants – Safety Communications Fire Liaisons  
 1 Information Systems Lieutenant  
 1 Information Systems Fire/Medic

**Bureau of HazMat/Rescue**  
**Bureau Manager – District Chief D. Ott**  
 1 Captain – C. Tucker  
 Secretary II (Shared with Administration)

**Bureau of Accounting & Services**  
**Bureau Manager – Captain A. Bragg**  
 1 Lieutenant – R. Breznak  
 Secretary III – B. Wasson  
 Programmer/Analyst – Linda Sollberger (MIS employee)

**Fire Maintenance Section**  
**Fire Equipment Supervisor – M. Sombrio**  
 Secretary III – D. Sebastian

**Code Enforcement Section**  
**Section Manager – 1 Lieutenant**  
 5 Fire Medic Fire Safety Inspectors

**Fire Investigation Section**  
**Section Manager – Lt. R. Wroblewski**  
 4 Special Fire Inspectors (Shifts A, B, C, and D)  
 (1 Lieutenant, 3 Fire/Medics)

**Public Education Section**  
**Section Manager – (Vacant)**  
 1 Public Safety Education

**Fire Hydrant Repair**  
 Fire Hydrant Repair Supervisor – (Vacant)  
 3 Fire Hydrant Maintenance Workers

**Fire Storeroom**  
**Storekeeper II – R. Good**  
 2 Stores Clerks

**Vehicle and Building Maintenance**  
**Fire Equipment Foreman – (Vacant)**  
 7 Fire Equipment Mechanics

2009

DEPUTY  
CHIEFS



**Edward Hiltbrand**  
Deputy Chief



**James Green**  
Deputy Chief



**Dale Evans**  
Deputy Chief



**Robert Ross Jr.**  
Deputy Chief



**John Rosneck**  
Deputy Chief



**Dennis Stoneman**  
District Chief

# 2009

## DISTRICT CHIEFS



**Douglas Ott**  
District Chief



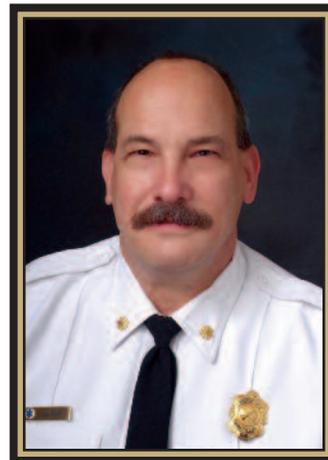
**Brent Combs**  
District Chief



**Frank Marina**  
District Chief



**Anthony Law**  
District Chief

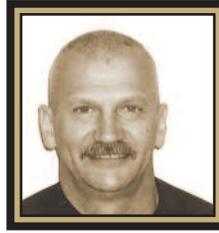


**Joseph Kury**  
District Chief

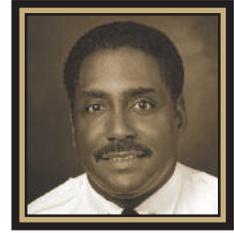
**2009 RETIREES**



**Edward Sturkey**  
*Retired 1/2/09*



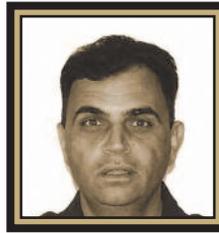
**Jerry Wright**  
*Retired 1/31/09*



**Frank Marina**  
*Retired 2/6/09*



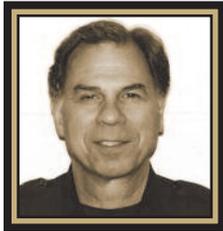
**Marc Greenwood**  
*Retired 2/17/09*



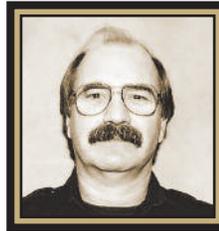
**Leonard Pizzute**  
*Retired 2/22/09*



**Andrew Heape**  
*Retired 3/2/09*



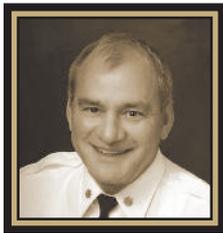
**Virgil Linger**  
*Retired 3/8/09*



**Richard Stokich**  
*Retired 5/9/09*



**David Clopton**  
*Retired 6/1/09*



**Brent Combs**  
*Retired 6/1/09*



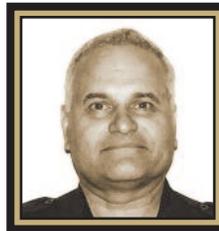
**Donald Winnen**  
*Retired 6/27/09*



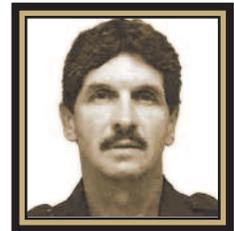
**Richard Small**  
*Retired 7/3/09*



**Neal Bierwirth**  
*Retired 10/1/09*

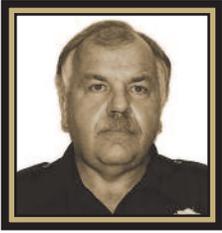


**Wade Farmer**  
*Retired 10/1/09*



**Harry Fincher**  
*Retired 10/1/09*

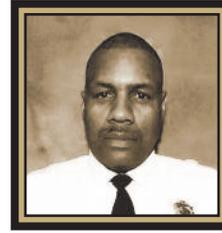
## RETIREES 2009



**Kenneth Fuller**  
*Retired 10/1/09*



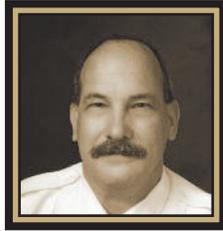
**Jerald Gardner**  
*Retired 10/1/09*



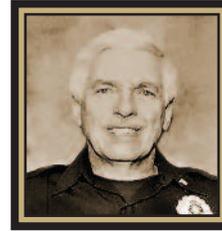
**John Gordon**  
*Retired 10/1/09*



**Johnny Hullum**  
*Retired 10/1/09*



**Joseph Kury**  
*Retired 9/10/09*



**Michael Park**  
*Retired 10/1/09*



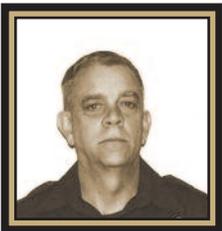
**Dale Sharp**  
*Retired 10/1/09*



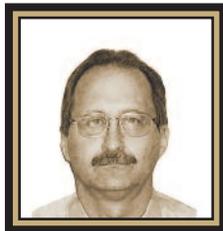
**Gregory Snyder**  
*Retired 10/1/09*



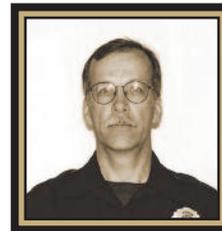
**Tyrone Toles**  
*Retired 10/1/09*



**Edward Vigar**  
*Retired 10/1/09*



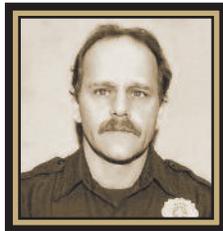
**Gailon Williams**  
*Retired 10/1/09*



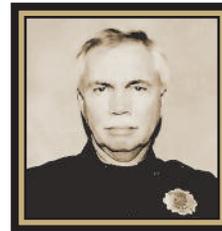
**Douglas Bjerre**  
*Retired 12/22/09*



**James Thomas**  
*Retired 12/23/09*



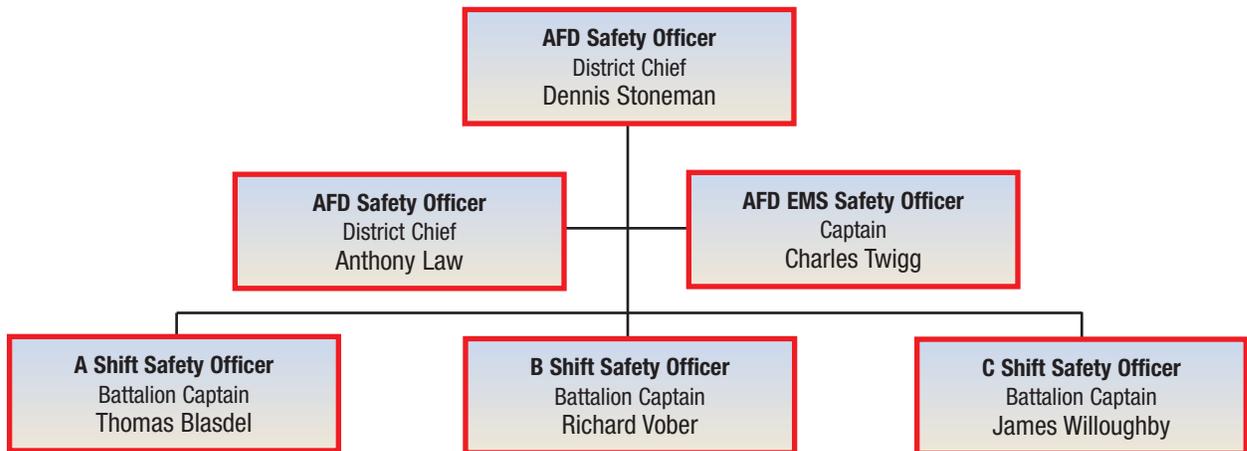
**Peter Mattucci**  
*Retired 12/30/09*



**James Case**  
*Retired 12/31/09*

# SAFETY OFFICER

District Chief Dennis Stoneman, in addition to being the Chief of Fire Training, functions as the Akron Fire Department Safety Officer. Captain Charles Twigg handles most EMS safety issues including needle sticks, TB testing and exposure reports. A Battalion Captain on each of the 3 shifts has been assigned to serve as Akron Fire Department Shift Safety Officer to allow for better flow of information and documentation.



In 2009, the Akron Fire Department administered TB testing to all personnel and flu shots were made available to the Akron Police Department, Communication Center and the Akron Fire Department.

The Fit for Fire performance evaluations were administered by the Akron Fire Training Bureau with 343 Akron Firefighters participating. There were 242 who performed the Drill Field Test and 101 who chose the In-House evaluation.

## COMPARISON OF INJURIES FOR THE PAST 3 YEARS

TYPE OF DATA	2007	2008	2009
Back Injuries	25	27	26
Burns	5	2	4
Days lost/Injuries	151	338	434
Exposures to Hazardous Material	186	24	47
Exposures to Infectious Disease	27	25	29
Fractures	1	2	3
Injuries sustained at EMS Incidents	33	33	34
Injuries sustained at structural Fires	38	30	30
Respond/Return Fire & EMS	4	3	2
Sprain/Strains	55	55	40
<b>Total Number of Injuries/Exposures</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>169</b>

## OPERATIONS SUBDIVISION



**John Rosneck**  
*Deputy Chief – A Shift*



**James Green**  
*Deputy Chief – B Shift*



**Edward Hiltbrand**  
*Deputy Chief – C Shift*

The majority of the personnel who work in the Fire Division are assigned to the Operations Subdivision. Operations is where the Fire Division organization is broken down into the individual firefighting and EMS companies which perform the day-to-day public safety activities of the Akron Fire Department.

Operations is divided into three shifts (the A, B, and C shifts), which work a 24-hour on / 48-hour off shift. A Deputy or District Chief fulfills the role of Shift Commander and supervises each shift. The Shift Commanders handle the daily staffing issues and the scheduling of training and other activities for their shift. They also act as the interface between their shift and Fire Administration. The Shift Commanders will assume command of larger (second-alarm or greater) incidents that occur on their shift. The Shift Commander's office is located at Station 3. The telephone number is (330) 375-2219.

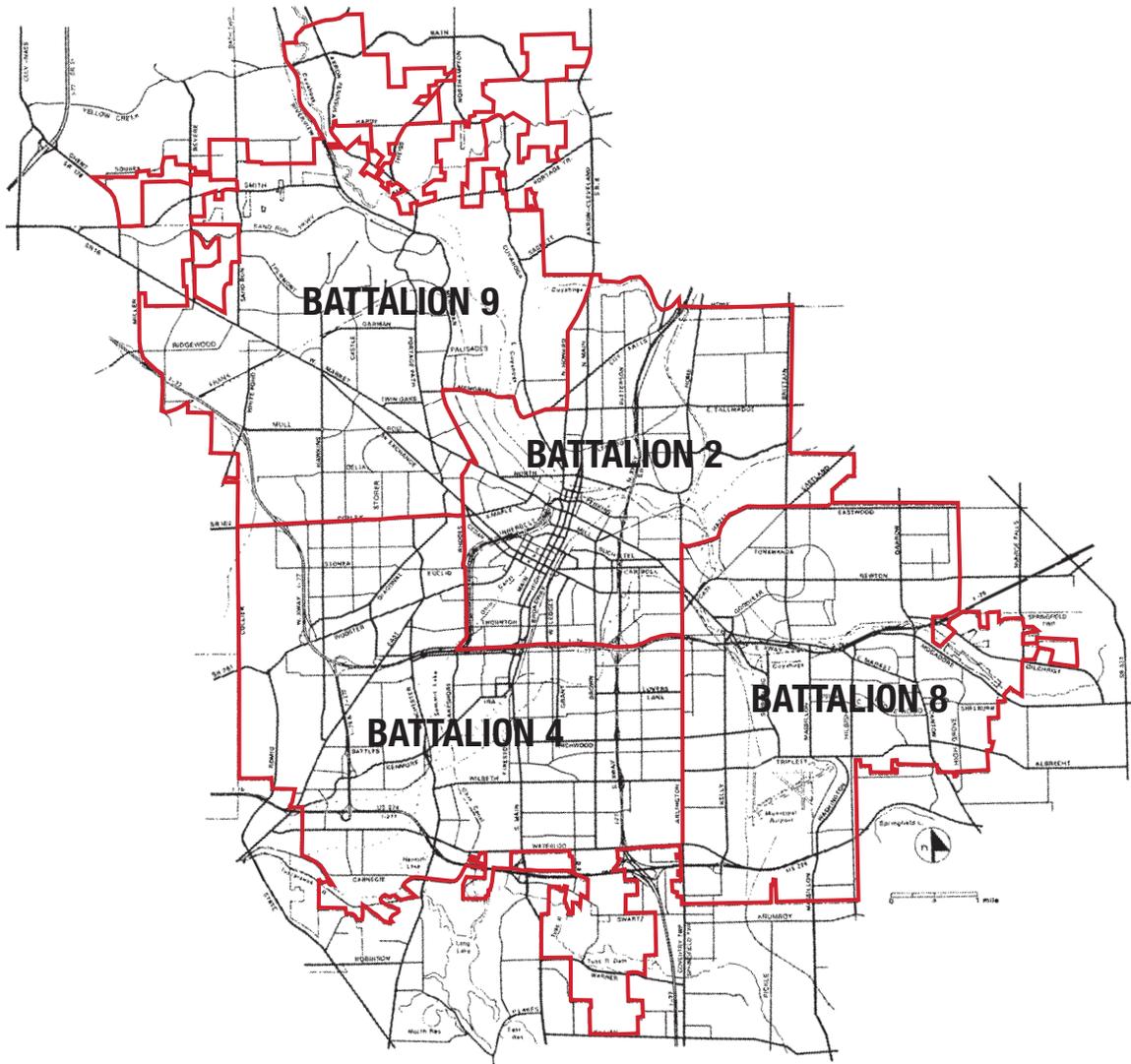
The City of Akron is geographically divided into four sections, known as Battalions. Each Battalion has several stations within its boundaries. Each shift has four Battalion Commanders (Battalions 2, 4, 8, and 9) that are

responsible for command and control of most emergency incidents in the City. The Battalion Commanders supervise the individual companies in their respective Battalions.

Each individual fire company is made up of a Company Officer (usually a Lieutenant) who supervises two to three Firefighter/Medics. The Company Officer is responsible for the supervision and safety of the company members assigned to him or her at all times. The Company Officer is responsible for all reports and communications relating to the operation of their company.

Akron Fire EMS units may be staffed in one of two ways. EMS units may be combined with a fire unit and therefore have a four-person crew. These "Combo" companies respond with their entire crew to either fire or EMS incidents with the appropriate vehicle. In addition, other EMS units are staffed with a two-person crew, supervised by the fire officer in the station where they are housed. All Akron Fire paramedics are also firefighters and rotate duty assignments between fire and EMS companies on a regular basis.

# BATTALION DISTRICTS



## BATTALION 2

A-Captain Whytsell

B-Captain Case

C-Captain Stewart

## BATTALION 4

A-Captain Patrino

B-Captain Vober

C-Captain Ware

## BATTALION 8

A-Captain Smith

B-Captain Thomas

C-Captain Greenwood

## BATTALION 9

A-Captain Blasdel

B-Captain Oziomek

C-Captain Natko

# FIRE STATISTICS

## INDIVIDUAL FIRE UNIT RESPONSES & GRAND TOTAL – 15,319



Engines	
Engine 2	940
Engine 3	863
Engine 4	936
Engine 5	349
Engine 6	552
Engine 7	721
Engine 8	520
Engine 9	774
Engine 10	656
Engine 11	190
Engine 12	361
Engine 13	412
Engine 14	325
Engine 602	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>7600</b>

Ladders	
Ladder 4	725
Ladder 7	419
Ladder 8	556
Ladder 9	879
Ladder 10	243
<b>Total</b>	<b>2822</b>

Battalions	
Battalion 2	1256
Battalion 4	1577
Battalion 8	271
Battalion 9	1139
<b>Total</b>	<b>4243</b>

HazMat, Rescue	
HazMat 4	29
Rescue 4	101
<b>Total</b>	<b>130</b>



Other Fire Units	
<b>Total</b>	<b>524</b>

Alarms	
Times	A.M.
A.M.	2445
P.M.	4467
<b>Total</b>	<b>6912</b>

Causes For	
Fire	956
False	529
Accidental	456
Other Emergencies	1438
Miscellaneous	3533
<b>Total</b>	<b>6912</b>

Types of Fires	
Buildings	505
Motor Vehicles	185
Grass, Rubbish & Dumps	253
Miscellaneous	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>956</b>

Occupancy of Building Fires	
Public Assemblies	8
Educational	2
Institutional	2
Residential	431
Store & Office	13
Basic Industries	2
Manufacturing	5
Storage	35
Special	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>505</b>

Casualties to Citizens	
Injuries	59
Fatalities	2

Casualties to Firefighters	
Injuries	100
Fatalities	0

In Services	
Engine Companies	13
Ladder Companies	5
Medics & Medic Combos	13
Personnel	339
Alarm Boxes	215



# BUILDING FIRES

		<i>Public Assembly Property</i>	<i>Educational Property</i>	<i>Institutional Property</i>	<i>Residential Property</i>	<i>Store &amp; Office Property</i>	<i>Basic Industry, Utility, Defense</i>	<i>Manufacturing Property</i>	<i>Storage Property</i>	<i>Special Property</i>	<i>Unknown-Mutual Aid</i>	<i>Total</i>
Incendiary/Suspicious		4		68	3	1	1	13	2			92
Children Playing				3								3
Careless Smoking				12								12
Heating-Furnace, Chimney, Water Heater				12				1				13
Cooking	5		1	170	2			1				179
Electrical Distribution-Wiring, Light Ballast			1	23	1		1	2				28
Appliances-Air Conditioning, Tools, Refrigerator	1			22			1					24
Open Flames				40	1			4				45
Other Heat: Fireworks,Explosives,Friction,Hot Material				7				1	1			9
Other Equipment-Commercial, Medical, Electronic	1			6	1		1	2				11
Natural-Lightning, Chemical Reaction				2		1						3
Exposures	1			26	1			6	7			41
Unknown		1		29	4		1	5	2	3		45
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>505</b>

## FIRE LOSSES AT \$50,000 AND OVER

DATE	ADDRESS	FIXED PROPERTY USE	BUILDING	CONTENTS	TOTAL
1/12/09	1116 Frederick Blvd.	One or Two Family Dwelling	30000	30000	60000
1/15/09	2419 Romig Rd.	Gas Station	100000	25000	125000
1/23/09	263 S Main St. 301	Multifamily Dwelling	90000	3000	93000
1/31/09	231 Darrow Rd.	Restaurant	150000	100000	250000
2/1/09	169 S Frank Blvd.	One or Two Family Dwelling	40000	12000	52000
2/3/09	1525 Stimson St.	One or Two Family Dwelling	120000	60000	180000
3/10/09	904 Ada St.	One or Two Family Dwelling	50000	1000	51000
4/5/09	1274 Beardsley St.	Residential Garage	20000	30000	50000
4/19/09	929 Bye St.	One or Two Family Dwelling	50000	3000	53000
4/20/09	196 S Portage Path	One or Two Family Dwelling	45000	15000	60000
4/22/09	1079 Himelright Blvd.	One or Two Family Dwelling	95000	15000	110000
4/26/09	445 Orlando Avenue	One or Two Family Dwelling	115000	50000	165000
4/28/09	26 Brighton Drive	One or Two Family Dwelling	36000	21000	57000
5/12/09	284 E York St.	One or Two Family Dwelling	75000	0	75000
5/15/09	22 Manor Rd.	Multifamily Dwelling	150000	25000	175000

## FIRE LOSSES AT \$50,000 AND OVER

DATE	ADDRESS	FIXED PROPERTY USE	BUILDING	CONTENTS	TOTAL
5/24/09	1136 Trentwood Drive	One or Two Family Dwelling	60000	20000	80000
6/8/09	1188 Reed Avenue	One or Two Family Dwelling	40000	15000	55000
6/16/09	1525 Marion Avenue	Grocery Store	380000	5000	385000
7/13/09	621 E Tallmadge Avenue	Manufacturer	270000	400000	670000
7/17/09	1835 Tanglewood Drive	Residential Board and Care	60000	15000	75000
7/30/09	243 Cole Avenue	One or Two Family Dwelling	40000	12000	52000
8/23/09	1750 Olalla Avenue	One or Two Family Dwelling	50000	25000	75000
9/4/09	1474 Englewood Avenue	Dry Cleaners	50000	0	50000
9/24/09	733 East Avenue	One or Two Family Dwelling	51720	0	51720
9/27/09	710 White Pond Drive	Multifamily Dwelling	60000	12000	72000
9/27/09	392 Conmore Court	One or Two Family Dwelling	50000	8000	58000
9/30/09	196 S Portage Path	One or Two Family Dwelling	100000	10000	110000
11/7/09	455 Tompkins Avenue	One or Two Family Dwelling	70000	30000	100000
11/17/09	762 Noah Avenue	One or Two Family Dwelling	60000	30000	90000
12/28/09	386 Wildwood Avenue	Multifamily Dwelling	60000	20000	80000

## LOSS CLASSIFICATION OF BUILDING FIRES

	Number of Fires	Percentage of Fires	Estimated Loss	Percentage of Loss
Under \$5000	323	64	\$253,647	4
5000-9999	27	5	\$164,200	2
10000-19999	41	8	\$528,500	8
20000-29999	43	9	\$999,560	15
30000-39999	29	6	\$918,400	13
40000-49999	12	2	\$499,500	7
50000+	30	6	\$3,559,720	51
<b>Total</b>	<b>505</b>		<b>\$6,923,527</b>	



## SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Following is a summary of the activities of the Division of Fire for the year 2009 including a comparison with the activities of the year 2008.

	2009	2008	Up	Down
<b>Total Response</b>	<b>15,319</b>	<b>16,571</b>		<b>1,432</b>
<b>Alarm Total</b>	<b>6,912</b>	<b>7,522</b>		<b>610</b>
<b>Types of Incidents:</b>				
Building Fires	505	523		18
Vehicles Fires	185	194		9
Grass, Rubbish Fires	253	253		0
Miscellaneous Fires	13	42		29
False Alarms	529	618		89
Accidental Alarms	456	497		41
Emergency Alarms	1,438	1,304	134	
Misc. Calls (No fires involved)	3,533	4,091		558
<b>Fire Loss:</b>				
Total	7,667,915	8,416,837		
Per Capita	36.17	40.65		
Population of Akron	212,000	212,000		

## FIRE STATISTICS

Building	Valuation	Loss
Public Assembly	\$9,340,000	\$252,573
Educational	\$15,530,310	\$810
Institutional	\$4,000,000	\$1,300
Residential	\$131,285,056	\$4,968,754
Store & Office	\$20,755,500	\$628,900
Basic Industry	\$1,225,000	\$65,000
Manufacturing	\$22,655,000	\$707,000
Storage	\$400,478,070	\$286,340
Special	\$177,300	\$12,850
<b>Building &amp; Contents Total</b>	<b>\$605,446,236</b>	<b>\$6,923,527</b>
Motor Vehicles	\$1,757,917	\$732,463
Miscellaneous	\$1,267,510	\$11,925
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$608,471,663</b>	<b>\$7,667,915</b>

## ALARMS WHERE NO FIRE WAS INVOLVED

<b>Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)</b>	
Overpressure rupture from steam (no ensuing fire)	2
Overpressure rupture from air or gas (no ensuing fire)	7
Explosion (no fire)	2
Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	11
<b>Rescue and Emergency Medical Service Incident</b>	
Medical Assist	1383
Lock-in	7
Search for lost person	1
Extrication, rescue	46
Water and ice-related rescue	1
<b>Hazardous Condition (No Fire)</b>	
Combustible/flammable spills and leaks	189
Chemical release, reaction, or toxic condition	80
Radioactive condition	0
Electrical wiring/equipment problem	566
Biological hazard	4
Accident, potential accident	20
Explosive, bomb removal	0
Attempted burning, illegal action	1
Hazardous condition (no fire), other	1
<b>Service Call</b>	
Person in distress	66
Water problem	109
Smoke, odor problem	257
Animal problem or rescue	164
Public service assistance	303
Unauthorized burning	409
Cover assignment, standby at fire station, move-up	0
Service call, other	2
<b>Good Intent Call</b>	
Dispatched and cancelled en route	357
Wrong location, no emergency found	345
Controlled burning	135
Vicinity alarm	3
Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke	217
EMS call where party has been transported	2
HazMat release investigation with no HazMat found	123
Good intent call, other	8
<b>False Alarm and False Call</b>	
Malicious, mischievous false alarm	135
Bomb scare (no bomb)	5
System or detector malfunction	383
Unintentional system or detector operation (no fire)	456
False alarm and false call, other	7
<b>Severe Weather and Natural Disaster</b>	
Severe Weather and Natural Disaster	143
<b>Special Incident Type</b>	
Citizen Complaint	5
Special type of incident, other	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5956</b>

## SPECIAL SERVICES SUBDIVISION



**Dale Evans**  
*Deputy Chief*

The Special Services Subdivision is made up of the Emergency Medical Services Bureau, and the Fire Training Bureau. The Fire Prevention Bureau and the Haz-Mat/Rescue Bureau are jointly administered by the Special Services and the Administrative Subdivisions.

The **Emergency Medical Services Bureau** is the most visible component of the Akron Fire Department. The largest percentage of all calls to the Fire Department today are EMS calls. The Akron Fire Department initiated a municipal emergency medical system in 1978 with just 3 ambulances and a handful of paramedics. We now serve the community with 13 ambulances and over 150 paramedics. The goal of our EMS system is to continue the tradition of competent, compassionate and timely service to those individuals who live in, work in and visit the City of Akron. The Emergency Medical Services Bureau offices are located at Fire Administration and was managed in 2009 by Captain Charles Twigg. The EMS Bureau telephone number is (330) 375-2071.

The **Haz-Mat/Rescue Bureau** supervises the specialized teams of the Akron Fire Department which provide emergency services outside of the realm of "normal" fire or emergency medical incidents. These teams are the Dive Rescue Team, the Technical Rescue Operations Team (TROT), and the Hazardous Materials/Rescue Team (Haz-Mat/Rescue). The Dive Rescue Team based at Station 10 responds to all water related situations in the city, including swift-water rescue, ice diving and evidence recovery diving. The Technical Rescue Operations Team based at Station 7 mitigates emergencies requiring

expertise in high-angle and rope rescue, trench rescue and confined space entry. The Hazardous Materials-Rescue Team based at Station 4 handles emergencies involving hazardous chemicals and materials and also deals with rescue situations requiring vehicular extrication and heavy rescue incidents. All of these groups supplement the county teams when necessary due to large incidents that occur outside of the City of Akron. All team members have received considerable training in their specific disciplines and attend continuing education on a regular basis in order to provide the highest level of service. The Haz-Mat/Rescue Bureau office is located at 25 E. Thornton St. (Fire Station 4) and was managed in 2009 by Captain Clarence Tucker. The Haz-Mat/Rescue Bureau telephone number is (330) 375-2164.

The **Fire Training Bureau** has responsibility for the oversight and coordination of all training conducted by the Department. Instruction begins on a Fire/Medic's first day as a member of the Akron Fire Department and continues until that person retires from the fire service. Fire Training researches, develops, implements and tests on the wide variety of knowledge and skill based topics in which expertise is essential in today's fire service. Fire Training also administers the Apprenticeship program that assists in developing new recruits into Journeyman Fire/Medics. The goal of all of our training is to further develop our personnel and deliver excellent emergency services in a safe, efficient manner. The Fire Training Bureau offices are located at the Akron Fire Department Training Center located at 1636 Armory Road and the bureau is managed by District Chief Dennis Stoneman. The Fire Training Bureau telephone number is (330) 375-2635.

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BUREAU



**Charles Twigg**  
*Captain*

It is a pleasure to offer the following summary for the Akron Fire Department's Emergency Medical Services Bureau.

The Akron Fire Department provides 13 Advanced Life Support medical units that are in service 365 days per year. The units are staffed by a minimum of two paramedics under the direct supervision of a med control physician.

For the year of 2009, AFD responded to 32,044 EMS runs. Of those, 6,865 were transported by AFD. The Tactical Paramedic Unit responded with APD on 59 occasions.

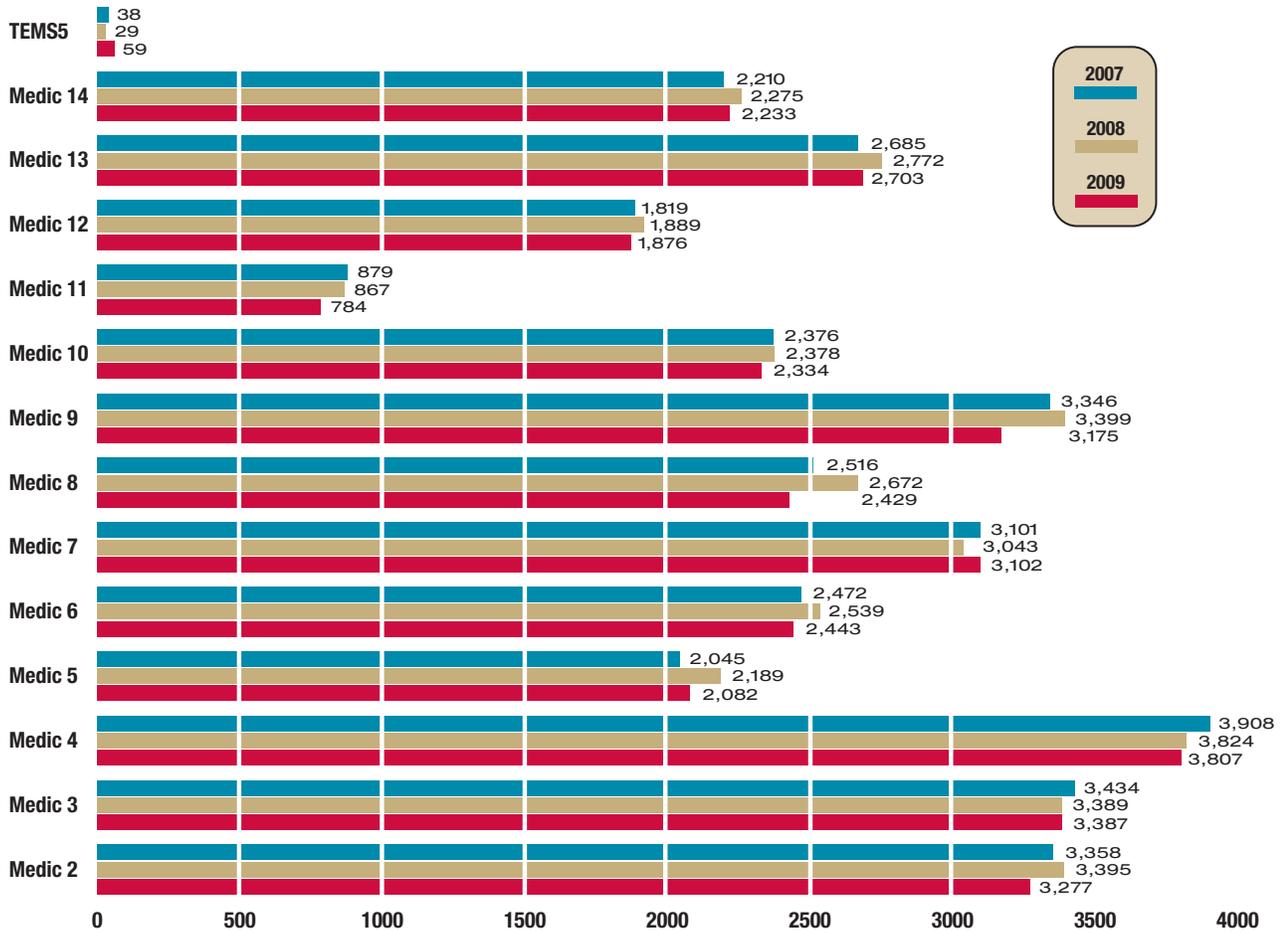
AFD's Bariatric Unit, put in service in 2008, responded to 36 runs in 2009.

AFD supported several special events in 2009. These events received EMS coverage in conjunction with our fellow healthcare professionals from Summa, AGMC, and AMR. The special events include Senior Olympics, Lebron James Bike-a-thon, Bridgestone's Golf, Rib, White, and Blue Festival, OSHAA softball Tournament, Soap Box Derby, Italian American Festival, and the Roadrunner Marathon.

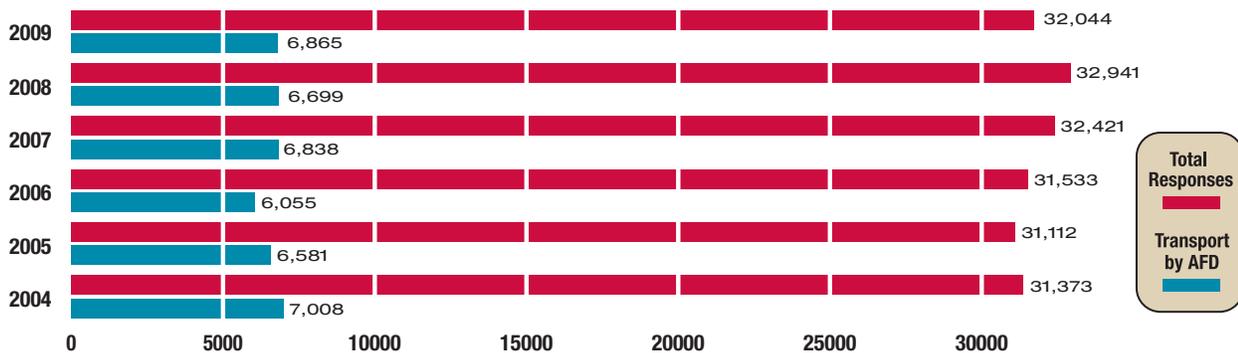
The following individuals are deserving of recognition for their support of the EMS Bureau: Dr. Richard Gradisek, AFD Medical Director; Dr. Mary Jo McMullen, Tactical Paramedic Medical Director; Rita Chambers, Quality Assurance Coordinator; and Fire/Medic Ray Minnich, EMS Training.



# TOTAL RESPONSES BY MEDICAL UNIT

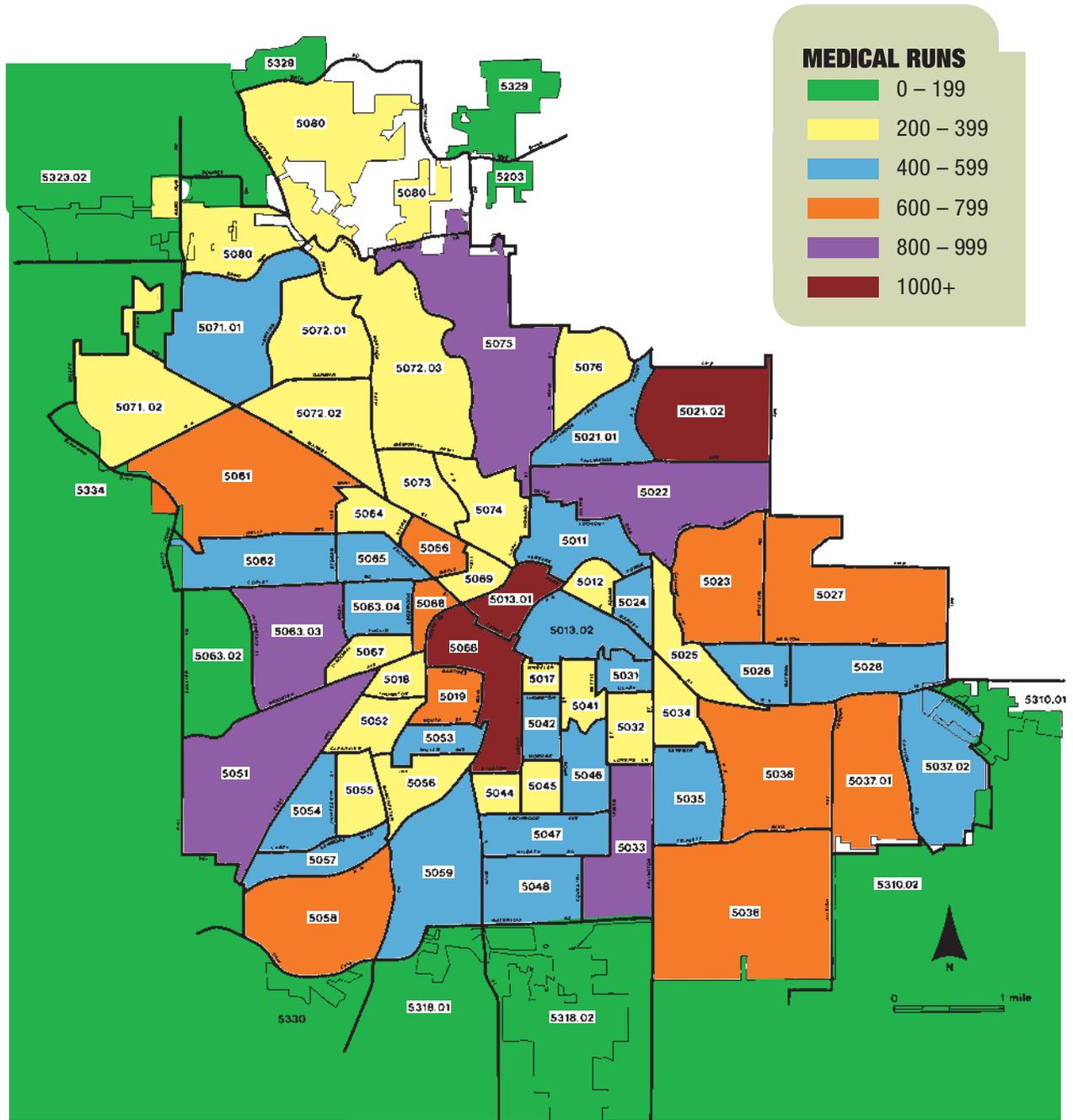


# TOTAL SYSTEM REVIEW



# MEDICAL RUNS BY THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE (EMS) PER CENSUS TRACT

Total Alarms – 32,044



## EMS TRAINING & QUALITY ASSURANCE

EMS Training and Quality Assurance are two interrelated positions that are an integral part of the EMS Bureau. Under the guidance of Rita Chambers and Ray Minnich the basic EMS training needs of the Fire Department are met. This includes Emergency Medical Technician initial and refresher training, various cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) classes for healthcare providers and the lay public. Many city departments turn to EMS training to provide them with ongoing CPR and AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) training as there are AED's located in every city building.

Emergency medical care for special events held in the City are coordinated under the EMS Bureau and EMS Training has a very active role. Activities include, but are not limited to, scheduling of staff to cover the events, equipment procurement and on site supervision and coordination with event staff. Some of the events that coverage is provided for include the Road Runner Marathon, Women's State Softball Tournament, Bridgestone Invitational Golf Tournament, Lebron James Bike-a-Thon, All-American Soap Box Derby and the 4th of July downtown festival.

Under the guidance of the Quality Assurance Coordinator, the continuing education of all AFD paramedics is administrated. This includes monthly run reviews, optional continuing education classes and specialty certification classes such as Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), International Trauma Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, Geriatric Education for EMS, Special Children's Outreach for Prehospital Education and Pediatric International Life Support. Akron Fire EMS is a Community Training Center for ACLS and BLS under the American Heart Association and a State of Ohio Continuing Education Site.

Maintenance of those training sites allows AFD EMS to provide on site training for all certifications necessary for paramedics to fulfill their continuing education requirements for the State. All of the training could not be accomplished if it were not for the numerous paramedics who have taken on the added responsibility of becoming instructors in the various specialties. The knowledge and experience of the AFD instructors greatly enhances and maintains the high standards of the quality educational programs that are offered.

In 2006, initial accreditation for an EMT education program was applied for and granted by the Ohio EMS Board. This process involved a self study document which was completed during the summer of 2006. A site review was completed in October by a representative from the state EMS office and approval was granted by the Ohio EMS Board in November 2006. In September 2009 the reaccreditation document for the EMT program was submitted to the State EMS Board and a site visit was scheduled for early 2010. Currently, the pass rate for the EMT program is 100% and many of the graduates have gone on to paramedic education. The High School Scholarship and inter-departmental initial EMT training program is administered under this accreditation. In 2008 First Responder accreditation was applied for and granted by the Ohio EMS Board. The First Responder program is offered in conjunction with the University of Akron at Buchtel High School.

The paramedic apprenticeship program is administered by the Quality Assurance Coordinator. New paramedics complete a six-month training program, which orients them to the AFD protocol and EMS system. After completion of the didactic portion they are tested with written and skills exam and finally,

## EMS TRAINING & QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICE

evaluated in the field. The apprenticeship program was developed in conjunction with the EMS Committee from Local #330 and has proven to be extremely beneficial to entry level paramedics.

Additionally, everyone involved with EMS training evaluates equipment with input from field personnel. As technology continues to evolve we strive to stay on the "cutting edge" by providing personnel with the opportunity to work with the best equipment to provide excellent patient care.

As with any large organization involved with EMS, committee work is an integral part of our community involvement. Some of the

committees that we are involved with are the Regional Physician's Advisory Board, Domestic Preparedness Task Force, SUMMA EMS, Akron General Medical Center Chest Pain, Tuf-Stuff, EMS Advisory Board to the Mayor, and Ohio ITLS Advisory Board.

EMS is a vital component and integral part of the Akron Fire Department and continues to evolve and provide outstanding services to the citizens of Akron. This has been accomplished by dedicated well-trained personnel who are committed to maintaining the highest standard of care the citizens of Akron have come to expect.



# FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU



**Anthony Law**  
*District Chief*

The mission of the Akron Fire Prevention Bureau is to safeguard life, property and public welfare from the hazards of fire and explosion arising from the storage, handling, or use of substances, materials, or devices and from conditions hazardous to life, property, or public welfare in the use or occupancy of buildings, structures, sheds, tents, lots, or remises.

The Akron Fire Department works hard to keep fires from occurring by providing code enforcement, fire safety public education, and fire investigation.

## CODE ENFORCEMENT SECTION

The Akron Fire Prevention Bureau performs annual inspections on businesses and multi-family dwellings in the city of Akron. The Akron Fire Prevention Bureau uses the Ohio Fire Code 2007 edition (OFC) adopted by the State of Ohio and the City of Akron Municipal Code Chapter 93 adopted

by the city as law to protect the community from the dangers of fire. Businesses and multi-family dwellings are inspected to ensure these codes and regulations are being followed. Performing these inspections minimizes the chance of the loss of life in the city of Akron due to fires.



## FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

In the City of Akron, the Akron Fire Department shares the responsibility for plans review and acceptance test of Fire Protection Systems with Summit County Building Standards. This includes new systems and/or modifications and alterations to existing systems. Fire protection systems include but are not limited to sprinkler systems, dry pipe systems, standpipes systems and Ansul systems etc.

In 2009, the Code Enforcement section performed plans reviews of 500 sets of building plans. These plans were reviewed for egress, fire suppression, and fire alarm systems. A few

examples of some of the larger buildings that plan reviews were performed on in 2009 were several new Akron Public School buildings.

In 2009, fire companies performed over 1700 inspections on small mercantile and business occupancies, freeing up fire safety inspectors for inspections on more complex and larger occupancies. Bureau inspectors performed more than 4500 inspections.

In 2009 all inspectors attended a fireworks update given by the State Fire Marshal's office and we monitored twenty firework displays, as required by the State Fire Marshal's Office.



## FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

We performed fire safety evacuation drills on all sixty-one Akron Public Schools and twenty-four private schools located in Akron, as required by the State Fire Marshal's Office. The bureau issued twenty Tent Permits to community groups and special events.

The bureau provided site reviews and environmental information requested by city departments (Zoning, Health, and Building)

and other private or public agencies, to check for fire safety violations and other issues that may affect the Fire Department.

In 2009, the bureau worked with thirteen interns from the University of Akron's Fire Science Program, in an effort to allow the students to gain firsthand knowledge of the different functions of the fire service.







## CODE ENFORCEMENT SECTION

ASSEMBLIES	INSPECTIONS	RECALL REINSPECTIONS	VIOLATIONS
Church	46	20	258
Night Clubs/ Bars	93	63	550
Restaurants	255	210	1376
Recreation Centers	27	7	77
Miscellaneous Assemblies	68	27	330
<b>BUSINESS</b>			
Professional Offices	435	186	1225
Medical Offices	172	55	449
Barber / Beauty Shop	0	0	0
Banks	55	24	107
Miscellaneous Business	259	182	1079
<b>EDUCATIONAL</b>			
Daycare	107	66	402
School Elementary	154	44	563
School Jr. High	34	10	181
School High	54	15	302
Miscellaneous Educational	25	9	78
<b>FACTORY / INDUSTRIAL</b>			
Plastic Manufacture	5	8	82
Dry Cleaning	18	17	126
Machine Shop	52	30	247
Print Commercial	26	14	78
Miscellaneous Factory / Industrial	112	78	631
<b>HAZARDOUS</b>			
Miscellaneous Hazardous	0	0	0
<b>INSTITUTIONAL</b>			
Hospitals	110	70	1138
Jails	9	8	160
Miscellaneous Institutional	23	15	237
<b>MERCANTILE</b>			
Department Stores	50	32	249
Grocery Store	78	37	209
Furniture Store	31	20	130
Miscellaneous Mercantile	505	289	1660
<b>RESIDENTIAL</b>			
Foster Homes	109	34	199
Apartments	311	129	1592
Hotel / Motel	1	4	55
Boarding House	52	16	130
Miscellaneous Residential	13	17	66
<b>STORAGE</b>			
Auto Repair	109	76	499
Miscellaneous Storage	85	32	334
<b>UTILITY</b>			
Miscellaneous Utility	59	27	398
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>			
Vacant / Secure	447	44	317
Miscellaneous	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3989</b>	<b>1915</b>	<b>15514</b>
<b>OTHER ACTIVITIES</b>			
Plans Review	500	0	0
Site Visits	110	0	0
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>4599</b>	<b>1915</b>	<b>15514</b>

# PUBLIC EDUCATION SECTION

## MISSION STATEMENT

*The mission of the Public Education Section is to create a positive change in the Life Safety behaviors of the Citizens of Akron through various educational strategies, thus reducing the incidence of injuries, death, and property loss as a result of avoidable behavior*

## Goals

Enhance public safety and reduce property loss through education and public awareness.

Provide clear and consistent information to the public and business community. Prevent injury and loss of life through changing behavior. Identify segments of the community whose lives are "at risk". To develop, present, and review life safety and injury prevention education programs



## 2009 Accomplishments

In 2009, the Akron Fire Department Public Education Section partnered with several community organizations (Akron Children's Hospital, Summit County Safe Kids Coalition, the American Red Cross, the Akron Health Department's Safety Seekers Program, and the

American Cancer Society) to provide comprehensive public safety education and fire prevention programs. These programs provide the knowledge, skills, and education necessary to prevent the loss of life and/or property due to the ravages of fire in the City of Akron.

The following is an example of the services and programs we provide:

-  Home inspection service
-  General fire safety classes
-  Portable fire extinguisher training
-  Juvenile Fire Stoppers Program
-  Smoke Alarm awareness, distribution and installation
-  Child car seat check ups
-  Fire preparedness plans for businesses
-  Fire Safety House visits to festivals and schools



## PUBLIC INFORMATION SECTION

The Public Information Officer (PIO) develops, prepares, and coordinates distribution of news releases and public information relevant to Akron Fire Department issues. Special efforts are made to enhance citizen awareness and understanding of the Fire Department services, programs, and policies.

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

Primarily serving on an on-call basis, the PIO assists in providing the news media with timely, accurate information at various emergency scenes. The PIO also prepares and distributes news releases, arranges news

conferences and coordinates the release of all authorized information, including special events.

### **Accomplishments 2009**

In 2009, we lost two Public Information Officers to retirement. Fire Inspectors John Gordon and Edward Sturkey will certainly be missed by our department, but we are happy to see both of them reach the retirement milestone we each hope one day to achieve. Congratulations for over 30 years of dedicated service and for a job well done!



*Public Information Officer: J. Player*

## AKRON FIRE DEPARTMENT HONOR GUARD

The Honor Guard's primary responsibility is to represent the Akron Fire Department at funerals of both active and retired members. This includes offering any assistance needed to the family of the deceased, providing pallbearers, standing Honor Guard watch at the casket, posting colors, and coordinating any logistical plans with the funeral home. The Honor Guard also participates in various civic

functions when requested, such as flag raising ceremonies, Firefighter Memorial service, and community parades. Participation in the Honor Guard is voluntary and we utilize personnel both on-duty and off-duty.

In 2009, the Honor Guard participated in the funeral of retired firefighter Ronald E. Mitchell Sr. and the Firefighter Memorial.



*Akron Fire Department Honor Guards participate in one of Akron's Community Parades*  
**2009 Members: Albert Bragg, Christopher Boccia, David Dilauro, Jerry Elie, John Gordon, Leon Henderson, William Horner, Jason Hudgens, Marcellus Johnson, Kenneth Meyn, William Romano, Andrew Tomcask**

## BENEFITS OFFICER



**Gregory Snyder**  
Lieutenant

The responsibilities of the Benefits Officer include assisting members of the Akron Fire Department in obtaining and submitting the necessary forms to obtain benefits when ill or injured, when contemplating retirement, or in any other matter relating to employee benefits.

The Benefits Officer assists members in matters concerning claims filed with the Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation. Members of the Akron Fire Department generated more than 100 Supervisor's Reports of Injury in 2009 resulting in nearly 60 claims being processed through the Bureau of Worker's Compensation. All injured

personnel missed a combined total of more than 300 workdays.

The Benefits Officer assists members of the department in obtaining the health care and employee benefits to which they and their family members are entitled. The Benefits Officer serves as a liaison with Employee Benefits, Medical Mutual of Ohio, Ohio Deferred Compensation, the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund, and the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation. There were more than 600 such encounters in 2009 serving the families of active and retired firefighters.

Members of the Akron Fire Department desiring a Service or Disability retirement can receive assistance from the Benefits Officer. All inquiries with the Benefits Officer are considered confidential.

### The following thirty members of the Akron Fire Department retired in 2009:

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| Firefighter <b>Edward A. Sturkey</b><br>Retired 01-02-2009   | Lieutenant <b>Richard L. Small</b><br>Retired 07-03-2009   | Lieutenant <b>Gregory L. Snyder</b><br>Retired 10-01-2009                 |
| Equipment Mechanic <b>Jerry Wright</b><br>Retired 01-31-2009 | District Chief <b>Joseph J. Kury</b><br>Retired 09-10-2009 | Firefighter <b>Harry L. Fincher</b><br>Retired 10-01-2009                 |
| District Chief <b>Frank Marina</b><br>Retired 02-06-2009     | Lieutenant <b>Edward M. Vigar</b><br>Retired 10-01-2009    | Fire Equipment Foreman<br><b>Neal Bierwirth</b><br>Retired 10-01-2009     |
| Captain <b>Marc D. Greenwood</b><br>Retired 02-17-2009       | Lieutenant <b>Michael H. Park</b><br>Retired 10-01-2009    | Hydrant Repair Supervisor<br><b>Gailon Williams</b><br>Retired 10-01-2009 |
| Lieutenant <b>Leonard J. Pizzute</b><br>Retired 02-22-2009   | Lieutenant <b>Wade T. Farmer</b><br>Retired 10-01-2009     | Lieutenant <b>Douglas N. Bjerre</b><br>Retired 12-22-2009                 |
| Lieutenant <b>Andrew J. Heape</b><br>Retired 03-02-2009      | Firefighter <b>John W. Gordon</b><br>Retired 10-01-2009    | Captain <b>James E. Thomas</b><br>Retired 12-23-2009                      |
| Firefighter <b>Virgil S. Linger</b><br>Retired 03-08-2009    | Lieutenant <b>Dale E. Sharp</b><br>Retired 10-01-2009      | Firefighter <b>Peter J. Mattucci</b><br>Retired 12-30-2009                |
| Lieutenant <b>Richard Stokich</b><br>Retired 05-09-2009      | Firefighter <b>Tyrone L. Toles</b><br>Retired 10-01-2009   | Captain <b>James W. Case</b><br>Retired 12-31-2009                        |
| Firefighter <b>David M. Clopton</b><br>Retired 06-01-2009    | Firefighter <b>Kenneth R. Fuller</b><br>Retired 10-01-2009 |   |
| District Chief <b>Brent E. Combs</b><br>Retired 06-01-2009   | Firefighter <b>Jerald W. Gardner</b><br>Retired 10-01-2009 |   |
| Lieutenant <b>Donald E. Winnen</b><br>Retired 06-27-2009     | Firefighter <b>Johnny Hullum</b><br>Retired 10-01-2009     |   |

## FIRE INVESTIGATION UNIT



**Robert Wroblewski**  
*Lieutenant*

The Fire Investigation Unit conducts several types of investigations for the Akron Fire Department. The primary responsibility is to assist fire officers and commanders in making an accurate fire cause determination of fires occurring within the City of Akron. Fires determined to be of Incendiary Cause are then investigated as crimes, with identification, apprehension, and successful prosecution of the responsible person(s) as the goal. Other responsibilities include Internal Investigations of Akron Fire personnel at the direction of Fire Administration, and Pre-Employment Background Investigations of all potential fire recruit candidates. The Akron Police Department provides additional assistance in any of the above investigations when requested.

In 2009, the Fire Investigation Unit received 251 referrals: 191 were residential structure fires, including 72 vacant structures, 29 exposures to other fires, and 27 residential garages. Also referred were 11 commercial structure fires, 2 of which were vacant, 39 vehicle fires, and 10 other miscellaneous fire incidents. Of these 251 referrals, 110 were determined to be Incendiary fires: 74 were residential structure fires, including 56 vacant structures, 12 were exposures to other set fires, 5 were commercial structure fires, including 2 vacant commercial structures, 27 were vehicle fires, 12 of which were stolen autos,

and 4 other miscellaneous fire incidents, including the intentional burning of a public pay phone.

Of particular interest in 2009 were several Fire Investigation Unit investigations involving vacant structures. Akron, like many other cities across the nation, contains a large number of vacant, abandoned, and foreclosed structures, which pose a significant problem for the community. In addition to being a blight on the numerous neighborhoods across the city, these vacant structures also devalue other properties in the neighborhood, attract criminal activity, provide shelter for the homeless or otherwise displaced people, and make attractive targets for intentionally set fires. This places the responding firefighters and the occupants of adjacent structures at significant risk, and represents a serious problem for cities across the nation, including Akron. In 2009, the Fire Investigation Unit enjoyed some success in combating this problem when several serial arsonists were investigated, identified, arrested, and charged for their involvement in intentionally setting numerous fires to vacant structures in several neighborhoods within the city.

In August, a North Hill neighborhood near downtown was terrorized by a series of 7 intentionally set fires in vacant houses over a period of just 4 days. Following a high-priority, collaborative investigation by the Fire Investigation Unit and the Akron Police Department, a 16 year old juvenile living in the neighborhood was identified, arrested, charged, and subsequently plead guilty to setting all 7 fires.

### FIRE INVESTIGATORS

**Robert Wroblewski**, Lieutenant

**Bradley McKittrick**, Lieutenant

**Todd Webb**, Investigator

**Matt D'avello**, Investigator

**Ellis Polk**, Investigator

## FIRE INVESTIGATION SECTION

His quick apprehension greatly reduced the fear and anxiety in the neighborhood caused by the fires.

In September, the Fire Investigation Unit received and developed information regarding a suspect involved in numerous intentionally set fires in a neighborhood in Ellet, some dating back to the summer of 2005. Following another collaborative investigation by the Akron Fire Investigation Unit, the Summit County Sheriff's Office, and the Springfield Township Police Department, 2 individuals were subsequently identified, arrested, and charged for their involvement in setting numerous fires in the various jurisdictions, dating from 2005 to 2009. Although both suspects made admissions of involvement in setting the fires during interviews with investigators, thereby clearing numerous unsolved cases in the various jurisdictions, they are scheduled to go to trial in the spring of 2010.

Fire Investigation Unit criminal investigations resulted in 13 arrests with 9 convictions, and the 4 cases pending prosecution. The Fire Investigation Unit also conducted one investigation involving one civilian fire fatality during 2009. This fire was thoroughly investigated by Fire Investigation Unit, Akron Police Detective Bureau, and Summit County Medical Examiner's Office personnel, and has been closed; classified as Undetermined After Investigation.

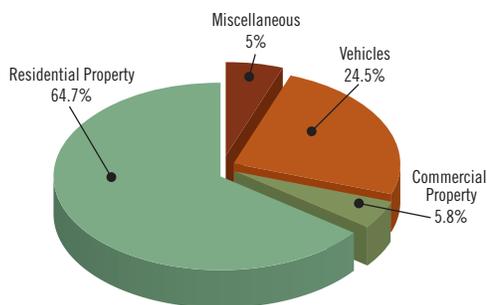
In 2009, the Fire Investigation Unit, assisted by Akron Police personnel, continued to conduct an

additional 35 comprehensive Pre-Employment Background Investigations in anticipation of the possible hiring of a second class of Firefighter/Paramedic recruits. Unfortunately, due to the dire financial situation of the City of Akron, this second class was not able to be hired. Additionally, the Fire Investigation Unit conducted several Internal Investigations for Fire Administration, and Fire Investigation Unit members also attended several training conferences throughout the year.

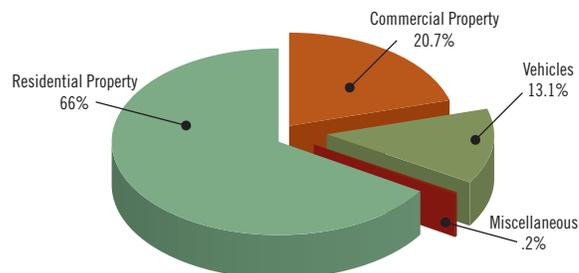
The Fire Investigation Unit continued to be the regional reporting location for fire/burn injuries during 2009. As required by Ohio law, information re: suspicious fire/burn injuries are forwarded from area hospitals to our office where it is retained for potential investigative purposes.

The Fire Investigation Unit also provided assistance to other local communities and law enforcement agencies when requested throughout the year. We would like to thank the Ohio State Fire Marshal's Office, their Forensic Laboratory, and other County, State, and Federal agencies, with special thanks to the Akron Police Department for their continued assistance and support throughout 2009. The Fire Investigation Unit looks forward to continuing to provide dedicated service to the Akron Fire Department and to the citizens of Akron in 2010.

### 2009 Incendiary Incidents

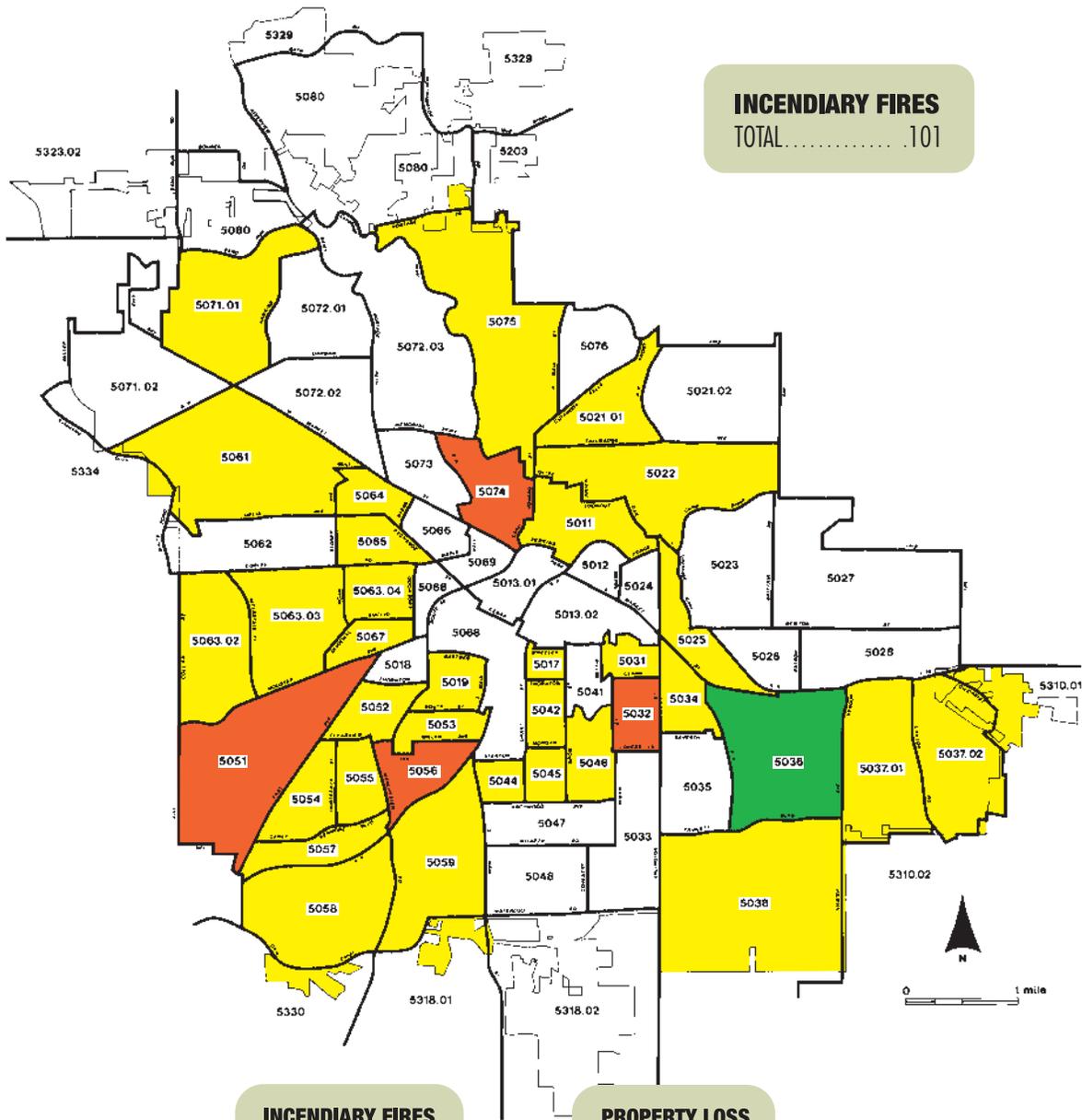


### 2009 Incendiary Dollar Loss \$1,932,360



# INCENDIARY FIRES PER CENSUS TRACT

## AKRON, OHIO



## BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING



**Dennis Stoneman**  
*District Chief*

The mission of the Akron Fire Department Training Bureau is to provide and maintain a highly trained and competent department. Led by District Chief Dennis Stoneman, the bureau has worked diligently to achieve and maintain the high standards required by both the State of Ohio and our own City and Fire Administrations. 2009 has been a challenging year for the City and the Fire Department; despite limited resources the Training Bureau has managed to once again accomplish this mission.

### **2008 Recruit Class / Apprenticeship Program / Company Level Monthly Training Firefighter Recertification and C.E.**

As Upon graduation on January 4th, 2009 this class began their careers with their first company assignments. Through their hard work and that of their company officers, they have completed the requirements of their first year of apprenticeship training. A new method of performance evaluation was instituted and used during this period with much success.

Brenda Chapman continues to work toward finalization of the Apprenticeship Program revisions. The new system of quarterly modules has proven to be a much welcomed change with the flexibility it affords company officers.

The Company Level Monthly Training program is up and running. This program provides training materials, tests and answer keys, reference materials and parallels the apprenticeship program in content. Its design goal was to provide consistency in training across the department and to provide a method for introduction and review of materials as needed. Apprenticeship Training,

the introduction of the new training manual and the newly revised Operations Manual are examples of training conducted through this program.

### **Armory Road Facility**

The Training Bureau has been located at 1635 Armory Road since June of 2008. As of yet, the City has not committed to this as a permanent location, but the facility has proven to be well suited to the needs of the Bureau and the Department.

In addition to the classes provided by the Training Bureau, the facility has been used by EMS, Haz Mat, Summit County Haz Mat, and the City Personnel Department for training classes. EMT training as part of the Akron Schools Scholarship program is conducted here as well.

The size of the facility has finally allowed the consolidation of training materials and equipment to one location. Spare Engine 602 was removed from service and assigned to the Training Bureau as the beginning of what is hoped to be a future fleet of training vehicles.

The facility has been used to store unused vehicles, criminal evidence and currently houses an armored personnel carrier for the Summit County Sheriff's Department.

Thanks to Mike Sombrio, Steve Wallace and others for their efforts in keeping the facility up and running.

### **Firefighter Recertification and C.E.**

With a few exceptions, the recertification process has moved along smoothly. The Training Bureau continues to monitor the process and provide assistance and tracking to ensure compliance with the new State standards in this area. A tutorial has been created and located on the Akron Fire Web site to provide direction for those individuals needing to check their certification status or renew their certifications.

# BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING

## **Electronic Training Documentation & Resources**

The process to improve record keeping and information dissemination has continued through the year. Thanks to the efforts of Lt. Brad Carr, a training database has been created. This database will be used to document all levels of training activities. It has been designed to be user friendly, reduce the time needed to enter training data, and standardize entries to make data accessible to search queries.

Tim Smith has worked with the Bureau to improve access to reference materials, monthly training information, and the latest revision of the OPS manual. The Training page on the Akron Fire Web contains a great deal of information thanks to Tim's efforts.

The training and classroom calendars, located on the Akron Fire Web site, remain a valuable tool for those individuals

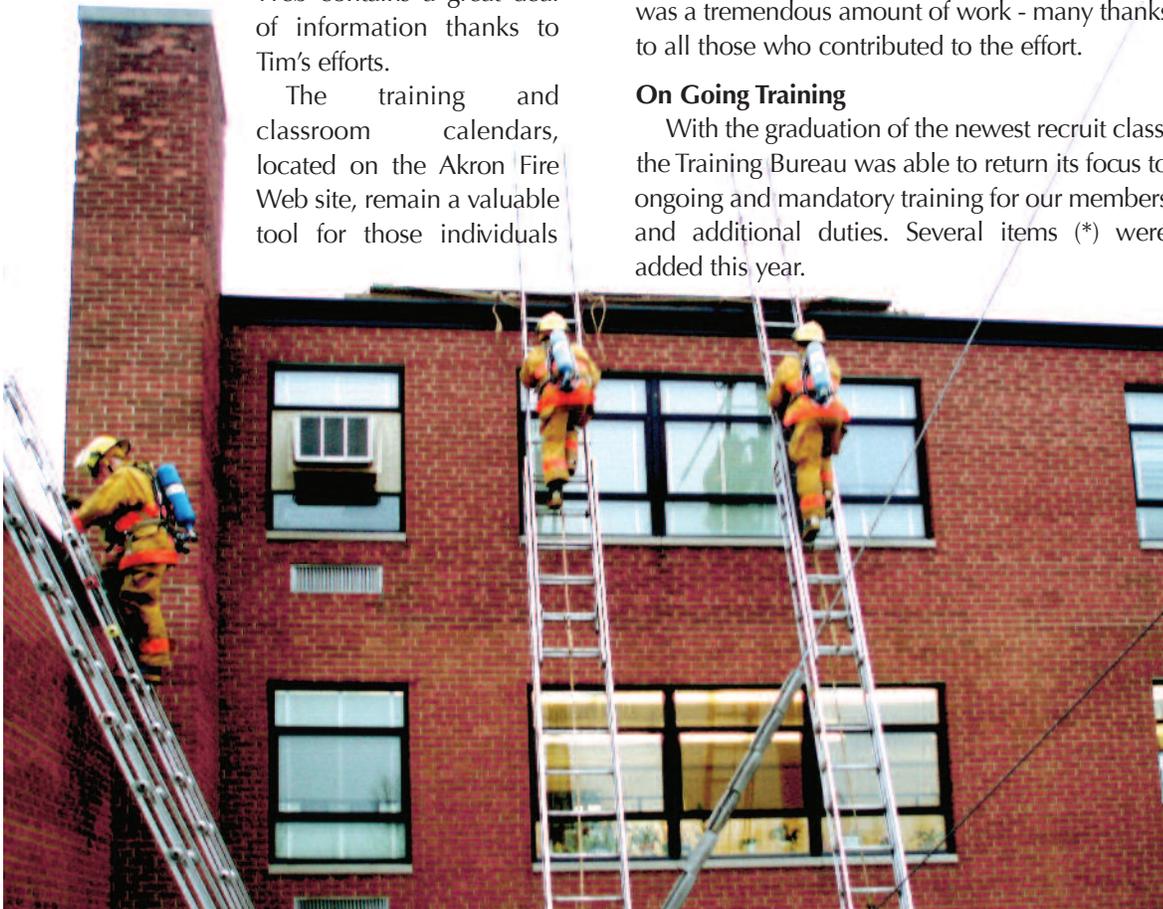
responsible for scheduling or requesting use of the Training Facility.

## **AFD Operations Manual**

The Operations Manual has been condensed with many parts revised, some rewritten, some newly added and some removed to become part of the Training reference section. The current version is online with changes and revisions denoted in the index. The goal is to make future revisions less time consuming, to reduce printing costs and waste, and to make the information within easily accessible. The manual is easily reproduced for promotional exams, self study, or company or battalion level training. This revision was a tremendous amount of work - many thanks to all those who contributed to the effort.

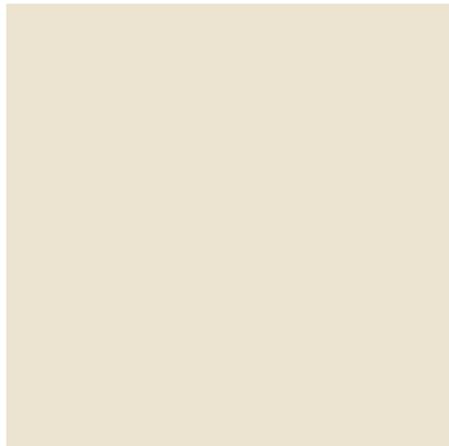
## **On Going Training**

With the graduation of the newest recruit class, the Training Bureau was able to return its focus to ongoing and mandatory training for our members and additional duties. Several items (\*) were added this year.



# BUREAU OF FIRE TRAINING

-  Fit for Fire Testing – with the help of the Fitness Coordinators and the Shift Commanders, the process went smoothly this year.
-  SCBA Fit Testing
-  Pump Testing – a new group of pump testers were trained this year. Thanks to Johnnie Player for his assistance, and to those who volunteered to be trained. The new testing station at the Fire Maintenance Facility made it much easier. More thanks to Doug Fela and Rod Howard who, while on light duty, became proficient at pump testing and led the effort.
-  \*Drafting Training – companion training for those companies who participated in pump testing this year.
-  Hose Testing
-  Sexual Harassment Training
-  Drug Testing Policy
-  Channel 1911 video production
-  Video production by Mike McDonald (Video One)
-  Incident Critiques – conducted by Chief Stoneman at the request of the Shift Commanders.
-  \*Acting Lieutenant Training – added this year to provide direction for those taking on this additional responsibility.
-  \*Emergency Vehicle Drivers Training (EVOC) – a three part refresher to be conducted every three years. Part 1 – classroom review, Part 2 – drill field competency course, Part 3 – road component (conducted by Company Officer).
-  \*Inspector Awareness Ride Time – this program was instituted to enable line inspectors to ride along with Bureau Inspectors to enhance their training and abilities as Fire Inspectors. These ten hour shifts count toward the continuing education requirements for Fire Inspectors.



## ADMINISTRATIVE SUBDIVISION



**Robert C. Ross Jr.**  
*Deputy Chief*

Through the diligent efforts of the many employees that comprise the Administrative Subdivision, I am pleased to report that in 2009 we continued to fulfill our mission of providing the equipment, tools, supplies, and support necessary for the smooth operation of the

Division of Fire. I also wish to thank all of the employees of the subdivision for their individual and collective contributions in support of the ongoing mission to protect the lives and property of the citizens and visitors here in the City of Akron. The Administrative Subdivision oversees the day-to-day activities of the administrative and clerical staff, the Accounting and Services Bureau, the Communications Bureau, and (in conjunction with the Special Services Subdivision) the Fire Prevention Bureau and Haz-Mat/Rescue Bureau. The **Administrative and Clerical Staff** provide the essential services necessary to allow our division to operate continuously and smoothly. Purchasing, payroll, incident record management, personnel records, public reception/inquiries, and injury/exposure tracking are just some of the many duties carried out by the administrative and clerical staff.

The **Accounting and Services Bureau** is responsible for many "behind-the-scenes" activities necessary for the continued operation of the division. These include the preparation and oversight of the annual budgets utilized by the Akron Fire Department; the development of specifications used to purchase vehicles, tools, equipment, and supplies; the maintenance of buildings, vehicles, and equipment; and the acquisition, storage and distribution of materials and supplies necessary for operations. The Fire

Maintenance Section, Hydrant Maintenance Section, and the Fire and EMS Storeroom Section report to the Accounting and Services Bureau and work diligently to ensure the needs of the firefighting and EMS companies are met on a continuous basis.

The **Communications Bureau** provides the important task of providing fire and EMS supervision at the City's Safety Communications Division (9-1-1 center). They also work closely with the Akron Communications Division to insure all means of communication used by our division remain functional and reliable. It also provides oversight to the Fire employees assigned to the Safety Forces Information Technology Section, which is a joint operation between police and fire providing support for various Information Technology systems such as our computer-aided dispatching system, SafetyNet network, and records management systems.

The **Fire Prevention Bureau** (co-managed by the Special Services Subdivision) provides critical safety support services on a daily basis. The Code Enforcement Section provides plans review and fire inspections which help to reduce fire loss and insure the safety of both the citizens and the firefighters. Our code enforcement inspections are conducted by certified inspectors assigned to the both the section itself and also assigned to firefighting companies. The Public Education Section provides important life safety education to a wide cross-section of the community including schools, businesses, senior residences, government agencies, and other entities as required. The Fire Investigation Section provides cause and origin determinations for all fire incidents, along with internal and new-hire background investigations as required. All personnel assigned to the Fire Investigations Section are not only experienced firefighters but also hold Ohio Peace Officer commissions and are Akron Police Department reserve officers.

## ACCOUNTING AND SERVICES BUREAU



**Brent Combs**  
*District Chief*

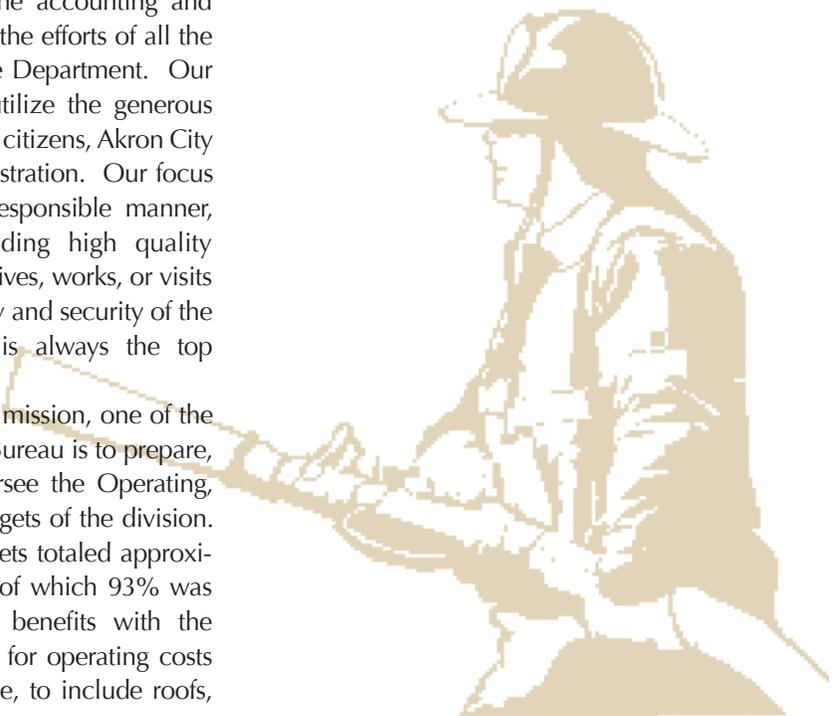
The Accounting and Services bureau, located within the Fire division's main administrative offices, provides a broad range of vital services to the Fire Department. While our work is largely behind the scenes, there is not an area of the Department that could function without the efforts of our Bureau. Along with our downtown offices, the bureau encompasses several other separate sections, each responsible for their own particular specialty, including Fire Maintenance, Hydrant Maintenance, and the Fire storeroom. Each of these sections is located within our Triplett blvd. facility.

The primary mission of the accounting and services bureau is to support the efforts of all the other components of the Fire Department. Our main goal is to efficiently utilize the generous funding provided to us by our citizens, Akron City Council, and the city Administration. Our focus is to operate in a fiscally responsible manner, while simultaneously providing high quality services to every person that lives, works, or visits our city. Obviously, the safety and security of the public and our personnel is always the top priority.

In addition to our primary mission, one of the major responsibilities of the Bureau is to prepare, submit, administer, and oversee the Operating, Capital, and Grant Fund budgets of the division. In 2009, the combined budgets totaled approximately 39.7 million dollars, of which 93% was earmarked for salaries and benefits with the remaining 7% being utilized for operating costs such as building maintenance, to include roofs,

HVAC and electrical systems and information technology infrastructure, in addition to station supplies, station utilities and vehicle maintenance.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the personnel of the Accounting and Services Bureau for their dedication, hard work, and cooperative effort, without which we would not be unable to accomplish our vitally important mission. I would like to also thank city Council and the City Administration for their continued support; most importantly however, I would like to thank the citizens of Akron for the opportunity to serve and help safeguard them and all they hold dear – it is truly my privilege and an extremely humbling experience.



## SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS

The Safety Communications Division is responsible for transmitting the emergency needs of the public to emergency responders. Calls are received from the public via 9-1-1 phone lines, alarm boxes, TDD (Communication for the deaf), referrals from police, walk-ins at fire stations and other means. Calltakers (Tech 1s) enter information for incidents and code the call using the CAD (Computer Aided Dispatching) and Plant /CML 911 equipment. This equipment with the VESTA and MaGIC software, allows us to get ANI (Automatic Number Identification) and ALI (Automatic Location Information) from wired, wireless and Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) phones. This technology allows the plotting of the caller's location and displays it on a map to provide first responders the location of the emergency. Computer software determines whom the dispatcher will send, based on location and specialized need. The dispatchers (Tech 2s) alert the responding units, confirm their response and document the arrival and in-service times. Fire Lieutenants and Police Sergeants monitor the process. Their duties include assuring proper

response and adjusting it when appropriate, providing for the needs of responders, and notification to proper authority of significant incidents.

Our Information Systems (IS) personnel continue to work tirelessly to integrate the new Vesta 911 software with our CAD by evaluating and adjusting the interface to achieve better user control and NFIRS 5 reporting compliance. The (IS) specialists have been active in the process of the development of our own Fire reporting system. During the year, all the Fire Department response codes were evaluated and changes were made to make more efficient use of Department resources. They continue to update the Fire Department Web Site with increased capabilities for training, information and resource sharing.

Through the conscientious, professional efforts of our secretaries, call takers, dispatchers, tech 3s, police sergeants, fire officers, and information systems personnel, the emergency needs of the City of Akron are recognized and efficiently addressed.



## MONTHLY ALARM DATA 2009

Month	FIRES				NON-FIRES				Total Alarms
	Buildings	Grass/ Rubbish	Motor Vehicles	Misc	False	Accidental	Emergency First Aid	Misc	
January	46	6	24	0	51	41	160	295	623
February	20	8	13	0	42	34	132	335	584
March	44	23	13	0	49	34	128	258	549
April	48	39	17	0	40	25	122	253	544
May	47	24	19	2	45	44	123	343	647
June	41	23	12	1	57	52	119	339	644
July	33	29	16	2	41	45	149	319	634
August	47	27	14	1	60	40	107	376	672
September	62	20	18	2	36	32	104	269	543
October	38	10	10	2	39	38	96	234	467
November	39	36	18	2	34	29	93	264	515
December	40	8	11	1	35	42	105	248	490
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>1438</b>	<b>3533</b>	<b>6912</b>

# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS/RESCUE BUREAU



**Clarence I. Tucker**  
Captain

The Hazardous Materials / Rescue Bureau Manager is Captain Clarence I. Tucker; telephone 375-2164.

The Hazardous Materials / Rescue teams responded to 145 emergency calls in 2009. The Haz-Mat

Rescue Bureau oversees the activities of the Hazardous Materials Response Team, the Water Rescue Team and the Technical Rescue Operations Team. This year we conducted site visits and Risk and Hazard Analysis on twenty seven Extremely Hazardous Substance (EHS) facilities in the City of Akron and submitted all Risk and Hazard Analysis to the Ohio State Emergency Response Commission (SERC). Information on facilities in the City of Akron that contain hazardous substances is made available to all engines and ladders for emergency response. We also keep files on all 130 Superfund Amendment & Reauthorization Act (SARA Title III) facilities in Akron.

In 2009, we continued to make training a high priority. We conducted Hazmat Awareness/Operations refresher for the entire department. Also, our technicians for all three teams were able to train extensively with the Summit County Rescue Teams.

In keeping with our commitment to work seamlessly with the emergency response teams of Summit County, we continue to have members work in key positions such as: County Zone Coordinators, Assistant Director of Operations, Summit County Special Operations Response Teams (SCSORT) Executive Board, and the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). Thanks

to all team members for their continued dedication and professionalism.

## **Hazardous Materials Rescue Team**

In 2009, the Hazmat team responded to 121 calls for hazardous material incidents and rescue calls involving the need for extrication.

Major accomplishments included the conversion to the National Incident Management System (NIMS) within the Hazmat Standard Operational Guidelines (SOG). This was tested with great success at the annual LEPC exercise held in May at the new Metro Bus Transfer Station. Included in the continuous Technician training for all team members is the push to qualify to become a Type-1 Response Team when combined with members and equipment from the Summit County Hazmat Team.

In keeping with our commitment to maintain a high level of training, monthly Hazmat training was moved to the Akron Fire Department Training Center on Armory Road. Goals for next year include receiving and training with new equipment received through the federal government Domestic Preparedness program needed to become a Type 1 Team. This equipment should begin to arrive early next year and typing for Akron and Summit County Hazmat should be completed before the end of 2010.



## WATER RESCUE TEAM

In 2009, the Water Rescue Team responded to eleven water related emergency calls. The team also trained nineteen members to the Rescue Diver status for the year. A total of 207 training dives were made throughout the year. The team continues its move to becoming a FEMA Type-2 response team within the city, and a vital portion of the Type-1 team within Ohio Region 5. The team also trains members in swift water rescue techniques.

The Water Rescue Team completed four trainings in conjunction with the Summit County Dive team this year to enhance our capabilities to dive together at large or extended incidents. The team continues to eagerly serve the citizens of the city, county and state in all water rescue situations.



## TECHNICAL RESCUE OPERATIONS TEAM

During the 2009 year the Technical Rescue Operations Team continued to maintain their Technician level in all disciplines through vigorous on-duty training. This training totals approximately 96 hours per man yearly covering building collapse, trench collapse, confined space, and high angle rope rescue.

Our team also hosted several countywide training scenarios this past year involving a trench

collapse as well as a residential building collapse. These scenarios also utilized several other divisions within our city to include the water department and our building department.

The team is also most notably an integral working part of the County Special Operations Team as well as the Region 5 Special Operations Team considered deployable throughout the State of Ohio when necessary.



# PERSONNEL

## Number of Employees for each Classified Position

TITLE	Actual	Authorized
<b>Uniform</b>		
Fire Chief	1	1
Fire Deputy Chief	5	5
Fire District Chief	3	7
Fire Captain	15	17
Fire Lieutenant	72	90
Firefighter	218	281
<b>Total Uniformed Personnel</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>401</b>
<b>Support</b>		
Fire Equipment Supervisor	1	1
Fire Equipment Foreman	0	1
Fire Equipment Mechanic	7	9
Fire Hydrant Repair Supervisor	0	1
Fire Hydrant Maintenance Worker	3	3
Secretary IV	1	1
Secretary III	4	6
Secretary II	4	3
Secretary II (Temp)	0	2
Secretary I	0	0
Storekeeper II	1	1
Stores Clerk	2	2
Programmer Analyst I	1	1
Quality Assurance Coordinator	1	1
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Total Division</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>433</b>

Personnel Data For	
Appointments . . . . . 0	Separated (Temporary - COE) . . . . . 0
Retirements . . . . . 30	Demotions . . . . . 1
Resignations . . . . . 3	Promotions . . . . . 0
Reinstated . . . . . 0	Positions not filled . . . . . 94
Dismissal . . . . . 0	Deceased (Active) . . . . . 0
Transfers to other Departments . . . . . 0	Deceased (Retired) . . . . . 7
Lay Offs . . . . . 39	

# FIRE MAINTENANCE BUREAU



**Michael Sombrio**  
*Fire Equipment  
 Supervisor*

The Equipment Maintenance Division is responsible for the operation and maintenance of Fire Department vehicles and equipment as well as the maintenance of thirteen Fire Stations and the Fire Training Academy.

Following is a summary of the activity of this Division for the year ending December 31, 2009:

JOBS	
<b>VEHICLE REPAIRS - MAJOR</b> .....	<b>307</b>
Includes engines, drive trains, fire pumps, transmissions, clutches, collisions and rust damage, etc.	
<b>VEHICLE REPAIRS - MINOR</b> .....	<b>9,131</b>
Includes tune-up, ignition and wiring, lights, brakes, steering, etc.	
<b>PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE</b> .....	<b>393</b>
Includes general inspection, lubrication and road tests.	
<b>BUILDING REPAIRS</b> .....	<b>1,723</b>
Includes heating & cooling, plumbing, elevators, gas pumps, electrical, structural, appliances, and lawn & garden equipment.	
<b>SCBA REPAIR - MAJOR</b> .....	<b>103</b>
Includes complete overhaul of breathing air equipment.	
<b>SCBA REPAIR - MINOR</b> .....	<b>1,962</b>
Includes maintenance and repair of all self-contained breathing apparatus and medical equipment	
<b>MISCELLANEOUS SERVICE</b> .....	<b>436</b>
Includes driver training, Underwriter tests (pump, hose, and aerial), response to multiple alarms and support services pertinent to the Fire Department.	

# FIRE MAINTENANCE BUREAU

## In 2009, Fire Maintenance placed the following vehicles into service

Two 2009 Ford E-450 HD chassis fitted with modular ambulance bodies assigned to Med-7 and Med-14

Three 2009 Chevrolet Impala's assigned to Fire Administration.

## The following vehicles were reassigned within the Department:

**066307** was reassigned to Fire Prevention.

**069707** was reassigned to Fire Administration.

**0605A7** was reassigned to Accounts and Services.

## The following vehicle was transferred to Akron Police:

**0645A8** was transferred to APD and reassigned to Tactical EMS.

## The following vehicles were removed from service and turned in to Motor Equipment for auction or reassignment

**063708**

**069606**

**0682A0**

**067006**

**0678A0**

**068909**

**068006**



# FIRE STATIONS AND EQUIPMENT



**Station No. 2 - 952 E. Exchange St.**

2000 GPM Pumper, 2001 Sutphen  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2006 Ford  
Battalion Commander Vehicle, 2008 Ford

**Station No. 3 - 59 S. Maple St.**

2000 GPM Pumper, 2003 Pierce  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2007 Ford  
Shift Commander Vehicle, 2003 Ford

**Station No. 4 - 25 E. Thornton St.**

2000 GPM Pumper, 2005 Sutphen  
2500 GPM Quint Ladder, 2001 Sutphen  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2006 Ford  
Haz-Mat/Heavy Rescue, 1993 Pemfab  
Battalion Commander Vehicle, 2007 Ford

**Station No. 5 - 2460 E. Market St.**

1500 GPM Mini Tower, 1991 Sutphen  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2006 Ford  
Foam Truck, 1996 Pierce

**Station No. 6 - 1685 S. Hawkins Ave.**

1500 GPM Mini Tower, 1991 Sutphen  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2006 Ford  
Air Source Truck, 1995 Chevrolet

**Station No. 7 - 541 E. Tallmadge Ave.**

1500 GPM Pumper, 1994 Sutphen  
75' Aerial, 1997 Pierce  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2009 Ford  
Technical Rescue Truck, 1992 Chevrolet  
Technical Rescue Trailer, 2006 United  
Technical Rescue Gator and trailer,  
2004 John Deere – 2004 Triton Trailer

**Station No. 8 - 1277 E. Archwood Avenue**

2000 GPM Pumper, 2009 Pierce  
75' Aerial, 1995 Pierce  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2003 Ford  
Battalion Commander Vehicle, 2003 Ford  
Haz-Mat Decon Trailer, 1989 Haulmark

**Station No. 9 - 98 Dodge Ave.**

2000 GPM Pumper, 2008 Pierce  
75' Aerial, 2007 Pierce  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2004 Ford  
Battalion Commander Vehicle, 2006 Ford

**Station No. 10 - 2225 4th St. SW**

2000 GPM Pumper, 2007 Pierce  
75' Aerial, 2003 Pierce  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2002 Ford  
Boat Trailer, 1984 B & M  
14' Boat, 1980 Myers  
Dive Team Truck, 1998 Chevrolet

**Station No. 11 - 1688 Akron Peninsula Rd.**

1500 GPM Pumper, 1991 Sutphen  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2000 Ford

**Station No. 12 - 1852 W. Market St.**

1500 GPM Pumper, 1991 Sutphen  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2006 Ford

**Station No. 13 - 1544 Brown St.**

1500 GPM Pumper, 1991 Sutphen  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2007 Ford

**Station No. 14 - 766 Brittain Road**

1500 GPM Pumper Mini-Tower, 1991 Sutphen  
Emergency Medical Vehicle, 2009 Ford

# HYDRANT MAINTENANCE SECTION



**Gailon Williams**  
Fire Hydrant Repair  
Supervisor

The following is a summary of activities of Hydrant Maintenance for the year ending December 31, 2009:

Hydrants Inspected . . . . .	5,961
Follow-up Inspections after Use by Fire Companies . . . . .	349
Alarms Responded to . . . . .	7
Additional Hydrants installed . . . . .	11
New Hydrants Turned . . . . .	57
Hydrants Rebuilt . . . . .	279
Hydrants Winterized . . . . .	0
Hydrants Repacked . . . . .	221
Hydrants Serviced . . . . .	5,761
Hydrants Painted . . . . .	2,197
Flow Tests Conducted by Fire Underwriters . . . . .	0
Hydrants Broken . . . . .	492
Hydrants Flushed . . . . .	12,846
Hydrants Elevated Above Grade . . . . .	67

## Hydrant coding specifications:

- White:** 1,500 gallons per minute and above
- Green:** 1,000 – 1,499 gallons per minute
- Orange:** 500 – 999 gallons per minute
- Red:** Less than 500 gallons per minute

**Matching color on steamer cap and dome indicates last hydrant on the main.**



# HISTORICAL STOP

Akron History Trails wind through time



At Akron Fire Station No. 2, photos of firefighters from 1926 line the wall, above, and an 1883 fountain stands outside. The station, which is something of a firefighter museum, is among central Akron sites the city is encouraging families to visit this summer.

## PROGRAM STARTED IN 2006

Established the Akron Station No. 2 Fire Museum which became the number one stop on the Historic Downtown Akron Passport Program in 2006. Station No. 2 is now an official stop of the City of Akron History Trails Program (2007)

Dennis Stoneman's love for the history of the Akron Fire department has turned into 21 years of collecting, from soot-stained uniforms and a safety net to old hose equipment and ancient metal fire helmets. Framed old newspaper clippings tell stories of past fires, alarms and emergencies.

Now, District Chief Dennis Stoneman's hobby can be viewed by the public at:

**Akron Fire Station #2**  
952 East Exchange Street  
Akron, Ohio 44302  
Hours: Daily 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.



**Akron Fire History Exhibit:**  
The fountain at Akron Fire Station #2

## IN RECOGNITION

*While every man and woman of the Akron Fire Department deserves recognition for their service to the community, the following individual was singled out during 2009.*

### The Optimist Club of Akron **FIRE/MEDIC OF THE YEAR**



# IN RECOGNITION

## Lieutenant Art Dobbins

### Personal Information:

- Married to Wendy for 17 years, she spoke about how important his family and his faith are to him, and how proud he is to be a firefighter for the City of Akron.
- Do not have to spend much time with Arty before you recognize how extremely proud he is of his wife and children and his larger family.
- Father in Law retired AFD Lt. Jim Vaughan.
- Children -Arty Jr. 15yo freshman / Adam 13yo 7th gr / Anna 8yo 3rd gr.
- Graduate of Walsh University with an education degree.
- Returns to his Alma Mater annually for the Alumni soccer game.
- Has coached baseball and for the past several years soccer with friend and fellow AFD Lieutenant Scott Moyers. As would be expected of both of these men their emphasis has not been on winning so much as on developing the character of young people. Of course the wins have come as well and many successful seasons have been enjoyed.

### Professional Information:

- Began career with the Akron Fire Department 3/22/93
- Became a paramedic in 1995
- Assigned to Stations #5, #1, #7
- Specialist in technical rescue and tactical EMS
- Member of AFD technical rescue team and the tactical EMS team where he serves as the training officer and utilizes his experience and expertise to train new tactical medics.
- Promoted to Lt. 5/16/05
- Currently assigned to Station five working as a company officer, paramedic, and tactical EMS medic.

Hallmarks of Lt. Dobbins career have been consistent performance at a high level and enthusiasm. Arty is one of the most upbeat, enthusiastic individuals. He was chosen as this years recipient in consideration of 16+ years to date career in which he has consistently demonstrated a dedication to service, an exemplary work ethic, a respected level of competence, and a strength of character that uniquely qualifies him as a leader and a mentor.

# IN MEMORIAM



*To those faithful firefighters who have answered their last alarm, but whose loyalty and devotion to duty will ever remain paramount in the annals of the City of Akron and its Fire Department. The following firefighters are members of the Local Chapter 7 Firefighters Hall of Fame.*

#### **EDWARD BENDER**

BORN. . . . . 9/21/1941  
APPOINTED . . . . 6/20/1968  
RETIRED . . . . . 5/17/1997  
DIED . . . . . 2/21/2009

#### **EARL CASTON**

BORN. . . . . 6/24/1918  
APPOINTED . . . . 5/18/1950  
RETIRED . . . . . 7/1/1972  
DIED . . . . . 12/21/2009

#### **MICHAEL KLEIN**

BORN. . . . . 1/2/1947  
APPOINTED . . . . 6/3/1976  
RETIRED . . . . . 12/21/1985  
DIED . . . . . 8/10/2009

#### **JAMES SNIDER**

BORN. . . . . 2/14/1928  
APPOINTED . . . . 10/24/1951  
RETIRED . . . . . 6/5/1980  
DIED . . . . . 1/24/2009

#### **ROBERT BROWN JR.**

BORN. . . . . 9/28/1912  
APPOINTED . . . . 12/1/1939  
RETIRED . . . . . 1/6/1966  
DIED . . . . . 5/15/2009

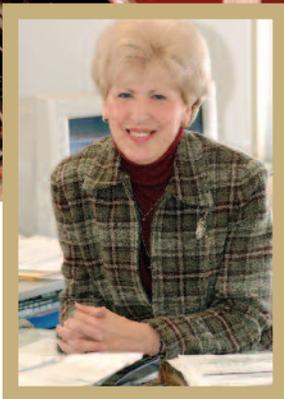
#### **RONALD HARRIS**

BORN . . . . . 1/18/1923  
APPOINTED . . . . 10/24/1951  
RETIRED . . . . . 5/12/1979  
DIED . . . . . 9/14/2009

#### **NELSON MOYERS**

BORN. . . . . 3/26/1939  
APPOINTED . . . . 10/22/1964  
RETIRED . . . . . 1/31/2001  
DIED . . . . . 12/24/2009

# IN GRATITUDE



*Many thanks go to the Purchasing Agent for the City of Akron, Patricia Ashbrook, for her continued diligence to get our Akron Fire Department patch on the fire truck wall at Innovations West EPCOT at Disney World Florida. With all her perseverance, the patch was finally mounted in 2009.*

*Not only is she a fan of the Fire Department, she is and has always been a tremendous help to our division.*



# A FIREFIGHTER'S PRAYER

## **GIVE ME CONCERN FOR OTHERS**

*A willingness to seek out those in need ...*

## **GIVE ME COURAGE**

*The boldness of spirit to face  
and conquer fear,  
to share and endure the ordeal  
of one who needs me ...*

## **GIVE ME STRENGTH**

*Strength of heart to bear whatever  
burden might be placed upon me ...  
and strength of body to deliver to safety  
all those placed within my care ...*

## **GIVE ME WISDOM TO LEAD**

*the compassion to comfort, and the love  
to serve unselfishly wherever  
You take me ...*

**AND PLEASE, THROUGH IT ALL, BE AT MY SIDE**





Donald L. Plusquellic  
Mayor

621 E. Tallmadge Avenue • July 13th, 2009

