

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

2014 ANNUAL REPORT



GREG ZILKA – SAFETY DIRECTOR

CHRISTOPHER HUERNER – FIRE CHIEF

Always by our side

05-31-1961



Forry "Gomer" Heczko

11-13-2014

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE CHIEF

Annual Report 2014

Mayor Zilka and Members of Council,

I am pleased to present the 2014 annual report for the Avon Lake Fire Department which contains reports from the Fire Prevention Bureau, Training Bureau and each of the three Platoons. These reports provide information related to accomplishments and responsibilities as well as emergency response statistics. The Avon Lake Fire Department strives to provide the residents, businesses, and visitors of our community the very best service possible by skilled caring professionals.

Fire prevention and public education continue to be an integral part of the Avon Lake Fire Department. The Fire Prevention Bureau conducts plan reviews, occupancy inspections, annual inspections and system testing to provide the business community the means to help prevent emergencies in the work place. The Fire Prevention Bureau works diligently with the assistance of shift personnel to provide a safer community through public education. During fire prevention month, department personnel give fire safety presentations at the schools and provide an opportunity for students to practice home safety with the aid of the county's fire safety house. Under the direction of the Fire Prevention Bureau, the File of Life and the Lock Box programs continue to gain popularity. These programs assist responders in gaining rapid access to the residence and the patient's vital information.

The skills and knowledge required to perform the duties of today's Firefighter/Paramedic are much more technical and encompass a wider range of specialized disciplines than ever before. These highly technical skills and abilities require continuous education and training. Federal and State mandated training requirements along with continuing education requirements for firefighter and paramedic certification renewals impose a critical responsibility on the training officer. The department utilizes instructors from within as well as outside the department to meet these educational responsibilities. The training officer is responsible for coordinating, tracking and documenting all education needed to ensure the high level of professional services provided by the department. The training officer not only performs these critical core functions but is also involved in many administrative tasks as assigned by the fire chief.

Operationally the department experienced 2,142 emergency incidents in 2014, which is a 7% increase over 2013. The following table is a breakdown of the department's responses.

Fire Calls	48
Overpressure, Overheat(no fire)	3
Rescue & EMS incident	1423
Hazardous Condition (no fire)	71
Service Call	294
Good Intent Call	91
False Alarm & False Call	211
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0
Special Incident Type	1
TOTAL CALLS	2142
Mutual Aid Given	59
Mutual Aid Received	44

The three platoons provide around the clock emergency response to the community. Their dedication and hard work provide the professional services directly to the citizens, businesses and visitors of Avon Lake. Besides the emergency responses, the shift personnel perform a variety of other duties such as equipment checks/service/repair, building cleaning and repair, training, public education, hose testing, hydrant flushing, installs for the smoke detector program and much, much more. They are the core of the department and are supported by administrative staff personnel.

In 2014 a plan to restructure the department was finalized and approved. This is a much needed step in the evolution of the Avon Lake Fire Department. Through the last 4 to 5 decades the core structure within the fire department has remain the same. Meanwhile, call volumes have risen, manpower has increased and services have expanded. Basic operations for fighting fires have changed significantly with fires burning hotter and faster than ever before. The fire service has become a highly technical profession. The relatively cost neutral restructuring plan will take several years to finalize. This will provide needed levels of supervision within the department.

Also in 2014, the city of Avon Lake went through the process of renewing its insurance rating. ISO (Insurance Services Office, Inc.) conducts audits every 5 years to grade cities on aspects of fire protection. There are three areas that our evaluated; dispatching, fire protection services and water supply. These ratings are used by insurance companies across the country to establish the rates of premiums for the individual localities. The ratings go from a Class 1 to Class 10 with a Class 1 being the best rating. The 2014 evaluation found the City of Avon Lake to be a class 3. This rating is up from its previous rating of class 4. The Avon Lake Fire Department works hard to receive the highest rating possible and will continue to work with city administrators to find ways to improve. The main areas of improvement needed are training and manpower.

The Avon Lake Fire Department added several new pieces of equipment in 2014 and upgraded others to keep the department with the latest trends and advances in equipment. "Lucas" devices were added to each ambulance. These devices provide

continuous and consistent chest compressions during cardiac arrest. This is the most important part of cardiac arrest treatment and has been the focus of the American Heart Association for several years. These devices allow for other treatments to be performed concurrently without interruption of chest compressions. These devices ultimately provide for the safety of the paramedics working a cardiac arrest in the back of a moving ambulance. The department also added "King Vision" airway equipment and initiated updates to the training facilities within the fire station.

The Avon Lake Fire Department continually strives to provide for the safety of the city. The department will continue to focus its goals on professional emergency services, prevention and efficiency.

A massive active shooter drill was conducted at the Avon Lake High school in 2014. This drill helped first responders from the fire department and police department train to better respond, should one of these tragic events happen in our community. To conduct a training exercise of this scope it took a lot of coordination and effort from multiple organizations including fire/EMS, law enforcement, schools, hospitals and city administrators.

We look forward to a safe and productive 2015 and on behalf of the officers and members of the Avon Lake Fire Department I would like to express our appreciation and gratitude for the communities continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Huerner", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Chris Huerner, Fire Chief

2014 STAFFING

FIRE CHIEF

Christopher Huerner

PLATOON CAPTAINS

John Rogers	Jim Berry
Lawrence Grizzell	John Reitz
Angelo Tetorakis	Glen Eisenhardt

STAFF CAPTAINS

Jeffrey Moore – Fire Prevention Bureau
Steven Marti – Training Department

FIREFIGHTER/PARAMADICS

Fred Berner	Michael Rowe
Larry Heczko	Mark McGuire
Dana Szymanowski	Richard Frygier
Laddie Lid	Eric Wagner
Jonathan Scott	Aaron Egut
Frank Ogle	Brian Gilles
Jerry Kimmell	Mark Walters
Gary Madej	Jeremy Betsa
John Nakel	Christopher McKay
Steven Peter	

FIRE SAFETY INSPECTORS

Nick Cicone
Susan Newcomb

SECRETARY/DISPATCHER

Suzanne Bliss

Average Years Of Experience = 16.61

Avon Lake Fire Department

Fleet

Engines

Engine #5	2010	Pierce Quantum –PUC	1500 GPM pump, 750 gal tank
Engine #4	1996	Pierce Dash –R	1500 GPM pump, 750 gal tank

Ladder

Ladder #11	1996	KME Aerialcat	102' platform ladder, 2000 GPM pump (2013 Complete Refurbishment of vehicle)
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EMS

Medic #8	2006	Horton ambulance
Medic #9	2008	Horton ambulance
Medic #10	2005	Road Rescue ambulance

Rescue

Heavy Rescue #7	2002	Pierce Enforcer	Specialty rescue (rope, dive, hazmat)
Rescue #6	2003	Ford Expedition	First response vehicle

Support

Command #3	2012	Ford Expedition	Command vehicle
Car #1	2003	Crown Victoria	Chief's Car
Car #2	2014	Ford Escape	Fire prevention Vehicle
Maintenance #12	2015	Ford F250	Maintenance/utility truck
PWC 21 & 22		Honda Personal Watercraft	for water rescue

Non – Response Vehicles

2000 Chevrolet 2500	plow and hydrant maintenance
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TRAINING AND CONTINUING EDUCATION



CAPTAIN STEVE MARTI

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

TRAINING BUREAU

Annual Report 2014

Please accept the following as an Annual report for the Training Department. This report contains an analysis of the training hours, and descriptions of significant training events and activities for the year 2014.

Annual Training Summary

The following summary includes cumulative training hours as reported in the FireHouse database for all employees in the year 2014.

▪ Firefighting	1725
▪ Emergency Medical	773
▪ Hazardous Materials	253
▪ Rescue	138
▪ Miscellaneous	41
Total Training Hours	2930

Significant events and activities

In addition to scheduled platoon training exercises, fire department personnel participate in various training evolutions outside the department. Some of these programs are continued specialty study through area Colleges and Universities, cooperative training exercises with local businesses and hospitals, and participation in Lorain County Emergency Response Teams. This section will discuss some of these activities in detail.

Bowling Green State University

The BGSU department of continuing education offers certification/coursework through the Ohio Department of Public Safety designed specifically for fire and police department employees. In the year 2014 four employees received certification in the following subject areas.

Fire Tactics – Live Fire Training	(2) certifications issued
Strategy and Tactics for the Company Officer	(2) certification issued

Fire Arson Investigation

The Department had two of our members attend the Northern Ohio Arson Seminar held at Ashland University.

Hazardous Materials Training

Two of our department members are currently part of the County Hazmat team and attend regular team meetings for training. We also had a Hazmat Operations Refresher that all of our department members attended. This course was given through Cleveland State Universities

Emergency Medical Services

The majority of the department's emergency medical service training is provided by the WeShare Organization, which is the departments medical control organization. WeShare is a consortium of St. John West Shore Hospital, Fairview General Hospital and Lakewood Hospital and is made up of full time fire departments from western Cuyahoga county and eastern Lorain county. Training provided covers topics too numerous to list and are conducted by certified trainers and physicians. This training provides department members with review of protocols and procedures as well as new procedures and techniques. In addition, several special topic classes are conducted by outside speakers and equipment review and response critiques are conducted by shift personnel. We are also provided on-line training through Kaplan Fire & EMS training. This is free to our department at this time through our affiliation with WeShare, but will be discontinued in 2015 in favor of Cleveland State's on-line training.

The Hospitals in the area also offer training opportunities for Paramedics from local fire departments that are not mandatory or associated with WeShare. An example would be the "Cadaver Lab" training that 2 of our members attended at the Cleveland Clinic main Campus. This was a great opportunity for our Paramedics to get some "hands-on" practice that is normally reserved for Doctors and 4th year Medical students. We are always on the lookout for training that will improve or add to our skills. Whether it's a Trauma Symposium, free lectures being offered from any of the Hospitals or asking the specific coordinators to come out to cover a subject we haven't covered recently.

This year all departmental paramedics renewed our American Heart Association Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS). This is done every two years and is required to maintain our paramedic certification.

SWAT Team and Active Shooter Drill

Our department has one member who is attached to the Lorain County SWAT team as a medic and he attends regular monthly training with them. He was also an integral part of organizing and conducting the "Active Shooter" drill that many area police and fire departments, as well as several of our city departments, were able to participate.

Ebola

Due to the Ebola incident in Dallas, TX, our department conducted additional training over infectious diseases. This included CDC videos and literature, as well as WeShare putting out additional resources. We have always been trained in preventing the spread of disease, but when a member of the nursing staff from Dallas traveled to the Greater Cleveland area, it re-enforced the need to take precautions. We made sure we had enough appropriate equipment and understand the procedure for transporting a possible Ebola patient.

Lorain County Community College

The Avon Lake Fire Department has been partnered with the Lorain County Community College. Each year approximately 30 to 40 students participate in emergency medical responses with our department personnel as part of their clinical course requirements. Over the year, Paramedic students attended over 400 hours of practical training. We also had a Medical student in training to become a Physician ride along over his summer break.

Rescue

We still have a diverse industry, geographical considerations, weather and quantity of construction within the city, which contribute to opportunities for special hazards. Therefore, the Avon Lake Fire Department maintains technical rescue capabilities to provide protection to its residents and businesses. These special rescue areas include: Water and ice rescue, dive rescue, rope rescue, confined space rescue, extrication, trench rescue and structural collapse. The Avon Lake Fire Department also participates in the Lorain County Technical Rescue Team providing further response resources to Avon Lake and Lorain County. We also have one of our members who is with the Critical Incident Stress Debriefing team. Continual training is given to keep members up to date on response techniques as well as to maintain certifications. This training is given by department personnel with expertise in these subjects as well as guest speakers. In addition personnel attend various out of department classes to maintain and improve response abilities in these areas.

In the spring, one of our members was able to attend two full days of Rope rescue training. We also have done some joint training with local businesses Emergency Response Teams, such as GENON and Lubrizol.

Fire Prevention/Fire Inspection

We continued to use Cleveland State University's on-line courses to help meet the 30 hours of continuing education required to maintain our Fire Inspector certification. We are also conducting familiarization walk thru inspections of local businesses throughout the year to help the department have an idea of the layouts, hazards and alarms before an emergency arises. This is especially helpful in our larger businesses, such as the Water Treatment plant and Lubrizol. We also had several Officers attend training through the North East Ohio Fire Prevention Association (NOEFPA) on fire Protection Systems and Sprinklers.

EMS Charts and Firehouse

The shift officers are responsible to QA their crews reports and provide feedback to the members to ensure they correct any errors. Additionally, the officers and acting officers are responsible to QA Fire House reports to ensure accuracy and completion of reports by the end of a shift. The department has been using Firehouse software for many years, but every year we are learning to take better advantage of its potential. These are not reflected in training class hours, but there have been many occasions where we are learning on the job.

Operations

I have maintained quality control pertaining to training hours that all members need for recertification for their Fire Fighter II, EMT-Paramedic, Fire Safety Inspector and/or Fire Instructor cards from the State of Ohio. Each certification has a certain number of required hours that they need to have covered in a three year window. These hours are further broken down into specific subjects. For example, Paramedics need 86 hours of Continuing Education Units (CEU's). Of those 86 hours, at least 12 need to be about Pediatrics, 4 about Geriatric, 6 about Cardiac and 8 hours covering Trauma. We do our best to cover all of the recommended topics for Fire Fighter and Inspector, which do not have specific hours attached to them. The state requested 2 Audits of Avon Lake Fire Fighters for Paramedic/Fire recertification. We successfully passed these audits, as should have been expected. Having a Training Officer maintain the records makes these audits easy because it is our way of Quality Control. We ensure our members keep their standards up and update their knowledge with training on new techniques and practices.

I also am involved in the day to day, continuous on the job training/review that all Firefighters should have. With the return of the re-furbished Ladder truck, we conducted extensive training to ensure that our department members were competent to drive, set-up and use Ladder 11 for all emergencies.

Blue Card

This was the Fire Incident Command training that our the officers started at the beginning of the year. Although our officers had the knowledge to run emergency incidents, this was necessary training to ensure continuity with our mutual aid departments when responding to emergencies together. All of our officers successfully completed the 50 hours of online and 3 days of simulator training to attain our Blue Card certification.

FDIC

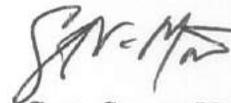
We were able to have 3 of our members attend the Fire Department Instructors Conference in Indianapolis. This was my first time attending the conference and found it to be some of the best training that I have ever had in my 20 + year career. There are classes over everything from strategy and tactics to everyday department staff operations. We were also able to see the latest innovations in the Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical equipment.

2015 Training

Once again, our objectives should not only be to maintain our current level of training, but to improve. We have already begun Blue Card training for the senior Fire Fighters, which is the same Fire Incident Command training program that our officers completed. We have a Confined Space Refresher scheduled for the end of March through Cleveland State. This year we are switching from EMS Charts to HealthEMS mobile. This was necessary due to WeShare making the switch. To stay with the previous reporting system would have cost our department money, hence the need to quickly bring the men up to speed. Last year we had the entire department complete a practical skills test on various procedures necessary to be competent while working in the fire service. With our department losing two members, 1 to a tragic loss and the other to retirement, we will be having a promotional test that several of the firefighters are preparing diligently for. We will also be hiring two new members which will lead to Job Performance Training (JPR) for the new hires. However, I will also be having all of the members complete the same training as a way of keeping up our skills. A lesson I learned at FDIC for competency based annual training. There will be opportunities for Rope Training and we will work with the Dive team to conduct training in water rescue. These classes cannot be taken in two hours, but we will do our best to accomplish what we can. We will also focus our monthly training on fire operations to maintain the confidence and high standards we have become accustomed to when responding to calls. After our ISO inspection, we have found a need to better document our daily training. There are improvements in training that we can do that will count toward company training hours for ISO rating. I will also work to continue to engage all members in Leadership/Officer training. We would like to get all of our officers certified as Fire Officer 1 and 2 according to NFPA. This will require some effort as the classes are not held locally at this time and require about 80 hours.

We are improving as a department every year and even though we have been adequate in handling our responsibilities in the past, we need to continue to train to avoid complacency. Being good enough is not acceptable when it comes to protecting the lives and property of our citizens.

Respectfully Submitted,



Capt. Steven V. Marti

FIRE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION



**CAPTAIN JEFF MOORE
INSPECTOR NICK CICONE
INSPECTOR SUE NEWCOMB**

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

The *mission* of the Fire Prevention Bureau is to provide the business community and general public with structures that are as free as possible of fire and life safety hazards and to promote personal safety in regards to fire, hazardous materials and severe weather thru code enforcement and education.

In our attempt to achieve the above we:

- *Maintain an inventory of regulated properties defined by the Ohio Basic Building Code as; Assembly, Educational, Business, Factory, High Hazard, Institutional, Mercantile, Residential and Storage occupancies. Detached one, two and three family dwellings are not included.
- *Conduct fire and life safety inspections of regulated properties.
- *Conduct investigations of all known unfriendly fires and hazardous material releases.
- *Complete plan reviews regarding fire and life safety for new and existing construction as well as fire detection and alarm systems.
- *Educate the general public and business and industry employees regarding fire, severe weather, hazardous materials and life safety.
- *Issue permits for the installation of fire detection, alarm and suppression systems.
- *Are present at the acceptance testing of new fire detection and alarm systems as well as the annual and semi-annual tests of these systems.
- *Develop and schedule the annual Fall Fire Safety Programs for K thru 4th grade students attending public and private schools in the city. We also present programs to preschool students upon request.
- *Plan and implement the annual Fire Safety Poster Contest and awards presentations for second and fourth grade students attending school in town.
- *Develop public service announcements regarding fire safety, severe weather and health related issues.
- * Manage the residential address sign and File Of Life programs.
- * Are responsible for the installation, maintenance and record keeping of residential lock boxes.
- *Perform regular maintenance of Knox Boxes installed at our request by business and industry.
- *Conduct periodic updating of the Avon Lake Community Disaster Plan.
- *Plan, and implement along with other city departments the annual Big Truck event.
- *Participate in the Lorain County Emergency Planning Committee, where at this time one of our inspectors is the chairman. Two of our bureau personnel are also members of the Lorain County Emergency Operations Center and act as representatives for the county fire departments in large scale emergencies.
- *Assume other assignments and duties delegated to bureau personnel by the fire chief during the year.

2014 STATISTICS REGARDING CODE ENFORCEMENT

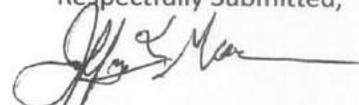
Regular Annual Inspections	404
New Occupancy Inspections	016
Special Inspections	011
Requested Home Inspections	001
Knox Box Security Checks	006
Residential Lock Box Installs	027
Residential Lock Box Record Updates and Maintenance	131 (2013/2014)
Commercial Kitchen Extinguishing System Tests	082
Fire Alarm Tests	046
Fire Pump Tests	002
Sprinkler System Tests	037
Fire Door Tests	005
Special Extinguishing System Tests	016
Fire Drills Held	015
Planning Commission Plan Reviews	020
Construction Plan Reviews	029

2014 STATISTICS REGARDING PUBLIC EDUCATION

Adults instructed in fire safety and severe weather emergencies	100
Adults instructed in fire extinguisher use	105
Children attending Safety Town fire safety instruction	202
Preschool Children instructed in fire safety	130
Kindergarten thru 4 th grade students instructed in fire safety	1190*

*This is made possible only due to the invaluable participation of platoon personnel

Respectfully Submitted,


Captain J. Moore

PLATOON #1



CAPTAIN JOHN ROGERS

CAPTAIN ANGELO TETORAKIS

FRED BERNER

LARRY HECZKO

GARY MADEJ

MARK MCGUIRE

AARON EGUT

JEREMY BETSA

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PLATOON 1

Annual Report 2014

Please accept the following as an Annual report for Platoon 1, outlining significant shift activity for the year 2014. Included are response analysis summary and specific details involving non- routine projects.

Emergency Response Summary

Platoon 1 responded to 699 emergency calls during the year 2014.

▪ Fire/Explosion/Electrical	15
▪ EMS/Rescue Calls	456
▪ Hazardous Conditions/ CO/Gas Leaks	21
▪ Good Intent Calls	36
▪ Service Calls	88
▪ False Calls	82
▪ Special Incident	1
▪ Total Emergency Calls	699

Hydrant Work

During the 2014 calendar year Platoon 1 assisted the other platoons in flushing over 1600 hydrants to check for proper operation. In addition to working with the water department to identify hydrants in need of replacement, Firefighter Egut worked with other members of the department to rebuild seven hydrants at a lower cost than replacement.

Building and Grounds Maintenance

Platoon 1 assisted with the installation of new flooring in the station.

EMS Operations & Equipment

The Avon Lake Fire Dept. with the continuing support of the community, has been able to provide quality service to its residents. This year we were able to advance our services utilizing state of the art airway devices. The King Vision airway device allows medics to visualize the insertion of intra-tracheal tubes by using a camera. The results of using this equipment allows for a rapid placement of the tube with a higher degree of accuracy.

Another technique in drug administration is the MAD device.

(Mucosal Atomization Device)

The advantages of these types of drug deliveries are, needleless drug delivery, rapid access points, rapid absorption of medicine and it is painless.

The paramedic program, with the strong support of the paramedic levy, continues to enable us to provide a high level of emergency medical care, continuing education and training in areas such as Basic and Advanced Life Support, Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Pediatric Advanced Life Support.

Maintenance of equipment consists of keeping up to date on all drugs & licensing requirements, maintaining and servicing all medical monitoring equipment, telemetry, the ordering of medical supplies and monitoring inventories.

The paramedic program remains a vital component to our residents.

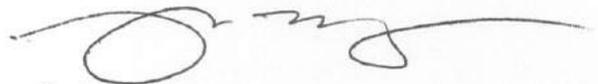
Public Relations

Throughout the year 2014 Platoon 1 worked with the entire department to promote fire safety and educate the public for a safer community including; tours of the fire station; presentations at schools and other facilities; and installation and replacement of smoke detectors and batteries.

SCBA Maintenance & Repair

The 32 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus as well as the 2 Rapid Intervention Team Packs were bench tested for compliance with NFPA 1852 as well as routine maintenance and repair of several of the units throughout the year to ensure safety and proper operation for emergency use.

Respectfully Submitted,



Capt. John Rogers



Capt. Angelo Tetorakis

PLATOON #2



CAPTAIN LARRY GRIZZELL

CAPTAIN JIM BERRY

LADDIE LID

FRANK OGLE

JERRY KIMMELL

STEVE PETER

ERIC WAGNER

BRIAN GILLES

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PLATOON 2

Annual Report 2014

This abstract represents the significant shift activity of Platoon #2 for the year 2014. Included is the response analysis summary, the training, and specific details involving routine and non-routine projects. The aforementioned information was gathered utilizing the fire department's "Fire House" data base. The information is only as accurate as the datum entered into the system.

Emergency Response Summary

In 2014 Platoon #2 responded to the following emergency and non-emergency calls.

▪ Fire/Explosion/Electrical	019
▪ EMS/Rescue Calls	488
▪ Hazardous Conditions/ CO/Gas Leaks	022
▪ Good Intent Calls	019
▪ Service Calls	098
▪ Special Incident	000
▪ False Alarms	063
Total Emergency Calls	709

Hydrant Work

During the 2014 calendar year Platoon #2 assisted the other platoons in flushing over 1600 hydrants to check for proper operation.

Building and Grounds Maintenance

General routine building and ground maintenance performed by Platoon #2 included general cleaning, vacuuming, window cleaning, plowing snow and shoveling walks, replacing light bulbs, emptying drain oil. Platoon #2 was directly responsible for the replacement of all carpet in the entire station.

Public Relations

Throughout the year 2014 Platoon #2 worked with the entire department to promote fire safety and educate the public for a safer community including; Tours of the Fire Station; presentations at schools and other facilities; and installation and replacement of smoke detectors and batteries. Platoon #2 was instrumental in the success of the Big Trucks Show by accomplishing the majority of station preparation.

Training

Throughout the year 2014 Platoon #2 participated in 129 continuing education sessions which included classroom instruction, computer generated training, and hands on evolutions for a total of 731.50 hours.

Fleet Maintenance and repair

Platoon #2 remained very busy with the maintenance and repair of the Avon Lake Fire Department apparatus and vehicles. With the co-operation of the service contractors and fire department personnel the fleet remains in great condition. Firefighter Frank Ogle is the primary member responsible for the troubleshooting and rapid repair of vehicles that need attention at inopportune times. Maintenance procedures are scheduled based on usage and budgetary concerns by Platoon #2 and Chief Huerner .

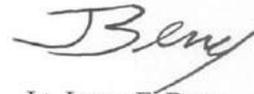
Water Rescue

The water rescue and dive equipment are serviced and maintained by Platoon #2 and several outside services. Firefighter Steve Peter is very involved with the maintenance and care of our Personal Watercraft. The weekly service as well as the winterization is completed and monitored by Platoon #2.

Respectfully Submitted,

Retired

Lt. Lawrence E. Grizzell



Lt. James E. Berry

PLATOON #3



CAPTAIN JOHN REITZ

CAPTAIN GLEN EISENHARDT

DANA SZYMANOWSKI

JON SCOTT

JOHN NAKEL

MIKE ROWE

RICH FRYGIER

MARK WALTERS

CHRIS MCKAY

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PLATOON 3

Annual Report 2014

Please accept the following as the Annual Report for Platoon 3. The report outlines significant shift activities for the year 2014, including an emergency response analysis, continuing education training summary and specific details involving routine and non-routine projects and activities.

Emergency Response Summary

Platoon 3 responded to 734 emergency calls during the year 2013.

▪ Fire/Explosion	017
▪ EMS Calls/Rescue	479
▪ Hazardous Condition	028
▪ Service	108
▪ Good Intent	036
▪ False Calls	066
▪ Severe Weather/Natural Disaster	000
▪ Special Incident	000
▪ Total Emergency Calls	734

Continuing education and training

Departmental/Shift drills

In order to maintain the highest level of emergency response capability, platoon 3 participated in (66) Fire/Rescue practical training drills, and (17) emergency medical courses throughout the year. All members far exceeded the minimum requirements for professional certification required by the State of Ohio. These courses were completed in addition to our normally scheduled individual online training courses, and consisted of an additional 127 hours of training for each platoon member.

Blue Card

Captains Reitz and Eisenhardt completed the Blue Card Command Certification Program. The program is a state of the art training and certification system that teaches Company and Command Officers how to standardize local incident operations across their organization. The program uses a combination of online and in-class simulation training which results in an Incident Commander solution that finally addresses local Hazard Zone operations. The course consisted of fifty (50) hours of online training materials and three days of practical lab exercises.

Advanced Cardiac Life Support

All platoon 3 members satisfactorily completed their ACLS recertification required by the State of Ohio Department of Public Safety in 2014. The certification course consists of an online coursework module and practical scenarios where each paramedic must treat multiple cardiac patients while under the supervision of a physician instructor.

Routine shift member activities

Collateral Assignments

In 2014 Captains Reitz and Eisenhardt were tasked with specific areas of responsibility for the proper day to day functioning of our department. Daily projects were completed with the help of Platoon 3 members in the following areas

Captain Reitz – Information and Communication Technology

Captain Eisenhardt- Fire Operations and Equipment

Hydrant Work

During 2014 Platoon 3 assisted the other platoons in flushing approximately 1600 fire hydrants to check for proper valve operation and adequate water supply.

Routine shift member activities (cont.)

Fire Prevention/Public Education

Department Platoons assist the Fire Prevention and Public Education Divisions of the department on a regular basis. Below are listed some of the specific activities platoon 3 performed in the year 2013.

Off-site talks and demonstrations

Fire Prevention month participation at City schools

Residential smoke detector and battery replacement

Fire Department tours and safety demonstrations

On-site Blood pressure tests for residents

Lock Box Installations

Non Routine Shift member activities

Lorain County Hazardous Material Team

Firefighters McKay and Walters are the ALFD representatives on the Lorain County Hazardous Material Team. The Lorain County Hazardous Material Team is responsible for the stabilization and mitigation of any significant hazardous material spill or release in Lorain County. Firefighters McKay and Walters are both certified Hazardous Materials Technicians. The Team meets for two hours monthly to conduct organizational meetings and training drills.

Critical Incident Response Service Team

Firefighter John Nakel is an active member of the CIRS which provides responders to the Greater Cleveland area. The Critical Incident Response Service program is a multi-component crisis intervention response team that includes Pre-Incident Education, on scene or near scene management, One-on-One intervention, Demobilization, Crisis Management Briefing, Defusing, Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD), Family Support, Community Crisis Response, Pastoral Crisis Intervention and Follow Up. The team meets bi-monthly for training and organizational purposes. Firefighter Nakel was involved with (7) CIRS responses in 2014.

Lorain County SWAT

Firefighter Mike Rowe is an active member of the Lorain County Sheriff's Department Special Weapons and Tactics Team. Firefighter Rowe provides emergency medical treatment for law enforcement team members who respond to highly volatile law enforcement activities throughout Lorain County. These situations typically include active shooter situations, barricaded subjects, and high risk arrest warrants. The team conducts monthly training sessions consisting of 8 hours of hands-on tactical evolutions. Firefighter Rowe was involved with (2) SWAT responses in 2014.

Non Routine Shift member activities (cont)

Ladder Truck Refurbishment

Captain Eisenhardt has continued to lead our ladder truck refurbishment project that started in late 2012 when our 1996 KME ladder truck suffered critical mechanical failures that placed the unit out of service. In January 2013 our ladder truck arrived at KME manufacturing in Pennsylvania to start this comprehensive refurbishment. Throughout this project inspection trips have been made to monitor the progress and workmanship of the project. There were some significant delays due to difficulties adapting the new modernized systems into the older body style of our ladder and internal plant management issues. Delivery was originally contracted to be completed by September 2013, but because of these delays, KME manufacturing has faced a monetary penalty for not meeting the contractual deadline. Along with the payment of these penalty fees additional equipment and safety systems were added making the ladder truck safer and more user friendly with no additional cost to the City. This refurbishment will allow the department to push back the purchase of a new ladder truck about ten to twelve years. The goals of this project were to make certain the residents and businesses of Avon Lake were protected with the needed firefighting equipment and to provide the City flexibility by lifting a significant monetary burden off of their budget in these economic conditions.

The project was completed in April of 2014. Once the ladder returned Platoon 3 mounted all of the firefighting equipment, tools, hose, and computers. All members were trained on the new operating systems and features and the truck was placed back in service

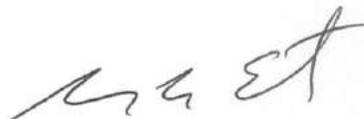
Active Shooter School Scenario

Firefighter Mike Rowe organized a mass casualty response drill for the City of Avon Lake. The drill took place in August and involved a scenario with an active shooter in our High School. Multiple casualties and injuries to students/faculty were simulated with assistance from Metro Hospital and the school's drama club. Members from the Avon lake Fire Department, Police department and the school system were actively involved, along with several surrounding Fire and EMS agencies. The drill was very realistic and provided an opportunity to critique our safety force response capabilities in all areas from incident command to providing EMS trauma care to critically injured patients. Utilizing just six (6) primary paramedics we were able to make entry, evaluate, treat, re-locate and ultimately transport over forty (40) critically injured patients to area hospitals in less than fort-five (45) minutes.

Respectfully Submitted,



Captain John Reitz



Captain Glen Eisenhardt