

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

2009 ANNUAL REPORT



KARL C. ZUBER – SAFETY DIRECTOR

WILLIAM A. MORRIS – FIRE CHIEF

AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

February 10, 2010

Mayor Karl C. Zuber
Members of Avon Lake City Council

Mayor Zuber and Members of Council,

I am pleased to present the 2009 annual report for the Avon Lake Fire Department containing reports from the Fire Prevention Bureau, Training Department, 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 to our community the very best service possible by skilled caring professionals. 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 requiring continuing education and training.

Federal and State mandated training requirements along with continuing education requirements for Firefighter and Paramedic certification renewal impose a critical responsibility on the Training Officer. The department utilizes personnel from within as well as outside instructors to meet these educational responsibilities.

A committee of department personnel wrote specifications for a new pumper truck which were presented to the safety committee of council for review and approval. A new pumper was ordered from Pierce Manufacturing with expected delivery in late spring 2010.

Fire Prevention and Public Education continue to be an integral part of the Avon Lake Fire Department. 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 Fire Prevention Bureau through plan reviews, occupancy inspections, annual inspections and system testing provide the business community the means to help prevent emergencies in the work place. 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 Fire Safety House.

Maintenance of emergency response vehicles is done in house whenever possible. Major repairs or repairs beyond our capabilities are completed by qualified facilities. Building maintenance and repairs are done by department personnel if possible.

The following table is a breakdown of the department's responses for 2008.

Fire Calls	61
Overpressure, Overheat(no fire)	1
Rescue & EMS incident	1390
Hazardous Condition (no fire)	47
Service Call	139
Good Intent Call	62
False Alarm & False Call	162
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0
Special Incident Type	4
Misc. Calls	0
TOTAL CALLS	1866
Mutual Aid Given	52
Mutual Aid Received	37

The average age of an Avon Lake Firefighter/Paramedic is 43 with an average of 16 years experience.

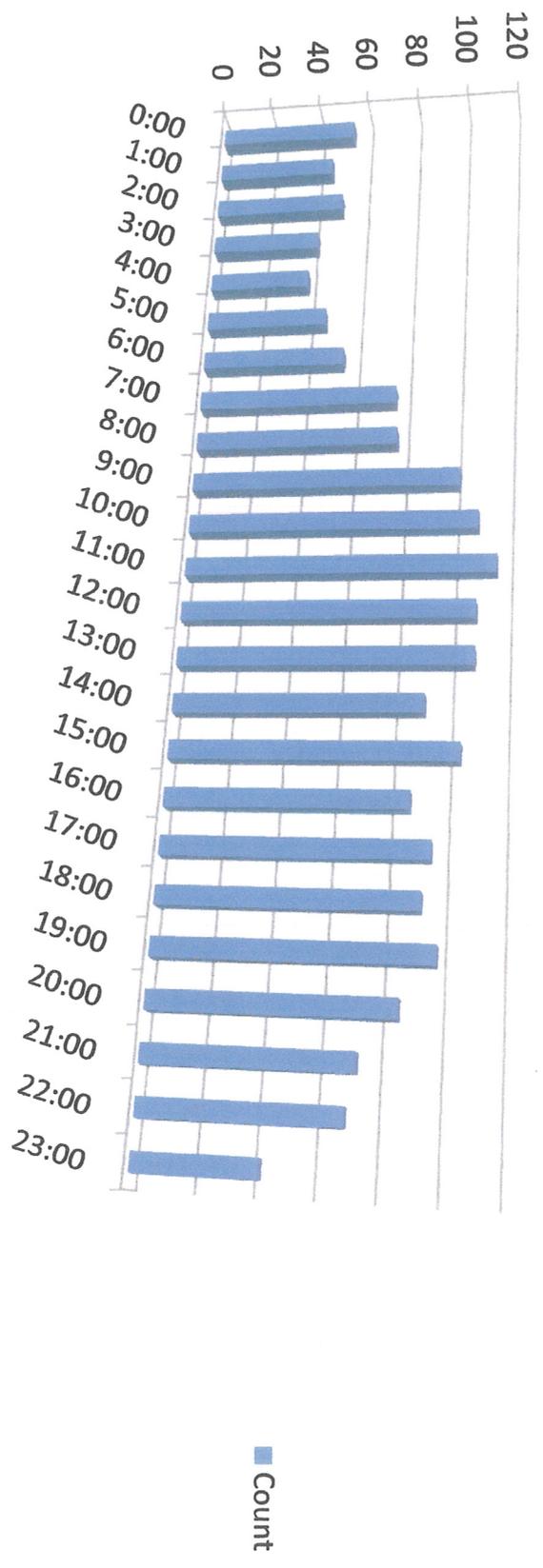
On behalf of the officers and members of the Avon Lake Fire Department I would like to express our appreciation and gratitude for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

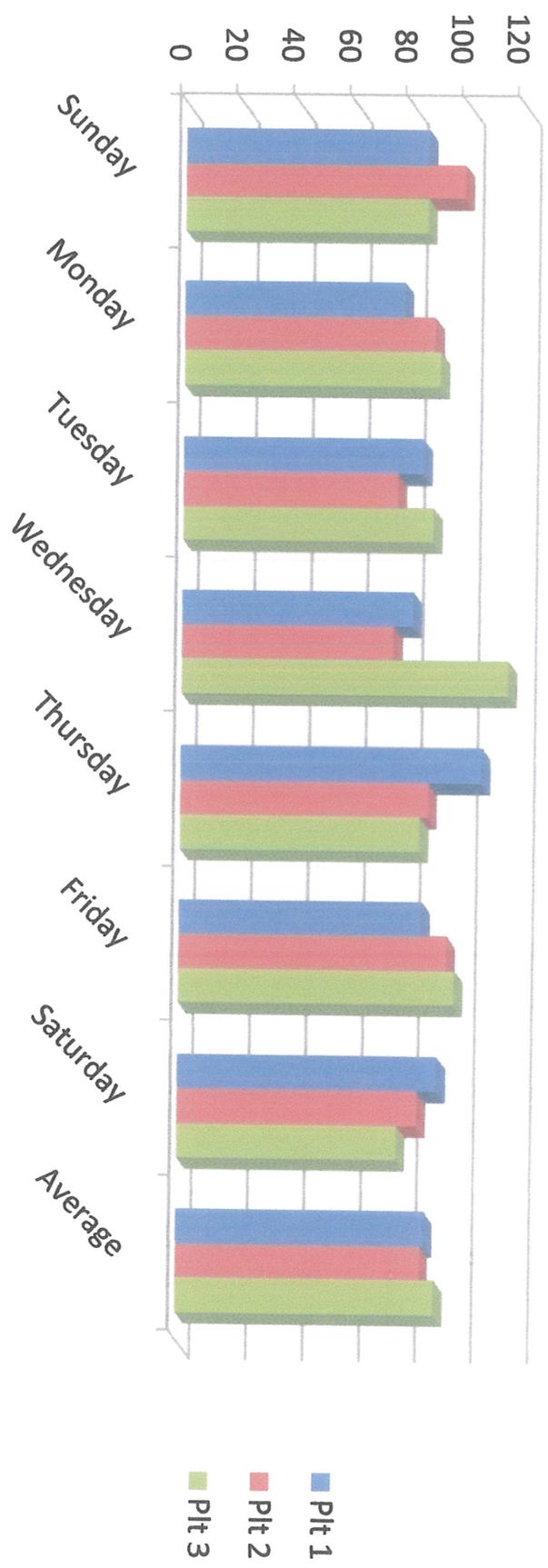


William A. Morris, Fire Chief

Run Volume at Time of Day 2009



Day of Week by Platoon



FIRE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

Lieutenant: J. Reitz

Inspectors:

F. N. Cicone

S. Newcomb



AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Annual Report 2009

The two main functions of the fire prevention bureau are code enforcement and public education. We base our code enforcement on the current editions of the Ohio Fire Code and Ohio Building Code as well as standards from private agencies such as the National Fire Protection Association. The bureau is staffed by one full time lieutenant and two part time inspectors. All three of these individuals hold state certification as fire safety inspectors. Listed below are some of the responsibilities of bureau personnel.

- Conduct fire safety inspections in all assembly, business, commercial, educational, factory, industrial occupancies as well as the common areas of multiple family residential occupancies.
- Code research
- Inspect residential dwellings of those persons wishing to adopt or foster children.
- Conduct occupancy inspections of new facilities.
- Yearly inspection and maintenance of Knox Boxes.
- Witness acceptance tests of new and updated fire alarm, detection and suppression systems.
- Monitor semi-annual and annual fire alarm, detection and suppression system tests.
- Review construction and renovation blueprints as well as engineering drawings then forward comments to the appropriate city departments.
- Issue permits.
- Maintain records of inspections and tests.
- Update the Avon Lake Fire Codes as needed.
- Observe a minimum of one fire drill per year in each school.
- Assist business and industry in developing and implementing disaster and evacuation plans.
- Respond to complaints of fire code violations.
- Measure and post for maximum occupancy load in certain types of use groups.
- Update the city disaster plan.
- Develop and present fire and life safety talks and demonstrations to the general public, schools, businesses and industry.
- Install residential lock boxes to provide access for fire/rescue emergency personnel.
- Supply and install smoke detectors and batteries.
- Instruct private safety personnel in fire suppression.
- Develop and coordinate the second and fourth graders annual fire safety poster contest and awards presentations.
- Update the Community Disaster Plan
- Member of the Lorain County Emergency Planning Committee.
- A staff member of the County Emergency Operations Center.
- Help plan and organize the cities safety/service open house program.
- Attend North East Ohio Fire Prevention Association Meetings.
- Attend continuing education seminars as provided by various organizations.

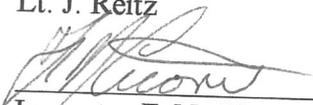
2009 STATISTICS

Inspections and re-inspections:	345
Special Inspections:	25
Occupancy Inspections:	36
Fire alarm, detection and suppression system tests:	328
Plan reviews:	55
Permits issued:	17
Residential Lock Box installations:	9
Adults and children instructed in fire and life safety:	2094

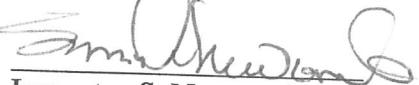
Respectfully Submitted By:



Lt. J. Reitz



Inspector F. N. Cicone



Inspector S. Newcomb

TRAINING DEPARTMENT

Lieutenant: G. Eisenhardt



AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

TRAINING BUREAU

Annual Report 2009

Please accept the following as an Annual report for Training Department. This report contains an analysis of the training hours, and descriptions of significant training events and activities for the year 2009.

Annual Training Summary

The following summary includes cumulative training hours as reported in the FireHouse database for all employees in the year 2009

▪ Firefighting	415
▪ Emergency Medical	794
▪ Hazardous Materials	43
▪ Rescue	278
▪ Miscellaneous	414
Total Training Hours	1944

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 2009 several employees received certification in the following subject areas.

Rope Rescue	(1) certification issued
Vehicle Extrication	(1) certification issued
Fire Code	(1) certification issued

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.

In 2009 all departmental paramedics received certification in Pediatric Emergency Assessment, Recognition, and Stabilization (PEARS). This advanced training keeps our paramedics at the forefront of prehospital care for pediatric related emergencies.

Lorain County Community College and The Cleveland Clinic EMS Academy

The Avon Lake Fire Department has been partnered with the Lorain County Community College and the Cleveland Clinic EMS Academy Paramedic programs for many years. Each year approximately 30 students participate in emergency medical responses with our department personnel as part of their clinical course requirements. Throughout the years, several members of our department have become instructors in the program and have earned state of Ohio teaching credentials. In the year 2009 members of the fire department provided 3344 hours of clinical training to the college students in addition to their regular shift duties.

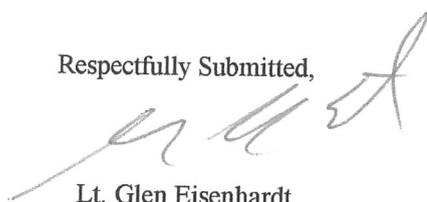
Rescue

Diverse industry, geographical considerations, weather and quantity of construction within the city all 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. 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.

Child Passenger Safety Technician

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for children in the United States. Many injuries and deaths can be prevented with the proper use of car seats. With four out of five safety seats improperly installed, certified technicians provide a valuable service to educate parents and caregivers on proper installation for all styles of child safety seats. The Avon Lake Fire department has long provided this benefit to the community and last year three members completed a five day course to receive their certification and become Child Passenger Safety Technicians. This will allow the department to continue this popular program.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glen Eisenhardt", written over the printed name below.

Lt. Glen Eisenhardt

PLATOON

1

Lieutenants: L. Grizzell and J. Berry

Firefighter/Paramedics:

P. Aufdenkampe

L. Heczko

J. Nakel

S. Peter

A. Egut

E. Wagner



AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PLATOON 1

Lt. Lawrence Grizzell

Lt. James Berry

Annual Report 2009

Please accept the following account as the Annual Report for Platoon 1. This report outlines significant shift activity for the year 2009, including an emergency response analysis and specific details involving non-routine projects.

Emergency Response Summary

Platoon 1 responded to 616 emergency calls during the year 2009.

<u>Incident Type</u>	<u>Count</u>
1. Fire	023
2. Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (no fire)	001
3. Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	466
4. Hazardous Condition (no fire)	011
5. Service Call	055
6. Good Intent Call	015
7. False Alarm & False Call	042
8. Severe Weather	000
9. Special Incident Type	003
Total Emergency Calls	616

Hydrant Work

During 2009 Platoon 1 assisted the other platoons in flushing over 1500 fire hydrants to check for and ensure proper operation and access. Firefighter Aufdenkampe continues to administer the installation and maintenance of the city fire hydrants. Firefighter Aufdenkampe also conducts acceptance tests of new fire hydrants.

Continuing Education

Platoon-1 served as preceptor during sixteen shifts for paramedic students from Lorain and Cuyahoga County paramedic programs. These ride-a-long students were monitored, coached, and instructed during actual emergency responses that included patient contact. As a whole, Platoon-1 participated in fifty-three continuing education classes for a total of 226 continuing education units (CEU's).

Building and Grounds Maintenance

Lieutenant Grizzell is the assigned Building and Grounds Maintenance Officer. In turn, Platoon 1 has been assigned the responsibility of coordinating building and ground maintenance. Maintenance and repairs were conducted in house as much as possible although some work exceeded our scope of practice and/or ability. In these instances repairs were conducted by outside agencies/vendors.

Public Relations

Public education and fire prevention activities were conducted by Platoon 1 in collaboration with the other two platoons and the fire prevention bureau throughout 2009. Below are highlights of these activities.

Off-site talks and demonstrations

Fire Prevention month participation at City schools

Residential smoke detector and battery replacement

Fire Department tours and safety demonstrations

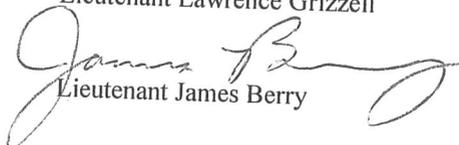
On-site Blood pressure tests for residents

File of Life

Respectfully Submitted,



Lieutenant Lawrence Grizzell



Lieutenant James Berry

PLATOON

2

Lieutenants: J. Rogers and A. Teterakis

Firefighter/Paramedics:

F. Berner

D. Szymanowski

F. Ogle

G. Madej

M. Rowe

M. McGuire



AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PLATOON 2

Lt. John Rogers

Lt. Angelo Totorakis

Annual Report 2009

Please accept the following as an Annual report for Platoon 2, outlining significant shift activity for the year 2009. Included are response analysis summary and specific details involving non-routine projects.

Emergency Response Summary

Platoon 2 responded to 607 emergency calls during the year 2009.

▪ Fire/Explosion/Electrical	022
▪ EMS/Rescue Calls	439
▪ Hazardous Conditions/ CO/Gas Leaks	020
▪ Good Intent Calls	037
▪ Service Calls	021
▪ False Calls	064
▪ Special Incident	004
▪ Total Emergency Calls	607

Special Projects

Updated City Map – Platoon 2 members assisted with input and were key players in the updating of new roads and developments.

Hydrant Work

During the 2009 calendar year Platoon 2 assisted the other platoons in flushing over 1500 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 etc.

A list of the more specific maintenance projects and activities completed by our platoon during the year are vehicle drop cords and shorts; Cleaning and maintenance of drains and plumbing; various drywall, siding, and overhead door maintenance and repair.

EMS Operations & Equipment

Throughout the year the Avon Lake Fire Department has been host to several organizations involving medical related functions. Platoon 2 assisted with paramedic students' field training through LCCC , The Cleveland Clinic Western Region EMS Academy and Hocking Tech University.

Maintenance of equipment consists of keeping up to date on all drugs & licensing requirements. Maintaining and servicing all medical monitoring equipment and telemetry. Ordering of medical supplies and monitoring inventories are also part of our program.

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 for certification and recertification in areas such as Basic and Advanced Life Support, Advanced Cardiac Life Support and Pediatric Advanced Life Support. We also provide city wide CPR and Defibrillator training and instruction on the use of Epi-Pens to the High School staff. We continue to maintain in-house instructors of Basic Life Support and Advanced Cardiac Life Support. This high level of pre-hospital care, EMS training and continuing education as well as the civilian instruction we can provide would not be possible without the continued support of the administration and community for the paramedic levy.

Public Relations

Throughout the year 2009 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; installation and replacement of smoke detectors and batteries; and car seat installations.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lt. John Rogers



Lt. Angelo Tetorakis

PLATOON

3

Lieutenants: C. Huerner and J. Moore

Firefighter/Paramedics:

L. Lid

J. Scott

J. Kimmell

R. Frygier

S. Marti

B. Gilles



AVON LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PLATOON 3

Lt. Christopher W. Huerner

Lt. Jeffery K. Moore

Annual Report 2009

Please accept the following as the Annual Report for Platoon 3. The report outlines significant shift activity for the year 2009, including an emergency response analysis and specific details involving non-routine projects.

Emergency Response Summary

Platoon 3 responded to 643 emergency calls during the year 2009.

■ Fire/Explosion	22
■ EMS Calls	485
■ Hazardous Condition	16
■ Good Intent Calls	25
■ Service Calls	41
■ False Calls	54
■ Total Emergency Calls	643

Special Projects

None

Hydrant Work

During 2009 Platoon 3 assisted the other platoons in flushing hydrants to check for proper operation.

Public Relations

Firefighter Richard Frygier is a certified Child Safety Seat installer. He performed dozens of child seat inspections providing peace of mind for parents.

Public education and fire prevention activities were conducted by Platoon 3 throughout 2009. Below are highlights of these activities.

Off-site talks and demonstrations

Fire Prevention month participation at City schools

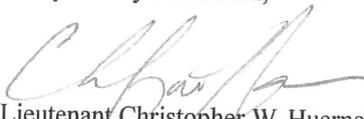
Residential smoke detector and battery replacement

Fire Department tours and safety demonstrations

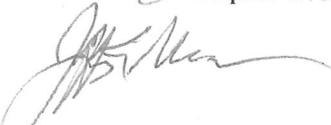
On-site Blood pressure tests for residents

File of Life

Respectfully Submitted,



Lieutenant Christopher W. Huerner



Lieutenant Jeffery K. Moore

“2009”
OPEN HOUSE

Come see

BIG TRUCKS!

and city services open house

Saturday, Sept. 26

10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Avon Lake Safety Center

32855 Walker Road





