

Well another year has pasted and the Department did not sit on its hands and wait for the next call. We had yet another record year for calls. More on that in a bit. I travel quite a bit for my job as most of you know. I work every day with Fire and Rescue Departments all over the world big and small. I have been thinking about this a lot lately in regards to the WGFD and all other County Emergency Agencies. It has come to me that I stand here tonight in great Company. In regards to the service and meeting the needs of our districts. There are few reasons for this.

- 1- Mutual Aid with other dept in County
- 2- Our Members
- 3- Change and not allowing tradition to stand in our way when change is needed. No better place than the WGFD has that been seen. We have changed a lot over the last few years because we have had no choice. Our careers are more like a job now instead of volunteering because of the load we all have to carry and that required change and the members of the county and our department have handled it wonderfully.

You all make the community a great and safe place to live. The dedication of our members is second to none, just like the rest of the county. We need to be proud of this. I see place that are bigger than us that can not bring the level of service to a community like we can.Thanks for doing your part.

The Watkins Glen Fire Department continues to grow call wise and it is becoming harder to keep up with the demands, but our ff are doing a great job keeping up and providing excellent service to our community.

This year had many highlights to review but I will not touch on them all.

EMS ON Call – put this in place this past year. It is where an EMS qualified person takes a week of being on call and also get the chiefs truck to use to cover the calls.

Safety Program- monthly safety checks of building and grounds as well as other key items in our station. This is done on top of the regular stuff we do.

We also do have a dedicated safety team for incident scenes that make sure we are working in safe conditions.

Two Big Announcements for everyone tonight!

We have received not 1 but 2 FEMA grants in the last month. I have not talked too many about these. The officers now about them and they will greatly help the WGFD in two areas. We have been applying for these grants for 5 years now and they have finally happened.

1st-is the Exhaust Removal grant

2nd- Safer Grant- to set up a recruiting and retention system for the FD.

One big component is a retirement system. We have funding for this is for 4 yrs. So the Officers will be busy tiring to get this set up. After the four years we need to try and find the money to keep supporting it.

A few of our major calls to highlight

Kirk Smith's house- thanks for the help. It is tough when one of your own has a fire, the M/A departments for the help that day and into the following weeks

6th St fire- way a head of us when we got there and unfortunately it was a loss but thanks for the help. It has been a while since we have a had a total loss on a fire (Glen Club)

For all the departments involved thanks for the help on the above calls, your support is greatly appreciated. For these above calls our firefighters need to be commended for a job well done. This is all being done by volunteers. Great job to all this past year.

Call Break Down for 2008

Fire:-59
EMS:- 440
MVA:- 51
Service Calls:- 24
LZ:-5
Haz Mat and Hazardous Conditions:- 24
Community Service:-2
Tech Rescue:-4
Traffic Control:-6
Mutual Aid;-99
Event calls:-61

Gave Mutual Aid:

Beaver Dams:-29
Burdett:-17
Dundee:-2
Hector:-2
Himrod:-1
Monterey:-2
Montour Falls:-33
Odessa:-7
Tyrone:-6

775 Total Calls for the Year 2008
389 Alarm Hours
3,156.59 Total Firefighter Hours

New Members-

Jason Fuller
Stan Mason
Kristina Olevnik
Jessica Conklin
Kelly Karius
Sara Mahler
Rebekah Moore
Amy Moore
Meghan Moore

Special Event Report- Attached

Work Bee's- 18 total for 322 hours 2,186.5 FF Hours

Truck Maintenance Nights- 12 Total, 303 FF Hours

Fund Raising- 2,000+ FF Hours

Hit the Boot- x 2
Italian Fest
Race Track
Gun Raffle

Dept Training for 2008-

7-EMS for 153 FF hrs

8-Tech rescue for 306 ffhrs

9-Driver Trainings-76.5 ff hrs

26- fire trainings for 1169 ff hrs

Grand Total of:

50 Total-Department Trainings- 169 Training Hours

Total FF Hours of 1704.50

Thanks to the officers

Thanks to the Members- without them we would not have been able to do all of this in one year. Forget about the calls just look at the sure amount of time they put in doing the other things. By doing this it enables us to provide the best emergency services we can provide to a community like ours. We pride our selves in this and hope the community appreciates it. Thanks to the wife's and husbands of our members for letting them give some much time to making this happen.

Thanks to the Village and Townships for there support over the past year. We folks help us out and support us when we need it.

Summary of the Year 2008:

We spent 26,926 hours this year as group. 517.82 average hours per week. That is 13 people needed per week to cover the hours

Top Training Awards-

Jeremy Lagor-34
Aaron Emery-25
Charlie Smith 3- 23
Bill Bearsdley-21
AJ Matweijow-19

Top Responder for 2008:

Jeremy Lagor- 405
Chas 3- 252
Aj-200
Aaron Emery-197
Brent Miller-107

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Fire & Rescue

Special Events and Stand By Report for 2008

May 6, 2008- Learn Not to Burn, 4 Firefighters for a total of 12 Firefighter hours

May 19, 2008- Learn Not to Burn, 2 Firefighters for a total of 6 Firefighter hours

May 21, 2008- Learn Not to Burn, 4 Firefighters for a total of 12 Firefighter hours

June 15, 2008- Cardboard Boat Regatta, 10 Firefighters for a total of 80 Firefighter hours

June 20, 21, 22, 2008- Rolex Grand Am Race at WGI, 15 Firefighters for a total of 150 Firefighter hours.

July 4, 5, 6, 2008- IRL Weekend at WGI, 60 Firefighters for a total of 4320 Firefighter hours.

July 18, 19, 20 2008- Wine Festival at WGI, for a total of 2160 Firefighter hours.

August 1, 2, 3 2008- Italian American Festival, 18 Firefighters for a total of 468 Firefighter hours.

August 7, 8, 9, 10, 2008- Nascar weekend at WGI, 152 Firefighters for a total of 10,368 Firefighter hours.

Total Firefighter Hours Spent at Special Events for 2008- **17,576 Hours**