

MOUNT GILEAD
FIRE DEPARTMENT



END OF YEAR
REPORT

2007

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Chief's Report

This past year was a milestone in the history of the Mt. Gilead Fire Department with the largest number of responses ever at 427. We have fluctuated in the 232 to 391 ranges for several years with 2000 starting the increase to 391 IN 2006. One thing is sure, when people realized that we were on station Monday thru Friday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, they will now call direct to the station for a request such as CO check, check out the furnace and flue, check out water heaters. We receive calls for the pool phone number, report a sewer leak, report a water leak and directions for almost everywhere. It is just part of the job we can do for the community and those passing through. These are all very legitimate requests. The difference I think in some instances is; people would wait until their husband returned from work to check things out. Now they call us and we respond. With that said, we did respond on an unusual number of structure fires at ninety one (91) which include mutual aid responses, fourteen (14) of the structure fires were in the village, eighty seven (87) motor vehicle crashes (MVC's) with fifteen (15) working extrications, with one MVC where we landed 2 Med Flight helicopters and 1 Life Flight helicopter, we responded to fourteen (14) reported lines down, twenty one (21) grass or brush fires and twenty two (22) illegal burns. As you can see from these figures, we were very busy.

During the daytime with part time firefighters on shift the first thing every morning we check over every vehicle and power tool to be sure that they will operate properly. Nothing broken, everything fueled up and ready to go. The paid-on-call firefighters also check the equipment weekly to be sure that everything works properly. This is why we are very confident that everything will work when needed. If a problem is found, the daytime crew orders the parts and makes the repair. We change the oil and filters in all vehicles, power tools, generators and pump motors. All the maintenance to the building and equipment is conducted by the firefighters whether by the daytime crew or the paid-on call firefighters. Only those repairs that need a certified technician are done outside the department. I have estimated that we saved over \$9,000 in repair costs for labor and parts mark-up.

Again in 2006 we applied for the "Assistance to Firefighter" grant through FEMA for a total of \$71,345.00 to replace all PPE (Personal Protective Equipment). We originally received a letter stating that we were requesting the proper type of equipment, but there wasn't enough money to award us the grant. So we applied for the same equipment in 2007 for \$74,095. Now in early August we received a letter from FEMA stating that we were now going to be awarded the 2006 and 2007 grants combined for a total project cost of \$74,095 for PPE replacement. With this grant we would have everyone outfitted with up-to-date turnout gear meeting all NFPA Standards for PPE. All members will have their own personal set of equipment. Part time firefighters will not have to share equipment. At this point in time we have received all the equipment requested by the grant at a cost to the village of \$3,705 dollars. We were able to purchase some additional equipment at the same time to take advantage of the pricing.

As in years past we applied for the State Fire Marshal's training grant for \$2,450.00 to cover the cost of training (7) certified fire training instructors. There has not been any correspondence on the status of the grant. When any grants are available we do apply for them. I feel that anytime there is a grant available we should apply for it, this is another avenue we can save money for the community.

Our training program is far above the proposed state yearly certification of 18 hours per year. This past year we made available to all members a total of 105 hours of training. This is an average 8.75 hours per month. These training numbers are a good sign of the commitment of our members and will help with reducing our class 4 ISO classifications. We train on all the basic firefighting essentials that everyone takes for granted. The little things are the things that make a fire attack or a rescue a smooth efficient operation. If you look like you know what you are doing you most likely do and will get the job done effectively. The in-house training certification process is being revisited with the instatement of the mandatory certification training requirements in the Ohio Revised Code. I feel that we will have no problem meeting the requirements of 18 hours of continuing education (CEU's) with our existing program.

The ISO classification is the rating the "Insurance Service Organization places on all fire departments across the nation. The rating signifies the fire insurance premium rate for residential and industry structures. A class 6 is the lowest class to effect residences. A class 1 will affect the rate of an industrial facility.

The department is at its all time largest membership ever. We have a total of 40 members of the department including the 3 part time firefighters that are not active members of the department. You will be able to see the average years experience of the officers and the firefighters. Please note the number of young members that are willing to donate their time to protect our community.

Another thing we are trying to do is to keep the community aware of the responses the department runs on. I am trying to get the previous weeks calls in the paper every Friday so the paper can get them in. We will explain as much of the call that as we are allowed to do with the HIPPA law. I am also going to add information on the training sessions we have monthly, then you will know what we are doing when you see us out and about. We are in the process of updating our web site, with as much current information as possible, including emergencies and training.

I want to take this opportunity to personally thank all the members of the department for their support and belief in the direction we are headed. A special thank you to Mayor Whiston and City Manager Dan Rogers for their support of the department and myself. Also thank you to the Fire and Police Committee members from City Council and the Fire Department for understanding the direction we are headed and giving their support. And the BIGGEST thank you to the community for your support of the department. Our job is made easier when we know we have your support.

In July we responded to a working house fire at 117 North Street in a vacant house. During the fire suppression and overhaul operations a second working house fire was noticed by firefighters working on the roof of the first fire at 68 East High Street. Units responded to the second fire and extinguished the fire. As this looked very suspicious, the Ohio State Fire Marshal Investigator was called in. He determined that the fire was suspicious. Not much has happened with that fire to this date.

Thank You
Don Staiger – Fire Chief

	= <u>Grants Awarded</u> =			
	Fire Marshal Equipment	Fire Marshal Training	FEMA	MISC.
1998	\$ 3,900.00 PPE	\$ 494.00 (3)		\$3,000 *
1999		\$ 163.00 (1)		
2000	\$ 8,000.00 SCBA	\$ 800.00 (4)		
2001		0		
2002		0		
2003		0		\$2,500 **
2004		0		
2005	\$ 8,000.00 SCBA	\$ 675.00	\$ 136,361 / \$ 7,146.25 - SCBA	
2006		\$1,350.00		
2007		\$2,450.00 ***	\$ 70,390 / \$ 3,705.00 - PPE	

Total Grant Awards Total \$ 238,083.00 at a cost of \$ 10,851.25.

* Fire Safety House

** AED

*** We started an Instructors Class in November, finish December with 7 students.

= MISSION STATEMENT =

The mission of the Mt. Gilead Fire Department is to protect lives, the environment and property through skillful and cost effective prevention, preparedness, education and response.

**Mt. Gilead Fire
Department
Roster**

No.	Name	Unit #	Started	Years
1	Greg Young	103	1970	38
2	Herb Hoffman	102	1948	60
3	Dan Wallis	19-03	1998	10
4	Mitch Madeker	19-04	2006	2
5	Bruce Young	105	1976	32
6	Mark Carey	19-06	2006	2
7	Robert Walker	19-07	1999	9
8	John Prest	19-08	2005	3
9	Tim Hoffman	108	1982	26
10	Michel Wolfe	19-10	2007	1
11	Jason Weber	19-11	1996	12
12	Paul Kemp	19-12	1997	11
14	Darroll Kunze	19-14	1992	16
15	Brent Staley	19-15	1986	22
16	Scott Barler	19-16	2000	8
17	Terry Weber	104	1968	40
18	John Coil	19-18	2006	2
19	Scott Mosher	19-19	2006	2
20	Don Staiger	101	1966	42
21	Norm Sharp	19-21	1989	19
22	Mark Meftah	19-22	2005	3
23	Rob Searls	106	1992	16
24	Joe Coil	19-24	1996	12
25	Lonnie Scott	19-25	1999	9
26	Matthew Carey	19-26	2002	6
27	John Weese	19-27	2003	5
28	Jeff McAvoy	19-28	1989	19
29	Chris Martin	19-29	2000	8
30	Mike McKinney	107	1990	18
31	Tina Stevens	19-31	2006	2
32	Dennis Sterling	19-32	2001	7
33	Roger Meyer	19-33	2005	3
34	Melissa Fink	19-34	2006	2
35	Chad Swank	19-35	2005	3
36	Ken Fink	19-36	2006	2
37	Jeanette Coil	19-37	2006	2
41	Jesse Bailey	19-41	2006	2
42	Benjamin Bradford	19-42	2006	2
43	Phil Jackson	19-43	2006	2
44	Ryan Swank	19-44	2006	2
40	= Member		Total years of service	482
			Firefighter years of service	210
			Average years of service	6.6
			Officers years of service	272
			Average years / officer	34

Total Years of Service for the Department is 482 years averaging 12.05 years.
 Total Years of Service for Officers 272 years averaging 34 years per Officer.
 Total Years of Service for the Firefighters is 210 years averaging 6.6 years per FF.

Statistics for 2007

Responses by District

Year	Village	Edison	Gilead	Canaan	Franklin	Total
1991	45		47	13	17	236
1992	37		45	14	20	201
1993	51		49	16	29	260
1994	47		50	18	30	267
1995	40		43	9	31	244
1996	48		59	15	33	286
1997	49		47	11	20	235
1998	56		41	6	29	240
1999	82		45	10	35	268
2000	72		63	9	38	254
2001	81	Started	45	15	60	269
2002	67	Coverage	50	14	48	232
2003	51	8	47	13	67	235
2004	96	8	53	14	76	317
2005	127	15	63	15	54	335
2006	119	15	65	17	61	391*
<u>2007</u>	<u>170</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>427*</u>
Average	66.75	11.5	50.75	16.0	37.81	266.88

- This denotes the most responses in the history of the fire department.

Responses by Day of Week

Year	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2000	32	43	39	37	30	37	36
2001	47	32	31	43	47	38	31
2002	33	32	31	37	23	34	42
2003	38	29	34	30	28	39	37
2004	39	52	43	44	51	40	48
2005	36	36	51	54	49	53	55
2006	39	69	57	67	68	48	46
2007	49	65	58	69	67	64	54
Average	39.1	39.9	43	<u>47.6</u>	45.4	44.1	43.6
Last							
3 Years	124	170	166	190	184	165	155
Average	41.3	56.7	55.3	63.3	61.3	55	51.7

When the 8-year average is calculated it shown that Wednesday is the busiest day of the week. However if we look at the last 3 years we will see that Wednesday and Thursday are our busiest.

Miles Traveled per Unit

Engine 10 responded to 25 calls and traveled a total of 1,067 miles.

Rescue 11 responded to 80 calls and traveled a total of 1,006 miles.

Brush Truck 12 responded to 99 calls and traveled a total of 1,768 miles.

Tanker 14 responded to 66 calls and traveled a total of 1,461 miles.

Engine 15 responded to 151 calls and traveled a total of 3,502 miles.

Brush Truck 17 responded to 9 calls and traveled a total of 365 miles.

Tower 18 responded to 14 calls and traveled a total of 633 miles.

- Please note that the total mileage includes drivers training, road testing driving every week and pump operation.

Time of Day Responses

	07	06	05	04	03	02	01	00	99	Totals	
00.00	6	8	5	13	9	4	10	6	5	63	
01.00	8	3	6	5	5	4	4	5	6	46	
02.00	5	4	0	5	3	5	4	2	3	31	
03.00	5	1	1	5	1	1	1	2	4	21	411
04.00	5	6	3	4	6	0	6	0	6	39	
05.00	8	5	5	5	6	4	6	9	4	52	
06.00	5	8	7	10	8	8	10	9	11	76	
07.00	24	8	12	7	2	7	9	6	8	83	
08.00	15	23	21	14	9	4	7	10	10	113	
09.00	18	20	18	19	11	6	17	12	10	128	
10.00	27	27	14	7	13	9	6	12	10	125	
11.00	24	25	19	17	7	14	8	10	17	141	
12.00	17	23	13	20	8	6	18	14	19	138	1,336
13.00	31	25	16	11	10	18	16	18	15	160	
14.00	38	24	27	13	10	14	12	15	14	167	
15.00	32	33	30	13	18	20	20	4	13	186	
16.00	23	24	13	22	16	17	23	17	23	178	
17.00	24	32	18	22	14	21	13	17	26	188	
18.00	30	24	24	21	21	8	13	16	21	178	
19.00	20	21	18	22	13	16	17	17	10	154	
20.00	25	13	17	13	15	11	15	13	11	133	978
21.00	20	18	18	19	13	9	11	15	11	134	(1,389)
22.00	13	10	15	15	9	15	17	12	7	113	
23.00	3	8	10	14	11	8	9	10	5	78	

Grey area is day shift times and response numbers

	07	06	05	04	03	02	01	00	99
00.00 to 08.00	65	43	39	54	37	36	50	39	47
08.00 to 16.00	225	224	171	136	102	108	124	115	131
16.00 to 24.00	135	126	121	126	96	88	95	100	91

Responses by Month

	07	06	05	04	03	02	01	00	Total	Average
Jan	31	30	37	25	25	6	25	28	209	26.12
Feb	40	25	21	24	18	18	24	16	171	21.38
Mar	30	36	20	18	25	25	18	28	201	25.12
Apr	32	38	37	19	15	17	35	20	213	26.63
May	26	34	28	34	21	13	20	17	195	24.38
Jun	34	33	38	26	24	16	20	12	203	25.38
Jul	45	28	32	21	18	32	33	23	232	29.00
Aug	50	31	21	26	18	25	28	22	221	27.63
Sep	32	24	23	21	13	18	18	13	162	20.25
Oct	35	43	18	33	11	18	17	24	199	24.88
Nov	43	31	26	22	24	20	13	27	206	25.75
Dec	29	40	33	46	23	21	118	24	234	29.25
Total	427	393	334	318	235	232	269	254	2461	307.60

ENGINE 10



Engine 10 is a 1981 Ford, C-8000, E-One 1000 gallon per minute pumper. The physical condition of this unit is very good. There is a little bubbling paint around the windows of the cab, but the aluminum body is in excellent condition. The unit is now 27 years old, but due to thinking ahead when purchasing the aluminum fire body we will be able to purchase a chassis and use the fire body. This will cut the cost of refurbishing the truck to less than half the cost of a new truck. The engine was tuned up this year with new injectors and a complete going over. The unit has always been a dependable truck. It traveled over 1,067 miles the past year. Total miles traveled by this unit are 32,690 miles. We now carry a combination rescue spreader/cutter tool as a backup rescue when the primary unit is on an emergency response. Drawbacks to this unit are that the two firefighters in the jump seats are out in the open, exposed to the elements. We do not anticipate any major problems in the future.

RESCUE 11



Rescue 11 is a 1985 Ford, C-8000, Eastern manufactured Rescue carrying all of our heavy rescue equipment including the "Jaws-of-Life", air bags, 4-bottle 6,000 PSI air cascade system and an SCBA refilling station. It is equipped with a 10K generator to operate our 2000 watts of floodlight. This unit has been a workhorse for the department with the number of rescue responses we do each year. This vehicle only has 24,751 miles on it but there is considerable deterioration to the cab area floor. We have had an ongoing problem with the side doors staying closed. The replacement Rescue/Pumper capable of fighting fire or providing a complete set of rescue equipment will be delivered the first of June 2008. With this truck we will be able to pick up additional ISO points for our classification.

BRUSH TRUCK 12



Brush Truck 12 a 1992 $\frac{3}{4}$ ton Chevy pickup truck was converted into a grass/brush fire and capable of pumping approximately 500 gallons per minute at 70 psi to fill tankers for shuttle operations. We carry hand tools such as fire brooms, pressurized water cans, hose for water supply and attack. It is in very good condition with some minor bubbling of the paint on the rear quarter panel that will need repair the coming year. This unit traveled 1,768 miles in 2006 with a total mileage of 22,515 miles. A second new radiator was installed under warranty at the end of summer due to the seams failing in the first one.

TANKER 14



Tanker 14 is a 1990 International, 2000-gallon tanker manufactured by Allegheny Fire Equipment Company. With the stainless steel tank it is in very good condition with just some minor issues with one fender. Again the extra money spent purchasing a stainless steel tank has proven to be worthwhile. We are looking at replacing some of the steel piping under the tank later in 2008. Tanker 14 has traveled 1,461 miles this past year totaling 22,383 miles on the unit. New rear tires were installed last fall. We are installing a new suction hose and strainer for our new portable tank suction operation.

ENGINE 15



with a total of 25,244 miles.

Engine 15 is a 1995 E-One refurbished from a 1977 Sutphen responding as our primary attack vehicle that responds to almost all emergencies. The unit is still in very good condition but is underpowered for what it really needs to do. Future considerations in approximately a few years would be to re-power with a larger engine, transmission and drive train. Again this unit was purchased with an aluminum fire body that can have a new chassis for less than half the cost of a new unit. Engine 15 has traveled 3,502 miles in 2006

BRUSH TRUCK 17



Brush 17 is a 1977 Ford ½ ton pickup truck. There is (4) 4,500 PSI air cascade bottles on the unit for air supply during major fires or mutual aid responses. The air is also available for Haz-Mat incidents with the Spec. Ops Trailer. The unit needs some new paint and insignias to bring it up to our current standard.

TOWER LADDER 18



was used to remove victims from upper floors on buildings and fight several structure fires.

Tower 18 is a 1986 Sutphen 100 foot plus aerial platform with a 1500 gallon per minute pump. It responds on all possible structure fires in the village of Mt. Gilead and specific structures in Cardington. There was considerable money spent in bringing the unit up to certification. We found a broken main power cable from the turret to the basket that was replaced this past year. We had some small pivot bushing replaced and some other minor repairs. Other than that this unit is in very good condition and is expected to last for many years as a support vehicle for elevated fires and rescues. This year the unit

STATION 19

Station 19 was built in 1975 and has served the community well. Again the daytime crew at a cost savings for labor replaced the 4" PVC drainpipe, purchased at cost. All of the everyday maintenance is taken care of by the department members and the daytime crew. Oil and filters are changed in all the trucks and generators on a regular basis. Oil has been purchased in the bulk to reduce cost. We will be replacing more ceiling tile over the next several months where the existing tile is breaking and falling out. The air compressor has proved to be invaluable for the department with the speed at which tanks and bottles can be refilled.

FIRE SAFETY HOUSE

The Fire Safety House is still a favorite with school children during the fair and during Fire Prevention Week festivities. Children and adults are instructed on home safety with fireplaces, extension cords and kitchen safety. Learning where the handle of a pan on the stove should be located and what to do if a pan catches fire on the stove. Do not put items on or near the stove that could catch fire such as a Kleenex box, potholders, children toys or papers. Never put water on an oil or grease fire. Never try to move the pan when it is on fire. You will always run the risk of catching yourself on fire or the room. If you have a fire in the oven, turn off the power and keep the door closed. You should be safe and the fire will go out on by itself when there is no more oxygen to sustain combustion.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS TRAILER 19



Special Operations trailer is used to carry all of our Haz-Mat Decontamination and containment equipment for leaks, spills and people becoming contaminated with chemicals. We carry a decon-tent that is deployed by air in less than 10 minutes. The tent is capable of having showers with hot and cold water, dressing rooms disrobing and dressing. The unit has the capability of

containing the water from the showers for recovery. There are also shovels, brooms and squeegees, picks, axes and pry bars. Also carried on this unit is the containment socks for spills that end up in a waterway. They are stretched across a waterway to stop or absorb the chemical, oil or fuels. Brush Truck 17 takes the Spec Ops Trailer to the scene of the incident so there is an air supply for refilling SCBA bottles for the Haz-Mat team.

GENERAL COMMENTS

There will always be a challenge to protect people from the ravages of fire. The new fire code for open burning has put a stipulation that only the property owner can be issued an “open burn” permit. If a renter wants a permit they must first obtain a certified letter from the landlord acknowledging their authorizing of the permit. We still have citizens stop in the station to visit or ask questions. We want to make sure that everyone knows that they are always welcome at the station. The daytime crew is here from 8:00am to 4:00pm Monday through Friday and anytime for an appointment. We are always glad to give tours to small or large groups with educational videos and demonstrations. Available upon request is a fire extinguisher class and hands on training. Individuals are allowed to use an extinguisher to extinguishing a staged fire.

LONG TERM GOALS

Our long-term goal is to improve our ISO rating to a Class 3. We believe that this would be a very good tool to entice business to move into our community. Still in the works is a challenge to the rural ISO rating of 9. We feel that with the proper preparation we can challenge this rating and reduce it to a better classification. Another long-term goal is to get everyone trained to 120 or 240-hour certification. Improve community awareness of life safety issues relating to fire, Carbon Monoxide and dangerous chemicals. We plan on utilizing the fire-training tower much more since the road past the WWTP is now passable.

We have in the works to start an accredited fire-training academy as part of the Mt. Gilead Fire Department. With this academy we would be able to train all of our firefighters to higher levels of certification. Now that the State of Ohio is requiring 18 hours of training certified by the Fire Chief, we will also be able to comply even when the training needs to be state certified.

FUTURE POTENTIAL CHANGES 5 PLUS YEARS DOWN THE ROAD

With more members than we have ever had on the department we still do not have an increase in the number of personnel available during the daytime shift hours. I can see in the future where we will need to extend the daytime shift into the weekends and possibly to a 10-hour day shift to cover the increased number of responses.