

Marshall Fire Department 2002 Annual Report

Introduction: The following report is a synopsis of activities the Marshall Fire Department was involved in during the 2002 calendar year. This report also contains a brief description of the department's makeup, including personnel and general equipment.

Fire Run Statistics: There were a total of 479 runs in 2002, compared to 348 in 2001. During the year there were 9 dwellings/apartment buildings, 2 residential garages, 10 vehicles, 6 industrial/commercial buildings which experienced fires, for a total of 27 structures and vehicles. This was an increase from the previous year, which had a total of 21 structure and vehicle fires.

- During 2002, there was a total loss of property valued at \$302,900 which was a substantial decrease over 2001's loss of \$841,062.
- The largest single loss of the year was a fire at 1051 Lowe Drive. The loss estimates stand at \$135,000. The fire was caused by a discarded cigarette.

Fire Injuries: During 2002, no citizens received injuries that were reported to us. One part-paid firefighter did receive a back injury early in the year and is still off work.

Fire Prevention: Throughout the year, firefighters are involved in various fire prevention activities that include the following:

- Fire inspections.
- Fire safety programs for all elementary school children and various service clubs.
- Senior citizen smoke detector program, including free detectors and batteries.

- Firefighters conduct tours of the department for schoolchildren and other groups who are learning about fire prevention and firefighting.

The fire inspection program is an on-going activity that provides inspections of all industrial, commercial, and mercantile buildings along with other occupancies of public assembly on an annual basis. The firefighters make recommendations on fire prevention, and will alert building officials of deficiencies and fire code discrepancies. In late 2001 the City Council adopted NFPA 1 as our new Fire Prevention Code and NFPA 101 as the Life Safety Code. As of this time one firefighter has been trained and has received certification as an NFPA Fire Inspector I. The remaining fulltime firefighters will be attending the training in January 2003 and will be taking certification testing at a later date.

Personnel: The Fire Department consists of eight career (full time), twenty part-paid (on-call), and four auxiliary firefighters. The career personnel include three Assistant Fire Chiefs, five Lieutenants, and the Director of Public Safety. The Assistant Chiefs are shift commanders and are responsible for all activities on their shifts. The assistant chiefs also receive permanent assignments making them responsible for certain *special* duties, such as *hazardous materials specialist, equipment maintenance, records management*, etc. The average career firefighter has 15 years of firefighting experience with the Marshall Fire Department.

The part-paid division consists of three fire sergeants who are unit commanders, twenty-one firefighters, and four auxiliaries who are awaiting permanent appointments.

Training/Certification: All career firefighters are at the level II certification, which requires a minimum of 140 hours of advanced firefighting training. Three of the career lieutenants have earned Fire Officer III designations, which requires an additional 84 hours of training and satisfactorily completing the required testing.

The assistant chiefs have all obtained Fire-Officer I certifications, and one has his Fire-Officer II, while another has earned his Fire-Officer III.

Part-paid firefighters must possess a minimum of level I certification, which also requires a minimum of 140 hours of basic training. The four auxiliaries are in training to reach level I certification and will become members of the part-paid service when their training is completed and an opening occurs.

There are also a number of volunteer firefighters who possess Fire Officer I level of training certification.

In addition, several career personnel are certified fire instructors which allows them to teach their fellow firefighters, as well those from outside the department who are seeking firefighting certifications.

All department personnel are required to attend monthly training sessions, which expands their firefighting technical skills. This training may cover actual firefighting opportunities, such a practice burn at condemned dwelling, hands-on pump operation, identification and dealing with hazardous materials, extrication and rescue, and many other topics. This training is crucial in keeping the skills of the firefighters well honed to maintain their proficiency in fighting actual fires.

Department Equipment. The department's equipment consists of a 1977 American LaFrance 1,500 gpm pumper, a 1990 Pierce 1,500 gpm pumper, a 1980 Pierce 85 foot snorkel platform with a 1,500 gpm pump, a 1999 Luverne Rescue truck and a 2000 Dodge 4x4 pick-up truck that is set up for entry into the parking ramp and for grass fires off road. The department also has two sets of "Jaws of Life" extrication equipment, along with other equipment used for rescue from vehicles, confined spaces and machinery.

FIRE RUN BREAKDOWN

		2001
2002		
DWELLING FIRES.....	9	9
9		
GARAGE FIRES.....	0	0
2		
VEHICLE FIRES.....	8	8
10		
INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS.....	2	2
2		
COMMERICAL BUILDINGS.....	1	1
4		
DUMPSTER/TRASH CAN FIRES.....	2	1
2	1	
LEAF /GRASS FIRES.....	0	0
1		
ILLEGAL BURNING.....	1	1
13		
HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS.....	23	23
33		
MUTUAL AID REQUESTS		
MARSHALL TWP.....	7	7
10		
MARENGO TWP.....	3	3
7		
FREDONIA TWP.....	1	1
0		
OTHER M/A	2	2
0		
AIR BANK REQUESTS	2	2
0		
HELICOPTER STANDBY	30	30
32		

INJURY ACCIDENTS	
CITY OF MARSHALL	26
34	
MARENGO TWP.	7
7	
FREDONIA TWP.	12
13	
FALSE ALARMS	
SYSTEM MALFUNCTION	12
32	
MALICIOUS REPORT	
3	8
UNINTENTIONAL	11
17	
GOOD INTENT	
2	3
SMOKE / ODOR INVESTIGATIONS	
13	18
PUBLIC SERVICE CALLS	
8	40
RESCUE CALLS	
5	2
ASSIST POLICE DEPARTMENT	
4	5
ASSIST AMBULANCE – ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT	
.....143	166
TOTAL RESPONSES	344
479	

Fire Department Training 2002

The Marshall Firefighters training is scheduled twice monthly consisting of three hours per training session. The state and federal government requires that firefighters train on certain subjects annually. This includes:

- ✓ Blood borne pathogen awareness
- ✓ 8 hours of hazardous materials
- ✓ CPR
- ✓ Confined space
- ✓ Drivers training
- ✓ Self contained breathing apparatus
- ✓ Fit testing for self contained breathing apparatus
- ✓ Terrorism

On the second Tuesday of each month the firefighters association holds their meeting usually lasting ½ hour. After the meeting, training is conducted over the remaining 2½ hours. The third Tuesday of the month the firefighters report for training at 7:00 p.m. for three hours of training. There is a make up training for anyone who missed the third Tuesday's training on the following Sunday at 8:00 a.m. This third Tuesday and subsequent Sunday makeup training consisted of the following subjects:

- ✓ Tours of buildings in Marshall for familiarization.
- ✓ Severe weather training.
- ✓ Emergency scene safety.
- ✓ Hoseline supply and attack.
- ✓ Vehicle extrication. (Practical and classroom)

- ✓ Heavy stream appliances.
- ✓ Ice rescue.
- ✓ River rescue.
- ✓ Rappelling
- ✓ High angle rescue
- ✓ Fire attack
- ✓ Live house burn
- ✓ Ventilation
- ✓ Salvage and overhaul.
- ✓ Fire behavior
- ✓ Fire extinguishers
- ✓ Engine company operations
- ✓ Foam operations
- ✓ Sprinkler systems and fire alarms
- ✓ Forcible entry
- ✓ Ladders
- ✓ Ropes and knots
- ✓ Search and rescue
- ✓ Ladder truck operations

This is a partial list of subjects for which we can cover. The training is conducted by the training officer or a firefighter with experience in the area covered. Sometimes we have the chance to get a professional instructor for a special area.

We have received junk cars from area salvage yards and performed extrication and rescue techniques in our never-ending quest to be more efficient.

The Training Officer is Lt. Greg McComb. Greg is a state certified instructor and has been teaching at the Calhoun County Fire Academy for the last three years.