

# **Annual Report 2008**



**Urbana Fire Division**

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# Administrative

*Prepared by Chief James McIntosh*

## 2008 Executive Summary

	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
<b>EMS Runs</b>	<b>1873</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>1724</b>	<b>1695</b>	<b>1648</b>	<b>1556</b>	<b>1583</b>
City	1446	1549	1326	1266	1207	1121	1170
Rural	378	429	371	401	396	384	370
Mutual Aid	49	51	35	28	39	51	35
<b>Motor Vehicle Accidents</b>							
City	81	76	66	65	62	57	73
Rural	64	66	74	58	67	80	76
<b>Fire Runs</b>							
City	507	425	327	325	317	263	249
Rural	151	132	107	99	127	104	131
Mutual Aid	39	38	20	20	23	31	22
<b>Fire Loss</b>							
City	\$431,712	\$237,510	\$159,550	\$76,375	\$251,325	\$194,355	\$174,701
Rural	\$915,261	\$503,030	\$30,650	\$100,150	\$155,750	\$193,235	\$671,785
City Property Saved	\$8,959,658	\$2,575,890	\$11,758,005	\$7,450,595	\$1,611,825	\$34,967,847	\$2,391,649
Rural Property Saved	\$7,456,390	\$815,000	\$3,924,200	\$189,500	\$53,700,050	\$634,850	\$2,180,250
<b>Receipts</b>							
EMS Receipts	\$358,426	\$376,993	\$343,098	\$330,593	\$305,658	\$265,994	\$231,212
Other Receipts	\$156,502	\$206,283	\$142,607	\$153,755	\$231,081	\$147,377	\$128,412
Training Hours	7069	6369	4987	6733	8294	7610	8276
Vehicle Maintenance Hours	1043	201	230	320	0	218	292
Initial Inspections	125	128	105	124	76	130	71
Fire Drills	25	48	29	33	22	41	29
City Reinspections	29	84	39	39	27	29	33
Township Reinspections	30	18	27	22	26	27	31
Contractor Activities	56	59	61	35	42	63	56
Consultations	21	15	34	23	21	27	16
Lectures/Tours	32	29	31	44	35	56	58
Number of Adults	562	305	581	692	441	656	414
Number of Children	2000	1997	2200	3763	1622	4543	4107
Vacation Hours Used	4924	4217	4355	4102	3830	3893	4613
Sick Hours Used	2019	2683	2709	2152	2231	2361	2943
Comp Hours Used	1350	1877	2202	2530	2741	2472	2498
Personal Hours Used	757	647	848	913	624	1079	1055
Duty Overtime Hours	2393	2723	3192	2722	3664	4130	3619
Training Overtime Hours	632	574	406	486	1194	823	3619
Holiday Hours Earned	1945	2190	1867	3000	2043	1944	N/A

## 2008 Overview

During the year we had a total of 2570 emergency runs: 1873 squad runs and 697 fire runs. This is a decrease of 56 total runs from the previous year.

EMS runs brought in a total of \$358,426.14. This is the first time to show a decrease in money from year over year. This is due to the EMS billing computer being out of service for five weeks near the end of the year. In the middle of November we purchased a new computer and hopefully we will catch up on the receipts early in 2009.

One of the biggest problems to affect us throughout the year was injuries: both on duty and off duty. There were a total of 3952 modified duty hours accumulated and 912 additional sick leave hours used. During the majority of these hours, one or more duty shifts were working with fewer personnel. Because of the size of the organization, this caused additional work for those members on shift along with hardships caused due to shifting personnel around.

During the year, we spent a total of \$5752.11 on HazMat training along with a new system called National Incident Management Systems. All overtime and class fees were reimbursed either through the Homeland Security Committee or the Local Emergency Planning Committee.

The local Fraternal Order of the Eagles donated a total of \$3,150 to the fire division this year to buy smoke detectors for the public. During the year, we have passed out hundreds of detectors and had several hundred on hand for 2009.

With the monetary assistance from the Urbana Police and the Champaign County Sheriff, we conducted a "Street Smart" class for the county. This class gave in depth knowledge concerning drugs and drug paraphernalia currently in use. Several personnel throughout the county attended this class.

In April of this year, we had one of the most challenging fires possible in the fire service. This situation consisted of several corn bins on fire at Landmark. These can be especially dangerous due to dust explosions and possible collapse. (People have been killed in Champaign County from these types of explosions.) When finished, we had extinguished the bins with no problems.

On September 14, the city was hit with the after effects of Hurricane Ike. On this date and the following day, we responded to numerous incidents directly relating to this. The following month the federal and state declared this a national disaster. Because of this, we applied to FEMA and received approval for 75% of all expenses relating to the disaster. We will be receiving \$5898.82.

During the year, the federal government came out with two regulations that directly affect the fire division. First, the FCC has decided that all emergency radios will go to a narrow

band for broadcasting and receiving. At the present time, we will need to replace approximately \$25,000 worth of radios by 2013. Because of this we applied for a partial grant through the local Homeland Security Committee and were awarded between 11 and \$12,000 to begin replacing them. In 2009, we will be purchasing new radios. Second, for the first time ever, the Department of Transportation came out with a regulation affecting the fire service. It states that all first responders must wear safety vests when working on a public road. While we have been wearing safety vests for several years, we may meet the intent of the code but the vests used do not. We have been trying to find a cost-effective vest for months and we are still in the process of finding the right one.

During the year, the State decided to come up with a new law. All firefighter certifications must have approved continuing education hours yearly. While we do thousands of hours of continuing education every year, not all certification hours can be covered in house. We can do firefighter hours but not all Fire Safety Inspector hours or Firefighter Instructor hours. This will cause an increase in outside department training hours and a change in our present training hour tracking system

Next year, there will be a major change for the EMS system. All confirmed myocardial infarctions will be transported immediately to Springfield where a cardiac team will be waiting for the patient. To meet this goal, the paramedic must be able to use and understand a 12-lead EKG. During the year, all paramedics have attended classes taught by Paramedic Coordinator Dave Inskeep on how to use this new technique. In addition, he is looking for grants for monitors that use the 12-lead system. At present, we have only one of three that can do this.

In January, Larry Watkins retired as the billing clerk/dispatcher after 30 years. We wish him well. Nicole Dunn has replaced him on a part time basis. While she has taken over most of his duties, remaining duties have been spread throughout the division. There were no other retirements, resignations or suspensions through the year.

All goals as set forth for the year (see 2007 annual report) have been met. We will soon put together new goals in an effort to improve our responses and capabilities for our customers in the years to come.

**2008 Injuries**

DATE	TYPE INCIDENT	INJURY
Jan 18	Station	Back injury while painting
Feb 13	Station	Struck thumb with hammer
Mar 12	Station	Hurt foot while dismounting apparatus
Aug 27	Station	Pulled back muscle while checking equipment
Sept 23	EMS	Needle stick
Dec 1	EMS	Hurt shoulder after slipping on ice and falling

There was 1 lost time accident in 2008.

## 2008 Overtime

MONTH	CITY EMS	COUNTY EMS	CITY FIRE	COUNTY FIRE	EMS TRAINING	FIRE TRAINING	OTHER	TOTAL
JAN	34	18	47	10	1	27	22	<b>159</b>
FEB	32	19	34	7	41	0	28	<b>161</b>
MAR	39	27	18	0	105	33	63	<b>285</b>
APR	38	12	87	2	32	26	3	<b>200</b>
MAY	51	16	70	6	0	0	36	<b>179</b>
JUN	63	21	87	32	0	9	55	<b>267</b>
JUL	75	28	102	27	0	14	4	<b>250</b>
AUG	78	18	39	43	0	9	77	<b>264</b>
SEP	81	13	84	20	31	36	37	<b>302</b>
OCT	95	28	45	41	0	126	38	<b>373</b>
NOV	56	30	47	14	115	30	31	<b>323</b>
DEC	115	47	52	24	0	0	39	<b>277</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>3040</b>

MONTH	MINIMUM STAFFING	MUTUAL AID	STAFF MEET-INGS	LEPC	EMERGENCY MAINT	FIRE PRE-VENTION	CITY MEET-INGS	HOLIDAYS	FOOTBALL GAMES
JAN	7	2	3	0	0	0	4	4	0
FEB	6	2	2	0	0	0	0	72	0
MAR	0	0	0	29	0	1	0	184	0
APR	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	0
JUN	1	8	0	38	0	2	0	24	0
JUL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	142	0
AUG	35	17	3	3	0	0	0	24	7
SEP	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	128	20
OCT	0	0	0	2	4	0	0	24	30
NOV	11	9	0	0	3	0	0	336	4
DEC	0	10	0	0	0	0	18	424	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1565</b>	<b>61</b>

### NOTES

January: 6 hours to evaluate used medic unit in Maryland  
 February: 18 hours for tornado warning operations  
 March: 30 hours to pick up new medic unit, 2 hours to evaluate CMI software  
 April: 58 hours at Landmark bin fires  
 June: 6 hours court time  
 July: 23 hours court time  
 August: 6 hours court time, 3 hours County Fair, 3 hours for 911 software  
 September: includes 44 hours for wind storm, 2 hours for SCBA comparisons  
 October: includes 2 hours for SCBA  
 November: includes 4 hours for SCBA  
 December: includes 9 hours SCBA

HOURS FOR FOOTBALL GAMES AND LEPC ARE REIMBURSED

## Urbana Fire Division Goals 2009

- To flow test fire hydrants in fourth ward
- To flush hydrants in first ward
- To finish color identification of fire hydrants
- To test all hoses
- To test all fire truck pumps
- To get required fire category training hours
- To put together a new customer evaluation system
- To replace the lif-paks in the most cost effective manner
- To begin replacing the out dated radios
- To begin putting computers into the apparatus

### TRAINING

- To develop more in-house EMS classes
  - These classes will be developed in conjunction with the mandated classes to recertify as a paramedic.
- To continue to develop a better in-house fire training program
  - Foam training
  - Relay pump training
  - HazMat operations/technician refresher training
  - Confined space training
  - High angle rescue training
  - Pump operations training
  - Fire attack training
  - Fire attack with surrounding fire departments training
- To conduct a live-fire training exercise
- To send firefighters to FDIC to receive train-the-trainer classes
- To meet the newly required state-mandated fire training hours
- To assist personnel in preparing to become officers
- To further pre-plan industries in the territory

### ANCILLARY

- To support Box 13
  - To provide training classes for the members of the organization
  - To call them to emergencies as much as possible
- To assist all county fire organizations
  - To standardize firefighting and EMS techniques
  - To standardize an accountability system
  - To put together automatic mutual aid procedures

## A Look at the Future

During the year we must make a few changes to meet not only the new laws but also to attempt to upgrade our services and personnel safety.

Through a grant from the Local Homeland Security Committee, we will begin to come into compliance with a new FCC regulation. (By the year 2013, all radios must be on a narrow band system.) During the year, we will be able to purchase half of the radios we need. Next year, we will attempt to buy another \$12,000 in radios. In 2008, we applied for a FEMA grant to put computers in the vehicles. This was not approved. Consequently, we will apply to the Homeland Security Committee for one of these computers to see how beneficial this could be for our responses.

In 2008, the National Fire Protection Association made several major changes to the Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) standards. Because of the changes, none of our SCBA's meets the standard. We will apply for the annual FEMA grant for approximately \$80,000 to replace them. If turned down, we hope to get this in the 2010 capital improvement budget. However, several of the SCBA bottles will no longer be serviceable after this year due to age.

To meet the new state training laws, we will be making a few minor changes to our training records system. Additionally, we will be looking for the most cost-effective manner to meet the new laws. However, many of the mandated classes will have to be done off-site.

During the year, all definitive heart attacks must be taken to Community Hospital in Springfield where a team of specialists will be waiting for the patient. Our Medical Director whose license we practice under will mandate this system. In turn, there will be an increase in EMS overtime by having an additional paramedic on these runs. To prepare, all paramedics have learned to read and interpret the 12-lead EKG. However, we must purchase new lif-paks that output the EKG. Going into the year, we have one machine in the capital improvement budget. We will be searching for grants in order to get the three we need in the hope of not using the budgeted amount.

For several years we have had a very successful Explorer post at the fire division. Some of the members have chosen to make this their careers and have become a great attribute to our profession. However, in 2008, we lost a very active district representative who assisted in recruiting and retention of members. With his absence, the program has suffered. We will be evaluating the program to see if it is still viable.

Within the last five years, the City of Urbana hired an organization to do a customer evaluation of the divisions. The results revealed a 98% satisfaction rating for the fire division. In 2008, we began looking into an evaluation system for our customers served only by the emergency services. We have looked at several avenues but are still looking for a cost-effective approach for the system. Hopefully, near the beginning of the new

year, we can have something in place. But, whether we get this system in place or not, rest assured that we will continue to do our best for the customers and will strive to improve our services.

## Staff Profiles

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**Chief James McIntosh, EFO**

Appointed to Division April 15, 1974  
Promoted to Chief May 14, 1991  
B.A. Urbana University

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**Captain James Freeman**

Appointed to Division June 3, 1985  
Promoted to Captain July 20, 1991  
B.S. University of Cincinnati  
A.A.S. Sinclair Community College

**Staff Duties** NFIRS Program Manager      Network Administrator  
Maintenance Officer

**Specialties** Fire Investigator  
Certified Fire Safety Inspector

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**Captain Phillip Kellenberger**

Appointed to Division January 3, 1988  
Promoted to Captain June 5, 1995  
A.A.S. Sinclair Community College

**Staff Duties** Training Officer

**Specialties** Fire Investigator      Certified Fire Safety Inspector  
Fire Service Instructor

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**Captain David Torsell**

Appointed to Division January 17, 1977  
Promoted to Captain November 3, 1998  
Chief, Fire Prevention Bureau

**Staff Duties** Safety Officer      Public Fire Education  
ISO Compliance Officer      Code Enforcement  
Fire Marshal

**Specialties** HazMat Technician      Rope Rescue Specialist  
Fire Investigator      EMS Instructor  
PITLS Instructor      CPR Instructor  
ACLS Instructor      ITLS Instructor  
Affiliate Faculty ACEP      Fire Service Instructor

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**Captain Mark Keller**

Appointed to Division March 1, 1992  
Promoted to Captain June 13, 2007  
A.A. American Intercontinental University

**Staff Duties** NIMS Program Coordinator      Box 13 Liaison  
Champaign County  
OFCA-ERP Coordinator

**Specialties** HazMat Technician      Rope Rescue Specialist  
Fire Investigator      Fire Service Instructor  
Fire Safety Inspector

**FF/PM Dean Edwards** Appointed to Division June 18, 1984  
Senior Firefighter, B Unit

**Staff Duties** HazMat Program Coordinator

**Specialties** HazMat Technician River Rescue Specialist  
Rope Rescue Specialist Certified Fire Safety Inspector  
Fire Service Instructor SCUBA Diver

**FF/PM Brett Evilsizor** Appointed to Division November 3, 1986  
Senior Firefighter, C Unit

**Specialties** Public Fire Educator Rope Rescue Technician  
HazMat Technician River Rescue Technician  
Fire Investigator Certified Fire Safety Inspector  
EMS Instructor

**FF/PM Brian Williams** Appointed to Division September 1, 1988

**Specialties** HazMat Technician Certified Fire Safety Inspector  
NASAR Technician III Bagpiper  
Rope Rescue Specialist

**FF/PM Chris Massie** Appointed to Division January 1, 1989

**Specialties** Public Fire Educator  
Certified Fire Safety Inspector  
Juvenile Firesetter Instructor

**FF/PM John Dale** Appointed to Division June 1, 1991  
B.S. Urbana University  
A.A. Ohio State University

**Staff Duties** Training Record Validation and Entry

**Specialties** HazMat Technician Certified Fire Safety Inspector  
Rope Rescue Specialist

**FF/PM Ron Lyons** Appointed to Division June 27, 1991

**Staff Duties** Shift Inspector, B Unit

**Specialties** Certified Fire Safety Inspector Rope Rescue Specialist  
Public Fire Educator

**FF/PM Jeff Asper**

Appointed to Division March 1, 1992  
 A.A.S. Clark State Community College (EMS)  
 A.A.S. Clark State Community College (RN)

**Specialties** HazMat Technician CPR Instructor  
 Rope Rescue Specialist Certified Fire Safety Inspector  
 EMS Instructor U.S. Army Reserve

**FF/PM Jerry Kirk**

Appointed to Division March 1, 1992  
 A.A.S. Sinclair Community College

**Specialties** Certified Fire Safety Inspector

**FF/PM Barry Wolf**

Appointed to Division March 1, 1992

**Specialties** Fire Investigator Certified Fire Safety Inspector  
 EMS Logistics EMS Instructor  
 PALS BTLS PBTLS Instructor

**FF/PM Chris Jones**

Appointed to Division June 1, 1992

**Staff Duties** EMS Coordinator

**Specialties** SCBA Technician Woodworking  
 UFD Historian Hydrant Records

**FF/PM David Curnutte**

Appointed to Division August 21, 1992  
 M.S. Grand Canyon University  
 B.S. Urbana University  
 A.A.S. City Colleges of Chicago

**Staff Duties** Driver Training Coordinator

**Specialties** HazMat Technician Fire Service Instructor  
 PBTLS Instructor Certified Fire Safety Inspector  
 BTLS Instructor

**FF/PM Chris Logan**

Appointed to Division August 9, 1993

**Staff Duties** Rescue Coordinator, Confined Space Coordinator

**Specialties** HazMat Technician ACLS Instructor  
 Rope Rescue Specialist Fire Service Instructor  
 Certified Fire Safety Inspector GEMS Instructor

<b>FF/PM David Inskeep</b>	Appointed to Division September 5, 1998	
<b>Staff Duties</b>	EMS Co-Coordinator	
<b>Specialties</b>	Fire Investigator CPR Instructor Certified Fire Safety Inspector BTLS Instructor ACLS Instructor EMS Instructor	HazMat Technician PALS Instructor First Aid Instructor PBTLS Instructor GEMS Instructor ASHA Instructor
<b>FF/PM Eric Beverly</b>	Appointed to Division September 25, 1999	
<b>Specialties</b>	HazMat Technician Apparatus Mechanic Bagpiper	Fire Investigator Fire Safety Educator Key Box Coordinator
<b>FF/PM Brian Joyce</b>	Appointed to Division May 7, 2002	
<b>Staff Duties</b>	Preplans	Resource Book
<b>Specialties</b>	Rope Rescue Ops Certified Fire Safety Inspector	Hazmat Technician Assistant Fire Instructor
<b>FF/PM Jason Croker</b>	Appointed to Division July 8, 2004 A.A.B. Clark State Community College	
<b>Staff Duties</b>	C Unit Training Coordinator	Union President
<b>Specialties</b>	Certified Fire Safety Inspector Fire Service Instructor NFIRS Program Management	HazMat Technician 911 Center Coordinator
<b>FF/PM Joshua Klepinger</b>	Appointed to Division May 3, 2006 A.A.S. Sinclair Community College	
<b>Specialties</b>	Certified Fire Safety Inspector EMS Special Topics Instructor	HazMat Technician CPR Instructor
<b>FF/PM Chad Countryman</b>	Appointed to Division June 11, 2007	
<b>Staff Duties</b>	Records Retention	
<b>Specialties</b>	Certified Fire Safety Inspector Auto Extrication Technician	CPR Instructor

**Chaplain Timothy West**

Appointed to Division September 2, 2003  
D. Min. Fuller Theological Seminary  
M.A. University of San Francisco  
M. Div. Church Divinity School of the Pacific  
B.A. University of California at Santa Barbara

**Specialties** Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor – Supervising Counselor  
Licensed Independent Chemical Dependency Counselor – Supervisor  
National Certified Counselor  
Critical Incident Stress Management training  
Training in mediation, general and divorce mediation  
Member of American Counseling Association  
Ohio Federation of Fire Chaplains Training Officer

# Chaplain's Report

*Prepared by Chaplain Timothy West*

As it has evolved over the years, the Fire Division Chaplain is to be a supportive adjunct to the members and families of the Division, past as well as present, and to assist them in their work by helping those families in the communities they serve. He also coordinates and works in conjunction with other local Fire Departments as needed and requested.

### **Activities**

In 2008, the Chaplain assisted families undergoing the loss of a loved one and those going through the trauma of a fire or other calamity. This year the bulk of the calls involving the Chaplain involved issues surrounding the death of a loved one. During those times, the Chaplain counseled with family members and assisted them in the first steps of recovery following the death of their friend or relative. These interventions relieved Division personnel on site from having to do grief interventions with family members. There were over 30 times this year the Chaplain assisted on fire and/or medic calls. There were two events where because of the level of trauma involved and the needs of survivors, that required extended intervention and referral to other county agencies. One of these continues to be ongoing. A happier occasion was assisting in the preparation and marriage of a Firefighter and his wife in early July.

### **Continuing Training**

The Chaplain completed continuing education required by the State of Ohio for renewal of his mental health and substance abuse licenses, but was unable to attend fire chaplain specific training during 2008. The Federation of Fire Chaplains has begun to decentralize their efforts in order to reach more local chaplains. The Ohio Federation of Fire Chaplains (OFFC) was organized in the fall of 2008 and I have been asked to be the Training Officer. OFFC will conduct a training institute at the Ohio Fire Academy in April 2009 where basic fire chaplain training and psychological fire-aid will be taught. Our training goal at OFFC is to enlarge the competency base of chaplains serving Departments in the State. To that end, I have networked with other area chaplains and assisted in their enrollment in OFFC. We want every chaplain to be better trained so they can better serve the men and women of our departments.

# **Fire Prevention Bureau**

*Prepared by Captain David Torsell*

It's hard to believe that another year has come and gone already! The Division has continued to stay busy and as of this writing, we have responded to the exact number of runs this year that we responded to last year at this time. I related to you in my 2007 report that one of my goals for 2008 was to better organize the Bureau and try to increase the number of inspections we do per year. While there were several very productive months, overall, I did not accomplish what I wanted to. Manning issues have made it impossible for any shift inspectors to get out and assist with inspections, and I have been dealing with a number of issues that we have not addressed in previous years. The community has lost several businesses during the declining economic times and unfortunately, that has left some large facilities vacant and therefore more prone to arson, illegal activities, and building degradation. I am also concerned with the potential problems created by the home foreclosures that are spotting our community. While it has not been an issue yet, several larger cities have had major fire related problems with foreclosed properties and have created special operations to help deal with those problems.

We continue to have more responsibility put on us which taxes our already limited manpower. Again, we are not alone as the number of volunteers and career firefighters around the State, and the Nation, continue to dwindle due to changes in requirements for training, lack of funding, and lack of time to accomplish all of their goals. I am extremely proud to work with the men who give their all to keep this community safe. They may scoff at times as everyone in the work force has done, but the job always gets done and gets done right. We have people we can depend upon to help anyone in need and they prove it every day in the job they do.

I would like to thank you, the members of the Urbana Fire Division, Box 13 associates, the firefighters and officers of the Champaign County fire departments, the State Fire Marshals office, especially Deputy Marshal Steve Southard and K-9 ATF agent Alex, the Champaign County Sheriffs Dept., Detective Steve Massie, and the City of Urbana Police Division. These outstanding professionals have always been there when I needed their help and expertise without exception.

My hope for the future of the Bureau and the Division is simple. To have the manpower needed to actually function as a bureau and provide adequate staffing on every incident and scene which will provide the best service to our customers and at the same time provide a safe environment in which our members can work. Prevention is the frontline defense against fire and we need to be out in force to maintain a safe community. I will continue to do my part in keeping Urbana safe, and look forward to another year with a group of outstanding firefighters.

## **Public Education and Training**

Public Fire and Safety Education is and always will be a priority program in our division. Public education provides our customers with the information and training they need to react and respond intelligently to emergency situations. It goes without saying that a well rounded education program requires a caring and dedicated individual who works well with customers of all ages. Chris Massie continues as our bureau education specialist providing outstanding programs to schools and businesses. During Fire Prevention weeks, Chris has established a program that is requested every year by departments in Champaign as well as bordering counties. The Fire Safety House, which was also Chris' idea, has been used by school districts all around us. Fire fighters from other communities have been trained by Chris to operate the safety house which solves some of the manning issues that have come up in past years. Training firefighters from other departments to operate the safety house allows them to train the customers in their service areas which is a great public relations tool for them. The safety house makes the training very realistic with the ability to simulate smoke and severe weather conditions. We begin the educational process in the schools and carry it throughout the lives of those we serve, even though as adults, they may not realize that they are still a big part of the safety education process. There is no way that we can affix a number to how many lives are saved by prevention and safety programs across our nation.

The Urbana Fire Division is fortunate to have the support to continue our community education programs. We have firefighters volunteering to assist with the programs and even alter their work schedules to make themselves available for presentations. Firefighter Chris Massie will continue as the divisions' public education and juvenile fire-setter specialist. The programs that we make available to the schools and the public, the fire safety house, the resources for education that we have at our disposal, and the simple fact that this program continues to grow and be important to our community are all possible because of the dedicated effort of men like Chris.

The number of responses made is increasing every year and even with all of the advances we have made in training and equipment, the fire service still averages about 100 deaths per year not to mention the loss to the civilian population. One of our best tools to combat these figures is public safety education programs and training. The members of the Urbana Fire Division are proud of our commitment to educating the public in fire prevention and safety activities. Firefighter Massie is always looking for new programs to bring to the area and does an outstanding job of keeping the programs fun as well as educational for the participants.

Fire safety education has to be a dynamic process. The sole purpose of these programs is to help our customers stay informed and know what to do in the event an emergency should happen to them. Preparation is half the battle and I thank our members for the fine job they do in preparing this community.

## Firefighter Phil Activities

Creative Safety Products once again was a wonderful part of our fire safety education program. Unfortunately, due to scheduling issues, not all of our schools participated as they have in years past. The use of games, stories and animated figures brought to life through the skills of a professional ventriloquist, along with the participation of the kids, make for a very enjoyable yet educational program and the kids seem to really enjoy the presentations. I wish to thank the many merchants and businesses whose generosity has made this program a reality. The folks at Creative Safety solicit the donations based upon how many children will see the program in a given season. Only the amount needed to cover that season is collected and they try to use different sponsors each year in an effort to not over burden any single business every year. With economic times being what they are I cannot thank the merchants of Urbana enough. They support our program every year and we hope they will think it important enough to continue in the future. Thanks again!

The following, Table 1, illustrates the Firefighter Phil program activities for the year 2008.

Table 1. Fire Fighter Phil Program

East Elementary	Grade 3	180
Grace Baptist Academy	Grades K, 1, 2	9
North Elementary	Grades K, 1, 2	288
Catholic Central Elementary	Grades K, 1, 2, 3	34
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>511</b>

## Fire Prevention Week

Every year in this report I have started the Fire Prevention Week section with a reference to how fire prevention week came to be and why it is important to keep the memory of two of the worst fires in United States history alive and well. This year I want to pass along some information which will bring the reality of why fire prevention is so important to the fire service into a more up to date perspective.

In a report done by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Analysis and Research Division it was determined that, in the year 2007, fire departments in the US responded to some 1,557,500 fires. These fires resulted in approximately 3,430 civilian deaths of which approximately 2,895 deaths took place in basic residential fires. It must be understood that at the time of this year end report, 2008 is still just less than a month from over so the most recent statistics available are from 2007. A figure that unfortunately is rarely less than three numbers is the one which represents the number of firefighters killed in the line of duty. In 2007 115 brothers and sisters answered their last alarm helping their fellow man. We as a society must take seriously the problem of fire in our nation. Accidents are normally the result of a failure at some point, of someone or something to follow the rules or the safe way of doing an act and in recent years we must add the element of terrorism. Our Division is dedicated to helping to teach the rules and safe practices as related to emergencies involving fire.

Look at the statistics again. Most civilians are dying in their homes. Places they are familiar with and have an interest in keeping safe. I am committed to do whatever it takes to provide good prevention programs to our customers and increase the awareness for safe environments where people work and live. The need for education is there. People need to know how to escape the ravages of fire. They need to understand that smoke detectors alone may not be the answer. Homes need to be made safe and so do the products we bring into them. The newest big drive in the safety world is the installation of residential sprinkler systems. These could have an unbelievable impact with the number of lives that could be saved! The bottom line is that prevention activities are our front line programs to help customers survive fire emergencies. I am concerned that as years pass the numbers of people interested in these programs is dwindling while the statistics continue to rise. We also have a large number of college age and elderly that for the most part are not part of the process. This concerns me due to the numbers of deaths in both age groups over the last several years which have also prompted actions from many of the major fire industry associations. We have an obligation to our customers to educate them and help them keep their families and possessions safe and we take that responsibility seriously. I will continue to do my part to help and support as many of our members as possible to gain knowledge and training in the areas of public education, code enforcement, and arson investigation so that the professional standing and ability of this Division will never take a step back. We will also continue to support other villages and cities in and around our county in an effort to help them bring fire safety training to their customers. The fire safety house has been a great tool which we have shared numerous times with other fire departments. We have trained a select number of firefighters from other departments to use the safety house and they are overwhelmed by how it has improved their presentations. We must take our responsibility seriously for if we don't, who will?

Table 2. Activities for Fire Prevention Week 2008

Center for Creative Childcare	Sparky	Preschool	89
Johnny Appleseed Montessori	Sparky and E-2	Preschool	20
North Elementary	Fire Safety House and Tk-1	Grades K, 1, 2	291
Gingerbread House	Sparky and E-2	Preschool	58
Head Start A.M. and P.M.	Sparky, Safety House and E-2	Preschool	72
Lawnview School	Sparky and Tk-1	Preschool	190
East Elementary	Safety House and Tk-1	<i>Grades 3, 4</i>	332
YMCA	Sparky and E-2	Preschool	50
South Elementary	Sparky, Safety House and Tk-1	Grades K, 1, 2	253
Wee Wisdom Preschool	Sparky and Tk-1	Pre-school	25
Grace Baptist Academy	Sparky, Safety House, Tk-1	<i>Grades K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5</i>	24
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1404</b>

### **Additional Educational Functions**

We participate in many functions which are not part of the normally scheduled programs for Fire Prevention week. Tours of the division are given to classrooms as well as individuals or families who stop in find out about their fire department. Special requests for the smoke house and storm simulator are also fulfilled when manpower allows. We continue to receive requests for extinguisher training and members do presentations on fire safety and related topics when requested by service organizations.

## Inspection Activities

The bureau has many responsibilities in addition to inspections. The inspectors, in addition to regular duties, are required by law to do continuing education to maintain certifications in several areas. They also have to participate in daily training along with responding to emergency calls, which are increasing yearly. The bureau does all fire investigations and also answers complaint calls from citizens. We have an increasing number of foster care and adoption inspections, which are also required by the State for applicants wishing to adopt. We have been working with the Building regulations department on new construction projects as well as the structural problems we have in the downtown area. The increasing run volume, limited manpower, required training to maintain credentials, working on new construction projects, plan reviews and code research, and the fact that I still function as a firefighter, paramedic, and investigator when needed, are just a few reasons why our inspection numbers are not higher. I am working with two new inspectors to improve these numbers. We also continue to offer smoke detectors at no charge to our customers.

Table 3. Inspection Activities

Year:	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
No. of Inspections	322	221	281	304	415	397

Table 4. Fire Loss vs. Property Saved 2008

City Property Loss	\$36,600
City Property Saved	\$4,019,420
County Property Loss	\$306,000
County Property Saved	\$3,631,200

### **A Special Word of Thanks**

I would like to extend a special thanks to Mr. Larry Watkins who retired from service to this Division this year. For over 30 years Mr. Watkins was a dedicated member of our family and went above and beyond his responsibilities as a dispatcher/clerk to serve our customers and make our job easier to do. Even though we will no longer see him every day, he will remain a big part of our family and our history at the Division. I wish him the very best in his retirement and again thank him for his years outstanding service and friendship. Our City has lost a true asset. Best wishes Larry and don't be a stranger!

# Training

*Prepared by Captain Phillip Kellenberger*

## **Station Training**

Currently the division has 6 Public Safety Services (PSS) Fire Instructors on duty and 5 PSS Emergency Medical Services Instructors on duty. The PSS Fire Instructors teach on a variety of subjects that are directly related to the National Fire Protection Associations (NFPA) Standard 1001, training for professional firefighters. The PSS EMS Instructors teach from the National Curriculum.

Each shift is tasked with completing 2 hours of training per day per member. This instruction can be delivered by a certified instructor or can be completed on an individual basis by the member using various methods, including using training sites on the internet. However, with the increase of incidents over the past 12 years (over a 25% increase with the same number of employees), it is becoming more difficult to provide and meet the training requirements as outlined. And unless additional members are hired or another means is provided that ensures that the members are provided the time to receive the required training, the training will continue to shift towards individual training instead of training by a group by an Instructor and/or a decrease in the amount of training overall.

The Fire Division was hampered in 2008 from providing training using the city parking/training area on Saturdays. This was due to the City of Urbana providing the parking/training area for use by the "Farmers Market". This area had been used for a training ground along with the fire tower on many Saturdays to provide hands-on training for the members of the Division including box 13, and Firefighter training classes that the Division had hosted.

A couple of years ago the Police and Fire Division saw a reduction in the square footage of the police/Fire Training room, which reduced the number of students that could be enrolled in a class. Along with this reduction we have not seen any improvement in the room or audio/visual equipment used to provide the training, other than the replacement of the tables and chairs. The Police and Fire Divisions continue to have the problem of this room being used by other departments and groups that change the layout of the room and do not return it to the original layout. This makes additional strains on the instructors and a counterproductive work environment for training.

For physical fitness training the Firefighters had put together a training area several years ago in the Box 13 building with equipment both purchased and donated. With the addition of a Fitness room the Police and Fire Divisions came together and with the City bought additional equipment. However, since that time additional equipment and instruction has rarely been provided and equipment repairs have not always occurred. Seeing the need for fitness training by Firefighters (over 50% of Firefighter fatalities are cardiac related) this is an arena that needs to be embraced and built upon by all parties involved. Funding put into equipment and instruction may help reduce costs associated with injuries and illness of employees and provide a healthier work force for our customers.

### **Off Premises Training**

Several Firefighters attempted to receive instruction from the Ohio Fire Academy in 2008, but prior to the class beginning they received a communication from the Academy that the class would not be held. This situation has been occurring for several years and the cause is contributed to low enrollment and the financial situation the State of Ohio has been dealing with.

This decreases the amount of new information, skills, and procedures that can be brought back to the Division and passed on, increasing our effectiveness to our customers. Without new training information we risk using old knowledge that may no longer prove effective in the mitigation of the hazards we face. In order to keep up the level of service that our customers require, we are going to have to increase the available places that additional training can be received from along with additional funds to pay for that training.

### **Annual Totals**

Total training hours are listed by category below.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Administration	398
Fire	4353
EMS	990
Hazardous materials	209
Technical rescue	180
Physical Fitness	676
Response Preplanning	263
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7069</b>

# Emergency Medical Services

*Prepared by FF/PM Dave Inskip*

### **Emergency Medical Services**

The Urbana Fire Division currently has 22 active paramedics and 1 basic EMT. Our Emergency Medical Technicians are highly motivated. They are trained in the most current pre-hospital treatments and procedures. As of October 1, 2007 the Urbana Fire Division has functioned under the medical direction of Dr. Annette Nathan and continues to follow standing orders provided by the Greater Miami Valley Emergency Medical Service Council. Dr. Nathan has agreed to allow the Division to use addendums added to the standing orders protocol to allow the division to use the latest technology, procedures and equipment (Some of which UFD is the first in the state to use) to provide exceptional care to our patients.

In 2008, The Urbana Fire Division responded to 2018 EMS calls including auto accidents. This is only 77 runs less than 2007.

### **Continuing EMS Education**

The State of Ohio requires every paramedic to maintain a minimum of 92 continuing education hours every 3 years. As part of the 92 CEUs, paramedics are required 12 pediatric hours, 8 trauma hours, 4 geriatric hours and 16 hours of cardiac care or Advanced Cardiac Life Support. The beginning of every year all EMS personal are required to take a written and practical test on the Greater Miami Valley Emergency Medical Service Council protocol. Again this year Urbana Paramedics had a 100% pass rate with an average score of 94% the highest in Champaign County. Our Emergency Medical Technicians are maintaining their certifications according to State guidelines. In 2008 the Fire Division received a \$5,500.00 grant from the State of Ohio to be used for training and purchase of new medical equipment. We will be applying for the 2009/2010 Ohio grant in March. In 2008 in a joint venture with the Champaign County Sheriff's Department and The Urbana Police department and sponsored a one day class on street drug awareness. This class was open to the county for fire, EMS, Law Enforcement, Nurses, Doctors, and Schools. The class was taught by undercover Law Enforcement Officers from Franklin County. There were 92 people who attended.

### **Emergency Medical Equipment**

In February of 2008 we took delivery of a used 2001 Navistar/Horton medic unit. After having the unit completely repainted to match the rest of the fleet it was placed in service as Medic 2 and old Medic 2 became Medic 3. Old Medic 3 was given to BOX 13 to be designated a Squad 4 used and be used as a rehab unit and will no longer be used as a responding unit. The BOX 13 1985 Ford Squad 4 will be given to the cemetery. In 2008 Engine 1 was equipped with Advanced Life Support (ALS) equipment; this allows a response to a patient when an ambulance is not available and give ALS care until an am-

balance is available. In 2009 we are going to apply for a grant to purchase 3 Lifepak 15 12 lead EKG patient monitors.

**Goals and Future Direction**

Emergency Medical Services and Health Care Services are one of the fastest growing and expanding fields. New changes and improvements are discovered daily.

In 2008 paramedics have been training on interpretation of 12 lead EKGs

Our second goal is to continue our plan to replace Medic units on a five-year rotation. In 2009 we plan to spec a new Medic for delivery in 2010. In 2014 we plan to spec another Medic for delivery in 2015. If we can continue this cycle the oldest a Medic will be is 10 years old when it moves into the third line.

5 YEAR MEDIC ROTATION

<b>Medic unit</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>1991</b>	OUT				
<b>1997</b>	10	OUT			
<b>2001</b>	6	9	OUT		
<b>2007</b>	NEW	3	8	OUT	
<b>2010</b>		NEW	5	10	OUT
<b>2015</b>			NEW	5	10
<b>2020</b>				NEW	5
<b>2025</b>					NEW

The patients that we care for have a right to reliable and updated emergency vehicles. Changing protocols are starting to require patients to be transported to special care facilities. Example: In 2008 paramedics were trained on interpretation of 12 lead EKGs so a transport decision can be made whether or not to transport Chest pain to a facility that has 24 hour heart cath labs. As of January 17 2009 Community Hospital in Springfield has the capabilities of a twenty four hour cath lab.

We also need to look to the future of local care facilities. Once the construction of the new Community Mercy Health Partners Hospital is completed more patients will require transport to this facility per protocol.

In 2009 the Fire Division will continue providing superior patient care and to remain progressive. The members of the Urbana Fire Division are dedicated, and will continue to be dedicated to serving the Citizens of Urbana, Urbana Township and surrounding areas.

# Fire Data

*Prepared by Captain James Freeman*

## **NFIRS Program**

The Urbana Fire Division collects data on all fire and EMS responses. The Fire Division utilizes Firehouse Software™ Version 7.1.10 for data collection. The Fire Division participates in NFIRS (National Fire Incident Reporting System.) The Division also participates in the Ohio EMS Incident Reporting System. The Firehouse Software™ Version 7.1.10 system conforms to both the NFIRS 5.0 standard and the current Ohio EMS Data Center standard.

## **NFIRS Data Collection Process**

The U.S. Fire Administration and the National Fire Information Council (NFIC) jointly manage NFIRS. NFIC is voluntary users' group who donates their time to maintain the NFIRS system. NFIC members are representatives of state and metropolitan agencies that are responsible for fire data collection and analysis.

NFIRS is comprised of 14,000 reporting fire departments. After responding to an incident, fire department personnel complete the appropriate NFIRS reports. These reports detail the nature of the call; the action firefighters took in response to the call, and the result. The data includes the number of civilian or firefighter casualties and estimate of property loss. The reports completed by a particular fire department may be state-specific; however, they contain a core of information common to every reporting system. The uniform definitions used in coding these fields makes aggregation of national data possible.

The Urbana Fire Division submits completed NFIRS reports to the Division of State Fire Marshal. The data is transmitted electronically on a monthly basis. The Fire Marshal combines our information with data from other fire departments into a statewide database and then submits the data to the National Fire Data Center at the U.S. Fire Administration.

## **EMS Data Collection Process**

The Ohio EMS Board established an emergency medical services incident reporting system for the collection of information regarding the delivery of emergency medical services in Ohio and the frequency at which the services are provided. All emergency medical service organizations must submit to the board all information that the board determines is necessary for maintaining the incident reporting system. The Fire Division uploads EMS incident data to the Ohio EMS Data Center on a monthly basis.

## Breakdown of Fires and Other Incidents 2008

A. FIRES IN STRUCTURES BY FIXED PROPERTY USE	Number of Fires	Civilian Deaths	Civilian Injuries	Property Damage
1. Private Dwellings	19	0	0	58,050
2. Apartments	4	0	0	19,000
3. Hotels and Motels	0	0	0	0
4. All Other Residential	0	0	0	0
<b>5. TOTAL RESIDENTIAL FIRES</b>	<b>23</b>			<b>\$77,050</b>
6. Public Assembly	1	0	0	10,000
7. Schools and Colleges	0	0	0	0
8. Health Care/Penal	1	0	0	0
9. Stores and Offices	1	0	0	5,000
10. Industry/Utility	5	0	1	867,500
11. Storage in Structures	2	0	0	0
12. Other Structures	0	0	0	0
<b>13. TOTAL STRUCTURE FIRES</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$959,550</b>
<b>B. OTHER FIRES AND INCIDENTS</b>				
14a. Highway Vehicles	12	0	0	15,950
14b. Other Vehicles	1	0	0	0
15. Non-Structure/Non-Vehicle	10	0	0	100
16. Brush/Grass/Wildland	7	0	0	
17. Rubbish/Dumpsters	23	0	0	
18. All Other Fires	0	0	0	0
<b>19. TOTAL FOR FIRES</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$975,600</b>
20. Rescue/Emergency Medical	1,818			
21. False Alarms	108			
22. Mutual Aid	101			
23a. Hazmat Responses	50			
23b. Other Hazardous Responses	103			
24. All Other Responses	325			
<b>25. TOTAL FOR ALL INCIDENTS</b>	<b>2,591</b>			

Note: Property loss totals include contents loss

**Breakdown of False Alarm Responses 2008**

TYPE OF RESPONSE	Number of Incidents
Malicious, Mischievous False Call	3
System Malfunction	39
Unintentional	50
Other False Alarms	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>109</b>

**Leading Fire Causes 1996-2008**

The fire cause is the condition or situation that allows a heat source and fuel source to combine and start a fire. This table lists the reported fire causes for the past 13 years.

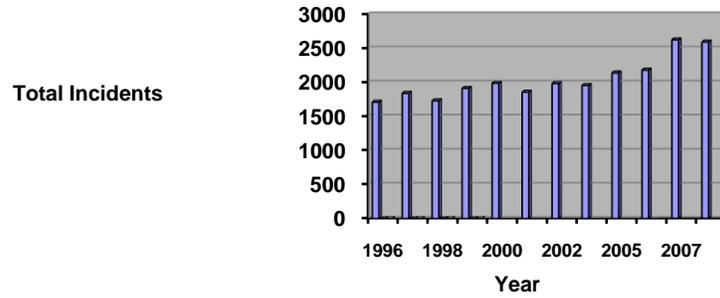
CODE	DESCRIPTION	Percent of All Fires	Total Loss	Percent of Losses
0	Cause, Other	3.80	\$145,408	2.00
1	Intentional	8.49	543,603	7.49
2	Unintentional	44.23	2,063,330	28.42
3	Failure of Equipment or Heat Source	25.29	1,212,873	16.71
4	Act of Nature	2.44	45,951	0.63
5	Active Investigation	4.68	1,970,295	27.14
U	Undetermined After Investigation	11.03	1,277,636	17.60

## Areas of Fire Origin Summary 1996-2008

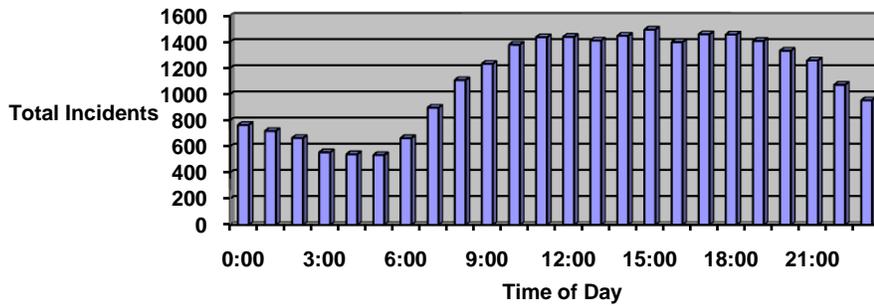
The area of origin describes the primary use of the area where a fire originated in a property. This table indicates the trends over the last 13 years. Losses totaling less than \$5000 over the period are not included.

Code	Description	Percent of responses	Dollar Loss
83	Engine area, running gear, wheel area	16.89%	239,870
94	Open area - outside; included are farmland, field	8.48%	46,033
24	Cooking area, kitchen	6.29%	664,010
21	Bedroom < 5 persons; included are jail or prison	2.37%	924,220
UU	Undetermined	2.30%	1,069,687
81	Operator/passenger area of transportation equip.	2.22%	23,712
26	Laundry area, wash house (laundry)	1.86%	88,290
76	Wall surface: exterior	1.75%	44,654
71	Substructure area or space, crawl space	1.50%	384,460
74	Attic: vacant, crawl space above top story, cupola	1.38%	341,037
75	Wall assembly, concealed wall space	1.26%	150,500
92	Highway, parking lot, street: on or near	1.28%	105,002
47	Vehicle storage area; garage, carport	1.14%	315,100
62	Heating room or area, water heater area	1.16%	243,300
14	Common room, den, family room, living room, lounge	1.11%	459,871
38	Processing/manufacturing area, workroom	1.12%	260,002
86	Exterior, exposed surface	1.13%	10,102
46	Chute/container - trash, rubbish, waste	0.98%	17,554
25	Bathroom, checkroom, lavatory, locker room	0.91%	35,085
40	Storage area, Other	0.75%	15,752
41	Storage room, area, tank, or bin	0.68%	474,600
60	Equipment or service area, Other	0.68%	24,800
82	Cargo/trunk area - all vehicles	0.69%	20,460
43	Storage: supplies or tools; dead storage	0.62%	108,500
72	Exterior balcony, unenclosed porch	0.62%	204,425
84	Fuel tank, fuel line	0.62%	29,170
13	Assembly area - less than 100 persons	0.45%	5,610
20	Function areas, other	0.45%	83,500
42	Closet	0.45%	30,310
77	Roof surface: exterior	0.46%	7,000
80	Vehicle area, Other	0.46%	6,785
85	Separate operator/control area of transportation	0.46%	22,150
35	Computer room, control room or center	0.37%	12,200
61	Machinery room or area; elevator machinery room	0.37%	604,600
63	Switchgear area, transformer vault	0.38%	36,300
70	Structural area, Other	0.38%	10,101
73	Ceiling & floor assembly, crawl space between stories	0.38%	25,000
05	Entrance way, lobby	0.29%	5,100
45	Shipping/receiving area; loading area, dock or bay	0.19%	10,400
17	Swimming pool	0.10%	50,000
23	Bar area, beverage service area, cafeteria	0.10%	20,000
58	Conveyor	0.10%	5,000
66	Cell, test	0.10%	5,000

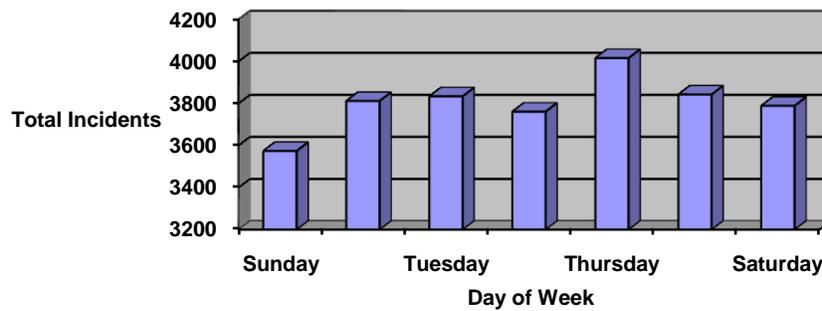
### Total Incidents 1996-2008



### Alarm Time Analysis 1996-2008



### Incident by Day of Week 1996-2008



# Maintenance

*Prepared by Captain James Freeman*

## Maintenance Summary

This maintenance summary was developed from daily apparatus maintenance data. "Man-hours of Maintenance" is the total time spent by UFD personnel on apparatus repairs and preventive maintenance.

APPARATUS	DESCRIPTION	OWNERSHIP	MANHOURS OF MAINTENANCE
B1	Brush Truck	Township	1
C1	Chief's Vehicle	City	2
C2	Prevention Vehicle	City	2
E1	Engine	City	6.5
E2	Engine	City	13.5
E4	Engine	Township	3
HM1	HazMat Truck	City	1
M1	Medic	City	5
M2	Medic	City	4
M3	Medic	City	11
S4	Squad	City	1
TA1	Tanker	Township	5
TR1	Platform Truck	City	20.5
U1	Utility Truck	City	1
<b>TOTALS</b>			<b>76.5</b>