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# EAST BRANDYWINE FIRE COMPANY



2017  
ANNUAL REPORT

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

As I conclude my final year in office as the Fire Chief for East Brandywine Fire Company, I cannot help but reflect on the success we have experienced organizationally over the last five years.

A Chief is only as good as his or her team and I have been incredibly fortunate to be surrounded by an amazing team of talented volunteers. Their passion, dedication, and professionalism are unsurpassed.

In 2017, this committed team of volunteer professionals responded to 814 emergencies and logged 2,540 hours of time on incidents saving our local taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars. On average twice a day, our first responders drop everything at a moment's notice and respond in order to provide life-saving service to someone in need. Often this selfless service results in sleepless nights, missed meals, and time away from their family.

In addition to the inconveniences experienced by our volunteers, there is also the overarching concern that firefighting is an inherently dangerous job. In 2016 the U.S. Fire Administration reported that 24,325 firefighters were injured in the line of duty while 89 heroes' paid the ultimate sacrifice. Despite these inconveniences and associated dangers, East Brandywine Fire Company has continued to thrive in an era where volunteerism has sharply declined. The volunteer base in Pennsylvania has decreased from 300,000 to 50,000 and is now considered a "crisis" by the State Fire Commissioner.



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

The success experienced by our Company had not occurred by accident, it is the result of hard work and the relentless pursuit of excellence by a committed team of volunteers. Additionally our continual success is result of focus and strategic planning. Over the last five years the Company has concentrated on 5 top priorities, which include:

- Sustainable Funding
- Retention and Recruitment
- Training
- Succession Planning
- Community Engagement

Lastly, and most importantly our success is a result of our CULTURE! It is a culture where our team's number one goal is to provide high quality emergency service to the Community. It is also a culture where each member pulls in the same direction regardless of rank, title, or tenure; and where members try to build one another up as compared to breaking another down.

In closing I would like to thank our residents and small business owners for your incredible support over the years. Additionally I would like to acknowledge our Municipalities for their partnership and commitment to the emergency services. Finally and most importantly, I would like to thank our families, who without their love and support, this life of service would not be possible.

Stay Safe,



John Edwards  
Fire Chief 2013-2017



# 2017 LEADERSHIP

**John Edwards**  
**Joe Edwards**  
**Vincent D'Amico**  
**Joe Monestere**  
**PJ Groff**

*Fire Chief*  
*Deputy Chief*  
*Assistant Chief*  
*Captain*  
*Lieutenant*

**Jim Witmer**  
**Kevin Shaffer**  
**Robert Zynn**  
**John Needles**  
**Bruce Anderson**  
**Chris Keen**

*Chief Emeritus*  
*Chief's Aide*  
*Chief Engineer*  
*Asst Chief Engineer*  
*Safety Officer*  
*Training Officer*

**Dr. Craig Herring, MD**  
**Cathy Rawlings**  
**Greg Kohlmaier**  
**David Quigley**

*Medical Director*  
*EMS Director*  
*EMS Captain*  
*EMS Lieutenant*

**Leslie Edwards**  
**John Needles**  
**Cathie Rawlings**  
**Ken Ader**  
**Joe Monestere**  
**Bill Rees**  
**Greg Kohlmaier**  
**Joe Edwards**

*President*  
*Vice President*  
*Secretary*  
*Treasurer*  
*Membership*  
*Trustee*  
*Trustee*  
*Trustee*





## 2017 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Worked collaboratively through the budgeting process with Municipal Leaders and Staff from all three Townships under the newly formed Multi-Municipal Committee format.

Apparatus Development and Design Committee finalized plans and formally place an order for a new Engine and Ladder truck. The Engine will be a Pierce Enforcer with a 2,000 gallon per minute pump and a 750 gallon water tank. The Ladder will be a Pierce Enforcer 105' heavy duty ladder. Both units are expected to be delivered in late November 2018.

Our Finance personnel worked closely with personnel from Volunteer Financial Services to secure low interest loans both from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and a Lender to finance our new apparatus

The Company made their final loan payment on Engine 49-1

A 2017 Chevy Tahoe purchased under the COSTARS cooperative purchasing program, and a \$10,000 personal donation, was placed into service as Command 49

The Company formally engaged a Certified Public Accounting Firm to complete an audit. East Brandywine Fire Company has long history of being great stewards of the Communities money and frontrunners as it relates to financial practices and reporting. While legally an organization receiving under \$700,000 is only required to provide a Financial Review, our Administration feels strongly that this increase our level of transparency and bolsters Community trust.

Additional enhancements were made to the Training Pad to continue to improve the quality of training scenarios



*2017*  
*YEAR IN REVIEW*  
*BY THE NUMBERS*

814

TOTAL INCIDENT RESPONSES



330

FIRE INCIDENTS



484

MEDICAL INCIDENTS

# CALLS FOR SERVICE

75 False Alarms

48 Fires

31 Building Fires

13 Brush / Vegetation

4 Other

100 Accidents /  
Search & Rescue

51 Good Intent

23 Hazardous  
Condition

33 Other



## TOP RESPONDERS



2,540

Hours served by  
EBFC Volunteers  
on emergency  
incidents

Greg Kohlmaier	479
Joe Edwards	320
Tristan Gledhill	290
John Edwards	266
Skip VanLew	256
Kevin Shaffer	208
Nate Mucha	202
Nick Proko	197
Joe Monestere	189
Ben Mucha	164
Robert Zynn	161
Vince D'Amico	156
Aidan Raymond	134
Bruce Anderson	133
Max Castoldi	122
Aidan Peat	122
PJ Groff	109
John Needles	106



# TRAINING





# TRAINING



2,340  
Training Hours  
Completed



# FIRE PREVENTION EDUCATION

2,823

Children Educated

1,317

Attended  
Open House





# PARTNERS IN THE COMMUNITY





# EBFC IN ACTION





# EBFC IN ACTION





# EBFC IN ACTION



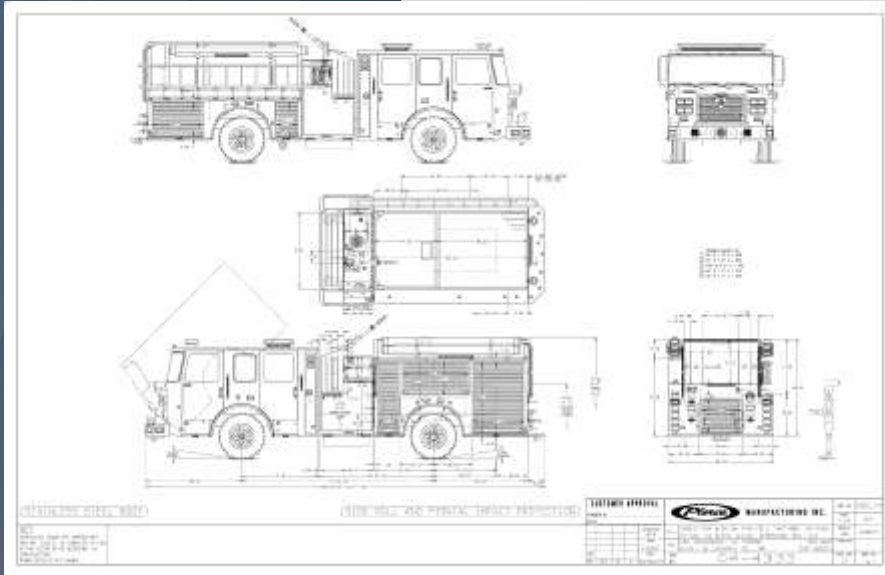


# EBFC – OUR PEOPLE

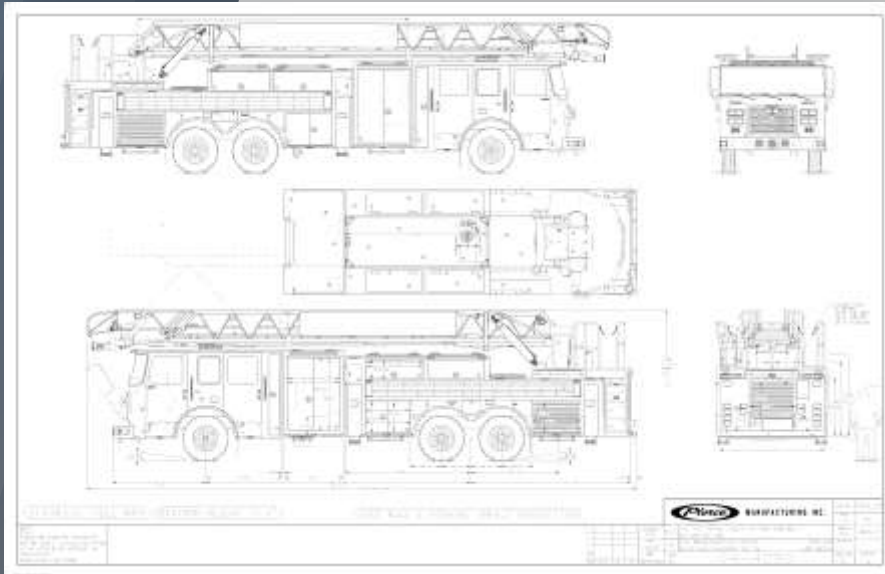




# LOOKING FORWARD – UPCOMING APPARATUS



In 2018, EBFC will be welcoming 2 new pieces of apparatus. Each unit will enhance our operational readiness and service to the community. 10 members of the Apparatus Committee worked for over 400 hours to ensure these pieces satisfy not only our community's current demands, but to address the needs of a thriving district for the next 20 years.



Engine 49: A short-wheel base "city style" structural firefighting engine, allowing EBFC to access tighter streets and driveways.

Ladder 49: A 105' ladder carrying over 350' of additional ground ladders and a full complement of tools.

# 2018 LEADERSHIP



**Vincent D'Amico**  
**Joe Edwards**  
**Joe Monestere**  
**PJ Groff**  
**Johnathan Needles**  
**Aidan Raymond**

*Fire Chief*  
*Deputy Chief*  
*Assistant Chief*  
*Captain*  
*Lieutenant*  
*Lieutenant*

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*Trustee*  
*Trustee*





# EAST BRANDYWINE FIRE COMPANY

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[www.ebfc49.org](http://www.ebfc49.org)