East Brandywine Fire Company



- 2013 -

Annual Report

Contents

1. Introduction
2. Letter from the Chief
3. Major Accomplishments
4. Fire Prevention Activities
5. Community Involvement
6. Leadership
7. Membership Overview
8. Emergency Call Statistics
9. Training
10. Fundraising
11. Apparatus
12. 2014 Leadership
13. 2014 Goals
14. Engagement
15. Conclusion



A sign of one of East Brandywine's local businesses after their personal house was struck by lightning, resulting in a house fire.

Letter from The Chief

Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I present the East Brandywine Fire Company's 2013 Annual Report. This report contains the culmination and highlights of the year's activities and accomplishments. Our annual goals and objectives continue to be the impetus for moving the company forward.

As I sit and reflect on 2013 I can't tell you how proud I am of the men and women of the East Brandywine Fire Company. Over the course of the year, they routinely sacrifice themselves in an effort to provide high quality emergency service and making our community a safe place to live, work and visit.

As Volunteers, this sacrifice takes on many forms. Often it means unexpected time away from their family, sleepless nights, and most importantly putting themselves in harms way and risking their life to save a neighbor's life or property.

This year the East Brandywine Fire Company Volunteers responded to 366 fire emergencies and 451 medical emergencies. In addition to responding to 817 emergency calls, Volunteers also trained weekly in order to be better prepared to help the community.

East Brandywine Volunteers also continued to build on their already robust fire prevention program. This year over 2,000 students in 4 elementary schools located with our primary coverage territory. Additionally the company witnessed an unprecedented turn out during the Fire Prevention Open House with over 500 families in attendance.

(continued)

Letter from The Chief

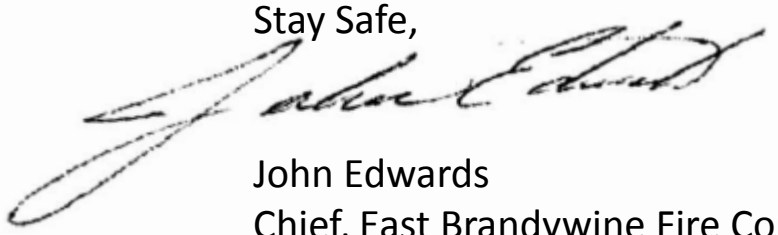
Additionally East Brandywine Volunteers continued to be ingrained in the fabric of the community and be active partners with the municipalities we serve. This year, Volunteers participated in over 20 community events ranging from township open houses to community days.

Lastly, Volunteers continued to spend a significant amount of their free time fundraising in an effort to sustain the level of service our community has become accustom to enjoy. These activities range from engine room birthday parties to chicken BBQ's.

I am extremely proud of the many accomplishments East Brandywine Fire Company has achieved during 2013 and look forward to the challenges of 2014, and it is because of these Volunteers that I am proud to lead them. For more than 57 years, East Brandywine Volunteers have bravely confronted the hazards of our growing urban environment, and continue to mitigate the challenges we face. Most importantly, we look forward to being good partners with the municipalities we serve, our neighbors, businesses, residents and visitors to our community.

Please accept my sincere thanks and appreciation for your investment in our community!

Stay Safe,



John Edwards
Chief, East Brandywine Fire Company

Major Accomplishments 2013

- Improved Relationships and Increased Awareness with Municipal Partners, Township Officials, Police and Dispatch Center.
- Increased Active Volunteer Base adding new and experienced firefighters.
- Comprehensive Apparatus Preventative Maintenance Program.
- Improved EMS Service Delivery, Billing and Training.
- Defined Roles and Responsibilities for Line Officers.
- Integrated new pagers and radios into the company, completed re-banding and renewed FCC licensure.
- ATV49 Secured. The unit's paint, lettering, trailer, lighting and siren equipment and installation were all donated.
- Replaced 18 sets of PPE – Firefighting Gear
- Increased turnout at Fire Prevention Open House.
- Educated over 2,000 children at School Fire Prevention Programs.
- Implemented an improved Accountability System.
- Social Media Enhanced – EBFC49.org and Facebook
- New Command Unit placed into service.
- Fundraising Program revamped.
- Debts refinanced to lower interest rates.

Fire Prevention Activities 2013

- Over 500 Families at our Annual Fire Prevention Open House.
- Educated over 2,000 children during Elementary and Pre-School Fire Prevention Programs.





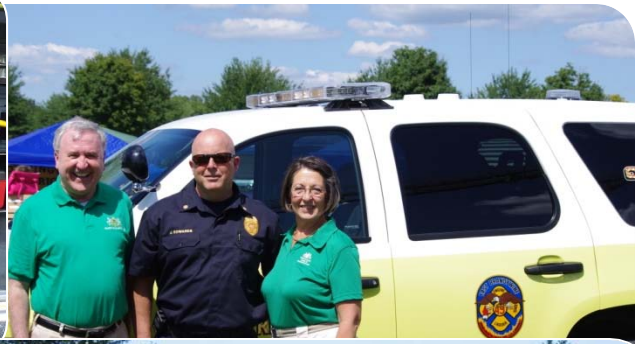




Community Involvement 2013

- Participated in over 20 community based events including East Brandywine Township Open House, Community Days, Fall Festivals, Bon Fires, Baseball Tournaments Block Parties & Neighborhood Events.










Leadership 2013

Executive Leadership

President – Leslie Edwards
Vice President – John Needles
Secretary – Patti Piersol
Treasurer – Scott Piersol
Membership Secretary – Caitlyn D'Amico
Trustee – Robert Zynn
Trustee – Bill Rees
Trustee – Corey Mortzfield

Operational Leadership

Fire Chief – John Edwards
Deputy Chief – Bill Rees
Chief Emeritus – Jim Witmer
Captain – Vince D'Amico
Lieutenant – Kevin Shaffer
Lieutenant – Adam Edwards
Lieutenant – Greg Pilotti
Chief Engineer – Robert Zynn
Safety Officer – Bruce Anderson
Fire Police Captain – Jim Mostyn

Medical Director – Dr. Craig Herring
EMS Director – Cathie Rawlings
EMS Captain – Collin Miller

Membership Overview 2013



43 Volunteer Firefighters (14 dual certified as EMT's)
4 Volunteer EMS only Members
8 Volunteer Fire-Police Members
145 Social Members

2013 Highlights
25 New Members joined in 2013
- 8 Firefighters (4 with over 10 years of experience each)
- 5 Junior Firefighters
- 1 Fire-Police Member
- 10 Social Members

10 Members achieved additional higher certifications of training

Emergency Call Statistics 2013

366 Fire Emergencies
451 EMS Emergencies
817 Total Emergency Responses

5,335 Volunteered Hours in Service

Estimated Fire Damage Limited to $91,000
Fire Related Fatalities: 0

Highlights:
15 Auto Accidents with Entrapment
10 Working House Fires
2 Cardiac Arrests with CPR Saves
1 Spinal Cord Injury w/ Full Recovery







Emergency Call Statistics 2013

2013 Year End Summary – By Nature of Call:

13 – Ambulance Assist
4 – Appliance
110 – Assist to Others
64 – Automatic Fire Alarm
14 – CO Detector Activation
1 – Debris
6 – Dwelling Fire
4 – Dwelling Fire Assist
2 – Fields/ Woods/ Brush Fire
23 – Fire Police Only
7 – Gas Leak
2 – Hazardous Materials
4 – Investigate (Smoke/Odor)
2 – Pedestrian Struck
23 – Relocate / Standby
45 – Vehicle Accident
15 – Vehicle Accident w/ Entrap.
2 – Vehicle Fire
9 – Wires / Pole / Transformer
8 – Trash Fire
1 – Lockout

Estimated Fire Damage Limited to $91,000
Fire Related Fatalities: 0



EBFC EMT's with Cardiac Arrest Survivor







Training 2013



- Weekly training held every Wednesday Evening
- Topics Covered: Fire Suppression, Vehicle Rescue, CPR & First Aid, Hazardous Material Awareness & Operations, SCBA Breathing Apparatus, Firefighter Survival, Rapid Intervention Training, Hose Line Tactics & Advancement, Ladder Utilization & Deployment, Driver Training & Certification, Ventilation, Salvage & Overhaul, Incident Management, Personnel Accountability System and Forcible Entry
- An average of 20 Volunteers routinely attend the 2 hour training sessions
- Conducted 2 “Live Structural Burn” sessions at the West Chester Training Facility
- Utilized Delaware County Community College Campus for multiple evolutions of training and forged an excellent relationship with their management
- Outside certification courses completed by our membership above this training:
  - Firefighter I – National Certification (172 Hour Course)
  - Emergency Medical Technician Certification (200 Hour Course)
  - Vehicle Rescue Technician (42 Hour Course)
  - Emergency Vehicle Operators Course (16 Hour Course)
  - Pumper Driver Operator Course (48 Hour Course)

Fundraising 2013

Direct Mail Campaign

4,838 Parties Solicited
1,190 Donated (24.6%)
$91,900.57 Received

2013 - 2014 ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

This is our annual fundraising appeal.
We depend on your financial support to operate.

Last year only 1 in 4 households contributed.
Will you help make this year different?

- East Brandywine Fire Company (EBFC) services East Brandywine Township, and parts of West Brandywine Township and Upper Uwchlan Township.
- EBFC is 100% Volunteer. None of the Firefighters or EMT's are paid.
- EBFC Volunteers respond to over **800 Fire and EMS emergencies annually**.
- EBFC prides itself on providing high quality emergency service to the Community. During 2013 EBFC has:
  - Responded to **11 auto-accidents with entrapment** where the "**Jaws of Life**" had to be utilized to rescue the occupants.
  - Responded to **9 building fires** that required advanced training to extinguish.
  - Were credited with **2 cardiac arrest saves.**
  - Doctors at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital recognized EBFC Volunteers for their immediate care provided, that prevented paralysis of a young man who was injured at East Brandywine Community Park.
- EBFC has a robust Fire Prevention Program that services 4 Elementary Schools and numerous Pre-Schools.
- EBFC Volunteers **train weekly** to enhance their skills.
- Township contributions to EBFC cover less than half of the annual budget.
- Volunteer fire companies save taxpayers millions of dollars each year. With your help and support we can continue to preserve the Volunteer System.



Learn more about the East Brandywine Fire Company on our website at: www.EBFC49.org

Activity Driven Donations

Chicken Barbeque - $5,000
Birthday Parties – $1,800
Hall Rental - $6,460
Boot Drive - $3,000



Apparatus 2013



Engine 49-1
2004 Pierce – 9 Years Old
750 Gallons of Water
Full Complement of Rescue Tools

Engine 49-5
2012 Seagrave – 1 Year Old
2,500 Gallons of Water





Ladder 49
1998 American LaFrance – 15 Years Old
500 Gallons of Water

Apparatus

2013



Command 49
2013 Chevrolet Tahoe



Utility 49
2009 Ford F-350



QRS 49
2005 Chevrolet Suburban



ATV 49
2011 Polaris Ranger



Traffic 49
2004 Chevrolet Suburban



Freddie
Fire Prevention Unit

East Brandywine Fire Company



- 2014 -

Looking Ahead

Leadership 2014

Executive Leadership

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Vice President – John Needles
Secretary – Collin Miller
Treasurer – Scott Piersol
Membership Secretary – Caitlyn D'Amico
Trustee – Robert Zynn
Trustee – Bill Rees
Trustee – Corey Mortzfield

Operational Leadership

Fire Chief – John Edwards
Deputy Chief – Bill Rees
Assistant Chief – Joseph Edwards
Chief Emeritus – Jim Witmer
Captain – Vince D'Amico
Lieutenant – Adam Edwards
Lieutenant – Greg Pilotti
Lieutenant – Joe Monestere
Chief Engineer – Robert Zynn
Safety Officer – Bruce Anderson
Fire Police Captain – TBD

Medical Director – Dr. Craig Herring
EMS Director – Cathie Rawlings
EMS Captain – Collin Miller

Chief's Aide – Kevin Shaffer
Training Officer – Chris Keen
Public Safety Officer – Craig Muller
Public Safety Officer – Dane Edwards
Assistant Chief Engineer – John Needles

Goals 2014

- Work collaboratively with Municipal Leaders to develop a funding model that supports the delivery of high quality emergency services

- Engage State Representatives to seek alternative funding and grant opportunities to support the Fire Company's mission

- Foster more grass roots Community initiatives that assist the Fire Company accomplish goals

- Identify non-emergency response roles for Volunteers from the Community who want to donate their time however in a non First Responder role

- Continue to improve upon our Community outreach and public relations initiatives by developing a newsletter, which would be mailed to all local residents

- Develop pre-plans for target hazard buildings within our Community

- Improve upon our Fire Scene personnel accountability system to enhance firefighter safety

- Move to a paperless EMS Chart patient reporting system

- Continue to build upon our relationships with our Mutual Aide partners

Engagement 2014

Stay in contact with East Brandywine Fire Company

Visit our website: www.ebfc49.org
Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ebfc49





Conclusion

Thank you again for your support.



John Edwards, Fire Chief
East Brandywine Fire Company
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Downingtown, PA 19335
Chief@ebfc49.org