2015
Annual Report
of the
East Brandywine
Fire Company
Dear Friends,

As we move into 2016 I am pleased to share with you the 2015 Annual Report, highlighting the successes we have experienced as an organization.

During this past year East Brandywine Fire Company volunteers responded to 714 Fire and EMS emergencies. During these incidents volunteers not only provided high quality emergency service but also their compassionate care touched countless lives, helping to begin the process of restoration to normalcy.

East Brandywine Fire Company volunteers also continue to train weekly to be better prepared to handle all types of emergencies. We train to create habits that will make us successful under the most difficult situations. Not only does your life depend on the quality of our training but also our volunteer’s life depends on it as well.

In addition to emergency responses and training, once again East Brandywine Fire Company volunteers have participated in over 20 Community events ranging from Township Community Days, to neighborhood block parties.

Again this year East Brandywine’s Fire Prevention Program provided education for over 2,500 kids from 4 Elementary Schools and 2 Preschools. East Brandywine’s Fire Prevention Program is one of the most robust programs in the State actively engaging participants in life-saving lessons.

Despite all the good that our volunteers do in the Community the volunteer fire service is in jeopardy. This is a result of a long history of Municipal Government underfunding or undervaluing the emergency services being provided. This problem is not unique to our local area; it is a problem being dealt with across the State and throughout the Nation.

Continued...
The New York Times reports that volunteers leave the Fire Service at an alarming rate as a result of time commitment to fundraise and the increased training requirements.

The State of Pennsylvania Township Newsletters and the Officer of the State Fire Commissioner reports that the volunteer fire service save Pennsylvanians 6 billion dollars a year. However it is also reported that the number of volunteers in the State as decreased to 50,000 people from over 300,000 over the last several years.

Unfortunately, the time has come that it is no longer possible that a volunteer fire company sustain itself on fundraisers. It not only takes up a volunteer’s precious time that could be better spent training or readying equipment for service, but also the monies raised don’t come close to what is needed to survive.

As we move into 2016 the Fire Company, local Municipalities, and the Community have got to work together collaboratively to develop a “sustainable funding” model if we are going to preserve the volunteer fire system.

With your help and support East Brandywine Fire Company’s future is very bright! On behalf of all the volunteer professionals who serve the Community, I want to thank-you for your support of our Company.

Best Regards,

John
Operations Leadership

John Edwards, Fire Chief
Joe Edwards, Deputy Chief
Vincent D’Amico, Assistant Chief
Jim Witmer, Chief Emeritus
Joe Monestere, Captain
Greg Pilotti, Lieutenant
Craig Muller, Lieutenant
PJ Groff, Lieutenant
Kevin Shaffer, Chief’s Aide
Robert Zynn, Chief Engineer
John Needles, Asst Chief Engineer
Bruce Anderson, Safety Officer
Chris Keen, Training Officer

Dr. Craig Herring, MD, Medical Director
Cathy Rawlings, EMS Director
Collin Miller, EMS Captain
Kevin Pilotti, EMS Lieutenant

Executive Leadership

Leslie Edwards, President
John Needles, Vice President
Cathie Rawlings, Secretary
Scott Piersol, Treasurer
Joe Monestere, Membership Sec.
Bill Rees, Trustee
Vince D’Amico, Trustee
Joe Edwards, Trustee
Protecting over 10,000 residents of all ages in 20 square miles of scenic Chester County Pennsylvania, East Brandywine Fire Company’s primary service area includes 3 Townships:

East Brandywine Township – 100%
West Brandywine Township – 60%
Upper Uwchlan Township – 15%
Participated in developing a TV pilot which will be presented to The Discovery Channel and other networks

Training Certifications:
- 22 Members – National Haz-Mat Operations Level
- 5 Members – National Registry EMT
- 4 Members – National Firefighter One

EMS Division achieved recertification of our Quick Response Service

EMS Division researched, developed specifications, and ordered a new QRS unit which is expected in the Spring/Summer 2016

Enhanced communications with compressive radio training and 17 new portable radios to operate on the new P25 Chester County Radio System

Implemented a new Fire & EMS reporting system to improve data collection
Chart Title

Total Dispatches

- Fire
- QRS


Bar chart showing the total dispatches over the years with categories for Fire and QRS.
Dispatched by Type

82 - Vehicle Accidents
70 - Assists to Others
69 - Automatic Fire Alarms
32 - Structure Fires
  13 - Fields / Brush / Woods
  5 - Dwelling Fires
  4 - Vehicle Fires
  4 - Chimney Fires
  3 - Commercial Building
  1 - Outbuilding Fire
  1 - Electrical Fire
  1 - Appliance Fire
28 - Other
26 - Ambulance Assists
16 - Wires / Poles / Transformers
14 - Relocate / Standby
12 - Smoke Investigations
12 - CO Detector Activations
11 - Gas Leaks
  1 - Nursing Facility Incident
  1 - Debris Clean Up

374 Fire Emergencies
340 EMS Emergencies
714 Total Emergency Responses
Over
5,300 Volunteer Hours of Service
55  Volunteer Firefighters (18 dual certified as EMT’s)
6   Volunteer EMS only Members
150 Social Members

2015 Highlights
17 New Members

13   Firefighters
2    EMS Members
2    Social Members
### Top Responders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Calls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Shaffer:</td>
<td>257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Proko:</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Edwards:</td>
<td>231</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tristan Gledhill:</td>
<td>218</td>
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<tr>
<td>Skip Vanlew:</td>
<td>214</td>
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<td>Joe Edwards:</td>
<td>213</td>
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<td>Kevin Pilotti:</td>
<td>208</td>
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<td>Bobby Zynn:</td>
<td>191</td>
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<td>Aidan Raymond:</td>
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<td>John Needles:</td>
<td>165</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deb Feairheller:</td>
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<td>PJ Groff:</td>
<td>148</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ben Mucha:</td>
<td>146</td>
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<td>Greg Kohlmaier:</td>
<td>143</td>
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<tr>
<td>Greg Pilotti:</td>
<td>132</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bruce Anderson:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tyler Smith:</td>
<td>125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joe Monestere:</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vince D’Amico:</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
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Nineteen Volunteers Responded to over 100 Fire Calls
Topics Covered:
- Conducted 2 “Live Structural Burn” sessions at the WC Training Center

An average of 26 Volunteers routinely attend the 2 hour weekly training sessions.
Training
Training

Additions to training area with converted containers continue to enhance in-house training capabilities.
Fire Prevention Activities

- Over 500 families at our Annual Fire Prevention Open House
- Educated over 2,500 children during Elementary and Pre-School Fire Prevention Programs
- Participated in 20 Community Events including Township Open Houses, Community Days and Block Parties
On Labor Day 2015, EBFC Firefighters were notified of a house fire on Hopewell Road. The following are excerpts from the presentation by Nancy and Bruce Doane, the residents of the home of which EBFC responded to save that day.

I pulled a firefighter aside and said there is one thing that is most valuable to me in that home...they went back in and within a few minutes had returned with my family pictures...

The service that you provide to the community... doing all you can to preserve what is important to others... is a selfless act. Thank you!
**Member’s Work Receives Nationally Recognition**

- Firefighter Deb Feairheller’s 1st Study was published on Blood Pressure in November’s edition.

- FF Feairheller is a PhD and Assistant Professor in Health and Exercise Physiology at Ursinus College.

- Cardiovascular death continues to be the leading cause of death among FF’s (2015 – of 71 deaths, 46 were stress and overexertion per NIOSH).

- 17 East Brandywine FF’s are currently enrolled in FF Feairheller’s newest study.
Operations Leadership

John Edwards  Fire Chief
Joe Edwards  Deputy Chief
Vincent D’Amico  Assistant Chief
Jim Witmer  Chief Emeritus
Joe Monestere  Captain
Greg Pilotti  Lieutenant
PJ Groff  Lieutenant
Tyler Smith  Lieutenant

Kevin Shaffer  Chief’s Aide
Robert Zynn  Chief Engineer
John Needles  Asst Chief Engineer
Bruce Anderson  Safety Officer
Chris Keen  Training Officer

Dr. Craig Herring, MD  Medical Director
Cathy Rawlings  EMS Director
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Cathie Rawlings  Secretary
Scott Piersol  Treasurer
Joe Monestere  Membership Sec.
Bill Rees  Trustee
Vince D’Amico  Trustee
Joe Edwards  Trustee
Thank you for your continuous support.

John Edwards, Fire Chief
East Brandywine Fire Company
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