

2010

# *Annual Report*

OAK HARBOR FIRE DEPARTMENT



*Duty. Honor. Trust. Integrity.*

# Oak Harbor Fire Department Directory



Headquarters .....	(360) 279-4700
Administrative Staff	
Fire Chief Mark Soptich.....	279-4701
Battalion Chief Ray Merrill .....	279-4702
Administrative Assistant Romy Velasquez.....	279-4703
Office Assistant Angela Braunstein .....	279-4704
Maintenance Division	
Lieutenant Mike Engle.....	279-4705
Training Division	
Lieutenant Craig Anderson .....	279-4706
Suppression Division	
Lieutenant Corky Bridgeford, A Shift.....	279-4707
Lieutenant Mike Buxton, B Shift .....	279-4707

*Cover Photo: Members of OHFD working with other island EMS agencies during an SADD DUI presentation at Oak Harbor High School. In the photo: Lieutenant Mike Buxton (on left) and Whidbey General Hospital EMT R. May (front). Photo by A. Braunstein, May 2010.*

# Organizational Overview

Oak Harbor Fire Department (OHFD) provides emergency services to the City of Oak Harbor, an area of 9.506 square miles, with a population of 23,420 (significantly higher during business hours). OHFD operates on an annual budget of approximately \$1.9 million, and protects the \$1.9 billion in property value.

The Department operates from one fire station staffed by 48 employees (12 full-time and 36 paid-on-call) and responds to roughly 1,300 incidents each year ranging from house fires and heart attacks to vehicle accidents and hazardous conditions. OHFD proudly carries an Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating of 4 which enables residents and businesses to enjoy low property insurance premiums.

All Oak Harbor firefighters and fire officers are certified to at least IFSAC Firefighter I. OHFD operates a fire training center adjacent to Fire Station #81, from which the Island County Fire Recruit Academy operates. OHFD firefighters are well trained and dedicated to provide the best possible emergency services to the Oak Harbor community.

## Inside Report

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**PUBLISHED  
MARCH 2011**

### 2010 Points of Interest :

- 1,253 Incident Responses (6.42% less than 2009)
- Average Response time: 4 minutes, 41 seconds.
- 1,018 Annual Fire & Life Safety Inspections (98%)
- Fire Loss Up 6.58% over 2009
- Annual Testing on 24 Apparatus<sup>\*</sup>, over 9,000 feet of fire hose, 386 feet of ladders, and 45 sets of PPEs and SCBA masks

*\* includes all engines, trucks, vehicles, generators and trailers*



**MAYOR**

Jim Slowik

**MAYOR PRO TEM**

Danny Paggao

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Rick Almberg

James M. Campbell

Scott Dudley

Beth Munns

Jim Palmer

Robert (Bob) Severns

**City of Oak Harbor Vision Statement**

Oak Harbor... Whidbey Island's Premier Waterfront Community

**City Mission Statement**

The staff of the City of Oak Harbor is committed to delivering the highest possible level of service to its citizens, improving economic opportunity, quality of life and fostering community partnerships

**City Goals**

Goal 1: Promote a healthy and growing business community

Goal 2: Improve the appearance and livability of the community

Goal 3: Encourage a safe community

Goal 4: Build and enhance community partnerships

Goal 5: Deliver superior quality service to our customers

Goal 6: Protect and enhance capital investment in the City

Goal 7: Promote a healthy work environment and employee excellence

Goal 8: Annual review of the City's overall performance

The **VISION** of *your* Oak Harbor Fire Department is:

to continue to be recognized as consistently providing quality services in an efficient manner to our growing community.

Our **MISSION STATEMENT** is:

to provide professional and cost effective services by maintaining highly trained and highly motivated career and paid-on-call staff, combined with sufficient apparatus, equipment and facilities.

Our **OBJECTIVES**:

- To respond to fire, rescue, medical and hazardous incidents on land or water;
- To conduct fire and life safety inspections of existing businesses, multi-family dwellings, and public assembly facilities;
- To review plans and conduct on-site inspections of new developments and buildings to ensure fire and life safety code compliance;
- To provide public education in the areas of fire prevention, CPR, first aid, life safety, accident prevention, and disaster planning preparedness;
- To provide disaster equipment such as generators, lighting, mobile command units, and multiple casualty units during natural and manmade disasters;
- To provide training and technical support to fire and city personnel;
- To provide classroom facilities and assist with the instruction of the Juvenile Fire-Setter Intervention Program;
- To provide career opportunities with a Firefighter Pilot Program for high school students;
- To provide training facilities and assist at the Island County Recruit Academy;
- To conduct investigations of all fires to determine their cause and origin;
- To maintain the mutual aid agreement with all emergency service providers on Whidbey Island;
- To maintain and operate an Emergency Operations Center for the city;
- To conduct and participate in county-wide training at the department's training facility;
- To provide a back-up facility for I-COM E911, Island County Emergency Dispatch Center; and
- To provide meeting facilities for non-profit organizations.



*“Many thanks for taking  
the time and trouble in  
responding to my request,  
it’s very kind of you and  
much appreciated.”*

*– K. Stonemour,  
June 2010*

# *Duty*

The **Administration Division** is primarily responsible for the management of department operations, budgeting, personnel relations, and community relations.

# Oak Harbor Fire Department Service Area

## 2010 Statistics

### General

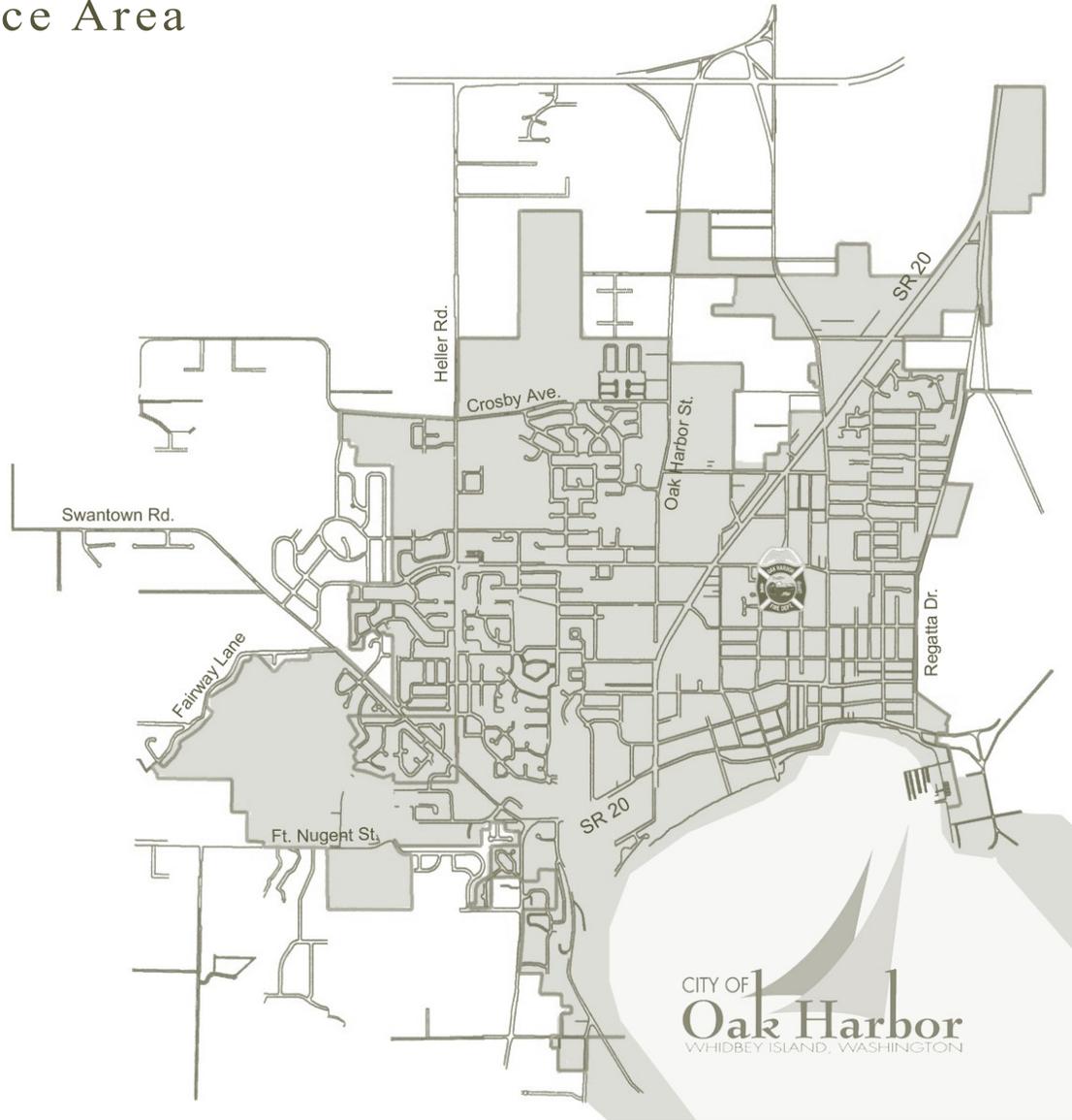
Area Served in Square Miles.....	9.506
Miles of city streets .....	68.74
Population (as of 4/2010).....	23,420
Assessed Valuation .....	\$1,897,999,833

### Personnel

UNIFORMED FULL TIME .....	10
Number of Shifts .....	2
Full Time FFs per Day Shift.....	3
Full Time FFs per Night Shift .....	0
Average Hours Per Week .....	43
UNIFORMED PAID-ON-CALL .....	36
Number of Shifts .....	2
POC Firefighters per Day Shift .....	1
POC Firefighters per Night Shift.....	4
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT .....	2

### Emergency Incident Responses

Fire Insurance Rating .....	4
Incident Responses (all) .....	1,253
Fire—(6%) .....	77
Medical—(50%).....	616
Fire Loss .....	\$367,960
Injuries .....	0
Fire Service, Full Time.....	0
Fire Service, POC.....	0
Casualties, Civilian.....	0



## Message from the Chief...

*It is a pleasure to present the Oak Harbor Fire Department 2010 Annual Report. The commitment and determination of our personnel are reflected throughout these pages. Each individual brought knowledge and strength to our team by participating in activities and events and by contributing to the numerous accomplishments of 2010. Our personnel will continue to be our most valuable asset.*

*Each division in the department solved problems and planned for the future. We depend on one another in so many ways. Whether it is teaching fire prevention to children, conducting fire and life safety inspections, responding to medical emergencies, vehicle accidents, structure fires or hazardous material incidents; the team got it done without fanfare.*

*I am grateful to report there were no civilian fire fatalities or significant firefighter injuries in 2010. We will continue to focus on firefighter safety, financial accountability to our taxpayers and community awareness through education.*

### **2010 Accomplishments:**

- Efforts began to implement the Fire Department Re-Organization as approved by City Council in December 2009.
- City Emergency Operations Center was relocated and improvements made.
- Awarded State Homeland Security Grant for \$27,270\*.
- Recipient WA State Pre Hospital Participation Grant \$2,186 for training and supplies.
- Rural Access to Emergency Devices Grant Program (RAED), Whidbey General Hospital Automated External Defibrillators (AED) with the grant funds. Ten (10) were issued to the City of Oak Harbor, as follows: 4-Fire, 4-Police, and 2-Senior Center.
- Adopted 2009 International Fire Code as adopted by Washington State and as approved by City Council in December 2010.

\* Expended in 2011



**Mark Soptich**

Fire Chief  
Dir. of Emergency Services  
23 years of service  
Member Since 1987

*Continued on page 58...*

**Oak Harbor Fire Department** is a combination department, meaning that some personnel are full-time / career firefighters and some are Paid-On-Call (POC) firefighters. Career and POC firefighters work together to provide continuous coverage to the City of Oak Harbor 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Command 8:** 24 hours a day

**A/B Shift:** Twelve-hour shifts Tuesday through Sunday, 0700-1900 hours (14 hour shifts on Mondays—0700-2100). Shifts work a rotating schedule: four consecutive days on shift and four consecutive days off. One full time lieutenant, two full time firefighters, and one POC firefighter are on duty per shift.

## Department Structure

The Oak Harbor City Council approved a reorganization of Oak Harbor Fire Department late in 2009. In 2010 Oak Harbor Fire Department is comprised of five divisions—the **Administration Division**, the **Suppression Division**, the **Prevention Division**, the **Training Division**, and the **Maintenance Division**.

The **Administration Division** is primarily responsible for the management of department operations, budgeting, personnel relations, and community relations. There are 3 full time positions in the division and one volunteer position.

- Fire Chief
- Administrative Assistant
- Office Assistant
- Volunteer Chaplain

The **Suppression Division** is our largest division and consists of six full-time positions and 42 Paid-On-Call firefighters. Suppression is primarily responsible for the mitigation of emergency incidents. Other functions include fire and life safety inspections and assist with public education activities.

- 2 Shift Lieutenants
- 4 Firefighters
- 42 Paid On Call Firefighters

The **Fire Prevention Division** is the code enforcement arm of the department. Primary duties include the management of fire and life safety inspections, new construction and development plan review and inspections. The coordination of Public Education is also included in the responsibilities of the prevention division. There are 2 personnel in the Fire Prevention Division: one full-time Battalion Chief and one less-than-half time Pre-Fire Plans position.

- Battalion Chief
- Pre-Fire Plans Program (< part-time)

The **Training Division** is tasked with managing the training of department personnel. These duties include the scheduling of all training to meet federal, state, and local requirements. There is 1 full-time lieutenant position in this division.

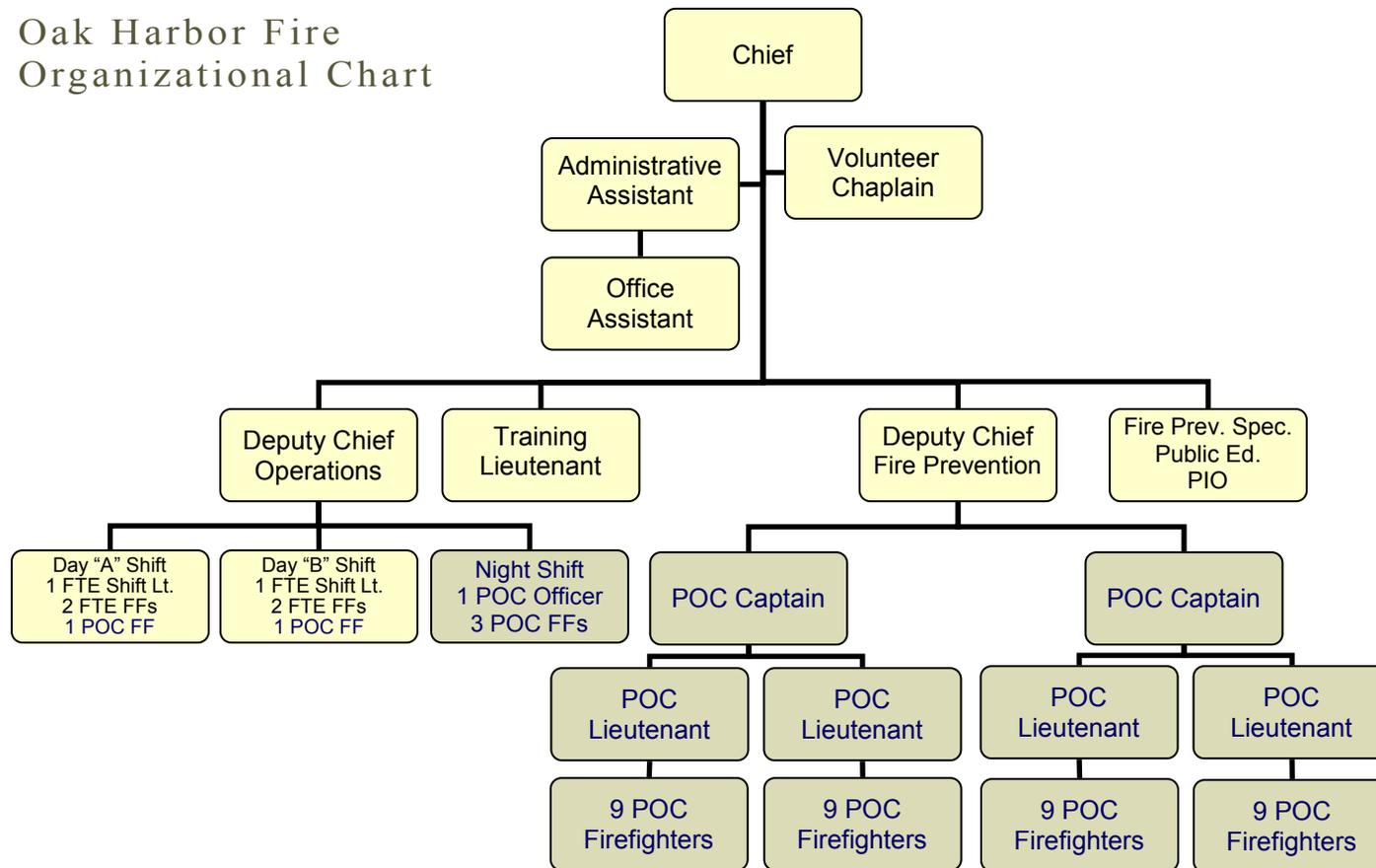
The **Maintenance Division** is tasked with managing inventories and the care and maintenance of the station and training buildings, apparatus and equipment, and works closely with Public Works maintenance personnel to assure the readiness of all apparatus and equipment. There is 1 full-time lieutenant position in this division.

### Breakdown by Employee Classification

Fire Department	2010
Fire Chief	0.90
Battalion Chief	1.00
Administrative Assistant	1.00
Office Assistant	1.00
Career Lieuts.—A/B Shifts	2.00
Career Lieut.—Training Div.	1.00
Career Lieut.—Maintenance Div.	1.00
Career Firefighters	4.00
Paid-On-Call Firefighters	42.00
Pre-Fire Plans Program ( < part time )	0.33
Chaplain (volunteer)	1.00
Pub Ed*	1.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>56.23</b>
<b>Department of Emergency Services</b>	<b>2010</b>
Director of Emergency Services	0.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.10</b>

\* unfunded

# Oak Harbor Fire Organizational Chart



City Council approved a reorganization of Oak Harbor Fire Department late in 2009. The organizational chart on this page represents the organization in 2011.

The reorganization reassigns the current full-time Battalion Chief position to Deputy Chief—Fire Prevention, and creates a full-time Deputy Chief—Operations position, four paid-on-call lieutenants, and one volunteer chaplain.

This chart reflects the 2011 organization of the department, after the reorganization. Total personnel will be: 11 Career, 42 Paid-On-Call (POC), 1 Volunteer, and 2 Administrative Support.

\* part-time position.

**Paid-On-Call Firefighters (POCFFs)** are equipped with pagers and respond from home or work when additional manpower is required. POCFFs work 10 or 12 hour D shifts (not to exceed 53 hours per week).

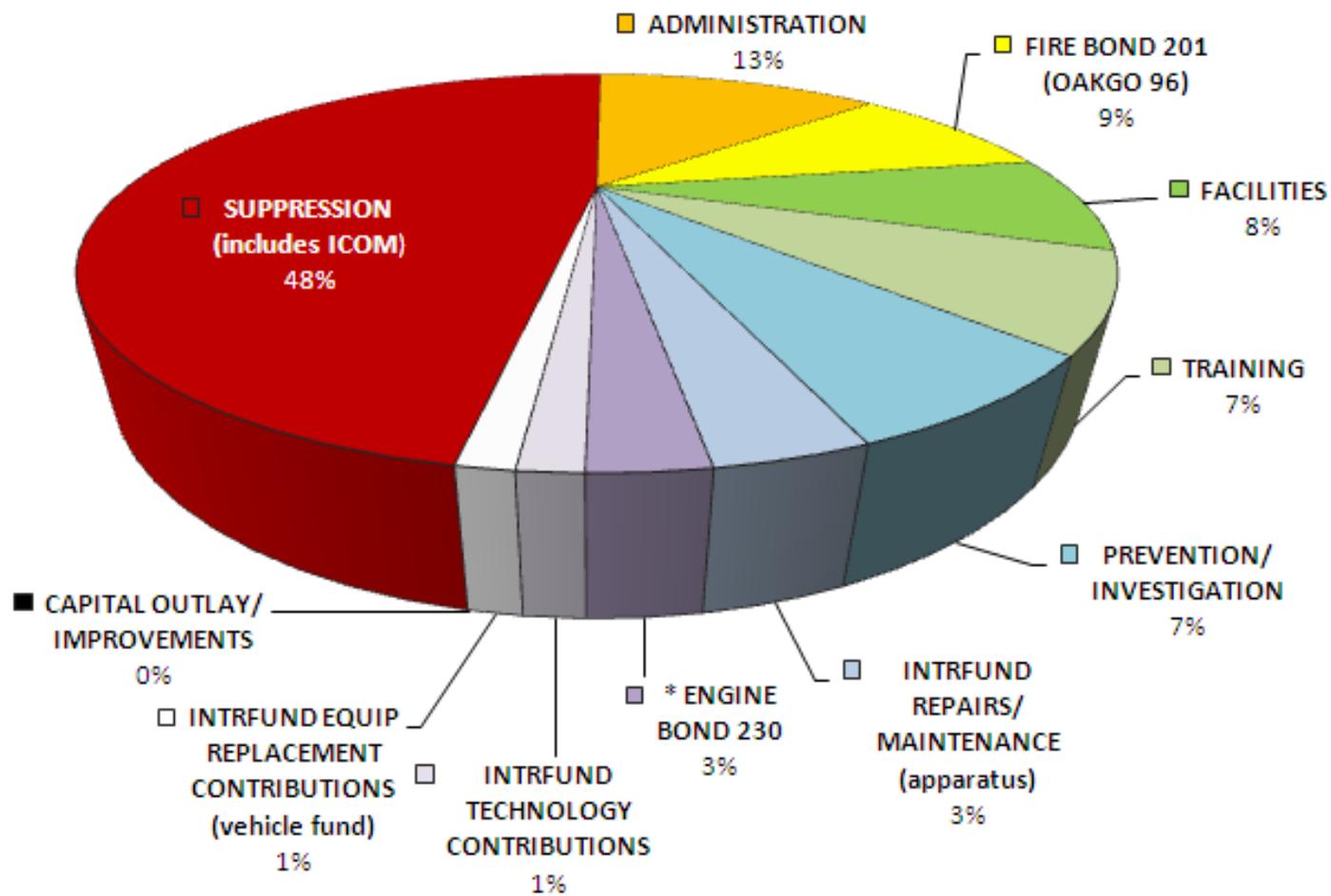
**POC D Shift DAY:**  
Twelve-hour shifts, 7 days a week, 0700-1900 hours. One POC firefighter on DAY shift completes a four-member crew for A/ B Shift.

**POC D-Shift NIGHT:**  
Twelve-hour shifts, 6 nights per week, 1900-0700 hours (2100-0700, 10 hours on Mondays). Four POC firefighters on NIGHT shift perform various duties and respond to emergency incidents. Personnel occupy sleeping quarters at station 81 while on shift.

## 2010 EXPENDITURES

SUPPRESSION (includes ICOM)	983,620.02	47.393%
ADMINISTRATION	276,836.07	13.339%
FIRE BOND 201 (OAKGO 96)	184,179.00	8.874%
FACILITIES	167,181.68	8.055%
TRAINING	152,709.14	7.358%
PREVENTION/INVESTIGATION	138,106.53	6.654%
INTRFUND REPAIRS/MAINT (apparatus)	68,120.91	3.282%
* ENGINE BOND 230	51,710.78	2.492%
INTRFUND TECHNOLOGY CONTRIBUTIONS	27,996.00	1.349%
INTRFUND EQUIP REPLACEMENT CONTRIBUTIONS (vehicle fund)	24,996.00	1.204%
CAPITAL OUTLAY/IMPROVEMENTS	0.00	0.000%
<b>TOTAL SPENT</b>	<b>\$2,075,456.13</b>	<b>100.000%</b>

\* Final Payment 2012





**Romy Velasquez**  
 Administrative Assistant  
 20 years of service  
 FT Member Since 1990



**Angela Braunstein**  
 Office Assistant  
 5 years of service  
 Member Since 2005

## Revenue

Line	Type	Bars Account Code	2010		2009	
			Subtotals	Totals	Subtotals	Totals
1	<b>Donations &amp; Contributions</b>	001.00.367.011.2000		\$0.00		\$2,000.00
2	<b>Fire Control Services</b>	001.00.338.22.0000		\$0.00		\$46,287.70
	Prehospital Medical Alarms		\$0.00		\$46,204.00	
	Restitution		\$0.00		\$83.70	
3	<b>Fire Facility Rental: Station 81</b>			\$5,993.00		\$5,984.00
	Island County Recruit Training	001.00.362.040.0000	\$665.00		\$800.00	
	ICOM Back-Up Dispatch Center	001.00.362.050.0000	\$5,328.00		\$5,184.00	
4	<b>Fire Labor, and Vehicle Reimbursement - Taxable</b>	001.00.362.011.0000		\$1,404.02		\$0.00
5	<b>Fire Protection Services: Permit Fees</b>	001.00.338.022.1000		\$4,109.00		\$3,620.00
6	<b>Fire Recruit Training</b>	001.00.338.022.1000		\$1,299.00		\$2,550.00
7	<b>Incident Report Fees</b>	001.00.342.090.0000		\$120.00		\$25.00
8	<b>Other Miscellaneous Revenue</b>			\$288.72		\$992.28
	Taxable	001.00.369.091.1000	\$140.57		\$223.28	
	Non-Taxable	001.00.369.090.0000	\$13.00		\$283.00	
	Xerox/Fax - Taxable	001.00.341.069.1000	\$135.15		\$486.00	
9	<b>Sale of Surplus Item</b>			\$12,500.00		\$0.00
	1988 E-One Custom Pumper Engine	502.00.395.040.0000		\$12,500.00		\$0.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>				<b>\$25,713.74</b>		<b>\$61,458.98</b>

## Grants

Line	Type	Bars Account Code	2010		2009	
				Totals		Totals
1	<b>State Homeland Security Grant</b>	001.00.333.097.6700		\$21,899.86		\$7,768.36
2	<b>WA Dept of Health Prehospital Participat.</b>	001.00.334.004.9000		\$2,186.00		\$1,726.00
<b>Total Grants</b>				<b>\$24,085.86</b>		<b>\$9,494.36</b>

	Budget	Spent	Balance	% Used
<b>2010 FIRE CONTROL</b>	1,885,827	1,839,566.35	46,260.65	97.55
<b>Engine Bond 230 *</b>	51,711	51,710.78	0.22	100.00
<b>Fire Bond 201 (OAKGO96)</b>	184,179	184,179.00	0.00	100.00
	<b>2,121,717</b>	<b>2,075,456.13</b>	<b>46,260.87</b>	<b>97.82</b>

Final Payment 2012 \*

	Budget	Spent	Balance	% Used
<b>2009 FIRE CONTROL</b>	1,857,553	1,782,668.65	74,884.35	95.97
<b>Engine Bond 230 *</b>	51,711	51,710.78	0.22	100.00
<b>Fire Bond 201 (OAKGO96)</b>	178,930	178,930.00	0.00	100.00
	<b>2,088,194</b>	<b>2,013,309.43</b>	<b>74,884.57</b>	<b>96.41</b>

Final Payment 2012 \*

	Budget	Spent	Balance	% Used
<b>2010 EMERG SERV</b>	12,450.00	15,292.15 *	-2,842.15	122.83
	<b>12,450.00</b>	<b>15,292.15</b>	<b>-2,842.15</b>	<b>122.83</b>

\* \$9,880.83 Includes State Homeland Security Grant expenditures

	Budget	Spent	Balance	% Used
<b>2009 EMERG SERV</b>	12,270.00	16,163.03 *	-3,893.03	131.73
	<b>12,270.00</b>	<b>16,163.03</b>	<b>-3,893.03</b>	<b>131.73</b>

\* \$12,372.68 Includes State Homeland Security Grant expenditures

Engine Bond 230: Funding includes an estimated \$192,000 Local Loan from the State Treasurer's Office.

*We are writing to thank  
you and your team for the  
expedient, professional  
and compassionate  
assistance during my  
husband's recent fall this  
past week. More than  
words could ever express,  
we thank you.*

*- P. McCutcheon,  
May 2010*

# *Honor*

The **Suppression Division** is primarily responsible for the mitigation of emergency incidents. Other functions include fire and life safety inspections and assist with public education activities.



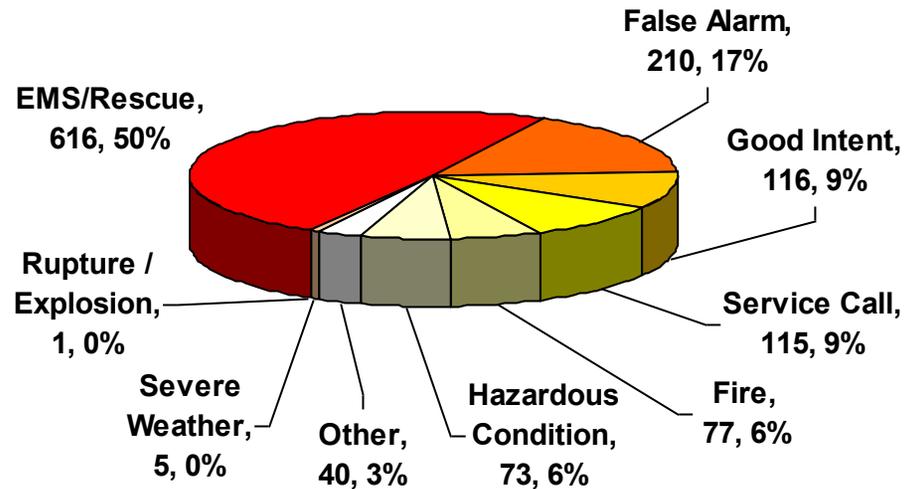
**Corky Bridgeford**  
 Lieutenant  
 A Shift  
 14 years of service  
 FT Member Since 1996



**Mike Buxton**  
 Lieutenant  
 B Shift  
 18 years of service  
 Member Since 1992

## 2010 Emergency Incident Response—1,253 calls

*This graph represents the various incident types responded to in 2010. Each type category is broken down in greater detail in the list below.*



<b>Fire</b>	<b>77</b>
Residential Structure .....	17
Building (non residential).....	10
Cooking Fire .....	17
Chimney Fire .....	6
Grass/Brush Fire .....	7
Vehicle.....	6
Other.....	14

**Rupture/Explosion 1**

<b>EMS/Rescue</b>	<b>616</b>
Assist EMS Crew.....	466
Motor Vehicle Accident .....	111
EMS Call (not MVA) .....	32
Other.....	7

<b>Hazardous Condition</b>	<b>73</b>
Gasoline or Oil spill .....	21
Natural Gas Leak .....	7
Electrical Problem .....	30
Other.....	15

<b>Service Call</b>	<b>115</b>
Water Problem/leak.....	19
Public Service.....	45
Unauthorized Burning.....	8
Other.....	43

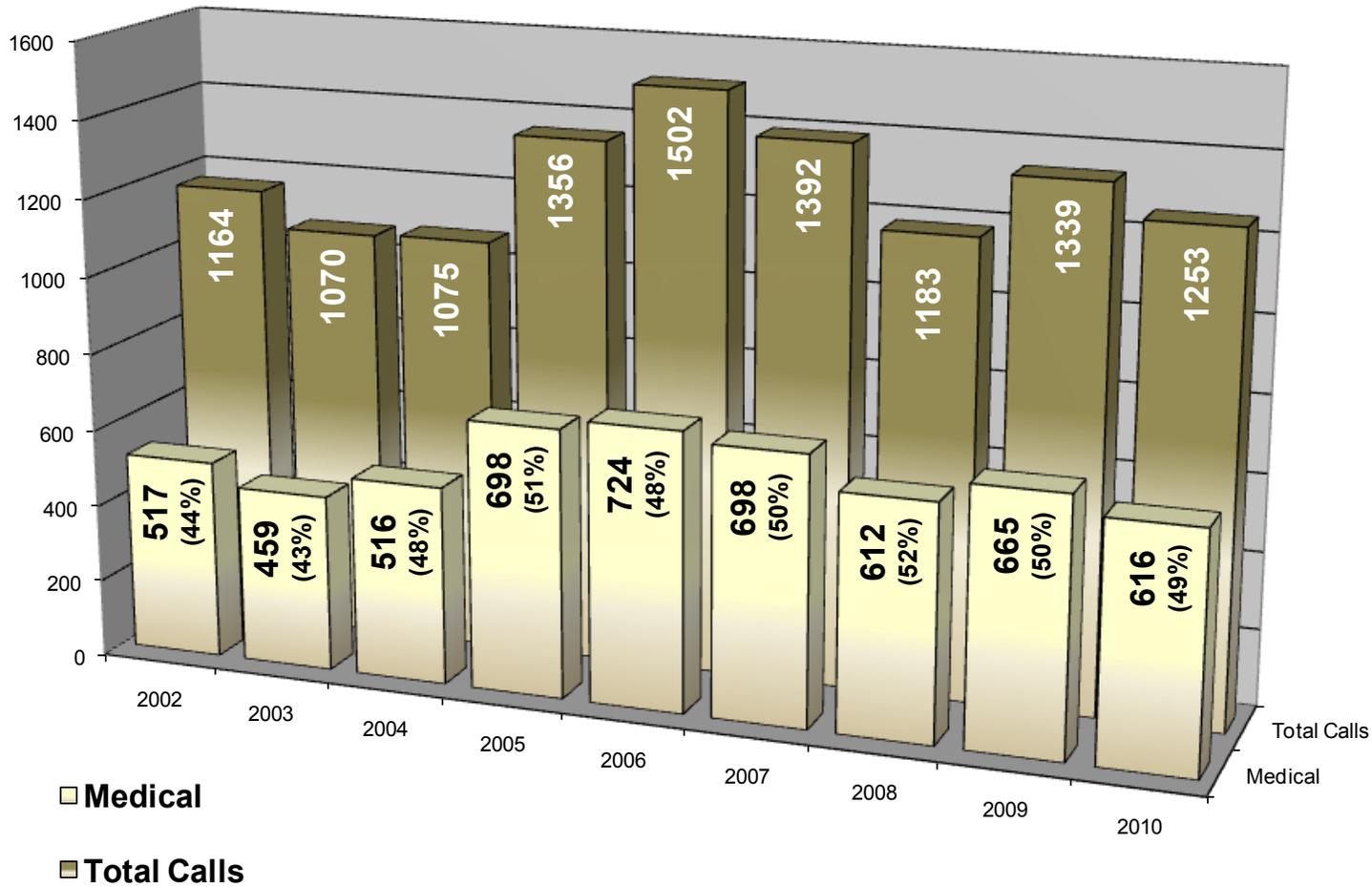
<b>Good Intent</b>	<b>116</b>
Dispatched & Cancelled .....	74
Smoke Scare .....	18
No Incident Found on Arrival.....	11
Other.....	13

<b>False Alarm (No Fire)</b>	<b>210</b>
Sys. Activation, Malfunction.....	12
Sys. Activation, Unintentional ....	78
System Activation, Malicious ...	108
Other.....	12

**Severe Weather (Wind Storm) 5**

<b>Other</b>	<b>40</b>
No Response/Dispatch Error.....	32
Citizen Complaint.....	8

## Medical Incident Count — 9 Year Review



**Bob Wallin**  
 Captain  
 Paid On Call  
 24 years of service  
 Member Since 1986

**INCIDENT RESPONSE  
AT A GLANCE**

Total Incident Response:  
1253 calls

Number of EMS Calls:  
616 (50%)

Busiest Month:  
July (118 calls)

Busiest Day of the Week:  
Friday (207 calls)

Busiest Hour of the Day:  
3pm-4pm (92 calls)

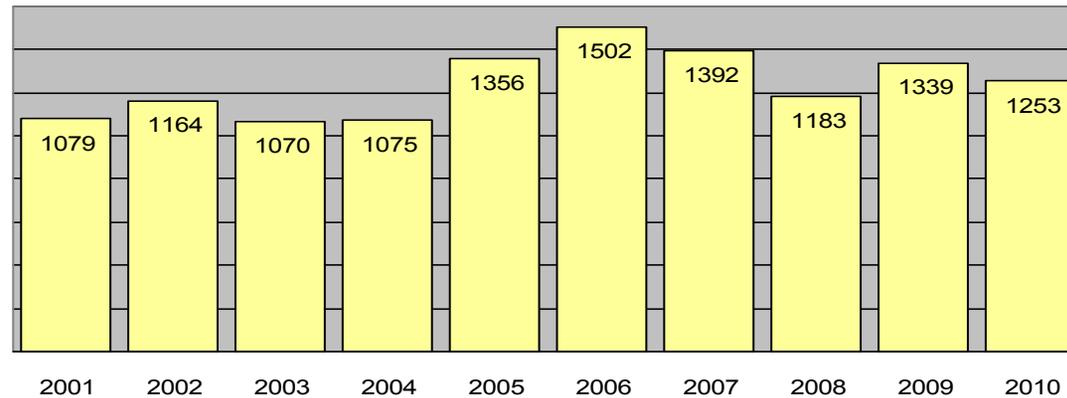
Slowest Month:  
April (83 calls)

Slowest Day of the Week:  
Sunday (133 calls)

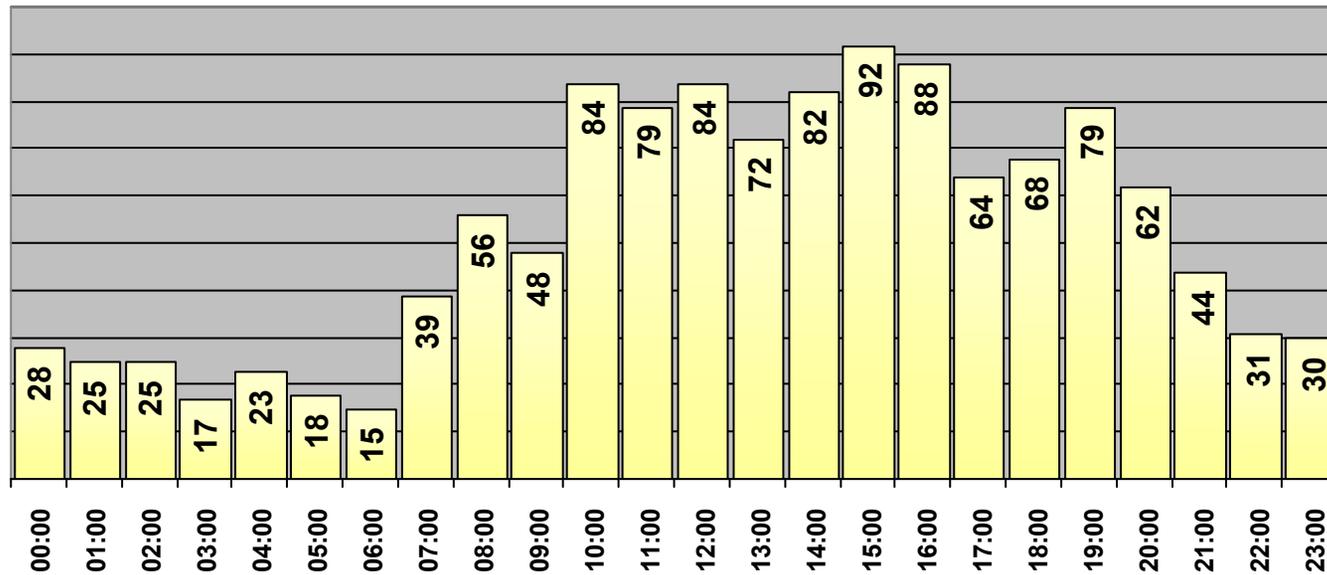
Slowest Hour of the Day:  
6am -7am (15 calls)

Ten Year Trend:  
14% Increase over  
call count 10 years ago: 1079  
calls in 2001

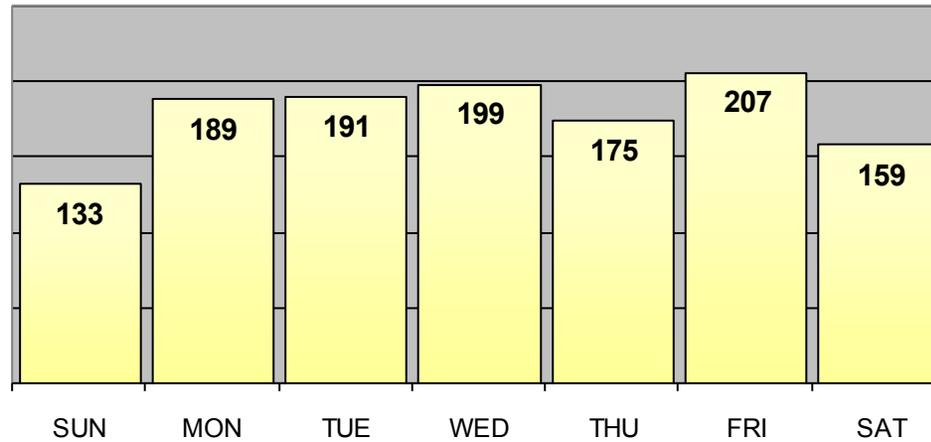
**Incidents by Year — 10 Year Review (2001—2010)**



**Incidents by Hour of Day (1,253 total)**

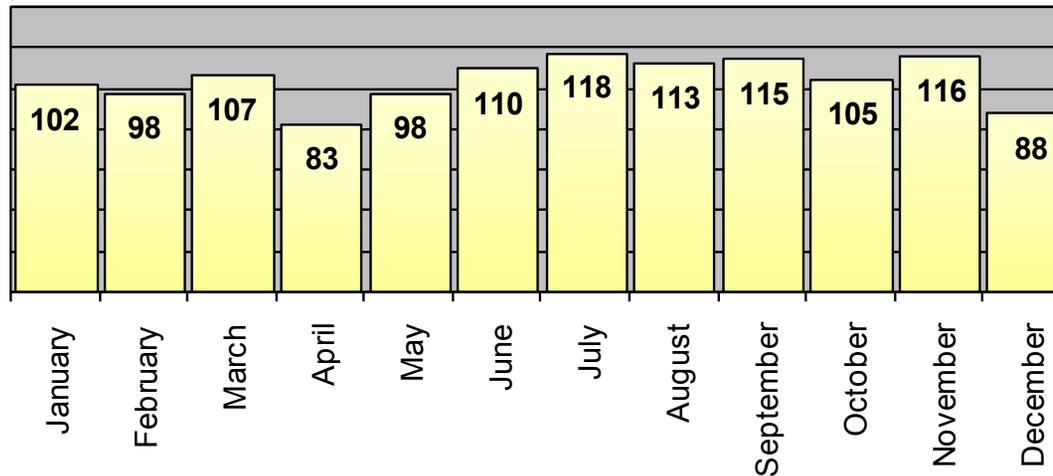


**Incidents by Day of Week (1,253 total)**

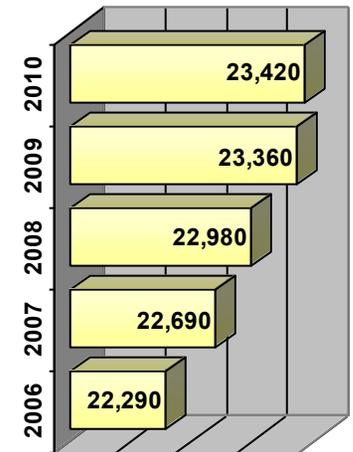


*“Many thanks for our station tour on July 8<sup>th</sup>, for my son Connor’s 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday!! We appreciated your time and efforts. He was thrilled!”*  
 – Connor’s mom,  
 July 2010

**Incidents by Month (1,253 total)**



**City of Oak Harbor  
 Population  
 5 - Year Review**

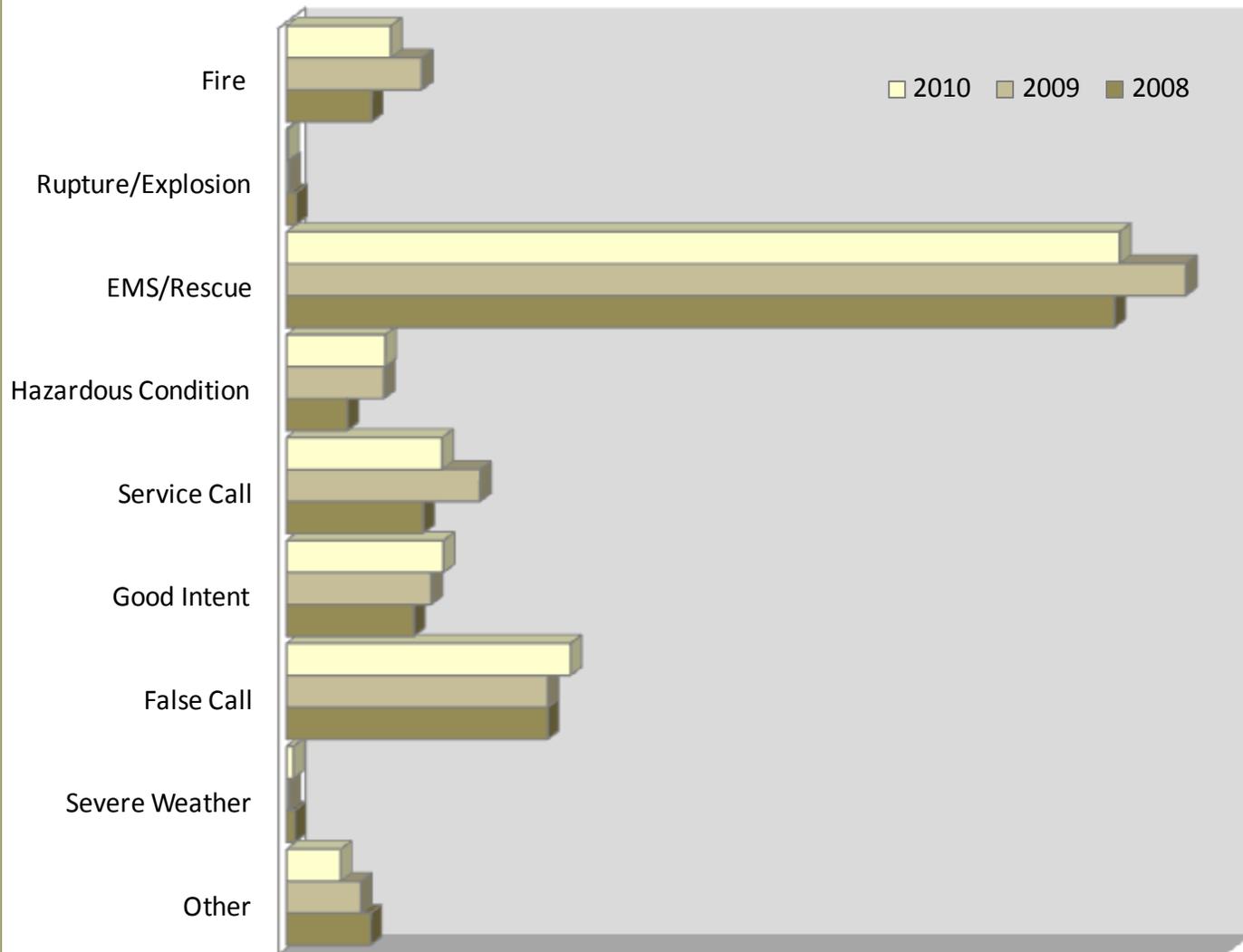




City of Oak Harbor Military Appreciation Day Picnic at Windjammer Park. OHFD distributed bike helmets and safety information. Photos by A. Braustein, September 2010.

## Incident Type Count

3-YEAR REVIEW | 2008—2010



## Incident Type Count

3-YEAR REVIEW | 2008—2010

	2010	%	2009	%	2008	%
<b>Fire</b>	77	6%	100	7%	63	5%
<b>Rupture/Explosion</b>	1	<1%	2	<1%	7	<1%
<b>EMS/Rescue</b>	616	49%	665	50%	612	52%
<b>Hazardous Condition</b>	73	6%	72	5%	45	4%
<b>Service Call</b>	115	9%	143	11%	101	9%
<b>Good Intent</b>	116	9%	107	8%	94	8%
<b>False Call</b>	210	17%	193	14%	193	16%
<b>Severe Weather</b>	5	<1%	2	<1%	6	<1%
<b>Other</b>	40	3%	55	4%	62	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1253</b>		<b>1339</b>		<b>1183</b>	



2010 Challenge Series Gravity Racing for Kids with Special Needs. OHFD provides a race car and support. Photos by R. Velasquez, August 2010.



*Top left: Garage fire caused by failure of equipment, May 2010.  
Above: Mobile Home Fire, arson. November 2010.  
Photos by R. Merrill.*

*Sidebar, top to bottom: Kitchen fire, March 2010; Porch fire, June 2010; Kitchen fire, June 2010; Vehicle Fire, October 2010; Mobile Home fire, November 2010. Photos by R. Merrill.*



*Top right and above: Motor Vehicle Accident, no injuries. The driver failed to stop, hit a residential propane tank and nearly went over a steep embankment. Photos by R. Wallin, May 2010*

# 2010 Response Time

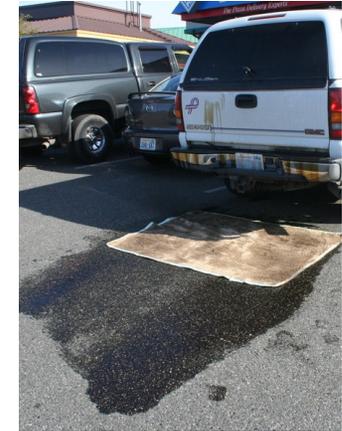
**4 minutes, 41 seconds**

The overall average response time for Oak Harbor Fire Department in 2010 (dispatch time not included): **4:41**.

**In emergency situations, the difference between life and death can largely depend on response time**—the time it takes first responders to arrive on scene. To the person reporting an emergency, and to those needing assistance, five minutes can feel like an eternity.

With the City’s population rising, the fire department is constantly looking for ways to improve its response time. It takes, on average, one and a half minutes (90 seconds) for the Island County 911 dispatch center, ICOM, to answer an emergency call and dispatch the appropriate agency, apparatus and personnel. The remaining time is consumed by personnel getting into their gear, into

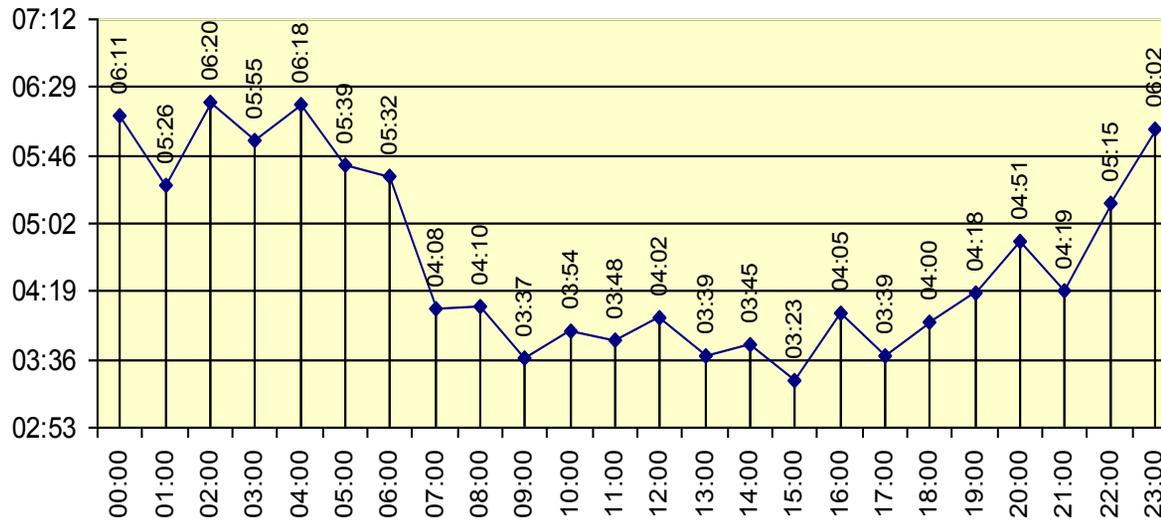
apparatus and driving to the scene. Variables such as location, weather, traffic volume, and other drivers play a large part in response. Technology is helping shorten response time by pin-pointing addresses and relaying information needed to apparatus computers and maps.



*Oil spill, April 2010.  
Photo by M. Buxton.*

## 2010 Average Response Time by Hour of the Day

90 second dispatch time not included



*“Thank you for being at  
the library to train us  
with fire extinguishers –  
In spite of the rain, we  
enjoyed the training!”  
– Oak Harbor Library  
Safety Committee  
May 2010*

*Trust*

The **Prevention Division** is the code enforcement arm of the department. Primary duties include the management of fire and life safety inspections, new construction and development plan review and inspections.

The coordination of **Public Education** is also included in the responsibilities of the prevention division.



**Ray Merrill**  
 Battalion Chief  
 Fire Prevention / Code  
 21 years of service  
 Member Since 1989

## Fire Prevention Division

Fire Prevention is such a broad termed assignment within a fire department. One day I pondered when and where does fire prevention really begin? A famous bear once proclaimed ‘only you can prevent forest fires’ and even though Smokey Bear was correct – I surmise ‘only you can prevent *any* fire’ as well.

As a fire department we conduct early childhood fire prevention or injury prevention training, items like ‘stop – drop – and roll, or ‘stay low and go’ - tell a parent or adult if you find matches, or teach kids how to dial 911. These are all important lessons. We talk to kids about a safety plan, having a meeting place, how to conduct Exit Drills in the Home – We talk about the effects of fire, and things not to do – like playing with matches or a lighter. We talk about general fire safety – so fire prevention must start in the schools.

But kids are kids and there is a fascination with fire. Besides kids watch adults start fires – for cooking – having a camp fire – for heat or to make S’mores— because fire is good and necessary. Too

bad the young mind does not understand the outcome of fire. Adults or parents need to talk with children about fire safety and set the example. So fire prevention must start in the home.

The Fire Marshal’s job is to review plans for new development. They must look at the design of the building - does it require a fire alarm system or maybe even a fire sprinkler system. Is the use of the building consistent with the design of that building surely we would not want a fireworks factory in the basement of an apartment complex. The Fire Marshal must adhere to the adopted codes. In the case of Oak Harbor we use the International Codes, including the International Fire and Building Codes. The Fire Marshal makes sure the buildings’ fire protection features are addressed and that early warning devices or fire extinguishing systems are installed. So fire prevention must start in the Fire Marshal’s office.

The fire department conducts Annual Fire and Life Safety Inspections. During 2010 Oak Harbor conducted 1,018 annual inspections of the 1040 businesses /

buildings within the City. That means 98% of all businesses, multi-family residences and churches were inspected. As a side note 100% of all schools were inspected. The fire department also conducted 122 re-inspections. So for all the businesses within the City we had to go back 122 times to make sure a violation was corrected.

The majority of violations found were; improper use of extension cords or power strips, non-working exit lights, fire extinguishers requiring annual certification and fire alarm / fire sprinkler systems past due for annual servicing. This trend continues year to year. However this trend has also consistently improved. So by finding these violations and checking the buildings for fire safety procedures then fire prevention must start in the business.

So after all my pondering I’ve come to the conclusion that fire prevention must start in the school, at home, at the fire marshal’s office and in the work place. It is safe to say fire prevention is everyone’s responsibility.

10-Year Review	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Fire Inspections	793	688	709	780	1268	892	910	921	1039	1018

During 2010 the Oak Harbor Fire Department responded to 77 different types of fires. Those fires resulted in a total fire loss of \$367,960 causing an increase of \$24,210.00 from 2009. The department responded to 27 structure fires, including house fires, fires on decks, and outbuilding fires. There were 17 cooking related fires inside of structures. The department also responded to 6 vehicle fires.

In accordance with State Law fire departments are required to determine the origin and the cause of the fire. The fire department has four fire investigators with various levels of training and experience to investigate fires. Region Three Arson Task Force is also available to assist with fire investigations. Oak Harbor's Fire Marshal is a member of the Task Force. The fire department and police department work together on joint investigations both to determine cause and, when required, arresting suspects.

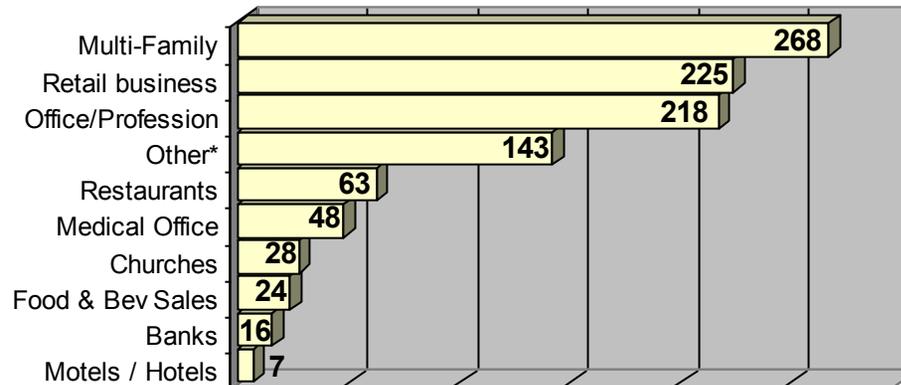


A cooking related house fire, June 2010. Photo by R. Merrill

### City of Oak Harbor Occupancy Data 2010

Business Count.....	1,040
Annual Inspections.....	1,018 (98%)
Re-Inspections.....	122 (12%)
New Occupancies.....	38
Fire Alarm Systems.....	276
Wet Sprinklers Systems...	122
Hood & Duct Systems.....	65

### 2010 Types of Commercial Occupancies in Oak Harbor



\* Other includes storage, warehouses, vacant properties, recreational facilities, etc.

## Fire Investigation

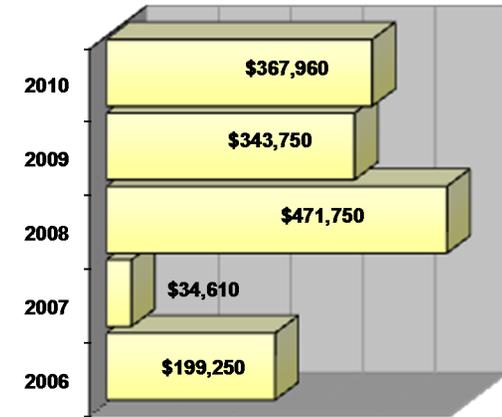
When a fire occurs, the Fire Marshal investigates the fire to determine the origin, cause, and other factors that may have contributed to the ignition and growth of a fire.

Each fire is examined to determine if the fire was intentional or accidental. This provides a basis of fact, which can be used in an after-fire legal process (if needed) and to help prevent a similar fire from happening again. Information gathered is used in fire prevention education and reported to national fire prevention data bases. The fire investigator is also tasked with determining the monetary value of

the damage or property loss.

When investigating a fire, the investigator observes and documents the scene with photographs and/or video, collects evidence and talks with witnesses and firefighters. He is also responsible for securing the scene until the investigation is complete and determining when the property can be occupied and/or returned to the property owner.

### FIRE LOSS IN OAK HARBOR



## Crime Scene & Fire Investigation Trailer

Oak Harbor Fire Department operates a Crime Scene and Fire Investigation Trailer with Oak Harbor Police Department. This special operations trailer assists both agencies in their investigation processes by providing a convenient on-site lab with equipment necessary to the investigation.

Oak Harbor Fire investigators examine all fires within the City and sometimes assist neighboring agencies with their fire investigations; but focuses on fires involving injury or death, a high dollar loss, cluster fires and any fire where the cause is not immediately apparent.



*Crime Scene & Fire Investigation Trailer on scene at a residential structure fire, May 2010. Photo by R. Merrill*



*Investigation photos from various residential fires in Oak Harbor in 2010. Photos by R. Merrill*

## 2010 City of Oak Harbor Fire Experience and Loss, by Month

### January

- Fire in a display shed – appeared person(s) unknown entered the shed and using paper and a small amount of card board attempted to ignite shed. Minor damage.
- Fire in school restroom – Arson, minor smoke damage, person arrested and charged.
- Fire on deck at apartment complex – discarded smoking materials in plastic container, minor damage to deck.
- Fire on deck at home – discarded smoking materials in plastic container, damage to deck and house siding.

### February

- Fire on stove – unattended cooking, minor damage.

### March

- Fire on stove – unattended cooking, minor damage.

### April

- Kitchen fire – not accidental, minor damage to kitchen and stove.
- Fire in recycle bin next to a building - Arson, damage to exterior siding and roofing.
- Riding lawn mower fire – gasoline leak, lawn mower totaled.

### May

- House fire with explosion – accidental, LP gas or natural gas leak ignited. Heavy fire damage.
- Fire on the stove – attended cooking, minor damage.

### June

- Deck fire in apartment complex – discarded smoking materials in plastic container, minor damage.
- Beauty bark fire in apartment complex – discarded smoking materials, damage to exterior siding and broken windows.

### July

- Brush and tree fire in back yard – unknown cause, fire damaged lawn and trees, and spread to neighbors roof – burning holes in roof. Minor damage.
- Exterior wall fire – spontaneous combustion of staining rags in plastic bucket, damage to exterior wall and soffit area.

### August

- Kitchen fire – unattended cooking, minor damage.

### September

- Vehicle fire – cutting torch too close to combustibles.
- Car fire – electrical failure, damage to engine compartment.
- Kitchen fire – not accidental, damage to stove and cabinets.

### October

- Deck fire in apartment complex – discarded smoking materials into a plastic container, minor damage.
- Kitchen fire in apartment complex – unattended cooking, minor damage.
- Vehicle fire – minor damage to interior of vehicle.
- Vehicle fire – electrical problem, vehicle totaled.

### November

- House fire – Arson, suspect arrested. Home completely destroyed. Two persons injured.

### December

- Kitchen fire – combustibles fell onto range top, minor damage.

**Total Fire Loss in 2010** \_\_\_\_\_ **\$367,960.00**

## Fire Loss by Month

Month	2010	2009
JAN	\$11,800	\$200.00
FEB	\$1,500	\$250,000
MAR	\$600	\$11,500
APR	\$5,500	\$1,500
MAY	\$244,000	\$650
JUN	\$3,600	\$62,250
JUL	\$22,100	\$1,250
AUG	\$310	\$100
SEP	\$4,500	\$4,800
OCT	\$8,550	\$11,000
NOV	\$65,000	\$0
DEC	\$500	\$500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$367,960</b>	<b>\$343,750</b>



## Public Education

Station 81 Tour — Firefighters are engaged in the business of saving lives, whether it involves a response to a house fire or, more importantly, responding before a fire has ever happened by teaching children how to prevent fires. The simple truth is that we are far more likely to save a child’s life through fire safety education — providing knowledge to prevent a fire or the proper action to take during a fire — than by the actual rescue of a child during a fire incident. Fire station tours provide an excellent opportunity for public fire education and public relations for Oak Harbor Fire Department. A station tour is a great opportunity to teach important life safety skills to both children and adults and for visitors to learn that firefighters do so much more than fight fires.

*Sidebar: OHFD firefighters participate in Oak Harbor High School’s SADD Mock DUI Demonstration, May 2010. A. Braunstein.*

**Count of Oak Harbor Citizens Educated in Fire Safety**

	2010	2009
Students (2-18 yrs)	1,449	3,278
Adults	2,232	1,715
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,681</b>	<b>4,993</b>



*Above: Bike helmet fitting at City’s Military Appreciation Day Picnic, Sept. 2010; A. Braunstein. Below, right: Station tour, August 2010. OHFD Member photo. Below, left: Annual Safety Fair at Home Depot, photo by A. Braunstein.*





*Ladder 81 participating in Oak Harbor's Annual Holland Happening Parade on Bayshore Drive, April 2010. Photo by A. Braunstein*



*In preparation for Prom Night and Graduation celebrations, Oak Harbor High School Juniors and Seniors view a realistic DUI motor vehicle accident demonstration by OHFD and other local EMS agencies, May 2010. Photo by A. Braunstein*

*“Firefighters – Thank you all for a wonderful field trip for our preschoolers. It was fabulous and they all had a great time. Thanks especially to Craig, for leading the trip.”  
– His Kids Preschool.  
June 2010*

DATE	GROUP	TYPE OF PUB ED	TIME INVOLVED			SIZE OF GROUP		
			Event Hrs	Number of Personnel	TT Man Hrs	Adult	Student	Event Total
<b>FIRE SAFETY / STATION TOUR</b>								
1/25/2010	Navy Spouses Club	Station Tour	1	3	3	4	6	10
1/27/2010	His Kids Preschool	Station Tour (x2)	3	2	6	10	32	42
1/28/2010	Walk-in Tour Request	Station Tour	1	1	1	1	1	2
1/29/2010	His Kids Preschool	Station Tour	1.5	2	3	8	20	28
2/24/2010	Diana's Place Preschool	Station Tour	1.5	2	3	5	17	22
4/14/2010	NW Middle School	Station Tour Life Skills	1	2	2	4	9	13
4/16/2010	OH Elementary School	Station Tour (x2)	2	2	4	18	36	54
5/5/2010	OH Elementary School	Station Tour (x2)	2	2	4	8	40	48
5/7/2010	OH Elementary School	Station Tour (x2)	2	2	4	18	36	54
5/17/2010	Girl Scouts	Station Tour	1	2	2	4	10	14
6/22/2010	Walk-in Tour Request	Station Tour	1	1	1	1	1	2
6/30/2010	Cub Scouts	Station Tour	1	2	2	1	5	6
7/7/2010	Boy Scouts	Station Tour	1	1	1	2	4	6
7/7/2010	Girl Scouts	Station Tour	1	2	2	5	20	25
7/7/2010	Walk-in Tour Request	Station Tour	1	1	1	2	2	4
7/8/2010	Walk-in Tour Request	Station Tour	1	2	2	2	1	3
7/12/2010	Girl Scouts	Station Tour	1	2	2	7	12	19
7/20/2010	Exchange Students	Station tour	1.25	4	5	3	17	20
9/29/2010	OH Christian School	Station Tour	1	3	3	19	22	41
10/1/2010	OH Christian School	Station Tour (x2)	2	4	8	29	34	63
10/7/2010	Movin' and Groovin'	Station Tour	1	2	2	14	18	32
10/9/2010	Missionettes	Station Tour Fire Safety	1	2	2	1	2	3
10/13/2010	OH Christian School	Station Tour	1	3	3	10	20	30
10/26/2010	Doddle Bug Academy	Station tour	1	2	2	20	26	46
10/29/2010	Little Britches Preschool	Station Tours (x2)	2	3	6	3	29	32
11/9/2010	Tiger Cup Scouts	Station Tour Fire Safety	1	1	1	4	11	15
12/2/2010	Webelos Cub Scouts	First Aid Merit Badge	1	1	1	4	10	14
12/5/2010	Walk-in Tour Request	Station Tour	0.5	3	1.5	8	8	16
7/19/201	Walk-in Tour Request	Station Tour	1	1	1	1	2	3
<b>FIRST AID / CPR / AED TRAINING / BBP</b>								
4/7/2010	City of Oak Harbor	BBP Refresher Training	1.5	2	3	18	0	18
4/7/2010	City of Oak Harbor	BBP Refresher Training	1.5	2	3	7	0	7
4/7/2010	City of Oak Harbor	BBP Refresher Training	1.5	2	3	13	0	13
4/8/2010	City of Oak Harbor	BBP Refresher Training	1.5	2	3	12	0	12
4/8/2010	City of Oak Harbor	BBP Refresher Training	1.5	2	3	3	0	3
4/8/2010	City of Oak Harbor	BBP Refresher Training	1.5	2	3	9	0	9
4/14/2010	City of Oak Harbor	BBP Refresher Training	1.5	2	3	9	0	9
5/6/2010	OH Police Department	BBP Refresher Training	1.5	2	3	8	0	8

DATE	GROUP	TYPE OF PUB ED	TIME INVOLVED			SIZE OF GROUP		
			Event Hrs	Number of Personnel	TT Man Hrs	Adult	Student	Event Total
<i>FIRST AID / CPR / AED TRAINING / BBP (Continued)</i>								
5/6/2010	OH Police Department	BBP Refresher Training	1.5	2	3	11	0	11
5/12/2010	OH City Shops	CPR First Aid Re-Certification	1.5	1	1.5	25	0	25
5/19/2010	OH City Shops	CPR AED	1.5	1	1.5	18	0	18
10/21/2010	Senior Services	CPR / First-Aid Refresher	3	1	3	0	12	12
<b>FIRE SAFETY PRENTATION</b>								
8/3/2010	OH Police Department	National Night Out	5	12	60	n/a	n/a	n/a
10/2/2010	Home Depot	Annual Safety Fair	5	9	45	100	100	200
10/9/2010	Broadview Elem. School	Fire Safety at School	2	3	6	2	75	77
4/23/2010	Home Place Retirement	Work Place Fire Safety (x2)	2	1	2	18	0	18
5/24/2010	NAS Whidbey Island	Fire Safety: Fireworks & BBQ	1	1	1	225	0	225
7/8/2010	NAS AMID NAS Whidbey Is.	Fire Safety: Fireworks & BBQ	1	1	1	600	0	600
9/25/2010	Harbor Tower Village	Disaster Preparedness	1.5	4	6	15	0	15
9/28/2010	Whidbey Physicians	Fire Extinguisher Training	1	4	4	25	0	25
10/23/2010	Kmart Safety Fair	Fire Safety Information	1	3	3	5	19	24
11/3/2010	AGAPE Church	Fire Safety for Seniors	1	1	1	20	0	20
11/5/2010	VAQ 1 NAS Whidbey Is.	Holiday Safety	1	1	1	225	0	225
11/22/2010	VAQ 1 NAS Whidbey Is.	Safety Stand Down	1.5	1	1.5	150	0	150
12/15/2010	City of Oak Harbor	Disaster Preparedness	2	2	4	12	0	12
12/17/2010	VP 40 NAS Whidbey Is.	Holiday Safety	1	1	1	200	0	200
<b>SPEICAL EVENT</b>								
1/20/2010	Olympic View Ele. School	Lunch w/ Firefighter	1	4	4	0	250	250
2/17/2010	OH Elementary School	Lunch w/ Firefighter	1	4	4	0	250	250
3/17/2010	Hillcrest Elementary School	Lunch w/ Firefighter	1	4	4	4	60	64
3/17/2010	Irish Wildlife Society	St Patrick's Day Parade Wally	1	1	1	0	0	0
3/18/2010	Broad View Elem PTA	Science Fair Judge	2.5	1	2.5	0	0	0
3/20/2010	March of Dimes	Fire Engine Display	1	4	4	15	10	25
4/24/2010	OH Chamber of Commerce	Holland Happening Parade	0.5	6	3	0	0	0
7/15/2010	Boys and Girls Club	Fire Engine Display	1	3	3	6	40	46
9/11/2010	Navy League	Military Appreciation Day Picnic	4	6	24	200	0	200
9/24/2010	Oak Harbor High School	Home Coming Game	1	2	2	0	0	0
9/30/2010	Hillcrest Elementary School	Fire Engine Display	1	4	4	15	100	115
10/8/2010	Children's Academy	Fire Engine Display	1	2	2	6	36	42
<b>OTHER</b>								
5/1/2010	Harbor Tower Village	Birthday Celebration 100 Y/O	0.5	4	2	30	0	30
8/17/2010	Oak Harbor Library	Reading Event	1	4	4	10	30	40
12/18/2010	OH FF Association	Shop w/ a Firefighter	1.5	12*	18	0	16	16
12/18/2010	OH FF Association	Santa Delivers Presents	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Totals</b>			<b>101.25</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>329.5</b>	<b>2232</b>	<b>1449</b>	<b>3681</b>

\* 3 on-duty, 9 FD volunteers

*“...thank you for the fire department’s participation with the 2010 Military Appreciation Picnic...thank you for making this community an exciting and valuable one. Without you this event could have never taken place...”*

*- T. Petty, Oak Harbor Chamber of Commerce, September 2010*

# *Integrity*

The **Training Division** is tasked with managing the training of department personnel. These duties include the scheduling of all training to meet federal, state, and local requirements.



**Craig Anderson**  
 Lieutenant  
 Training & Public Education  
 15 years of service  
 FT Member Since 1995

## Training Division

Training in 2010 continued to focus on improving our emergency scene performance through sweat equity in training. This type of approach to training requires a great deal of commitment, professionalism and attention to detail in all areas of the fire service. The true test of our proficiency is not simply having knowledge of a subject, but in putting that knowledge to use in our performance. The way we engrain that into our performance is through repetitive, full speed, real world training to the point that personnel are able to perform under any and



*Above Photo: Multi-agency training at OHFD, February 2010. Photo by C. Anderson.*

all conditions at any time.

Not only is the Training Division responsible for preparing each firefighter for any emergency situation they may encounter; it is essential that the Division keep current and accurate records showing that mandatory requirements of Labor and Industries, WAC regulations, Washington State and Island County Departments of Health, and other regulatory agencies are being met.

The Training Division provides orientation and initial training to new career and paid-on-call firefighters. Two entry-level paid-on-call firefighters began their firefighter training with OHFD in 2010. The Training Division follows their training and testing during and after the five month recruit firefighter academy, ensuring that each firefighter is familiar with Department policies, procedures, and equipment.

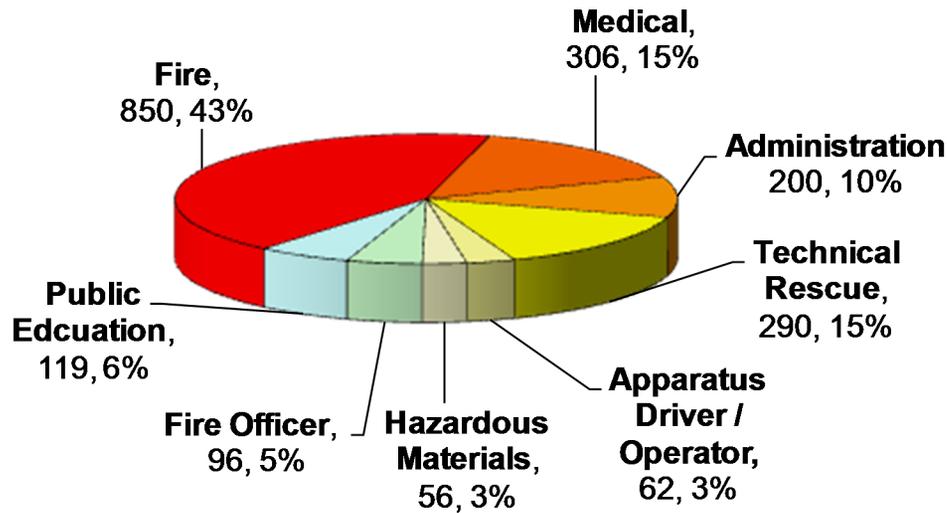
In 2010, Oak Harbor Fire Depart-

ment personnel collectively spent over 5,466 hours training. The department presented and/or sponsored over 1,979 hours of training courses, classes and learning opportunities.

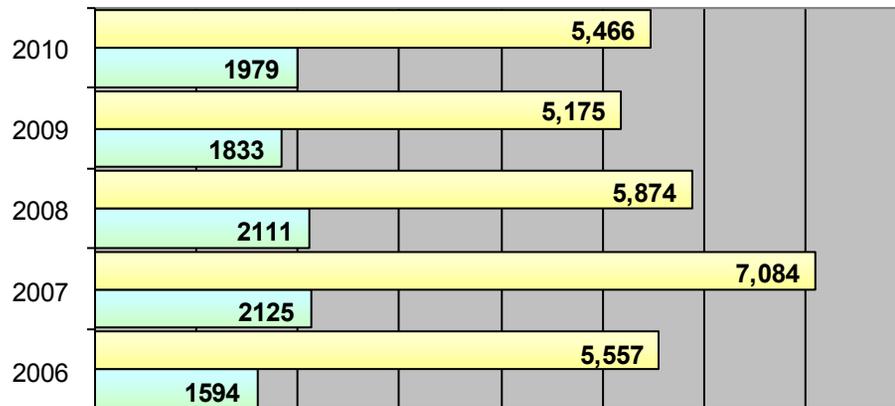
### OHFD Training Hours By Month 3-Year Review

	2010	2009	2008
<b>JAN</b>	173	170	175
<b>FEB</b>	238	151	250
<b>MAR</b>	264	199	330
<b>APR</b>	190	173	193
<b>MAY</b>	289	276	126
<b>JUN</b>	114	159	215
<b>JUL</b>	86	117	161
<b>AUG</b>	191	153	222
<b>SEP</b>	78	105	106
<b>OCT</b>	126	153	177
<b>NOV</b>	152	96	94
<b>DEC</b>	78	81	62
	<b>1979</b>	<b>1833</b>	<b>2111</b>

**OHFD 2010 Hours Training by Activity:** (1,979 total hours)



**OHFD TRAINING HOURS | 5-YEAR REVIEW**



□ Personnel Hours □ Training Hours

**Doing More with Less**

Oak Harbor Fire Department personnel spent **5,466 hours** training in 2010 and presented and/or sponsored over **1,979 hours** of training courses, classes and learning opportunities. The numbers alone do not tell the full story. The totals, slightly higher than in 2009, were achieved with fewer personnel. There were just two OHFD recruits training at the Island County Recruit Firefighter Academy and the department had nine vacant POCFF positions.



*Right Sidebar photos: multi-agency vehicle shoring and training exercise. February 2010. Photos by C. Anderson*

*“In grateful appreciation to the men and women of Oak Harbor Fire Department for your valuable contributions to the Partners in Education Program for the Oak Harbor School District.” – Dr. R. Schulte, Superintendent, June 2010*

## Certifications

OHFD members who received certification (or re-certifications) in 2010:

Paramedic Recertification:

Craig Anderson, Lieutenant

Graduated from IFSAC Accredited Island Recruit Academy,

IFSAC Hazardous Materials Operations Level Certification,

and IFSAC Firefighter 1 Certification:

Grant Bull, POC FF

James Pauley, POC FF

Emergency Medical Technician Certification:

Conor Ching, POC FF

Rescue Systems 1 Certification:

Rich Cuevas, FF

Don Baer, FF

Emergency Medical Technician Re-Certification:

Mike Buxton, Lieutenant

Mike Engle, Lieutenant

Richard Gonzales, POC FF

Shannon Holcomb, POC FF

Joseph Lebaron, POC FF

Daniel Martin, POC FF

Steve McCalmont, FF

Jon Roberts, POC FF

Robert Wallin, POC Capt.

IFSAC Instructor 1 Certification:

Ed Klaszky, FF

IFSAC Officer 1 Certification:

Rich Cuevas, FF

IFSAC Officer 2 Certification:

Rich Cuevas, FF

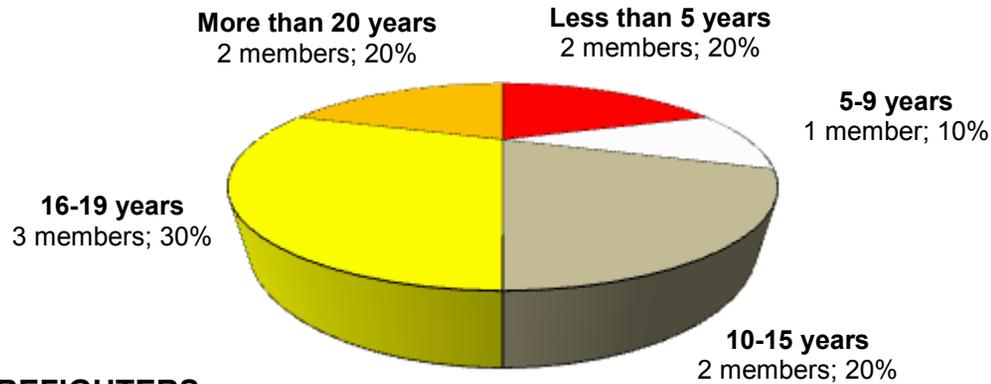
Mike Engle, Lieutenant

# Years of Service

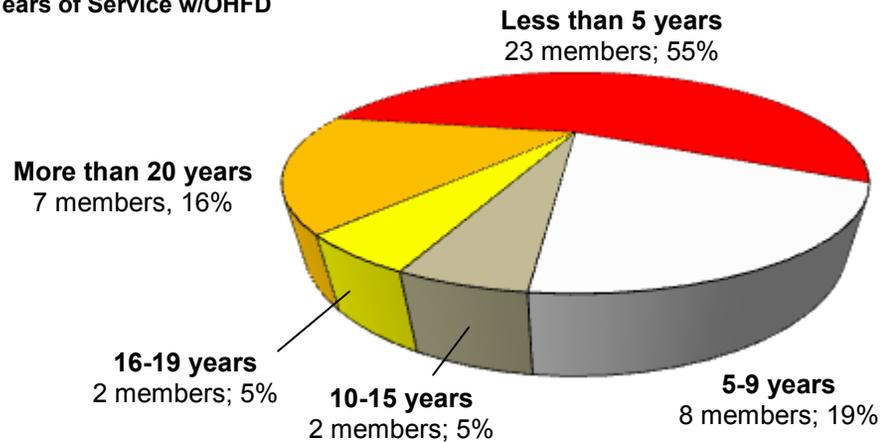
These graphs reflect the number of service years with Oak Harbor Fire Department. \* Included are 10 career / full-time positions (upper graph) and 42 paid-on-call firefighters (lower graph)

\* may not reflect total firefighting experience (such as years served with other agencies).  
Administrative support years of service not included.

## CAREER / FULL-TIME FIREFIGHTERS Years of Service w/OHFD



## PAID-ON-CALL (POC) FIREFIGHTERS Years of Service w/OHFD



Right Sidebar, top to bottom: C. Ching, Dec 2010; R. Cuevas, May 2010; M. Soptich and A. Braunstein, Dec 2010; R. Merrill, Sept. 2010; M. Soptich, S. Holcomb, and Mayor Slowik, Dec. 2010. Photos by R. Wallin and A. Braunstein.



*“Thank you so much for the use of the water buffalo over festival weekend. The high temperatures really made the water a necessity for keeping our patrons safe”.*  
– Coupeville Festival of Arts, August 2010

*Prepared*

The **Maintenance Division** is tasked with managing inventories And the care and maintenance of the Station and training buildings, apparatus and equipment, and works closely with Public Works maintenance personnel to assure the readiness of all apparatus and equipment.



**Mike Engle**  
Lieutenant  
Maintenance  
13 years of service  
Member Since 1997

## Facilities & Fleet Maintenance Division

It isn't the most exciting topic, but it is extremely essential. As our front line responders' mission is to provide the best service possible to our city and citizens, it is my mission to provide the best possible equipment for them.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) puts forth guidelines through committees to constantly make responding to emergencies as safe for firefighters as possible. Unfortunately these guidelines are created because someone either got hurt or killed trying to do their job. As a result all of our essential equipment is tested at least annually. This includes; all supply and discharge hose, all self contained breathing apparatus, all ground ladders, and all fire engine pumps. The ladder truck receives an annual third party inspection relative to safety and purpose. There are quarterly air samples tested from our breathing air compressor to ensure safe breathing air. Firefighting bunker gear is inspected and sent for cleaning and repair as needed.

Everyone is responsible for inspecting apparatus and equipment and reporting inoperative or inadequate equipment. We have a good program in place and always look for ways to increase our

knowledge and improve the standard of readiness.

We work closely with the public works mechanics who attend fire mechanic conferences and have a thorough understanding of our efforts to stay prepared to respond. They are meticulous and professional in what they do.

It isn't a frontline glamorous job, but there is pride and satisfaction in supplying our firefighters and officers with well maintained equipment so they can provide the best service possible to our city and citizens.

The following items were tested in 2010:

- Fire Hose
  - 1.75" attack hose—75 pieces at 50 ft each. This includes the Marina hose.
  - 2.5" attack hose: 105 pieces of 50 ft each.
  - 5" supply hose: 67 pieces
- Ground Ladders
  - Extension ladders: 2 at 35', 5 at 30',
  - Roof ladders: 5 at 14', 1 at 16', 1 at 20'
  - Captains ladders: 6 at 10'

- Fire Engine Pump Testing:
  - 4 engines

The Following apparatus are scheduled for annual preventive maintenance at City shops and maintained regularly at the Fire Department through daily apparatus checks and inspections:

- 4 Fire engines
- 1 Aerial Ladder truck: received major structural repair to stabilization system. Annual third party inspection and testing.
- 1 Aid unit / rescue
- 2 Command Chevy Tahoe SUVs
- 1 Fire Marshal van
- 1 air trailer for filling breathing air bottles
- 1 Fire Investigation Trailer
- 1 Technical Rescue Trailer
- 1 Spill Containment/Hazmat Trailer
- 2 Special Operations Trailers for Mass Casualty Incidents
- 1 utility trailer
- 1 Forklift
- 1 30KW diesel generators
- 1 60KW diesel generator

- 1 5kw diesel generator
- 1 diesel tractor trucks
- 1 diesel flatbed truck
- 1 40' flatbed trailer
- 1 400 gallon potable water trailer
- L81 annual third party

Fire fighting equipment and personal protective gear:

- 30 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBAs) receive annual flow testing and as needed repairs
- 45 sets of assigned PPE receive semi-annual inspection and as needed cleaning and repairs (repair/cleaning by qualified contractors).
- Approximately 45 SCBA masks are fit tested to assigned personnel annually as per NFPA requirements.
- Boots, gloves, helmets, flash hoods are all replaced as needed.
- Equipment such as flashlights, hand tools... axes, shovels, Halligan bars, EK-hooks, pike poles are cleaned and repaired as needed.
- Portable, mobile and base radios receive annual preventive maintenance from Day Wireless and any additional needed repairs.
- Fire fighting nozzles, appliances and large GPM nozzles are inspected regularly and repaired as needed.

- Approximately 55 fire pagers are programmed and repaired as needed.
- All medical equipment is checked daily and replaced as necessary to include Oxygen, Pharmaceuticals, suction units and AED's.
- Each emergency response unit is equipped with laptop computers (7) for address, prefire planning, hazmat reference, and dispatch information. Each computer requires updates and repairs as necessary.
- Air monitoring equipment receives calibration and repairs as needed.
- 5 Thermal Imaging Cameras are maintained in ready status.
- Technical rescue equipment (ropes, stokes baskets, and hardware) are inspected and maintained.
- Various power tools including corded and cordless are inspected regularly.
- Hazmat absorbent materials
- Salvage tarp repairs

Gas powered equipment is essential to our mission and is inspected and annual serviced which include:

- 10 Stihl chain saws
- 4 positive pressure fans
- 4 electric fans
- 4 Stihl circular saws

- 6 portable Honda gas generators
- 2 power heads for Jaws
- Various air powered extrication tools.

Buildings and equipment within:

- Hush breathing air compressor requires annual filter changes, quarterly air samples and necessary repairs.
- Sprinkler confidence tests
- Alarm confidence tests
- HVAC quarterly maintenance
- Irrigation maintenance
- Annual truck bay door preventive maintenance
- Required annual fire extinguisher preventive maintenance
- Annual calibration of test gauges
- Load testing on back up generator, and high wattage generators trailers
- Monthly generator checks on station 81 and ICOM.
- Inventory and purchase of medical supplies
- Relocate fire fighting foam semi annually

Building maintenance ranges from changing light bulbs, L&I hot water tank inspections, painting, cleaning gutters, grounds maintenance to shower door repairs.

## 2010 Maintenance At a Glance:

Annual Inspection and Testing on—

- 24 different apparatus / vehicles
- 30 small engine tools
- 386 feet of ladders
- Over 9000 feet of Fire Hose
- 4 engine pumps
- 30 SCBA flow test
- 45 sets of personal protection equipment (PPEs, aka Bunker Gear) - semi-annual
- 45 SCBA masks, fit to assigned personnel

Purchases—

- 9 sets of bunker gear
- Bunker gear cleaning and repairs: \$3,614.48
- Roof repairs to Station 81
- Replaced Holmatro rescue tool: \$3,462.10
- Replaced refrigerator: \$600.00
- Boots and gloves
- Various small items for Station 81

# Apparatus

## 2010 OHFD APPARATUS REPOSE

Unit	Incident Count	Percentage of Total
800	734	58.63%
801	17	1.36%
E81	314	25.08%
E812	275	21.96%
E813	122	9.74%
E814	119	9.50%
AID81	430	34.35%
L81	34	2.72%
U81	1	0.08%
STBY1*	538	40.18%

\*STBY1 represents Station 81—FFs on stand-by. It is used for incidents in which POC Firefighters report to Station 81 in response to an incident page; but do not respond to the incident scene. The firefighters remain at the station, ready to respond if additional apparatus are required on the scene, at another, concurrent incident or until the on-duty crew is cleared from the incident and manpower is released.



**Command 8:** Two 2004 Chevrolet Tahoe SUVs. Driven by the Fire Chief and Command 8, usually first on scene and carries supplies necessary for incident command as well as medical supplies, thermal imaging and photographic equipment.

**Four Engines:** Two 2007 E-Ones (E81 & E812) and two 1998 Seagraves (E813 & E814) each equipped with 1500 gallon per minute pumps, hose, ladders, fans, tarps, air bottles, tools and enough medical and other equipment to operate alone for a limited period of time.

NFPA 1911 requires an annual pump test on each fire engine that responds as a pumper. The test averages three hours. If the pump fails it must be repaired and retested. All of our engines passed with no problems in 2010.

**Ladder 81** is a 1992 Seagraves aerial and carries volumes of equipment ranging from mass casualty medical supplies to ladders, ventilation fans, saws, lighting, salvage and rescue gear. The truck has a 100-foot aerial ladder and is useful in reaching rooftops with limited access. It is required by NFPA 1914 to be inspected annually. The inspection takes an average of five hours and is conducted by third party inspectors who send a field inspector to complete the testing.

**AID81 / S81** is a 1986 Chevrolet one ton and is acting as both an aid and support vehicle; equipped with medical supplies, generator, lights and water vacuums. AID81 responds to medical aid calls, supports other apparatus as needed and pulls special ops trailers when required.

**Spec Ops Trailers:** These trailers are designed to respond to specific circumstances.

**Spill Containment** trailer—equipped for hazardous material response both in the sound and on the ground.

**Confined Space Rescue** trailer—equipped for rescue from tight quarters or precarious perches where rope rescue is necessary.

**Air/Rehab** trailer— houses an air compressor to refill SCBA bottles and equipment to rehab working firefighters.

**Mass Casualty Incident** trailer (OHFD has two)—contains supplies and equipment for assisting in large scale incidents.

**Crime Scene and Fire Investigation** trailer—a shared trailer with Oak Harbor Police Department and is a mobile unit to assist in fire and crime scene investigation.

**Support and Disaster Vehicles:** fire marshal van, training officer van, utility 81 (pick-up), utility trailer, two tractor trucks, 40’ flatbed trailer, diesel flatbed truck, fork lift, bus, four mobile generators, 400gal potable water trailer, and a light unit ready for response. Generators supply power to City Hall and OH Senior Center when needed.

Annual preventive maintenance and repair work is done on each vehicle and piece of disaster equipment. Much of the minor repairs are done here at OHFD while the annual servicing and major repair work is scheduled at City Shops. NFPA 1915 and 1071 stipulate accurate record keeping and high quality assurance when emergency vehicles need repair.



OHFD Apparatus Name / Year	2010 Mileage Reading
E81 2007	9,854
E812 2007	9,381
E813 1998	37,806
E814 1998	37,739
L81 1992	13,984
Bus 81 1985	72,153
Truck 2 1980	32,170
Truck 3 1986	53,846
AID81 / S81 1986	27,250
Command 8 2004	54,776
801 FC Tahoe 2004	35,984
Forklift 1979	6,226 hrs

Late in 2009, Oak Harbor Fire Department began using a company located in Portland, Oregon that specializes in cleaning, repairing, testing and servicing firefighting turnout gear. From their website:

*“Northwest Safety Clean has 16 years in the industry of repairing and cleaning fire department and military personal protection equipment. Our company is licensed and certified to perform repairs for all of the major manufacturers. We are an Intertek verified ISP for NFPA 1851. We employ a staff of well-qualified, experienced, and talented sewers and repair technicians who regularly amaze us with their quality and attention to detail.”*

## PPE: Personal Protective Equipment

*A firefighter’s health and safety relies on the integrity of his protective equipment. Oak Harbor Fire follows strict government regulations set forth for the purchase, cleaning, care and maintenance of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).*

The chart and graph below shows the age of PPE issued to OHFD firefighters.

**Coat and Pants:** Turnout coat and pant sets are designed to withstand extreme temperatures (1200° F) and to provide some protection against punctures and hazardous materials. Each set costs approximately \$2,000.00.

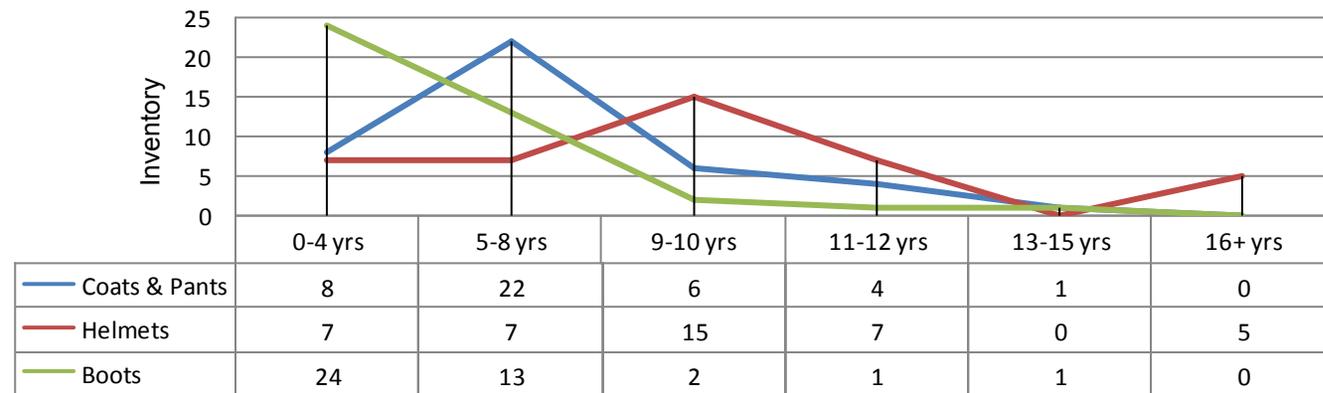
**Boots:** Rugged leather boots with thick soles and steel toes protect a firefighters feet. Each pairs costs \$275.

**Helmets:** Fire helmets are \$170 each. Helmets protect the head and wearing a flash hood and face shield provide added protection for the face and hair.

Helmets can also have flashlights and cameras attached to assist in search and rescue.

**Average age of OHFD PPE Gear:**  
 Helmet—10 years  
 Coat/Pant Set—8 years  
 Boots—6 years

**Age and Count of OHFD Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in 2010**



# Life Expectancy of Firefighter Protective Gear

Source: <http://www.globeturnoutgear.com> Globe Holding Company, LLC, manufacturers the G-Extreme brand turnout gear worn by Oak Harbor Fire Fighters

As the NFPA Technical Committee on fire fighters protective clothing worked through the year 2008 revision of NFPA 1851, Standard on Selection, Care and maintenance of Protective ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting, one of the most debated issues continued to be "What is the life expectancy of protective clothing?" Although the committee was not able to reach complete agreement on the answer to this question, there was consensus that structural gear should be retired ten years after the date of manufacture, and that proximity outer shells must be retired five years after the date of manufacture. However, the appendix is expected to contain language explaining that this does not mean all ensemble elements will last or should remain in service for the full 5 or 10 years – just that five

year old proximity outer shells and ten year old structural gear must be retired. The standard will provide additional criteria for inspection and retirement as well.

Having explained the mandatory requirements, it has become fairly well accepted in the industry that the average life of a structural turnout suit is three to five years, and that proximity outer shells become worn out even sooner. The industry has come to understand that some components may not last as long as others and for this reason, all layers should be routinely inspect for continued serviceability. It is important to remember, however, that average

...the average life of a structural turnout suit is three to five years, and that proximity outer shells become worn out even sooner.

means some garments have lasted longer and other garments not as long. Some segments of the fire service have suggested that since the NFPA clothing standard is revised every five years, that should be the maximum time to leave garments in service. While this would ensure that as technology improves, garments would automatically be upgraded to meet new requirements, it could leave the false impression that anything less than five years old is still perfectly compliant.

The reality is that the life span of any protective clothing is entirely dependent upon the type and amount of field use to which each separate garment has been exposed. Contributing factors to this include frequency of

maintenance, storage conditions, exposures, and other issues that are beyond the garment manufacturer or material supplier's control. Facilities that specialize in care and cleaning will advise that they have seen clothing that is much older than five years and still in excellent shape; likewise, however, we have seen instances where the first time a garment was worn it was exposed to circumstances that totally destroyed the clothing. Since the purpose of fire fighters clothing is to protect the wearer, if the gear has saved a life or prevented serious injury just once, then it has done its job.



FF R. Cuevas (top) and Lt. Buxton (above), May 2010. A Braunstein

“...students are so thrilled when you show up in your big red fire engine and then come in and visit with them. Special thanks to you for organizing the program\*.”

– M. Wallin, OHSD,  
September 2010

[\* “Lunch with a Firefighter” mentoring program]

## Station 81 Facility Usage 2010

Organization	Description	Hours
<b>CITY OF OAK HARBOR</b>		
Administration	Meetings (includes Standing Committee Meetings)	67.5
	TOTAL	<b>67.5</b>
Human Resources	Civil Service Meetings	5.0
	Testing	18.5
	Interviews	16.0
	TOTAL	<b>39.5</b>
Legal Department	Meeting	6.5
	TOTAL	<b>6.5</b>
OH Police Department	Training	6.0
	TOTAL	<b>6.0</b>
OH Fire Department	Weekly Scheduled Training Drills (Mon pm or Tues am)	226.5
	Events	11.5
	Training	185.5
	Public Education Events	63
	Quality Management Meetings	34.5
	Meetings	27.0
	Island County Recruit Academy	22.5
	Oak Harbor Fire Fighters Association	3.0
	TOTAL	<b>573.5</b>
<b>CITY OF OAK HARBOR TOTAL</b>		<b>693 HOURS</b>

<b>COMMUNITY</b>		
US Census	Training	45.0
Whidbey Is. Marathon Committee	Meetings	12.0
Oak Harbor School District	Technology Training	45.0
Island County Sheriffs Office	Training	3.0
ICOM	Training	4.0
North Whidbey Fire & Rescue	Training	13.5
South Whidbey Fire & Rescue	Training	35.0
NAVY EOD Unit / US Marines	Training	39.0
<b>COMMUNITY TOTAL</b>		<b>196.5</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL (CITY &amp; COMMUNITY)</b>		<b>889.5 HOURS</b>

*Just a note to all of you who helped make this years Christmas events turn out GREAT. Thanks to the wrappers, shoppers, helpers, drivers, lighting guys, Santa's, phone request coordinator, traffic control, & moral supporters. We delivered 57 children ten presents each, we helped 40 children shop for there families (K-Mart & WalMart), and gave away over 200 toys to local families. It wouldn't have been possible without ALL of you.*

*- S. McCalmont,  
Vice President  
OHFFs Association*



*FFs E. Klaszky & J. Pauley clean up during a motor vehicle accident response on Midway Blvd.; November 2010. Photo R. Merrill.*



*"Wally" 1944 International @ Holland Happening Parade, A. Braunstein April 2010.*



## Bowl for Kids' Sake 2010

"A big thanks to the OHFD team, that raised money and bowled for Big Brothers Big Sisters this past Saturday. It is a great cause that really makes a difference in the lives of the kids that are served.

So, who beat who you ask? Once again, it was a split results\*:

- The OHFD out bowled the OHPD team (they had a ringer)
- The OHPD raised more money than the OHFD team (we had a ringer)

In honor of us raising more money, I was presented with a PlayMobile Rescue truck (red, of course) which I will proudly display in my office.

All I have to say for next year is "I'm taking this to the next level".

- Lieutenant Dyer  
Oak Harbor Police  
Department, May 2010

\* Turns out Lt. Dyer was counting his pennies before the deadline and OHFD actually came out ahead (exactly \$.03 ahead). The Rescue Truck is now proudly displayed in Lt. Anderson's office.

# Year In Review

## January

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 102**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 173**
- **ICOM BACKUP DISPATCH CTR AGREEMENT** with OHFD renewed
- **EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT)** course (5-month) began for POCFF C. Ching
- **ISLAND CO RECRUIT ACADEMY**, 5-months; began for 3 POCFFs: G. Bull, J. Pauley, & G. Zylstra.
- **OHFD SAFETY COMMITTEE** BC Merrill, FF Cuevas, POCFF Schroer, FF Baer, POCFF Heiserman.
- **YEARS OF SERVICE**  
POCFF R. Rodgers - 35 yrs  
Admin Asst R. Velasquez - 20 yrs  
POCFF R. Gonzales - 3 yrs  
POCFF J. Lebaron - 4 yrs  
POCFFs J. Oleson - 3 yrs  
POCFFs B. Bahr, C. Blyther, C. Ching, & E. Hooper - 1yr

## February

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 98**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 238**
- **LUNCH WITH A FIREFIGHTER**, monthly through May, public education / mentoring program at OHSD elementary schools.

## • YEARS OF SERVICE

Lt E. Bridgeford - 14 yrs  
POCFF D. Martin - 8 yrs  
Office Asst A. Braunstein - 5yrs  
POCFFs S. Holcomb and J. Heiserman - 5 yrs

## March

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 107**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 264**
- **CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERY NATIONAL CAMPAIGN**, reminder to change smoke detector batteries
- OHFD also participated in the **St. Patrick's Day Parade**.
- **YEARS OF SERVICE**  
POCFF D. Wright - 18 yrs  
POCFFs A. Carroll, T. Cross, P. Velasquez, R. Villafior - 7 yrs  
POCFF S. LEMME - 6 yrs  
FF Cuevas - 2 yrs

## April

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 83**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 190**
- **WA STATE DEPT OF HEALTH (DOH) PREHOSPITAL PARTICIPATION GRANT \$2,186** awarded OHFD to help meet DOH

requirements to provide prehospital services to the public.

- **2009 OHFD ANNUAL REPORT.**
- Provided support for **Whidbey Island Marathon & Half Marathon.**
- Bowling team participated in **Big Brother & Big Sisters** Fundraising bowling at Oak Bowl.
- In addition, OHFD participated in the **Holland Happening Parade, Adopt-A-Highway** cleanup of SR20 within City Limits and cleanup of **Firefighter Park** on Midway Blvd and Pioneer Way.
- **YEARS OF SERVICE:**  
FF S. McCalmont - 10 yrs

## May

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 98**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 289**
- **EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT) CERTIFICATION:** POCFF C. Ching.
- S.A.D.D DUI Presentation at Oak Harbor High School
- Department of Natural Resources representative at OHFD to inspect DNR items.
- **YEARS OF SERVICE:**  
POCFF D. Faris - 25 yrs  
POCFF R. Mirabal - 4 yrs

## June

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 110**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 114**
- **Surplus 1988 E-One Custom Pumper Engine** sells on Ebay for \$12,500.00.
- **ISLAND CO RECRUIT ACADEMY GRADUATION. FIREFIGHTER I CERTIFICATION**, 2 POC FF recruits Bull and Pauley.
- **ANNUAL PUMP TESTING AT OHFD TRAINING TOWER:** Navy Region NW Fire & Emergency Services (NASWI), Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue, North Whidbey Fire & Rescue, and OHFD.
- OHFD also provided generators and lighting towers for Relay for Life.
- **YEARS OF SERVICE:**  
POCFF J. Hornsby - 32 yrs  
FF D. Baer - 7 yrs

## July

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 118**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 86**
- **POC FIREFIGHTER RECRUITMENT** 5 months, began.
- In addition, OHFD personnel participated in the **Fourth of July Parade**, crews were positioned by the fireworks display site and additional crews covered the City during July 4th festivities.
- PBY Dedication Ceremony
- **YEARS OF SERVICE:**  
Lt C.Anderson - 15 yrs

## August

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 113**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 191**
- **ANNUAL PHYSICAL AGILITY REQUIREMENT** began for POC Firefighters.
- **National Night Out**, children fitted for bicycle helmets, public education props provided for children, an emergency scenario played out, literature provided on Emergency Resources and an appearance by Smokey Bear.
- In addition, OHFD provided an EMS station at the **ROTARY ANNUAL CHALLENGE SERIES RACE** and

provided generators at the **NORTH WHIDBEY LIONS CLUB ANNUAL CAR SHOW**; and participated in **Adopt-A-Highway** cleanup of SR20 within City Limits and cleanup of Firefighter Park on Midway Blvd and Pioneer Way.

- **YEARS OF SERVICE:**  
POCCapt R.Wallin - 24 yrs  
POCFF C.Garden -24 yrs  
Chief M.Soptich - 23 yrs  
POCFF J.Breilein -20 yrs  
Lt M.Engle - 13 yrs

## September

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 115**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 78**
- **ANNUAL PHYSICAL AGILITY REQUIREMENT** continued for POCFFs.
- **CITY OF OAK HARBOR MILITARY APPRECIATION PICNIC** at Windjammer Park. Distributed children's bike helmets and public safety information.
- **YEARS OF SERVICE:**  
POCFF D.Jansen - 30 yrs  
Batt.Chief R.Merrill - 21 yrs  
POCFF P.Schroer - 16 yrs  
FTFF E. Klaszky - 1 yr

## October

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 105**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 126**
- **ANNUAL WELLNESS REQUIREMENT** for full time suppression personnel.
- **NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK:** Smoke Alarms: A Sound You Can Live With.
- **LATERAL AND ENTRY LEVEL PAID ON CALL FIREFIGHTER**, Oct-November testing began.
- OHFD also participated in **HOME DEPOT'S ANNUAL SAFETY FAIR**.
- **YEARS OF SERVICE:**  
Lt M.Buxton - 18 yrs

## November

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 116**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 152**
- **CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERY NATIONAL CAMPAIGN**, reminder to change smoke detector batteries.
- **MASS CASUALTY INCIDENT (MCI) / FULL SCALE MULTI-AGENCY EXERCISE** responded to ferry. Participants included OHFD, OHPD, Navy Region NW Fire & Emergency Services, N. Whidbey Fire & Rescue, Central Whidbey

Island Fire & Rescue and Whidbey General Hospital.

- In addition, OHFD personnel participated in the **ANNUAL NORTH WHIDBEY COMMUNITY HARVEST THANKSGIVING DINNER** at the Elk's lodge.

## December

- **INCIDENT RESPONSE: 88**
- **TRAINING HOURS: 78**
- **LATERAL POC FIREFIGHTER HIRED:**  
C.Hopkins.
- **ENTRY LEVEL POC FIREFIGHTER HIRED:** J.Goff, O.Haffner, J.Hammond, Jo.Janson\*, Ja.Janson, L.Mattson, J.Russell, T.Walstad.
- **21ST ANNUAL OHFD FAMILY PARTY AND BANQUET** held at Station 81, honored firefighters and their families.
- **YEARS OF SERVICE:**  
POC FF J.Roberts - 14 yrs  
POCFFs G.Bull and J.Pauley - 1 yr

*\* prior OHFD service  
March 2003-August 2003*

*"We wish to thank you  
for your generous contribution  
of time and equipment  
for the dedication of  
the PBY on July 10,  
2010"*

*– PBY Memorial  
Foundation, July 2010*

*Ready*

Preparing for all types of hazards our City can encounter is the prime concern of the **Department of Emergency Services.** They include all events from civil disorder to earthquakes. A top priority is the training of City employees and to promote and provide public education to prepare our citizens.

*“Thanks for keeping  
“Cherry Village’s”  
batteries refreshed.”  
– Mabel,  
October 2010  
(OHFD changed smoke  
detector batteries in  
vaulted ceilings of senior  
homes).*

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

The mission of **Emergency Services** is to plan and prepare for hazards that threaten the lives, property, and environment of our citizens. This includes the maintenance of a Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) that provides the direction for City departments to mitigate the hazards and emergency preparedness training for our citizens.

### **2010 Accomplishments:**

- City Emergency Operations Center was relocated and improvements made.
- Recipient WA State Homeland Security Grant \$27,270

### **2011-2012 Goals:**

- **Goal: Maintain the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)**  
Objective: Conduct a review and update the plan.
- **Goal: Conduct an Annual Training Exercise**  
Objective: Conduct an annual exercise to practice and evaluate the effectiveness of the CEMP and the readiness of City departments.

## Oak Harbor EOC: Facing Emergencies with Technology



The City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is located at Oak Harbor Fire Department, Station 81 and Fire Chief Mark Soptich serves as the City's Emergency Operations Director (or Emergency Manager). The EOC is activated any time the City faces an emergency crisis or disaster; such as a severe winter storm. Key personnel from various City departments report to the EOC during the crisis to make operational decisions, collect and analyze data, and disseminate information to concerned agencies and individuals.

In 2010 the EOC was moved to a larger area within Station 81 and received some needed technology upgrades. When the City is not facing a crisis, the room is utilized as a meeting and training space.



*Photos: Left, top—EOC in new location of Station 81 West wing. Left, bottom—a workstation within the EOC, and right, bottom—EOC radios ready for service. Photos by A. Braunstein, February 2010.*

## Looking forward to 2011

*(...continued from page 8)*

*We will strive to continue providing quality services. Our ability to provide these services becomes increasingly difficult as our community grows. With a strict budget, we will continue to search for new methods to attain our goals. We will strengthen existing relationships with neighboring fire departments seeking opportunities that will produce positive results for each department, the community and its citizens. We will continue to prepare the community for disasters through public education and we will train with other city departments to improve interoperability.*

*Our goal is a simple one: Provide excellent customer services as effectively and efficiently as possible. Maintaining our goal will require the continued support of the community, our city officials, and our fire personnel. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the fine men and women of the Oak Harbor Fire Department for their dedication and service. Be Safe!*

*Respectfully,*

**Mark Soptich**

*Mark Soptich, Chief*

### **2011 – 2012 Goals:**

**Goal: Implement Fire Department Re-Organization**

*Objective:* Complete job description/s and testing process

**Goal: Implement WA State Safe Place for Newborns**

*Objective:* Complete policies and procedures identifying the fire station as a safe place to transfer a newborn child, under 72 hours old, under specific circumstances.

**Goal: Replace Rescue Unit**

*Objective:* Identify funding source

**Goal: Technical Rescue Training Site 2011**

*Objective:* Complete prop installation

**Goal: Ladder Truck Replacement in 2012**

*Objective:* Identify funding source

## 35 Years of Service... and counting

Firefighter Rich Rodgers was honored during a February 2010 City of Oak Harbor Council Meeting.



*Above: Firefighter Rich and Bobbi Rodgers.*

*Below: FF Rodgers addresses the Council. Photos by R. Velasquez, February 2010*



### **FIREFIGHTER RICH RODGERS OAK HARBOR FIRE DEPARTMENT**

35 years in the fire service (1975 – 2010)  
All with the **Oak Harbor Fire Department**

- Fireman of the Year - 1978
- One of the first EMT's at Department
- First Paramedic in the Department
- President of the Firefighter's Association total of 5 years
- Worked for 4 different Mayors
- Worked for 4 different Fire Chiefs
- Worked with 37 council members
- Worked with 126 different firefighters
- Instructor of EMT Program, CPR and First Aid at Skagit Valley College for 16 years.

*Thank  
you*

*Back Cover Photo: OHFD Firefighters during a practice burn.  
Photo by R. Velasquez*



2010 Annual Report  
Oak Harbor Fire Department

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Oak Harbor, Washington

Produced and presented by Mark Soptich, Fire Chief  
Editor: Romy Velasquez, Administrative Assistant  
Design and Production: Angela Braunstein, Office Assistant

Thank you to department personnel who submitted Division Reports and Statistics:  
Battalion Chief Ray Merrill, Fire Prevention Division  
Lieutenant Craig Anderson, Training Division  
Lieutenant Mike Engle, Maintenance Division

The Oak Harbor Fire Department acknowledges the following for the use of photographs  
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Angela Braunstein, Robert Wallin and OHFD members.

An electronic version of this publication is available online at [www.oakharbor.org](http://www.oakharbor.org)