

The River Falls Fire Department 2014 ANNUAL REPORT



THE RIVER FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT
2014 ANNUAL REPORT
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2014 Annual Report

It is with great pleasure that I submit this year's River Falls Fire Department Annual Report.

This report is a compilation of many of these accomplishments as well as a review of our inventory, call volume, statistics and other items of interest. I have included separate reports from our Assistant Chiefs, Fire Safety Education Officer Pauline Williams and a special feature on our process for purchasing our new fire engine from Truck Committee Chair Neil Engel. Every member of our department has helped in the success we had this past year. We are all very proud of our department, its accomplishments and its service to the River Falls community.

I am grateful to our membership for their contributions. I would also like to thank our Mayor and City Council members, our Police and Fire Commission, the River Falls Rural Fire Association, City Administrator Scot Simpson and City staff for the support they have given the River Falls Fire Department in 2014.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Simpson", written in a cursive style.

Fire Chief



SNAPSHOT OF HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2014



Neil Engel and his wife, Christine

- The 2013 Firefighter of the Year was awarded in January 2014 to Neil Engel. A relative new comer to the department, Neil was selected from a group of his peers and awarded this honor at the department's Annual Awards Banquet held in January.

"Since becoming a member of the department, Neil has had a positive attitude and has become an informal leader. We're lucky to have him as a member." said Chief Nelson. Neil's leadership qualities came through as he guided the department's truck committee through the process of writing specifications for a new fire engine. His experience as a mechanical engineer helped make the process go smoothly. Neil moved to River Falls 6 years ago with his wife, Christine and three children; Masy, Hidee and KCee.

After receiving the award, Neil commented, "I'm very honored to be selected, as the award is chosen by the past 'Fire Fighters of the Year'. Each of the fire fighters on our department brings with them a unique set of skills, and I think that is what makes a volunteer fire department so strong. It's our job, as volunteer fire fighters, to make sure we are stepping forward when our unique talent is needed by the department. I am just trying to do my part."

- Oyster Feed was held on February 3rd; Town Board members, RFFD Rural Association, City Department heads, City Council, the Police and Fire Commission, neighboring Fire Departments and others are invited as our way of thanking them for supporting the mission of RFFD.

- 2014 American Legion Post 121 Outstanding Firefighter Award was presented to Pauline Williams at a ceremony on March 15, 2014. Also Battalion Chief Gary Eloranta was presented with the outstanding EMT Award for his work with the EMS service. They were both well deserved.
- Took delivery of new Ice/Water Rescue equipment.
- Firefighter Tom Schwalen retired from the department with over 30 years of service.
- Grant Awarded. On June 6, 2014, RFFD received notice from FEMA that our grant request submitted under the 2013 Assistance to Firefighters Grant program was approved. Funding from this grant was used to help pay for a high pressure SCBA fill station. This is a great addition to the new SCBA units we will be purchasing by the end of the year.
- Participated in the 2014 Touch a Truck, the ladder truck was set up and gear was set out for kids to try on and members grilled brats and hot dogs to sell. Proceeds from the sales were presented to the department for Fire Safety Education needs.
- The following members participated in the Tri-Angels Fun Run/10K run/motorcycle ride; Nate Baar, Matt Cernohous, Jonathan Gaulke, Ky Kaminski, Robb Kerr, Ted Slowiak, Pauline Williams, Justin Wilson. Mike Fecht, Adam Larson, and Chief Nelson.
- The following members Participated in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Grill Out Event; Bill Cernohous, Pauly Cudd, Scott Gavin, Dean Grisar, Ted Slowiak, Chief Nelson.
- Participated in Fox Den Books Read to Kids Event on August 13, 2014.
- All members of the department took part in Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC) driving classes.
- The following members assisted with fire extinguisher training at UWRF; Doug Rudesill, Bill Cernohous, Gene McKahan, and Ted Slowiak.
- Received from the River Falls FFA chapter a donation of a Grain Bin Rescue Tube.
- Scott Gavin was promoted to the position of Battalion Chief.
- Tom Foley was promoted to the position of Captain.
- Participated in Ace Hardware's weekend event "Smoke Detectors Save Lives" members gave away 150 smoke detectors that had been donated by Ace Hardware.
- River Falls Days Participation
 - Water Fights with local business teams and separate water fights for children.
 - Participated in River Falls Days Parade
 - Washed down Beer Garden parking lots
 - Emergency Standby for tractor pull and fireworks display

- Continued “On Deck” training. This is a fire ground scene management system that stresses accountability of responders and organization of the various tasks that take place during an emergency. Emphasis is on safety.
- Participated in the City and Utilities Customer Appreciation event that was held at City Hall. RFFD provided the Family Safety House for participants to tour.
- RFFD Annual Open house was held on Monday, September 29th from 6 to 8 PM. Students from the Middle School helped with some of the booths. Guests enjoyed a variety of fire safety games and informational booths along with fire extinguisher and vehicle extrication demonstrations.
- October was Fire prevention month. Fire Education Officer Pauline Williams and her crew delivered our fire safety message to over 1,500 students and the community. This included 300 students that went through our fire safety house. On October 22nd, Pauline presented a recap of the Fire Safety Program to City Council members.
- Received City Council approval of a new Engine bid, delivery to be sometime in September 2015.
- On Friday, November 28th, participated in the River Dazzle Parade that was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.
- Members passed the “boot” and collected \$183.00 for Sharing Families.

MEMBERSHIP

We ended 2014 with 47 paid on call members and 1 full time Chief on the department.

Years of Service as of December 31, 2014

Carl Gaulke	42 years 3 months	Michael Fecht	7 years 8 months
Frank Holter	41 years	Nathaniel Baar	7 years 7 months
Gary Eloranta	40 years 6 months	Jonathan Gaulke	7 years 7 months
Gene McKahan	40 years 4 months	Danny Nicholson	7 years 7 months
Pauly Cudd	33 years 10 months	Mike Nicholson	7 years 7 months
Tom Foley	29 years 3 months	James Rimer	7 years 7 months
Douglas Rudesill	28 years 10 months	Scott Nelson*	4 years 3 months
Bill Cernohous	25 years 2 months	Neil Engel	3 years 10 months
Bill Lubich	25 years 2 months	Garrett Gill	3 years 10 months
Troy Malmer	25 years 2 months	Ky Kaminski	3 years 10 months
Mike Moody	25 years 2 months	Robert Kerr	3 years 10 months
Ed Nicholson	25 years 2 months	Ted Slowiak	3 years 10 months
Pauline Williams	22 years 5 months	Dustin Dodge	1 year 10 months
Chris Cernohous	19 years 3 months	Matt Dodge	1 year 10 months
Jason Sammon	19 years 1 month	Dan Dodge	1 year 10 months
Molly McLagan	19 years 1 month	Dan Dudley	1 year 10 months
Matt Cernohous	13 years	Brendan Johnson	1 year 10 months
Dean Grisar	13 years	Steve McCluskey	1 year 10 months
Evan Larsen	13 years	Charles Meyer	1 year 10 months
Ed Vlack	13 years	Mitch O'Keefe	1 year 10 months
Scott Gavin	11 years	Shawn Olson	1 year 10 months
Matt Johnson	11 years	Brian Roquette	1 year 10 months
Adam Larson	11 years	Justin Wilson	1 year 10 months
Sean Slaikeu	11 years	Jonathan Wright	1 year 10 months

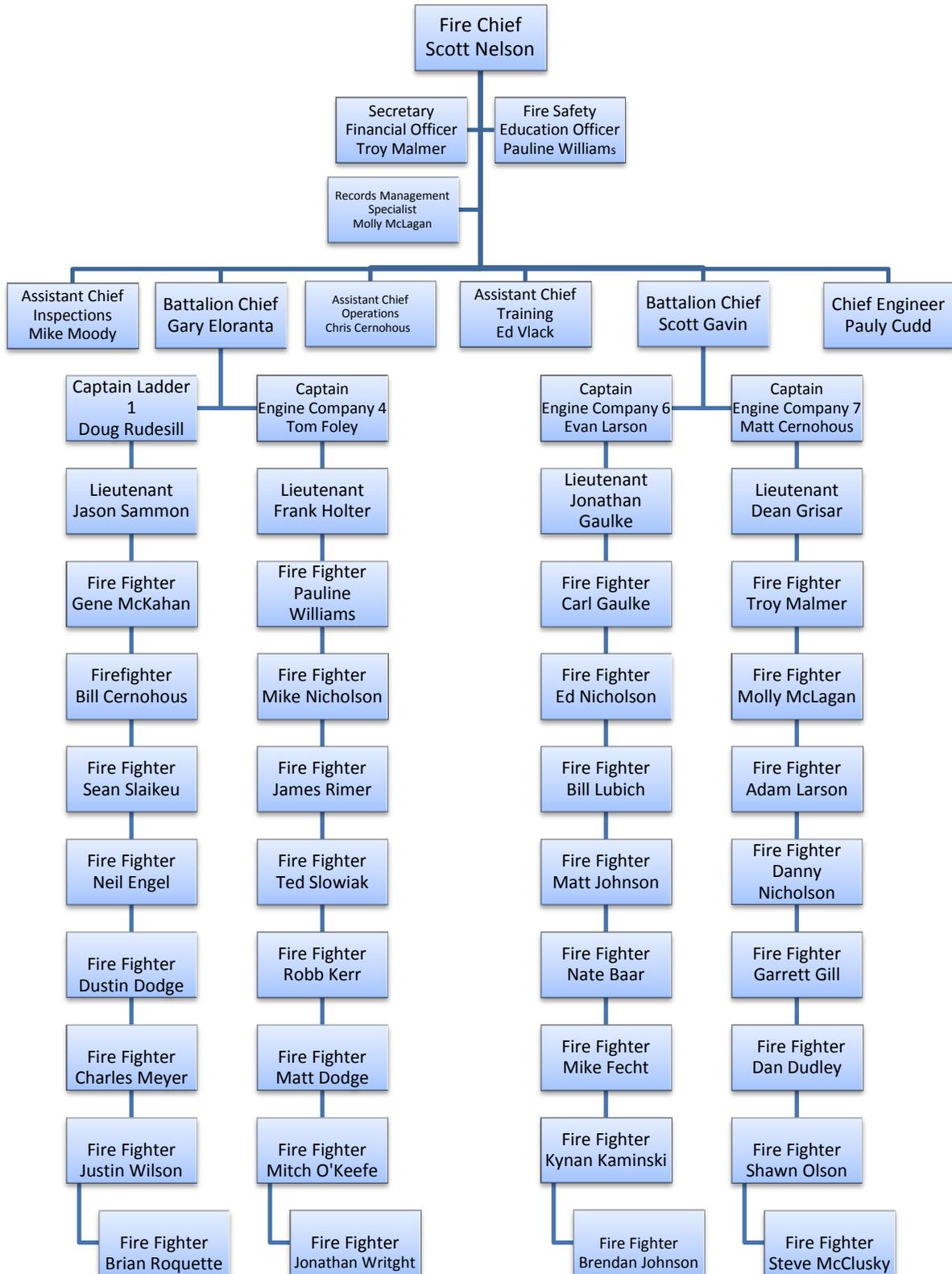
Total Years of Service **630 years 6 months**
Active Members 47 (Average of 13 years 6 months)
Full Time Active 1*

RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:

The following members retired or resigned from the department in 2014:

- Tom Schwalen
- Tom Schmitz
- Jake Koskie
- Jake Malmer
- Taylor Kaminski
- Megan Larson

River Falls Fire Department (As of 4/1/2014)





Fire Safety Education 2014

*"Tell me and I forget,
Teach me and I remember,
Involve me and I learn"*

Ben Franklin

Involving individuals, young and old, in fire safety education is the philosophy we continue to strive for with the fire safety education program. 2014 was another year of smiles, fun, and learning the importance of fire safety in everyday living.

A sampling of 2014 events included tours of the fire hall and visits to several locations-

UW- RF Health Fair
Firefighter's Are Your Friends
Pre-school Party- Park and Rec
Touch-A-Truck
Little Adventures
Fox Den Books
Big Brothers Big Sisters Picnic

Jacob's Ladder
MOPS
Boy Scout Troops
Kinni Town Picnic
Daycare visits
River Dazzle
Park & Rec activities



Extrication Demonstration - Open House
Estimated over 400 visitors to the annual event

Our program provided over 300 kindergarten students their first fire truck ride; over 300 students experienced the fire safety house, and Freddie the Fire Truck brought laughter, squeals, and fire safety education to 1,500 students and the community! The Fire Safety House traveled to Baldwin, Somerset, Roberts, Hudson, and River Falls.



My thanks, as always, to those that continue to make this program such a positive part of the River Falls Fire Dept. I welcome anyone interested to come experience our safety education program, pick up a hose line, dance with Freddie, or don the gear of a firefighter. Ideas for new activities are always encouraged! See you in 2015!

*Respectfully submitted,
Pauline Williams- River Falls Fire Dept. Safety Education Officer*



APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT

Rolling Stock –

- Engine 4 - 2001 Freightliner, 1,500 GPM pumper.
- Engine 7 - 1989 Ford, 1,250 GPM pumper.
- Engine 6 - 1984 Ford, 1,250 GPM pumper.
- Ladder #1 - 2004 Pierce 100' aerial/2,000 GPM pump.
- Tanker 1 - 1994 Freightliner, 2,000-gallon tanker/personnel carrier.
- Tanker 2 - 1995 Freightliner, 2,000-gallon tanker/personnel carrier.
- Brush 1 - 2001 Ford, 250 GPM grass/brush truck.
- Brush 2 - 2012 Chevy Hi-Pressure GPM grass/brush truck.
- Ranger - 2003 Polaris Ranger.
- Model A Ford, used for department promotions.
- 1939 Ford, used for department promotions.
- Fire Safety House trailer, used for Fire Safety Education.
- 2003 Haz-Mat enclosed trailer.
- 2004 Haz-Mat enclosed trailer.

Other Equipment:

We developed a comprehensive equipment replacement plan that will meet the future needs of the department and work within the City's budget process. In addition to replacement of self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and an updated fill station for air bottles, a priority item included in the replacement plan included a new fire engine. A committee was formed to write specifications for this specialized piece of apparatus.

RIVER FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

2014 TRAINING REPORT

Edward Vlack – Assistant Chief – Training

I. SUMMARY REPORT

- Training for members of the River Falls Fire Department takes place every Monday evening from 6:00 p.m. to 9:15 p.m., except on holidays.
- Annual training goals and the training schedule is prepared by the Training Committee which consists of the following members:

Assistant Chief Edward Vlack	Member since 2000
Battalion Chief Gary Eloranta	Member since 1975
Battalion Chief Scott Gavin	Member since 2007
Captain Tom Foley	Member since 1984
Lieutenant Dean Grisar	Member since 2000
Firefighter Mike Fecht	Member since 2008
Firefighter Justin Wilson	Member since 2013

- Training on the first Monday of each month consists of monthly maintenance to ensure that all vehicles, equipment and tools are in proper working order. In even months we have a business meeting on the first Monday. We intend to start training just for officers on the first Monday.
- Training on the third Monday of the month is prepared and presented by two engine companies.
- The River Falls Fire Department training schedule covers a variety of topics. However, the primary focus of training is to enhance skills needed for incidents that demand immediate, potential life-saving action, such as a structure fire or a vehicle accident.
- The River Falls Fire Department training tower, located near the wastewater treatment plant, is utilized for training as often as possible during warmer months.
- If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

Ed Vlack	715-441-1547	bvlack@pressenter.com
Gary Eloranta	715-821-2560	gary.eloranta@uwrf.edu
Scott Gavin	715-760-2322	biggavs@hotmail.com

II. FULL REPORT



- A.** Training for members of the River Falls Fire Department takes place every Monday evening from 6:00 p.m. to 9:15 p.m., except on holidays.

Persons who join the River Falls Fire Department, who have not already received necessary certifications, are required to attend classes and pass both written and practical exams to become proficient in basic fire fighter skills. However, the education and training of members of the River Falls Fire Department does not end with receipt of those certifications. The members participate in weekly training to not only maintain, but to improve and enhance their skills as a firefighter. As noted, training for the River Falls Fire Department is conducted every Monday evening, from 6:00 pm until 9:15 pm, except on major holidays.

- B.** Annual training goals and the training schedule are prepared by the Training Committee.

The Training Committee consists of the following members:

Assistant Chief Edward Vlack	Member since 2000
Battalion Chief Gary Eloranta	Member since 1974
Battalion Chief Scott Gavin	Member since 2004
Captain Tom Foley	Member since 1984
Lieutenant Dean Grisar	Member since 2000
Firefighter Mike Fecht	Member since 2007
Firefighter Justin Wilson	Member since 2013

The Training Committee has more than 123 years of combined experience as firefighters. Their points of view range from one of most senior members of the River Falls Fire Department, to one of the newest members. The Training Committee meets once a month and sets the training schedule for at least the upcoming three months.

- C.** Training on the first Monday of each month consists of monthly maintenance to ensure that all vehicles, equipment and tools are in proper working order.

Training on the first Monday of every month always consists of performing monthly maintenance on all vehicles and all equipment, to insure that all vehicle and piece of equipment and working properly, and that all tools are in proper working order and that all tools and inventory are in their proper location.

The River Falls Fire Department has a command structure consisting of the Chief, Four Assistant Chiefs, two Battalion Chiefs, plus four engine companies, each headed by a Captain and a Lieutenant – Engine 4, Engine 6, Engine 7 and Ladder 1. In years past, the monthly maintenance for an engine company's vehicles, equipment and tools was always performed by that engine company. For example, Engine 4 always performed maintenance on Engine 4 vehicles, equipment and tools. As was noted in last year's report, in 2014 a maintenance schedule was adopted under which each engine company performs maintenance on its own vehicles six times a year, but then performs maintenance on other engine companies' vehicles six times a year. This enables members to have not only a better awareness of their own engine company vehicles, but awareness of all vehicles.

On the first Monday of the month for odd months, after member's complete maintenance on vehicles, equipment and tools, we then have our bi-monthly business meeting. At our recent Training Committee meeting, we agreed that we need to have more officer meetings/training. So, we will initiate officer training and/or officer meetings on the first Monday of the month.

D. Training on the third Monday of the month is prepared and presented by two engine companies.

In 2013 we began a new program instituted by Chief Scott Nelson under which is that on the third Monday of the month, the training topic for that night is selected and presented by two engine companies. This was done for a number of reasons, two of which are: If there is a training topic the engine company wants the entire department to train on, they can pick that topic and, secondly, it gives the firefighters an opportunity to choose the person or persons that they want to teach the topic.

E. The River Falls Fire Department training schedule covers a variety of topics. However, the primary focus of training is to enhance skills needed for incidents that demand immediate, potential life-saving action, such as a structure fire or a vehicle accident.

There are a variety of training areas that the River Falls Fire Department covers during the course of a year, which include: Vehicle accidents, structure fires, building construction, ice rescue, ropes and knots, hazardous materials, confined space rescue, vehicle extrication, water relay (using water tenders), relay pumping (from one pumper to another), hose line advancement (into burning structures), blood borne pathogens and HIPPA (confidentiality), vehicle stabilization (using air bags and/or stabilizing struts), swift water rescue (kayakers on the Kinnickinnic River), use of thermal imaging cameras, aerial ladder operations, CPR and AED recertification, dormitory/multi-story fires, fire prevention, forcible entry, portable fire extinguishers, ventilation and roof operations, use of gas monitors; CO alarm response, incident size-up, trench rescue, SCBA (self contained breathing apparatus), use of ground ladders, patient packaging and movement, salvage and overhaul, pre-plan inspections, and radio communications, just to name a few. However, the primary focus of training for the River Falls Fire Department is to enhance skills needed for incidents that demand immediate, potential life-saving action, such as a structure fire or a vehicle accident in which persons have been injured and need to be extricated from a vehicle by using special tools and equipment.

Last year new extrication equipment was purchased and we have trained with the use of that new equipment, which will be placed on the new engine when received this September/October. At that time, we will also have training scheduled to train specifically with the new engine.

- F.** The River Falls Fire Department training tower, located near the wastewater treatment plant, is utilized for training as often as possible during warmer months.

The River Falls Fire Department is very lucky to have a training tower, located near the waste water treatment plant, which allows us to enhance skills that are necessary when dealing with any incident involving a building, such as: advancing a hose line into a building, advancing a hose line up a stairway in a building, rescuing a victim from a building via the stairway, rescuing a victim from a building via a window by ground ladder, rescuing a victim from a building using an aerial ladder, relay pumping, and aerial ladder operations at a structure. We utilize the training tower as often as we can from late spring to late fall.

G. Conclusion

Finally, we ended the year 2013 and began the year 2014 by taking a training survey of all members. The questions asked were: (1) in the last year what have you liked most about training, (2) in the last year what have you liked least about training, (3) what areas would you like to see more emphasis on, and (4) do you have any other suggestions. We continue to use the responses when discussing topics to train on as well as how we train.





INSPECTION PROGRAM:

2014 Annual Fire Inspections Report

By Mike Moody – Assistant Chief - Inspections

In 2014 besides me, Inspectors Jonathan Gaulke, Molly McLagan and Doug Rudesill completed almost 200 fire inspections. This consists of not only annual fire inspections, but also reinspections, on site visits to answer code questions for property owners, site plan and building plan reviews and final acceptance inspections of sprinkler and alarm system installations.

We have been working for the last few years to get all of our inspectable properties loaded into our Image Trend reporting software. This provides information we need to know if the event we respond to one of these locations for a fire call. It includes such things as building construction, building size, if it is sprinkled and has an alarm system, where the fire department key box is located and an emergency contact call list. Currently the Fire Squad and our first response pumper have computers in them. Our new pumper that is on order and will be in service before the end of the year will also have a computer on board. This will allow us to access the information about these properties at the scene rather than having it looked up at the fire hall and relayed by radio to the people on scene. Our focus in 2014 was to get to the properties that had not been entered into the system yet rather than reinspecting properties that we had already accurate information on. As a result we have over 90% of the properties in Image Trend.

Our goal has been and still is to get to all of the over 700 inspectable properties at least once every 15 months for routine fire prevention inspections. But being we are all volunteers makes it very challenging. During 2014 Inspector Gaulke was hired as a full time inspector by the City of St Paul and Inspector McLagan finished nursing school. I congratulate both of them on their accomplishment but see and understand that it leaves both of them with less time for inspections.

2014 OPERATIONS REPORT

By Chris Cernohous – Assistant Chief – Operations

Some of the duties and responsibilities of the Assistant Chief of Operations consist of the following:

-Involved in the selection, design and bidding process of new rescue pumper and equipment. It's been a long but very detailed process and the committee is very excited and proud of the apparatus that has been put together.

-Involved in helping with training when asked by the training officers.

-Involved in personnel and disciplinary issues within the department.

-The main goal for the next year is to update our department's Standard Operating Guidelines. I am the head of the committee and our job is to look at our Standard Operating Guidelines and revise them as necessary.

-Involved in organizing River Falls Days activities, mainly assigning and placing personnel and equipment for response during the parade on Friday night.

-Involved in day-to-day activities as requested by the Fire Chief.

As an Assistant Chief, I have also dealt with a variety of personnel and policy issues where all of the Assistant Chiefs discuss the issue at hand with Chief Nelson. Some of these issues include; members missing training, requests for leaves of absences and driving apparatus.

New Truck Committee By Firefighter Neil Engel

The River Falls Fire Department established a committee in late 2012 to investigate, define, and develop a specification for the purchase of a new fire truck.

2013 was spent reviewing recent fire truck purchases by local fire departments, evaluating new technologies available from the various manufacturers of fire apparatus, and comparing these ideas against the needs of the fire department.

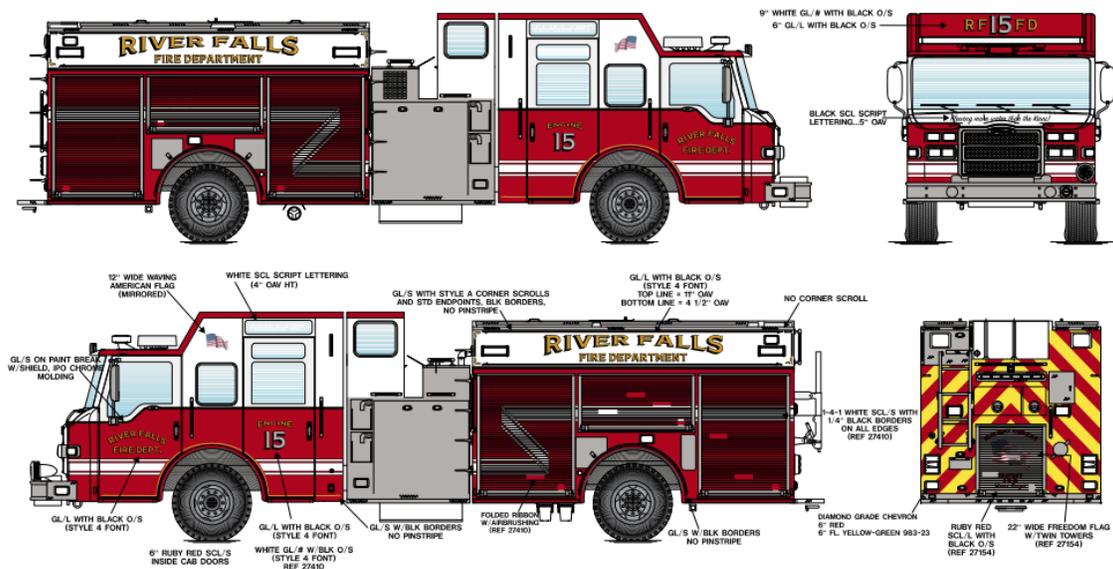
In January, 2014, the committee, with the input of the rest of the fire department, determined that the new truck would be configured to provide structural firefighting capabilities, but have specific features that would allow it to be better configured for responding to the increasing demands of non-fire related calls, such as medical support, vehicle accidents, search and rescue, and hazardous materials containment.

The committee submitted a preliminary specification to several fire apparatus manufacturers for their review, and discussed pricing options related to potential revisions to the design. From the input received during this review, the committee created a final truck specification, which was put out for bid in September.

The department received 3 bids, and selected Pierce Manufacturing, Inc., an apparatus manufacturer located in Appleton, WI, as the winning bidder. The contract for the build of the truck, which came in under budget, was signed in November, 2014.

Since the signing of the contract, the committee has been working with Pierce addressing design related questions as Pierce completes the engineering documentation required for building the truck to the department's requirements.

The truck is currently targeted for completion near September 1, 2015. After up-fitting the truck with necessary equipment, and training on the operation of its features, the truck will be put into service in late fall, 2015. A drawing showing the general design of the new truck is included for review.



Records Management Inventory Module

By Molly McLagan, Records Specialist/FF

The Image Trend software is capable of multiple functions and the latest module we have incorporated is the Inventory Module.

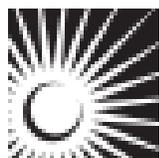
This module is a complete blank slate that needs to be built from the ground up. This means being very organized prior to beginning to enter anything into the computer system or else risk having to enter everything into the computer system multiple times.

After many hours of brainstorming with the team of Scott Nelson, Carl Gaulke, Molly McLagan and city Intern Josh Solinger we travelled to Image Trend headquarters in Lakeville, MN to spend the afternoon getting our questions answered. From there we were able to enter and categorize almost 600 items and allocate any new gear that came in to the members of the department.

Allocating items allows us to quickly inventory each members gear and personal items assigned to them. When they retire or resign those items (radios, pagers) can be placed back into circulation and can be accounted for.

This system will also allow the department to track the fixed assets with a value set within the department. This will allow the budget process to be more effective and efficient and also help during grant writing applications.

This will be an ongoing process as any new equipment is acquired by the department and allocated to its members. As this is such an overwhelming and time-consuming project, priority was placed on brand new equipment, fixed assets and large budget items.



IMAGETREND INC.

MABAS

By Firefighter Dan Dudley



About MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System)...

It's a mutual aid organization that has been in existence since the late 1960s. It is a method to manage resources for very large incidents that require help from our neighbors in the Counties we serve as well as beyond.

MABAS first came to Wisconsin in 1987 with the joining of the Village of Pleasant Prairie in Kenosha County. MABAS divisions geographically span the states of Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Missouri, Michigan, and the other states, i.e. Minnesota, Iowa, and Ohio, are considering joining.

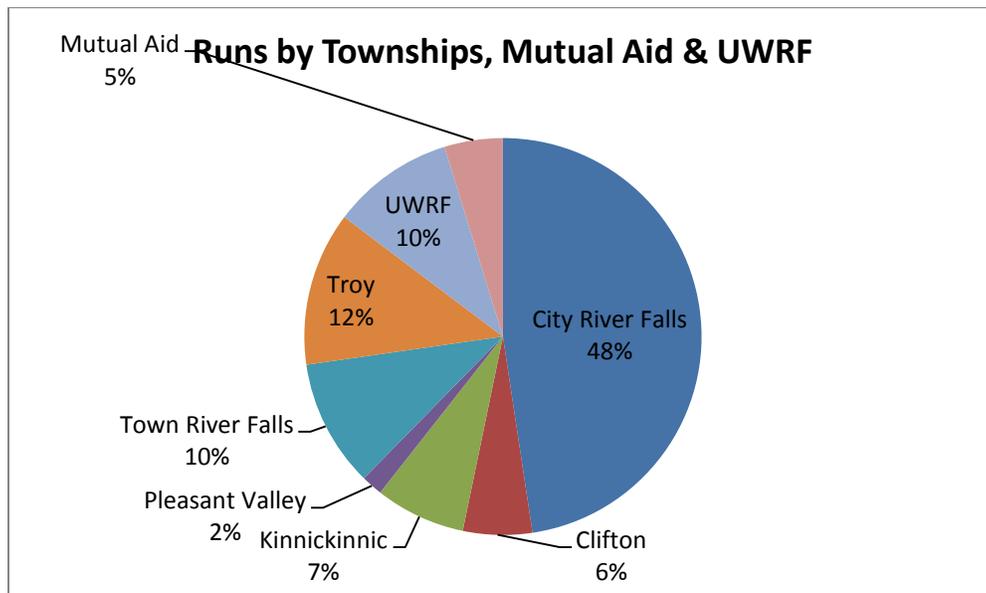
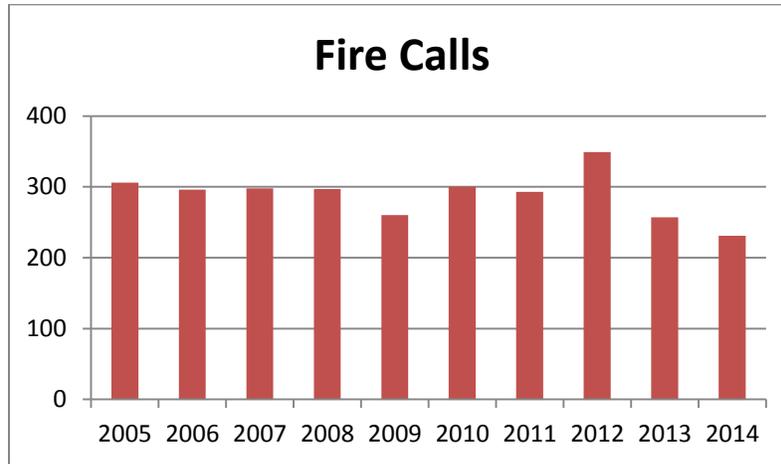
There are 55 established Wisconsin divisions as of June 2015. There are nine different box alarm cards for different types of incidents including Structure, EMS, Wild land fire, Water/ICE rescue, HAZMAT, Technical Rescue, Target Hazard, and Natural Disaster. Each box type has five alarms levels that call for more resources at different alarms

River Falls Fire is part of the St. Croix County (Division 143). We now have nine box cards created awaiting approval from the St. Croix County Chiefs.

Pierce County (Division 156) received it's division number this year and there has been a group of firefighters, fire officers, and dispatchers from throughout the county working on the development of the County's MABAS system. Because River Falls lies inside two Counties, we are active in both the St. Croix and Pierce divisions of MABAS.

CALLS FOR SERVICE

In 2014, the River Falls Fire Department responded to a total of 231 calls. Total calls for the past five years are as follows: **2014= 231; 2013 = 257; 2012 = 349; 2011 = 293; 2010 = 300;**



2014 Fire Calls – by City/Town

City of River Falls	110
Town of Clifton	13
Town of Kinnickinnic	17
Town of Pleasant Valley	4
Town of River Falls	24
Town of Troy	29
UWRF	23
Mutual Aid	11
231 Total	

Break down of Calls by Month and Category

General Class	Jan 14	Feb 14	Mar 14	Apr 14	May 14	Jun 14	Jul 14	Aug 14	Sep 14	Oct 14	Nov 14	Dec 14	Total by Type
Accident, potential accident (46)			1				1						2
Bomb scare (72)		1											1
Chemical release, reaction, or toxic condition (42)	3								1				4
Combustible/flammable spills & leaks (41)	1								1		1	1	4
Cover assignment, standby at fire station, move-up (57)	1		1	1	1	2				1	1	2	10
Dispatched and cancelled en route (61)	1							1		2			4
Electrical wiring/equipment problem (44)		1	1	1		1							4
Emergency medical service (EMS) Incident (32)	3	1	2	2	3	4	1	3	4	7	5	5	40
EMS call where party has been transported (66)											1		1
Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition (25)			1										1
Extrication, rescue (35)										1	1		2
False alarm and false call, other (70)								1					1
Fire in mobile property used as a fixed structure (12)			1										1
Fire, other (10)					1			1		1			3
Flammable gas or liquid condition, other (40)	1				1				1				3
Good intent call, other (60)	1		2				1	1			1		6
HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat (67)								1					1
Malicious, mischievous false alarm (71)	1	1	1			1	2			1			7
Medical assist (31)	1		1		1		1			1			5
Mobile property (vehicle) fire (13)		1	2		1	1		3	2		2		12
Natural vegetation fire (14)				5									5
Outside rubbish fire (15)							1			1	1		3
Public service assistance (55)				2	1	1	1					1	6
Rescue or EMS standby (38)								1					1
Smoke, odor problem (53)	2		1			1	1						5
Special outside fire (16)										2			2
Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke (65)			1				1						2
Structure Fire (11)	4		2		1	2							9
System or detector malfunction (73)	1			1		1	1						4
Unintentional system/detector operation (no fire) (74)	10	5	4	2	7	6	4	9	6	10	9	8	80
Vicinity alarm (64)				1									1
Water problem (52)								1					1
Total	30	10	21	15	17	20	15	22	15	27	22	17	231

SIGNIFICANT RESPONSES

- On Tuesday, January 14, we assisted Glenwood City Fire with a fire at Glen haven Nursing Home. We responded with an Engine, Tender, and Ladder Truck and 14 firefighters. Numerous area departments responded to this major fire, the building, under construction, was a total loss.
- On Thursday, January 30th, we battled a fire in an abandoned house at 479 Valley View Road. We responded with two engines, two tenders, and the squad. The structure was fully evolved with fire through the roof and outside walls when we arrived.
- On Friday, January 31st, we battled a Shed fire at 1105 County Road N. We responded with two engines, two tenders, and the squad, Roberts and Hudson Fire also responded. There was approximately \$140,000 damage.
- On Friday, January 31st, RFFD responded to a house fire at N8552 805th St. We responded with two engines, two tenders, and the squad. Ellsworth Fire responded mutual aid. The structure was fully involved with flames through the roof when we arrived. There was approximately \$150,000 damage.
- On Wednesday March 5th, RFFD responded to a structure fire at 83 170th Street. We responded with two engines, two tenders, and the squad. Roberts Fire responded Mutual Aid. The structure sustained significant damage, approximately \$170,000 damage.
- On Thursday March 27th, RFFD responded to a reported Structure fire at 351 Glover Road. We responded with two engines, two tenders, and the squad. Roberts Fire and Hudson Fire responded Mutual Aid. There was heavy fire in the garage and porch of the house when crews arrived. The fire was knocked down quickly but there was still significant damage to the house.
- On Tuesday April 8, RFFD responded Mutual Aid to Hudson Fire for a structure fire at 330 High View Road with two Tenders and a Squad. The structure sustained significant damage.
- On Saturday June 14th, we responded Mutual Aid to Hudson for a structure fire at 676 Packer Drive. We responded with a Tender and an Engine. The structure sustained significant damage.
- On Monday June 16th, we responded to a structure fire at 1522 County Road J. We responded with two engines, two tenders, and the squad, Roberts, Hammond, and Hudson Fire also responded. There was significant damage.
- On Sunday October 25th, we responded Mutual Aid to Hudson Fire to a structure fire at 610 Country Side Lane. We responded with two engines, one tender, and the squad. There was significant damage.

GRANTS AND DONATIONS

By Chief Scott Nelson

- On June 6, 2014, RFFD received the following notice from FEMA that our grant request submitted under the 2013 Assistance to Firefighters Grant program was approved.

Date: 06/06/2014 Subject: Award Notification (Application Number: EMW-2013-FO-06425) From: firegrants@dhs.gov
Congratulations! Your grant application submitted under the Grant Programs Directorate's (DHS) FY 2013 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program has been approved for award.

Funding from this grant will be used to replace our outdated air fill station for self-contained breathing apparatus. FEMA is contributing \$25,000 towards the \$37,964 cost of the project.

In addition to being old and obsolete, our current fill station does not have the capacity to fill our new SCBA units that hold a higher volume effectively. A new fill station will fill larger capacity bottles as well as monitor carbon monoxide.

Safe, effective equipment is vital to our mission of providing professional emergency response and providing the level of protection our firefighters need and deserve. Funding from this grant is needed for us to enhance the safety of our responders. Equipment that is reliable and not obsolete will increase firefighter safety and their ability to work in hazardous environments.



LOOKING FORWARD

By Chief Nelson

We have identified a number of projects to work on and goals to be met as our department evolves to meet the needs of the membership and the community we serve. Some include:

- **Develop short and long-term strategic/work plan**
 - Review Inspections program & related personnel needs
 - Creation & Implementation of Administrative Rules
 - Creation & Training on Standard Operating Guidelines
 - Equipment Replacement Plan
 - Officer training/succession planning
 - Overall training plan
 - Rural Fire Association relationship
 - Volunteer recruitment & retention
 - Evaluate long-term facility needs

- **Research funding opportunities**
 - Grants, public & private
 - Community partnerships
 - Charges for service

Thank You For Your Support!

