

MECHANICVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2008



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November 2008 Alarms**187 11/04/08 Rescue Call**

Report of an elevator emergency at the Mid Rise with occupants in the car. Car 39-9 arrived and reported that there was no hazard and the elevator company was working on the system. All units were cancelled.

188 11/04/08 Fire Alarm

Fire alarm at 2 North Main St. Car 39-9 arrived and determined that the alarm was caused by a faulty heat detector in the furnace room. ETA 42-1 responded.

189 11/05/08 Mutual Aid

Mutual aid to Greenfield Center for all available Fire Police to assist in a potential dam break in their District. U39-2 and R39-4 responded with Fire Police.

190 11/05/08 EMS Assist

EMS on scene at the NYSEG cleanup site on Central Ave with a patient that suffered burn to his body from his clothes being ignited. Car 39-9 arrived and found no fire hazard and EMS deemed a transport was not needed. All units were held in station.

191 11/11/08 Personal Injury MVA

Report of a one vehicle rollover on Railroad Ave. ETA 42-1 responded with Car 39-9. The vehicle was found on its side with the occupant out of the vehicle. Crews stabilized the vehicle and began patient care until the arrival of EMS.

192 11/11/08 Personal Injury MVA

2 Car MVA on South and Third. Crews assisted EMS at the scene and shut the road down while conducting fluid cleanup. ETA 44-1 and U 39-2 responded with Car 39-9.

193 11/12/08 Mutual Aid

Mutual aid to Arvin Hart for one ETA to fill tankers at D'Aloia's on 75 & 76. Arvin Hart was out on a structure fire on Blizzard Rd. ETA 44-1 responded with Car 39-9.

194 11/12/08 Mutual Aid

Mutual aid to Hillcrest for a fire alarm at Cooks Adult Home. All mutual aid was held in station prior to response.

195 11/15/08 Hazardous Condition

Flooding Conditions on Central Ave at Railroad Overpass.

196 11/15/08 Hazardous Condition

Flooding Conditions on First Ave.

197 11/15/08 Hazardous Condition

Flooding Conditions on Ellsworth Ave. at the Dutch Gap.

198 11/15/08 Hazardous Condition

Flooding Conditions on Spring St. at Second Ave.

Fire House News**Purpose of this newsletter:**

To help keep members informed and up to date on important operational information, the line officers will be publishing a monthly newsletter which will be available at each department monthly meeting.

Each month, we will publish information on past and present drills, alarms, SOG's, the Chief's Report and more. We hope that through this newsletter the membership will be updated on current events more thoroughly and accurately.

County Radio System Update

A meeting was held recently at the Central Station to discuss

the City's involvement in the new radio system. Officials were present from the Mechanicville Fire and Police Departments, City Council, John Ahearn Rescue Squad and Saratoga County Dept of Emergency Services.

It was determined that the county still has a long way to go before the new system will be fully functional but that within the next year, all dispatching will be done off of the high band frequencies. This will require new pagers which the county plans on purchasing for all departments. We will still be operating on low band for a while until the system is fully operational.

The county also intends to purchase a mobile and portable radio for every vehicle within the department. The equipment will come with a county wide repair plan initially.

As more updates become available we will be sure to pass them along.

Line Officer Assignments

On the last page, you will find a copy of assignments which have been delegated to the Captains and Lieutenants. This has been done to take some of the burden off of the chiefs and place more responsibility on the rest of the officers.

Fire Department Training Update

I would like to thank everyone that showed their support for the various training sessions, classroom and hands on, that we held this year. We were able to bring a lot of new information to the department and I am hopeful that this information will allow us to more effectively serve our city. We hope to continue our efforts into 2009 and provide our members with the best training possible on a regular basis.

OSHA Hours

I appreciate the support for the style that we used in 2008 to achieve our OSHA compliance. I thought that by including OSHA hours within every training session rather than just one 8 hour session, it would draw in more interest and participation from the department members. If you

have any feedback for this approach, positive or negative, please contact me so we can implement any necessary changes. There are some members that are still lacking with their OSHA training but we are committed to providing everyone with the means to catch up. Please review the update on the bulletin board and if you owe hours, contact an officer or myself as soon as possible so we can schedule a day or night to get you caught up.

Upcoming Training & Items of Importance

The NYS Accident Victim Extrication Class being held at Hemstreet Park has been delayed until December 17th and 18th for start dates. Those nights are the classroom sessions. They will then schedule the 2 nights

for hands on training. If you are interested in attending this class please let me know. On the same note, we held a training session for extrication and vehicle fires on 12/6. For those that were unable to attend, please ensure that you attend the next training day which we will schedule once we get another vehicle. We have new saws and also new tactics to use at vehicle accidents and you will be required to learn these techniques in order to operate safely and effectively at the scene of an accident.

For 2009 we will be going to the Training Center on 1/31, 4/18, and 10/17. Please plan on attending at least one of these dates.

Thanks again for your support and I look forward to continuing

Up-Coming Drills

There is only one scheduled drill for the month of December.

On Thursday the 18th, the department along with members of the Melrose Fire Department will be conducting live fire training at the Saratoga County Fire Training Center.

We will be covering various

structural firefighting duties such as Suppression, Search, Ventilation and Water Supply.

OSHA credit will most likely be awarded but it has yet to be determined what areas and how many hours will be credited to those who attend.

We will be leaving the Central

Station at 6:30pm. All members are welcome to attend. One of the ETA's, L 39-1 and U 39-2 will be going. If you are interested in attending or interested in driving one of the apparatus, please contact David Zecca.

The 2009 Training Schedule should be available for the January Department Meeting.

Apparatus/Equipment News

Through grant funding provided by the State of New York, 10 sets of Globe G-Xtreme turnout gear complete with safety harnesses, leather boots and new helmets have been placed in service. Also with the funding we were able to make upgrades to the 5 sets of Globe gear which were purchased last year.

New Saws Alls have been placed on both of the ETA's. These new cordless 36 volt saws alls were purchased with the intent of enhancing our vehicle extrication capabilities as well as various other functions. The tools include wood and steel cutting blades, 3 batteries and two chargers per unit.

15 used Minitor II Pagers have

been purchased. The will be cycled in for new members and anyone else who may not have one. Contact a Chief Officer for more information.

The thermal imaging camera off of 41-1 has been replaced with a Bullard T-3, a slightly older version of the new T-4's. The camera is currently on 44-1 till the return of its TIC which was taken out of service due to a screen problem. Upon the TIC's return, the T3 will be placed on 41-1 while the MSA TIC is sent out for repairs.

Additionally, the MSA Gas meters have been returned to service and 41-1's CO meter has been returned. If you do not know how to calibrate and zero the detec-

tors, be sure to contact an officer to learn how. Do not use them till you receive the proper training.

Hose testing has been completed on all apparatus. All hose which failed has been removed from service and for the most part, replaced. New hose will be made or purchased to replace the short hydrant supply lines which failed testing.

Lastly, the City Council voted Wednesday night to purchase the E-One 95' Mid-Mount Demo and equipment to out fit the vehicle at a cost of roughly \$746,000. Once the city completes financials, the truck has been promised for delivery within 30 days.

SOG Updates

New SOG's and Updates are in progress for Emergency Escape and Self Rescue Systems and Highway Safety.

State law has been updated to require all departments have a risk assessment and SOG in place in regards to Emergency Escape Systems, there use and training. Furthermore it requires all departments to complete a

detailed risk assessment of the area to base the SOG and equipment on.

Also, federal law not requires all members at an incident scene which is in or near traffic, to wear approved highway safety vests. Members which are working within a designated "hot zone" will be exempt from wear- ing vests but, once emergency

operations have ended or a fire-fighter leaves the "hot zone," he or she must don a safety vest. These vests are in the process of being ordered and should be in service soon. The SOG's should be completed by the end of the month and will be attached to next months newsletter for review. If you have any questions, feel free to ask one of the line officers.

Alarms Continued

201 11/16/08 Fire Alarm

Audible alarm possibly fire alarm at the office in J.S. Moore Housing. Chiefs arrived and reported it to possibly be a burglar alarm. All units were held in station.

202 11/17/08 EMS Assist

Request for a driver for John Ahearn. The duty crew was already handling a call.

203 11/18/08 Mutual Aid

Daytime mutual aid to Hillcrest for a fire alarm with a smell in the residence. ETA 42 -1 responded with Car 39-0. There was a furnace malfunction at that location and crews assisted with ventilation.

204 11/18/08 Structure Fire

Smoke condition in the building on South Third Ave. Crews arrived and found that the resident heard the furnace kick on and thought there was a problem. ETA 42-1 responded with Car 39.

205 11/20/08 Mutual Aid

Mutual aid to Arvin Hart for a chimney fire on Champlain Ave. ETA 44-1 responded with Car 39-9. The situation was determined to be a furnace malfunction.

206 11/21/08 Personal Injury MVA

2 Car MVA with PI on the overpass. ETA 44-1 responded with Car 39-9. Crews assisted on scene and performed clean up.

Reminders:

- All member's who have not completed their annual physical and fit testing should make arrangement to do so as soon as possible!
- There will be an order placed for MFD apparel soon. Sign-up sheets will be posted in both stations.
- Be sure your PPE is check often and washed after every fire!
- Apparatus need washed and all equipment needs to be returned to where it belongs in working order after every alarm, drill or detail.