

Hot Calls

Coordinators Corner

Beaver Dams Banquet



Line Officers Sworn in by Coordinator Kirk Smith.

From Left to right, Chief Corbin Smith, 1st Asst. Tony Simpson, 2nd Asst. Ross Hall, 3rd Asst. Jonah Bowen, Captain Vern Mclean Jr., 1st Lt. David Swarouth, 2nd Lt. Holly Swarouth (absent)

The company answered 270 calls for service with 1925 man hours logged. Top Responder Was Charlie Stoddard. Lori Oliver was recognized for her many hours of service. Charlie Stoddard received the Chiefs Award for the year. It was a night of a snow storm but all stayed for entertainment. Beaver Dams station is big enough to hold the banquet and not have to move trucks out!

Trivia

What type of gas cylinder has a green label

Answer: Non-flammable gas

Winner Jason Hudson

This Month

What type of cylinder has a red lable on it?



Correction: I did not know Watkins Glen was also called to the Ovid Block fire. Sorry!!

Safety Corner

Should Pump operators have to wear head protection when pumping lines?

Asst Chief Scott Glass Perryton Tx. sustained serious head injuries by a coupling that broke loose He died 3 days after the accident. Not a chronic problem but also Coordinator in Yates county several years ago was injured from the same type of incident.

How often should you test your hose? We (Odessa) have ours done once a year.

MVC for Odessa turns into water and low angle rope work.

February 16 at about 0945 a report of a MVC initially for Seeley Rd. in Cayuta. The victim's smartwatch activated a crash alert. The actual call was in close proximity on St. Rt. 13.. The car had gone off the road

and into the deep bank of the fast-flowing creek. Cold water suits were grabbed and on the first apparatus responded. They were able to access the patient who had self-extricated but on the other side of the creek. Patient care was started while other members set up to bring the patient and crew across the creek and up the bank. CEMS took over patient care when they were on top of the bank. Crews did a great job.





Rescue operations notice how deep the water is. This was the scene of a previous fatal notice the wreath

Odessa Fire Department called to a House Fire 1398 Middle Rd. at 2356 hours 02/23/2025

Company responded to a reported chimney fire with extension at the above address. On arrival the first officer reported flames visible from the Delta side of a 2 story modern construction home. The second alarm was activated prior to arrival on scene. All occupants were out. Company attacked the fire with one 1 ¾ attack line per company protocol (Transitional fire attack.). This knocked down all visible fire from the ground. Extension ladder was raised and all visible fire was extinguished. Fire was located in the peak of the home where the wood stove chimney went through the overhang and went about 2 feet above the roof. It had also extended into the attic space several feet damaging roof rafters and cross members. It was obvious to me that the origin of the fire started where the pipe contacted the overhang. No electric or other possible source of heat was located in that space. Overhaul and check for further extension was done by mutual aid companies. They found no evidence of further fire. Some water damage may have occurred in the south bedrooms but we did not notice any. Wind was out of the south and it was snowing. Temperatures were around zero with wind chill. I notified the town of Veteran code and Chemung County Fire investigation both were to respond the next day All companies were released and Odessa returned to service. To my knowledge the family was going to stay in the house as they had another source of heat. Mutual aid on the second alarm came from Millport, Montour Falls, CEMS ambulance, Schuyler County EMO, Watkins Glen stood by.

Rick Churches Deputy Chief

Hector Banquet



Emergency Coordinator Kirk Smith Installs the line officers

Chief Mike Hicks, 1st. Steve Williams, 2nd Asst Travis McKeon (absent), 3rd. Asst Donnie Dalrymple. Mike Hicks has been Chief for 25 years and was honored for his concern and duty to all the members.

Some of the training they held was low angle rope training and firefighter down training. Elizabeth Williams was the top responder. The company answered 205 calls for service in 2024. They have a total of 29



Some of the total 29 are picture above

Right Front Seat

Officers who ride in the front seat of any fire apparatus, whether they are a lieutenant or a captain, have a number of responsibilities. The citizens who they serve, the firefighters who are on their apparatus and the department rely on them to perform the tasks.

Destination & assignments

When a fire apparatus responds to an alarm, the officer must know the destination and the route to it. Yes, typically, the apparatus driver knows where to go, but there are the cases of new and inexperienced drivers and, in career departments, of drivers who are from a different firehouse and aren't familiar with the neighborhood.

The firefighters who are riding to an alarm on an engine or ladder apparatus each must have an assignment to perform when they arrive at the location. For an engine company, a firefighter must be assigned the nozzle position and another firefighter the backup position. In companies that are staffed with three (or four) firefighters, that member(s) also must be given an assignment. These assignments generally dictate which seat the firefighters occupy during the response as well as what tools or equipment they will use at the operation. The officer must evaluate which of the firefighters can best perform each assignment to ensure best performance.

Tactics

Another major responsibility of the officer is to have a solid understanding of the numerous tactics and operations that the unit might be assigned to perform.

An engine company might be ordered to stretch a hoseline at a structure fire. The officer must know what size hose to stretch, the length or number of lengths, and the best route to the fire location.

At a defensive operation, the engine might need to drop a large-diameter supply line and either supply an aerial stream or a deck pipe.

A flammable liquid fire might require a foam line and the associated equipment for that operation.

A truck officer must be well versed in search tactics, forcible entry, roof cutting, portable ladder skills and the use of SCBA.

It's important to be cognizant that every alarm is to a different location for a different assignment.

Communications

Did you ever have difficulty understanding an officer or other member on the fireground radio? Knowing how to operate the radio is another vital skill for the officer. Whether it's the apparatus radio that transmits to the dispatcher or the portable radio that's carried by members, specific words and phrases must be used so that communications are understood

by the person for whom they are intended.

Most departments have a standard that every fire company and firefighter is expected to utilize when using the radio. Once firefighters enter a burning structure or building or spread out at the scene of an outside operation, they can't see each other, and their only connection with each other is by voice on the radio. The proper words, phrases, volume and duration must be understood and used for every conversation.

Additional resources

The ability to evaluate whether the number of apparatus and personnel that are responding will be able to handle the operation or whether more assistance must be requested immediately is needed at every alarm.

Once the first or initial alarm assignment is dispatched, one must recognize that the next level or alarm of assistance is traveling from a greater distance and will take more time to arrive. Even if companies are relocated to the firehouse(s) of the first-alarm companies, there will be a lag or delay in their arrival on scene.

Handled vs. handled well

So, as you can see, officers who sit in the front seat have a long list of vital responsibilities that will determine whether the incident they are responding to will be just handled or handled well.

Montour Falls Annual Banquet



Montour Line Officers for 2025.

From Left Chief Brian Swartwood, 1st Asst Andrew Yessman, 2nd Jake Burns, Captain John Horyczun, 1st Lt. Cayden Confer, 2nd Lt. Sam Pierce.

The Department responded to 602 request for service 400 were EMS calls. Conner Ryan was firefighter of the year. Steve Lawton was the top responder. Cayden Confer and Sam Pierce, sons of Jeff Confer and Kieth Pierce, became officers. Very proud moment for the Dads.

Monterey Annual Banquet



Officers for 2025.

Chief Mel Horton, 1 Asst Chief David O'Dell, 2nd Asst Andrew Vogel, 3rd Asst. Travis Askins. Rescue Captain Kali Horton. Top Responder of the year Kali Horton. The Company responded to 30 calls for service. The Steve Eldridge Award was received by Sandy Henries Awards for service were given out.

Mutual Aid to Van Etten for Odessa

On March 22 at about noon Odessa was called to a structure fire in Van Etten on Wyncoop Creek Road that extended to a second mobile home and various items that threatened a third residence.

OFD was assigned to protect the third residence from the fast-moving fire. Responding with an engine and a tanker they were able to quickly contain the fire. Overhaul was a difficult task as heavy equipment was brought in to allow firefighters to make progress. The Red Cross was brought in to assist displaced residents.



Third House in danger of fast-moving fire.



Community Fire & Rescue Dept 24

FRI AT 9:19 PM

 MESSAGE COMMUNITY FIRE & RE...

   3

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Community Fire & Rescue Dept 24

FRI AT 9:19 PM



MESSAGE COMMUNITY FIRE & RE...



2



Like



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Last Alarm

I thought as long as the county has no last alarms reported I would put in all the line of duty deaths across the country reported to Firehouse Magazine each month.

This last month:

There were 15 line of duty deaths. Firefighters Chief Ray Garrison 57 from a landslide, Chief Scott Glass 43 from a broken hose line, Capt. Garret Miller 44 medical emergency, Robert Sharkevich 66 fall fighting fire, Jeffery Albanese 49 Heart attack responding to false alarm, Keven Skinner 58 heart attack fighting house fire, Jeffery Fiala 25 roof collapse, Capt. Adam Kuspa 41 died from surgery of broken leg, got a clot, Firefighter Christopher Higgins medical Emergency at structure fire, firefighter William Nix 72 motor vehicle accident of firetruck response, Cap. Roger Lathrop 52 Medical Emergency after structure fire, Christopher Clevenger 33 medical emergency day after responding to emergency call, Mark Eads medical emergency at structure fire, firefighter Jacob Kincaid 37 motor vehicle accident in his pov responding, Firefighter John Gaudet 40 structure collapse at fire.

Courtesy of Firehouse Magazine