

January 15, 2009

Special points of interest:

- New Metro Board Members
- Stork Award
- Chaplain's Corner
- Training Dates
- Message from Chief
- Info from Chief Flynn
- Santa Firefighter
- Wellness Contest
- Statistics Jan – Dec for 2008

Phone Extensions:

Chief Pat Parker 1235
 Asst Chief Flynn 1228
 Asst Chief Schnaidt 1226

Brian Belcher 1232
 Robert Casey 1233
 Mike Lince 1238
 Kathy Fordyce 1236

Robin Ehardt 1227
 Mary Griggs 1222
 Marcia Schwind 1221
 Troy Holliday 1231

Dave Lather 1229
 Randy Agruda vm 1240
 Mike Vaughn 1225

Brian Bloom vm 1241
 Tony Posey vm 1242
 Tom Henkel vm 1243

Admin Fire Office 3000
 Station One 3814
 Station Eight ****
 Station Nine 0299
 Station Eleven 7682

Beth Pryde 1244
 Jude Younker 1245

The Metro Insider...



Metro Fire Board expands ...

With the creation of our new Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority, comes new faces to the Metro Fire Board. The board is responsible for the future planning and development of our department.



From the left: Garfield Township Clerk Kay Schumacher, Garfield Township Supervisor Chuck Korn, Acme Township Representative Frank Zarafonitis, East Bay Township Supervisor Glen Lyle, Acme Township Supervisor and Board Chairman Wayne Kladder, East Bay Township Representative Burch Strait.

“Almost a Stork Pin” Award ...

Late in the evening on January 13th, FF/EMT Andy Doornbos and Lt/EMT Adam Drewery were called to assist a female in labor. Upon their arrival, the baby girl had just been delivered in the front seat of a vehicle. Drewery and Doornbos immediately took patient care of both the mom and newborn child and continued into Munson Hospital. Just a few minutes sooner and they would've earned their stork pin. Way to go guys!



The Metro Insider...

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Chaplain's Corner ...

Fire Department Chaplainry is a multi-faceted ministry that will afford opportunities for the chaplain to relate to fire personnel at many levels. I have been asked by Chief Parker to attend future officers' meetings with the department leadership. I plan to discuss with the leadership how to best meet the ministerial challenges and spiritual needs of this department and to become better acquainted with personnel. This shall be followed up with visits to the respective station houses and attending business and training meetings. On a personal note it is interesting to observe that many of the frontline firefighters that I worked with now hold key leadership positions. I find that while I am familiar with many of the individual firefighter names on the roster, an area that I would like to improve upon is getting to know the newer members. Strong relationships, friendship and trust are needed for an effective chaplainry program in order to best serve the

membership. It is beneficial to have these qualities in place prior to a Crisis Situation, Serious Injuries, and/or Line-Duty-Death. Over the past several months I have been studying information from the Federation of Fire Chaplains Training Manual. Additionally I have been meeting with Chief Parker to review and discuss key chapters of the manual. A goal for 2009 is to have the Chaplainry program become more vibrant and active for the membership. One way of doing this is thru making the membership aware of what the program entails and what is available for them. As always - May It Be to Your Advantage!



Jude F. Younker,
Metro Fire Chaplain



Jan — Feb Training Topics

Jan 19th — 1900 hrs (Sta. 8)

Fire Scenarios

Jan 21st — 1900 hrs (Sta. 11)

Target Hazards Identification

Shock (IL, IP Trauma)

Jan 28th — 1900 hrs (Sta. 9)

Medical: Airway Mgmt/Prep

CEU: .5 Practical | Category: Preparatory

CEU: .5 Practical | Category: Airway Mgt and Ventilation

Feb 2nd — 1900 hrs (Sta. 8)

Medical: Trauma

CEU: 1 Practical | Category: Trauma

Feb 4th — 1900 hrs (Sta. 11)

Medical: Patient Assessment

CEU: 1 Practical, 1 Lecture | Category: Patient Assessment

Feb 9th — 1900 hrs (Sta. 8)

Medical: Trauma (Spinal Injuries)

CEU: 1 Practical, 1 Lecture | Category: Trauma

Feb 11th — 1900 hrs (Sta. 9)

Ice Rescue

Visit www.gtmetrofire.org for
current training calendar.

MONTH OF JANUARY:

REQ: Driving Evaluations

**UPCOMING MANDATORY
TRAININGS FOR EMT's:**

Special Programs for the new Basic
Pharmacology Kits

Message from the Chief ...

Happy New Year to you all. It is my hope that 2009 is one of this department's finest years. I promise not to crash this year into a logging truck and be around the 1st quarter.

I am happy to announce that Metro is a part owner in a driving simulator. As many of you may remember, we applied for a grant to receive one but got turned down. We along with North Flight are a partner in the driving simulator and between us, we will have it in Northern Michigan for almost 3 weeks a year. As Tim Wrede is the RTC's driving instructor, we are sending him down for a 4 day training school this week. Lieutenants Wayne Mervau and Randy Agruda, Captains Troy Holliday and Tony Posey, and others have expressed an interest in becoming certified to operate and create programs on the driving simulator. If you would like to be a trainer, please drop me a note. We hope to perform some assessments on our drivers later this year.

We concluded interviews this past week for the fire and life safety educator. We have narrowed down the candidates to two and further background checks are in the process. Hopefully we will have this person on the payroll within the next month. All five candidates were very impressive and the decision has not been an easy one.

On Friday the 2nd of January, TV 7 & 4 did a bit on the planning of the new fire station in Garfield Township. If you missed it, they did a three minute segment on how we came to the location, the building and the entire strategic process. We are moving ahead and have asked Garfield Township if we could locate it in the Silver Lake Recreation area that is owned by the citizens of Garfield Township. This station will again reduce response times and improve service to our customers. If you have not seen or commented on the proposed station design, see your captain. We hope to lock up a land purchase or location by the end of the 1st quarter. The architect is already working on the mechanical and elevation plans.

Thank you all for a great 2008. I appreciate all of the hard work and dedication that you all exhibited. I am very pleased that most have taken ownership of this department and strived to improve the delivery of excellent customer service.

All the best in 2009

Chief Pat Parker

Note from Chief Flynn ...

- A quick note from the National Fire Academy - Dr. O'Neal (Deputy Director of the USFA and Director of the NFA) visited all the classes last week and had just come back from D.C. and he reported that 2009 will be a very disappointing year for the fire service. A majority of the fire departments across the country will experience smaller budgets and that many departments will lay personnel off. The experts in D.C. believe we will see better times at the end of 2010 and early 2011. The trend for departments across the country seems to be in several areas to meet the demand for service. They are: 1) Consolidation of fire departments and 2) Moving to combination departments. Even long time career fire departments are struggling to keep up the level of service. Green Bay Fire has 14 less positions and Atlanta fire has laid people off and everyone will work 4 hours without pay each month. Things are starting to get ugly all around the country. Keep up the good work.
- February 14th is scheduled for the next physical agility test for new recruits. It will be held at Station 9 in the morning. Approximately 30 firefighters will be working towards an eligibility hiring list for GT Metro Fire.
- Many of you have noticed that the schedule has changed starting January 2009. This new schedule shows the changes made to Station 1 with Captain Draper, FF Doornbos, and FF Francisco moving to a 24 hour schedule. Also on the schedule shows open shifts at Station 8 and Station 9 when available.
- A new engine has been ordered for Station 11. Spencer Manufacturing was the winning bid using a Spartan Gladiator chassis. Chief Parker, Lieutenant Childers and Captain Bloom made trips to both Spencer and also to Spartan and were impressed with both facilities. They have an estimated turn time of 270-300 days. They would like to have this truck done in time for Roscommon Week-end in 2009.
- Training will be scheduled in the near future on new equipment that will be in the Squads at each station. A new pharmacology kit will be installed soon and all EMT's will be required to attend trainings when they are scheduled.



New Part-Time Firefighter ...

Jolly Saint Nick (a.k.a. FF Kyle Clute) has taken time after his busy schedule to come work with Captain Bloom at Station 11.

Yes, he even complies with the "no facial hair" policy.



**GRAND TRAVERSE METRO FIRE DEPARTMENT
BIGGEST LOSER CONTEST**

**Start down the road to a healthy life style and
lose those extra pounds!!**

START DATE:

**The contest will begin with your weigh-in on
Monday, February 2nd or Thursday, February 5th.**

END DATE:

The contest will end with your weigh-in on Monday, June, 1st or Thursday, June 4th.

**All weigh-ins will be at the Administration Office
at 3 Mile & Parsons, between 1700 hrs and 1900 hrs.**

If you are unable to weigh in between 1700 and 1900 on Monday or Thursday, daytime weigh in will be available on those two days by appointment. Contact Kathy at Admin to make arrangements. 947-3000 X 1236.

Weight loss will be based on percentage of weight loss with actual pounds recorded.

Prizes will be awarded weekly, monthly, and a final grand prize for the Biggest Loser. Prizes include snowshoes, fitness equipment, water bottles, a hydration pack, DVDs, Biggest Loser books, gift certificates for gym memberships, gift certificate for a personal trainer, and many other awesome prizes!



Call Statistics for 2008

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Sta. 1	2	57	66	57	61	53	65	66	62	58	43	62	652
Sta. 8	24	27	35	42	29	42	29	36	23	27	26	26	366
Sta. 9	46	23	22	29	30	34	22	20	18	27	17	29	318
Sta. 11	197	173	163	180	164	166	190	187	193	155	154	191	2113

	Station 1	Station 8	Station 9	Station 11	Metro	
Fire	22	19	18	75	134	3.89%
EMS/Rescue	484	237	187	1,665	2,573	74.60%
Hazardous Condition	15	20	15	43	93	2.70%
Service Call	20	10	18	12	60	1.74%
Cancelled En Route	62	46	50	170	328	9.51%
False Alarm	47	33	23	147	250	7.25%
Weather Related	2	1	7	1	11	0.32%
	652	366	318	2,113	3,449	