



BEDFORD FIRE DEPARTMENT



2018 ANNUAL REPORT





MISSION STATEMENT

The Bedford Fire Department is committed to preserving life and property through rapid emergency response, public education, organizational preparedness, and planning.

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LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

Community Members,

For the past 130 years, the Bedford Fire Department has proudly responded to emergencies in both the Town of Bedford and Bedford County. As we celebrate our 130th anniversary, we reflect on the many accomplishments and achievements we've enjoyed over the years but most importantly, we remain focused on the future as we remain dynamic to ensure continued success. Statistically speaking, volunteerism is declining across the country. I'm excited to report that it's still alive and well here in Bedford, Virginia and can be seen daily as our men and women continue to dedicate countless hours of time and talent to provide this community excellent fire protection.

It is again my pleasure to present to you the fire department's annual report of activity for 2018. The ultimate goal of this report is to give the reader a glimpse inside of our day-to-day operations, training, and fire prevention outreach that takes place to ensure our personnel and equipment are always ready. On behalf of the entire department, I would like to thank the Town Manager and Town Council for their continued support of the fire department.

Yours in service,

L. Brad Creasy
Fire Chief



DEPARTMENT HISTORY

The need for organized fire protection in the then Town of Liberty became most evident on the morning of October 12, 1884 when a fire began in a store operated by J.N. Early on the southeast corner of Bridge Street and Rail- road Avenue. When the fire was discovered in the early morning hours very little could be done, as there was no organized fire department and a meager water supply. When daylight came, only two buildings were left standing, and the scene was one of desolation. In the years to follow, several important events contributed to the growth of this small town. When owners began rebuilding their downtown businesses they used more permanent materials such as brick and heavy timber. The town also began installing a municipal water supply and had installed twenty-five fire hydrants by 1886. Area businessmen met in the fall of 1887 to discuss the need for an organized fire company to protect area businesses and homes. Several months later in early 1888, the Bedford Volunteer Fire Department was organized with a membership of twenty-five volunteer firemen, most of whom were downtown merchant owners.

Originally located on Court Street near the intersection of East Main Street, the Town of Bedford constructed a new firehouse for the fire department on West Depot Street in 1927. To accommodate larger apparatus and a growing membership, the City of Bedford built the current fire station at 315 Bedford Avenue in 1974.



Bedford Fire Chiefs

Unknown (1888-1905)
H. M. Wright (1903-1906)
Charles E. Harris (1914-1926)
F. K. Saunders (1927-1936)
C. O. Updike (1937-1938)
Henry F. Turner (1939-1954)
Ballard H. Milton (1955-1961)
John M. Turner (1962-1968)
James H. Howard (1969-1984)
Walter G. Musgrove (1985)
Bernard R. Cundiff (1986-1987)
Raymond E. Trail II (1988-1991)
Mike L. Burnette (1992-1996)
Donald E. Hale (1997-2002)
S. Todd Stone (2003-2005)
Zeph L. Cunningham (2006)
Russell M. Stevens (2007)
L. Brad Creasy (2008-present)

DEPARTMENT ROSTER

OPERATIONAL OFFICERS

Brad Creasy | Chief of Department

Matthew Scott | Deputy Chief

Jeremy Garten | Assistant Chief

Christopher Gardner | Captain

Kevin Musgrove | 1st Lieutenant

Nick Rice | Lieutenant

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Brandon Crouch | President

Reid Wodicka | Vice President

Matt Allen | Secretary

Curtis Marshall | Assistant Secretary

Russell Stevens | Treasurer

Billy Creasey | Assistant Treasurer

Matt Shutt | Chaplain

FIREFIGHTERS

Matthew Adkins | Firefighter/EMT-B

Matthew Allen | Firefighter

Chad Baker | Firefighter/Paramedic

Jake Beisser | Firefighter

Eric Carter | Firefighter

Billy Creasey | Firefighter/EMT-B

Barry Cornett | Firefighter/ EMT-B

Brandon Crouch | Firefighter

Zeph Cunningham | Firefighter

Logan Davis | Firefighter

John Donner | Probationary Firefighter

Mike Elston | Firefighter/Paramedic

Greg Fulton | Firefighter/EMT-B

Joseph Ghobrial | Probationary Firefighter

Gerald Hacker | Firefighter/EMT-A

Stacey Hailey | Firefighter/EMT-B

Drew Hall | Probationary Firefighter

Nicholas Hamner | Firefighter/Paramedic

Rudy Hecker | Firefighter/EMT-I

Giles Hoback | Probationary Firefighter

Garrett Hodgin | Probationary Firefighter

Ryan King | Firefighter

Jacob Landis | Probationary Firefighter

Brandon Long | Firefighter

Bob Mansueti | Probationary Firefighter

Curtis Marshall | Firefighter/Paramedic

Kincaid Martin | Firefighter/EMT-A

MJ McGinnis | Firefighter/EMT-A

John Moore | Firefighter/EMT-B

Gordon Musgrove | Firefighter

Tiffaney Musgrove | Firefighter/Paramedic

Taylor Neas | Firefighter/Paramedic

Jon Ohlinger | Firefighter/Paramedic

Jacob Overstreet | Firefighter

Jason Overstreet | Firefighter/EMT-B

Austin Palmore | Firefighter/Paramedic

James Parker | Firefighter/EMT-B

Trenton Pizza | Probationary Firefighter/EMT-I

Thomas Schacter | Probationary Firefighter

Matthew Shutt | Firefighter/EMT-B

Thomas Stoneman | Probationary Firefighter

William Walters | Firefighter

Addison Weicking | Firefighter/Paramedic

Stacey Wills | Firefighter/EMT-B

Reid Wodicka | Firefighter/EMT-B

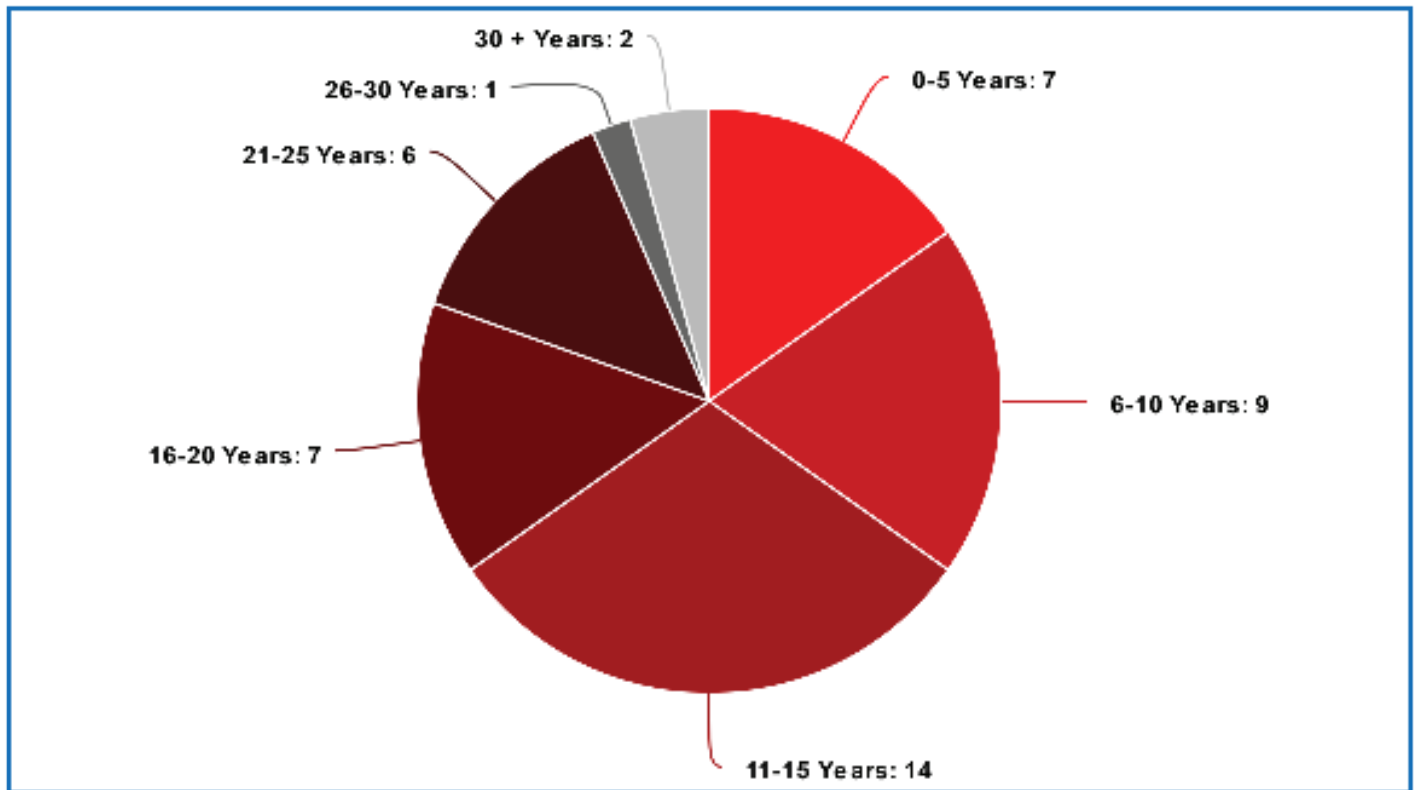
John Wilcher | Photo Unit



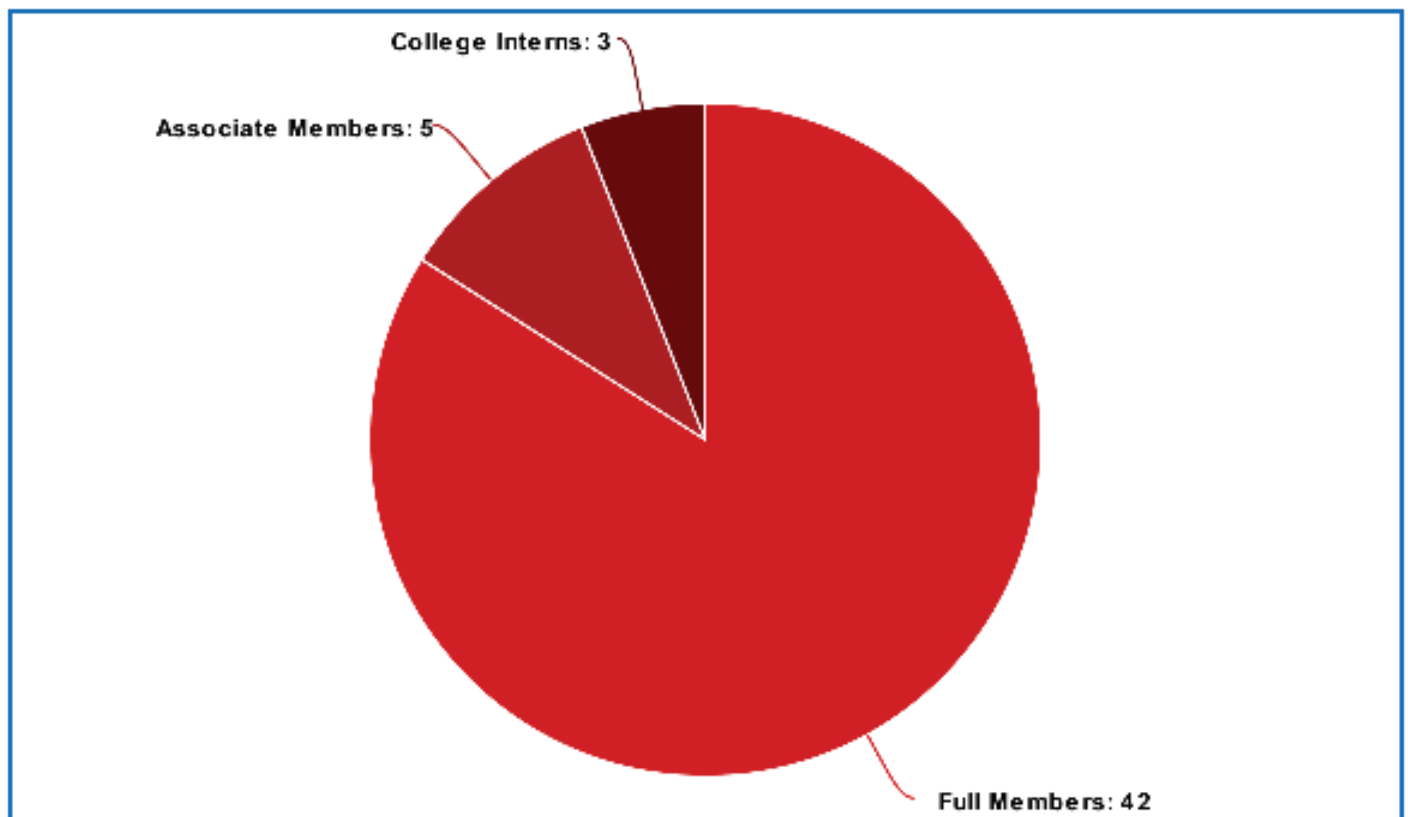
DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- New EMS First Responder vehicle placed into service as “Utility 1”
- Implemented new digital dash boards to disseminate important information. Slides rotate through live weather, calendar, and pertinent information.
- Implemented the following ideas to the Long-Range Planning Committee:
 - Re-instituted pre-fire plan program and added building information into Active911.
 - Began serving dinner before meetings to increase attendance and promote fellowship.
 - Re-evaluated drill dates; began including weekends and non-traditional nights into schedule.
- Approved a minimum training standards for operational officers that will go into effect in 2021 i.e. Instructor I, Officer I, etc. (these classes will be offered multiple times at the firehouse over the next two years)
- Outfitted apparatus with dash cameras to promote good driving habits. Cameras record both forward and rearward while recording travel speed, date, and time.
- Secured funding through CIP budget to replace kitchen stove and update firehouse kitchen with new flooring, counter top, and back splash.
- Formed committee to design new pumper/tanker that is scheduled to be ordered during the 19/20 fiscal year. This committee is responsible for writing the apparatus specifications - a 150 page document that details every option desired.
- Secured funding through CIP budget to replace apparatus bay doors that were original to the building.
- Taught members “Stop the Bleed” techniques utilizing combat tourniquets, quick clot, and H bandages. Built kits for apparatus to be prepared in the event of a mass shooting.

YEARS OF EXPERIENCE



STAFFING LEVEL





CALLS BY TYPE

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| False Alarm | 251 |
| Working Fire (Structural)* | 44 |
| Vehicle Fire | 21 |
| Brush Fire | 50 |
| SOC Response | 13 |
| Motor Vehicle Accident | 303 |
| Critical EMS | 82 |
| Patient Assist (Uninjured) | 41 |
| Drone Team | 11 |
| Public Service | 82 |
| Good Intent | 122 |

CALLS BY DAY OF WEEK

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| Sunday | 151 |
| Monday | 145 |
| Tuesday | 135 |
| Wednesday | 149 |
| Thursday | 164 |
| Friday | 151 |
| Saturday | 143 |

RESPONSE SUMMARY

CALLS BY TIME OF DAY

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 00:00-00:59 (24) | 12:00-12:59 (57) |
| 01:00-01:59 (16) | 13:00-13:59 (85) |
| 02:00-02:59 (15) | 14:00-14:59 (67) |
| 03:00-03:59 (13) | 15:00-15:59 (64) |
| 04:00-04:59 (9) | 16:00-16:59 (62) |
| 05:00-05:59 (18) | 17:00-17:59 (64) |
| 06:00-06:59 (20) | 18:00-18:59 (47) |
| 07:00-07:59 (33) | 19:00-19:59 (69) |
| 08:00-08:59 (49) | 20:00-20:59 (49) |
| 09:00-09:59 (36) | 21:00-21:59 (38) |
| 10:00-10:59 (68) | 22:00-22:59 (39) |
| 11:00-11:59 (57) | 23:00-23:59 (39) |

*A "working fire" is the designation given to fire calls when the arriving officer sees smoke or flames coming from the structure. By notifying the E-911 Center of the "working fire", additional resources are dispatched to the scene.

CERTIFICATIONS/ ACCOMPLISHMENTS

FIREFIGHTER I (140 HOURS)

Thomas Schacter

Jeremy Womble

FIREFIGHTER II (40 HOURS)

Thomas Schacter

Trenton Pizza

Matt Allen

HAZMAT OPERATIONS (32 HOURS)

Thomas Schacter

Matt Allen

MAYDAY FIREFIGHTER DOWN (16 HOURS)

Thomas Schacter

Trenton Pizza

Giles Hoback

INSTRUCTOR I (42 HOURS)

Chris Gardner

Drew Hall

Jeremy Garten

Brandon Crouch

Taylor Neas

Austin Palmore

Jacob Overstreet

OFFICER II (64 HOURS)

Nick Rice

Alex McKinney

BASIC PUMP OPERATOR (16 HOURS)

Matt Allen

Trenton Pizza

Thomas Schacter

Jerry Hacker

EMT-BASIC (188 HOURS)

Thomas Schacter

Matt Allen

Jacob Overstreet

Bob Mansueti

EMT-PARAMEDIC (440 HOURS)

Stacey Wills

INTRO TECH RESCUE MOD II (16 HOURS)

Nick Rice

Thomas Schacter

Trenton Pizza

Matt Allen

Jerry Hacker

CONFINED SPACE RESCUE OPS (16 HOURS)

Stacey Wills

Jerry Hacker

TRENCH RESCUE OPS (16 HOURS)

Stacey Wills

VEHICLE RESCUE TECH (16 HOURS)

Austin Palmore

ICS-300 (24 HOURS)

Brandon Long

Jacob Overstreet

Roc Moore

ICS-400 (24 HOURS)

Jacob Overstreet

NFA MASS CASUALTY (8 HOURS)

Thomas Schacter

Matt Allen

Trenton Pizza

Jerry Hacker

Alex McKinney

Greg Fulton

SMITHFIELD TRUCK SCHOOL

Giles Hoback

Trenton Pizza

John Donner

CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS

Chad Baker promoted to EMS Lieutenant (BcoFR).

Four hired with Roanoke Fire & EMS: Thomas Schacter, Matt Allen, Trenton Pizza, and Jerry Hacker.

Logan Davis joined the United States Marine Corps and completed basic training at Parris Island, SC. He is assigned to a Marine Corps Air Station in Cherry Point, NC as an ARFF Fire-fighter.

MJ McGinnis joined the United States Army and graduated from Fort Jackson, SC. He is assigned to Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington as a Stryker mechanic.

Three of our college interns graduated from Jefferson College of Health Sciences with B.S. in Emergency Health Services. All three found career employment in the Fire-EMS field.



TRAINING

Twenty-three bi-monthly drills were held with an average of nineteen members in attendance at each drill.

Members obtained a combined 624 hours of training through company level drills alone; eighteen traveled to other localities for training during 2018 with Delaware being the furthest traveled.

Each firefighter has to complete 194 hours of training annually in order to meet national standards.





PUBLIC EDUCATION

Our fire safety program includes general fire safety presentations, puppet shows, fire safety trailer demonstrations, health fairs, and fire extinguisher training. The program is designed to teach people of all ages the dangers of fire and how to exit the home in the event of fire.

Our Program, in partnership with the Bedford County Fire & Rescue Department, routinely visits town and county elementary schools together to conduct fire safety and public education training. The program also works closely with local preschool and day care facilities to expose small children to firefighters and their equipment.

Since the leading cause of home fires and home injuries is cooking fires, it's important that we educate members of the community on the use of fire extinguishers. Our firefighters routinely teach fire extinguisher classes for hospital employees, local civic organizations, and school programs.

Thanks to generous grants from the Firefighters Charitable Organization and the American Red Cross the Bedford Fire Department offers a free smoke detector program to bring residences into compliance with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommendations. Over 1,000 smoke detectors have been installed in Bedford homes since the program began.

AWARDS/ MILESTONES

UNIT CITATION-CPR SAVE

Alex McKinney | 1st Lt/ Paramedic

Nick Rice | Lt/Paramedic

Barry Cornett | Firefighter/EMT-B

PROB. FF OF THE YEAR

Thomas Stoneman | Firefighter

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Zeph Cunningham | Firefighter

40 YEARS OF SERVICE

James Parker | Firefighter/EMT-B

30 YEARS OF SERVICE

Greg Fulton | Firefighter/EMT-B

10 YEARS OF SERVICE

Matt Scott | Deputy Chief

John Moore | Firefighter/EMT-B

5 YEARS OF SERVICE

M.J. McGinnis | Firefighter/EMT-A

Nick Rice | Firefighter/Paramedic



APPARATUS



Engine 1

2007 Seagrave Pumper
1500GPM/750 gallons

Carries 750 gallons of water and is capable of pumping 1,500 gallons of water per minute when supplied from a fire hydrant. Carries a variety of equipment for fire suppression.



Rescue 1

2015 Pierce Walk-In
Heavy Rescue

Heavy Rescue that carries a variety of equipment to handle technical rescue calls that include vehicle extrication, swift water rescues, confined space rescues, man vs. machine incidents, and rope rescues.



Ladder 1

2007 Seagrave 100' TDA

Equipped with a 100' aerial ladder that is capable of reaching the seventh floor of a commercial building. Carries truck company equipment that includes ground ladders, ventilation equipment, forcible entry tools, portable lighting, etc.



Wagon 1

2014 Seagrave Pumper
15000GPM/1000 Gallons

Carries 1000 gallons of water and is capable of pumping 1,500 gallons of water per minute when supplied from a fire hydrant or drafting. Carries a variety of equipment for fire suppression.



Support 1

2017 Chevrolet 3500

Utilized primarily for hydrant maintenance and snow removal during inclement weather.



Command 1

2017 Chevrolet Tahoe

Transports the Chief to the scene of emergencies and provides the equipment necessary to command the incident scene. Outfitted with IMS command boards, multi-band radios, satellite phone, and pre-fire plans.

Total Apparatus Responses: 2,358



Brush 1

2009 Ford F450 Brush Truck
250GPM/300 Gallons

Carries 300 gallons of water and is capable of pumping 250 gallons per minute. Equipped with hand tools and power saws to handle grass and wild-land fires.



Brush 1A

2006 Ford F550 Brush Truck
250GPM/300 Gallons

Carries 300 gallons of water and is capable of pumping 250 gallons per minute. Equipped with hand tools and power saws to handle grass and wild-land fires.

NEW APPARATUS



Utility 1

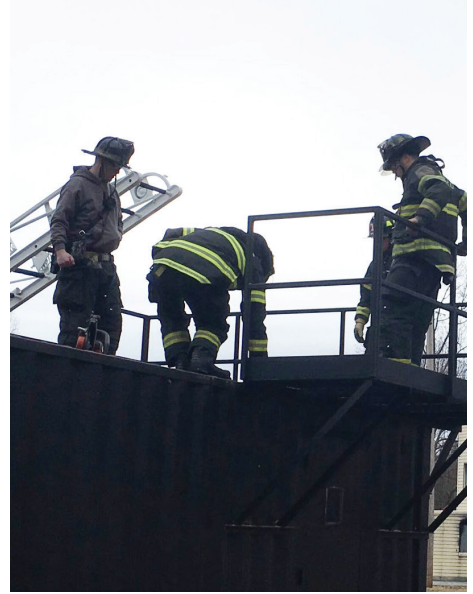
2018 Chevrolet
2500/Reading Work Body

First Responder vehicle utilized to respond to life-threatening EMS calls. Carries EMS equipment to provide emergency medical care at the Basic Life Support level.

UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS (DRONE) PROGRAM



The Bedford Fire Department has always taken pride in being the initiators of forward thinking and bridging critical technologies and growing public safety trends to the Town of Bedford and County of Bedford. In April of 2015, the department began a fact finding mission to introduce the new trend of unmanned aerial systems (otherwise known as drones) to our cadre of equipment. By October of 2015, the department became one of three public safety agencies within the Commonwealth of Virginia to be issued a certificate of authorization which allows operation within the National Airspace. Since our programs inception, our drone team has participated in over 25 search and rescue/recovery missions within Bedford County and 3 search and rescue/recovery missions in neighboring counties. Last year, our team which consist of twelve pilots, was dispatched to Campbell County for storm damage assessment after a tornado touched down in the Timberlake area of the county.





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