



**CITY OF
WOOSTER**
DIVISION OF FIRE
Annual Report
2016

Executive Summary

Honorable Mayor Breneman, City Council, and the Citizens of Wooster:

I am honored to submit the 2016 Annual Report for the City of Wooster, Division of Fire. This document provides a snapshot of last year's accomplishments and provides an overview of the all-hazard emergency service organization that serves our great City.

CHANGE!!!! Is the one word that can describe 2016 for the Wooster Division of Fire. 2016 marked the opening of our new Fire Station #3, the opening of the WAR COG dispatch center, and the implementation of a new hazard-based operational response methodology. These milestones will have a significant positive impact on our community for years to come. It has been enthralling to watch the projects come to fruition and the growth of the Fire Division over the past year.



Last year was marked with multiple retirements, the hiring of new firefighters, and the promotion of new officers. We would like to recognize Lt. Stan Brown, FF John Sherrick, and Capt. Tom Graf for their years of service, and congratulate them on their respective retirements.

The Fire Division, with the support of City Administration and City Council:

- Renovated and opened Fire Station #3.
- Broke ground and started construction of the Wooster Safety Center (Fire Station #2).
- Opened the Wooster-Ashland Regional Council of Governments regional dispatch center.
- Purchased new radio communication equipment to migrate to the OHIO MARCS system.
- Took delivery of a new Horton Medic unit.
- Ordered a New Sutphen Fire Engine (Delivery estimated for fall 2017)
- Conducted officer development training.
- Continued the review and update of the Division's policy and procedure manual.
- Purchased a new storage shed for Fire Station #1.

As we look forward to 2017, the fire division anticipates another very busy year. The Safety Center is slated to open in the late summer of 2017. The move to the Safety Center will position our stations to provide a more effective response to the community. We also plan to conduct a 360-degree review of the 2016 operational changes. This will allow us to make any needed adjustments to maximize our performance and efficiency. Lastly, we plan to roll out the Fire Divisions strategic plan and continue the process of accreditation through the Center for Public Safety Excellence. The fire division personnel, and I, look forward to the opportunity to enhance the Fire Division and build upon the outstanding services we provide to the City of Wooster.

Thank you and be safe,

Barry Saley

Fire Chief

WFD MISSION AND MOTTO

The Mission of the Wooster Division of Fire is:

To prepare for, respond to, and mitigate all calls for duty, in an efficient and cost-effective manner. This will occur by providing an all-hazards approach to emergency services requested by the citizens, businesses, and visitors of the City of Wooster.

To meet this mission, we will aggressively provide fire suppression, emergency medical services, rescue operations, training activities, emergency preparedness, and community risk reduction.

Fire Division Motto:



“SAVE LIVES - FIGHT FIRES”

WFD CORE VALUES AND VISION

Core Values:

In conjunction with the core values of the City of Wooster: *Accountability, Continuous Improvement, Leadership & Management, Respect & Communication, Honesty & Integrity, Stewardship & Trust, and Safety*, the Division of Fire applies the following additional core values:

Professionalism
Service Excellence
Customer Service
Hard Work
Trust
Tradition
Valor

Vision Statement:

The Wooster Division of Fire strives to be a professional, efficient, community oriented, all-hazards emergency service provider, which preserves tradition as part of its future, by learning from those that served before us; as we embrace technology, research, data and innovation to become a nationally recognized leader in the fire service.

THE FIRE DIVISION

The Wooster Division of Fire provides emergency services to the City of Wooster and a portion of Wayne Twp., via a contractual agreement with Central Fire. Our primary services include fire suppression, emergency medical services, rescue operations, training, emergency preparedness, and community risk reduction. For effective management, the division is broken down into subdivisions and specialty units that are managed by fire officers and firefighters. These sub-divisions include Administration, Operations, Fire Prevention, and Training.

The Wooster Division of Fire is a career fire department staffed 24 hours a day/365 day a year with forty-five (45) uniformed and one (1) civilian personnel. The Administration Division consists of the Fire Chief, Asst. Fire Chief and Office Coordinator. The Fire Prevention Division is overseen by the Asst. Chief in conjunction with the Fire Inspector. The Operations and Training Division is overseen by the Asst. Chief and is divided into three (3) shifts. Each shift consists of one (1) Captain, three (3) Lieutenants and ten (10) firefighters, for a total of forty-two (42) operational personnel.

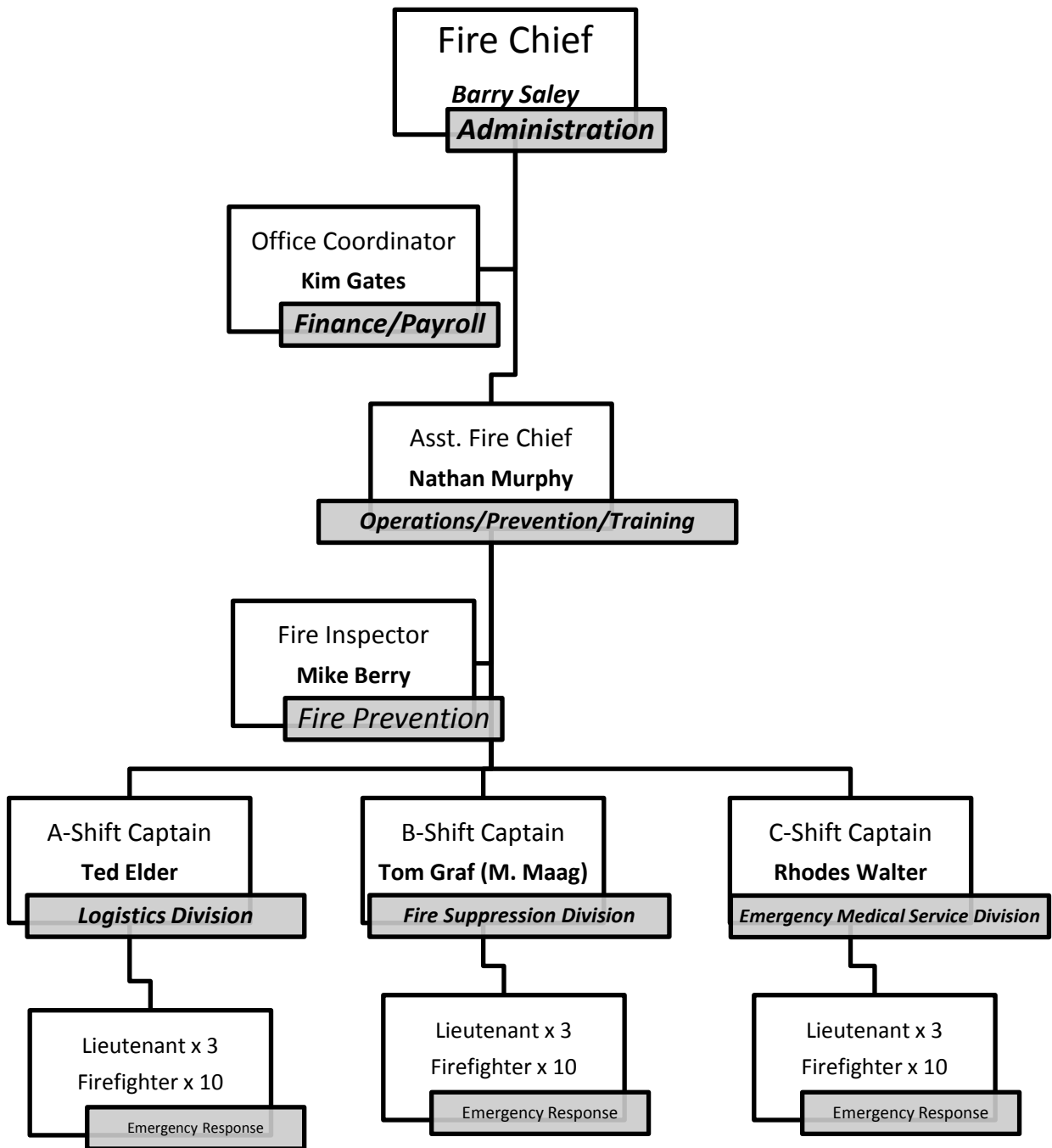


The Fire Division currently operates out of three fire stations. Headquarters (Fire St. #1) is located at 510 N. Market St., Fire St. 2 is located at 433 E. Highland Ave., and Fire St. 3 is located at 2255 Gateway Dr.

Over the last year, the Operations Division converted three firefighter positions to lieutenant positions. This move allowed the Division to place a company officer at each station and enhanced our supervisory capabilities. The captain position was reorganized into a battalion captain configuration, which has provided a more effective division of work and command and control. An additional significant operational change was the move to a "Run Card" style of dispatching. This method is based on a hazard analysis of the city and the location of the incident. Under this method, the dispatcher sends the appropriate number and type of resources to the incident based on its hazard or potential impact to the community. The move to the WAR COG was critical for this type of dispatch procedure.



THE FIRE DIVISION



WFD OPERATIONS DIVISION

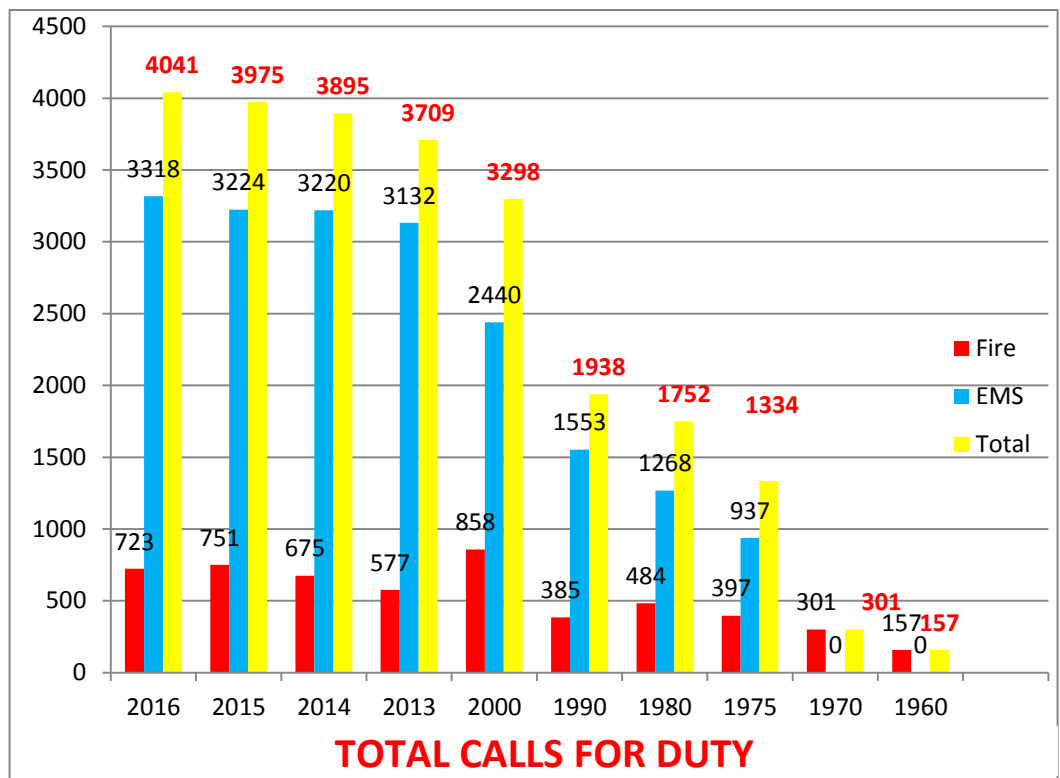
The Fire Division is the primary emergency service responder to all emergency incidents within the City of Wooster. As the scope of the fire service has changed, so has the fire division. We have transformed into an all-hazards emergency service organization.

What does this mean? It means that the fire division does more than respond to fire and medical incidents. Our scope of responsibilities to the community and citizens include:

- Fire Suppression
- Emergency Medical Service
- Public Service
- Special Rescue (Confined Space, Water, Ice, Industrial)
- Terrorism
- Severe Weather
- Civil Unrest
- Prevention
- Emergency Preparedness
- Radiological
- Health/Infectious Disease



The Fire Division breaks down our incidents into EMS and Non-EMS (FIRE) calls. Again in 2016, we have exceeded the previous year's totals, as we continue the trend of increased call volumes. The number of EMS incidents in 2016 was 3318 (82%). The number of non-EMS incidents was 723 (18%), for a total of 4041. Which is an almost 2% increase from 2015.



A CLOSER LOOK

The below tables & charts provide a detailed visual representation of WFD Operations and the diversity of services provided to the community

EMS	EMS Call Non-MVA	3,277	
	Motor vehicle accident with injuries	41	
		3,318	Total
Non-EMS	Public service	203	
	Dispatched & canceled en route	80	
	Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	45	
	Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	29	
	Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	27	
	Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	25	
	Unauthorized burning	24	
	Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	25	
	Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	17	
	Good intent call, other	16	
	Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	15	
	Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	13	
	Carbon monoxide incident	13	
	Power line down	12	
	Medical assist, assist EMS crew	8	
	Trash or rubbish fire contained	12	
	Building fire	12	
	Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	11	
	Passenger vehicle fire	11	
	No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	10	
	Rescue, EMS incident, other	9	
	Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	8	
	Cooking fire, confined to container	8	
	Police matter	7	
	Fire, other	6	
	Smoke or odor removal	5	
	Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue	5	
	Assist police or other governmental agency	4	
	Water problem, other	4	
	Hazardous condition, other	4	
	Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	5	
	Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	3	
False alarm or false call, other	3		
Authorized controlled burning	3		
Grass fire	3		
CO detector activation due to malfunction	2		

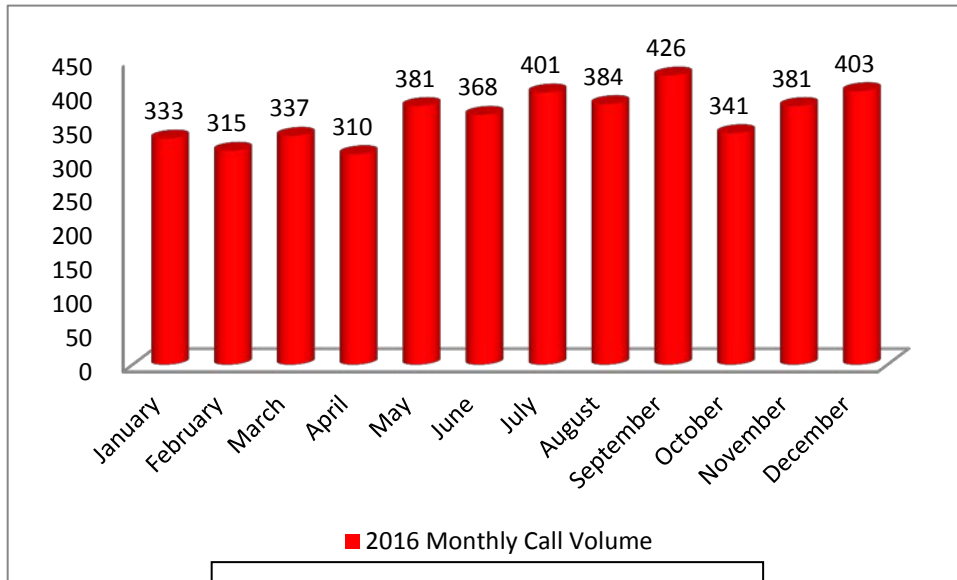
Concurrent calls in progress:

An area of operations that requires consistent monitoring to determine future staffing needs, is when the Division responds to two or more independent request for service at the same time. These calls significantly reduce our available resources and impact our ability to provide a consistent and stable level of service to the community.

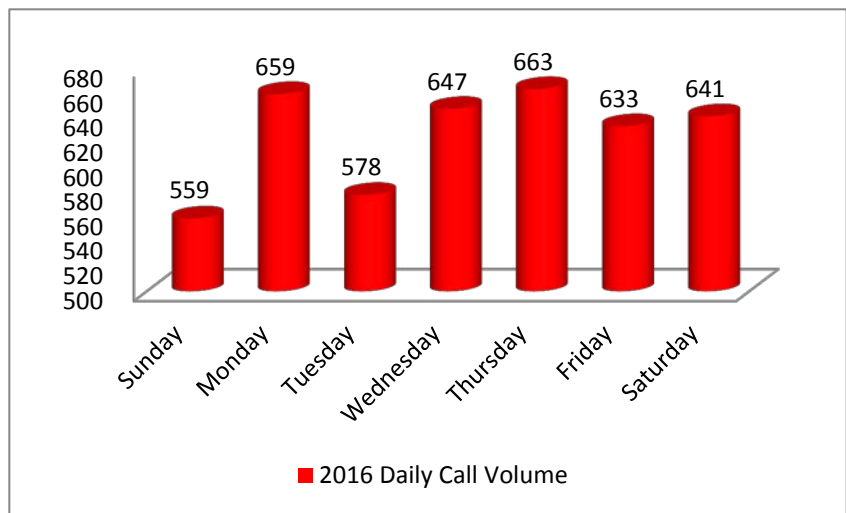
In 2016, the Division experienced 1125 concurrent call in progress. This represents 27% of our call volume. This means that 27% of the time, 60-100% of our available workforce is committed to an emergency call and are unavailable to respond to other emergency requests. This situation results in increased response time, reliance on mutual aid from surrounding volunteer fire departments, and minimizes our ability to protect our critical infrastructures.



A CLOSER LOOK



Monthly Call Volume

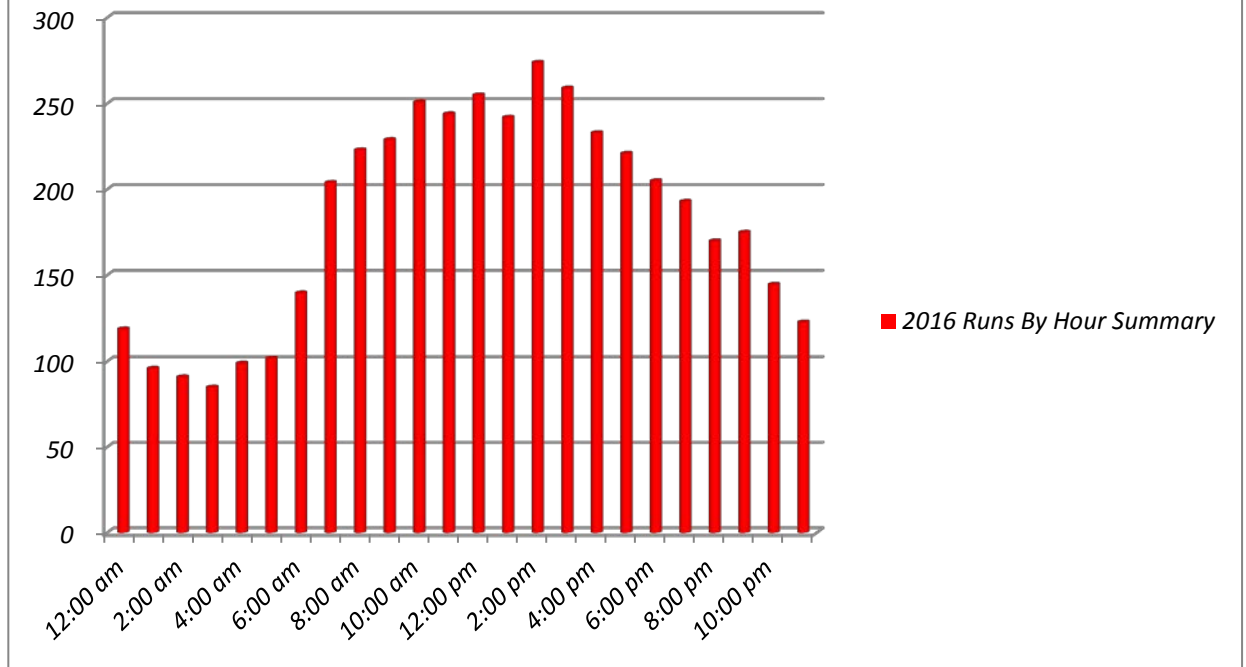


Daily Call Volume

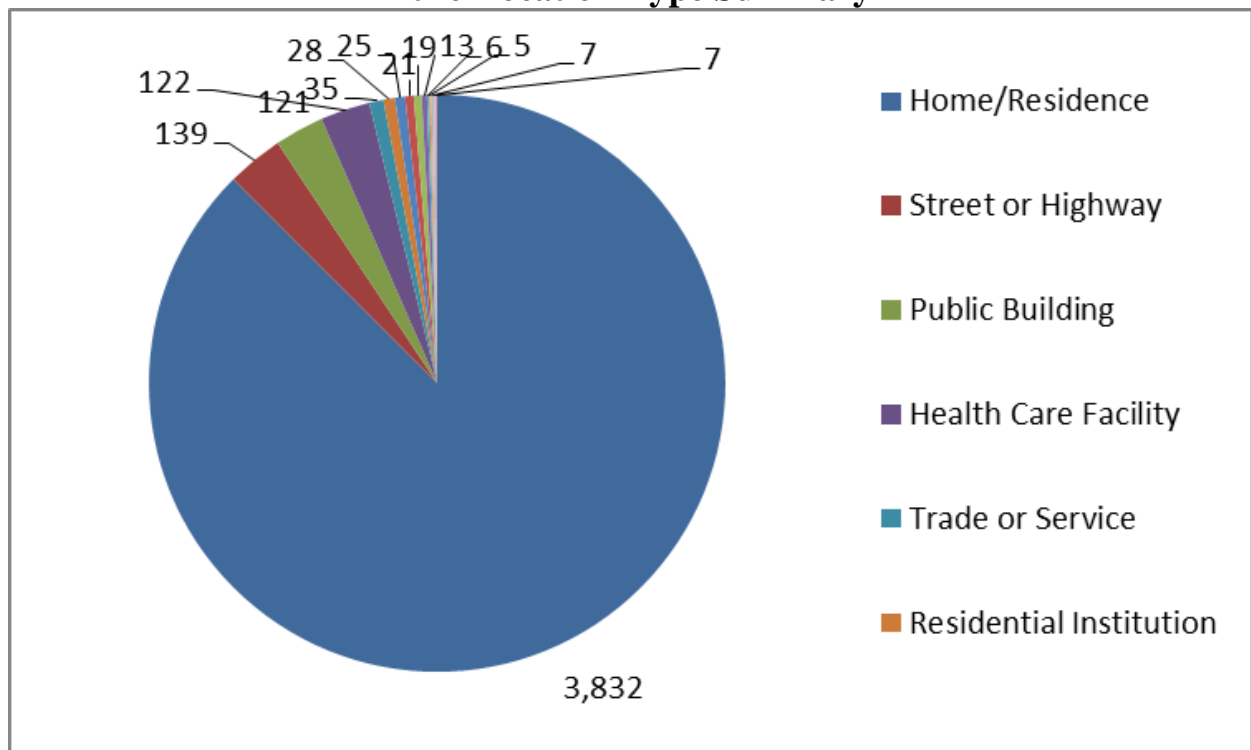


A CLOSER LOOK

2016 Runs By Hour Summary



2016 Location Type Summary



A CLOSER LOOK

Wooster Fire

District Call Volume

1/1/2016 - 12/31/2016

1	2,174
2	1,826
3	306
4	38
Out	24
Total	4,368

Wooster Fire

Shift Call Volume

1/1/2016 - 12/31/2016

1	1,479
2	1,491
3	1,395
4	3
Total	4,368

Wooster Fire

Average Times

1/1/2016 - 12/31/2016

EMS

Time To Dispatch:	00:01:52
Reaction Time:	00:02:06
Response Time:	00:03:39
Time On Scene:	00:10:46
Time Tx to Hospital:	00:05:34
Time Out At Hospital:	00:18:45
Total Call Duration:	00:42:56

Wooster Fire

Average Times

1/1/2016 - 12/31/2016

Non-EMS

Time To Dispatch:	00:02:32
Reaction Time:	00:02:50
Response Time:	00:03:45
Time On Scene:	00:03:38
Total Call Duration:	00:27:01

"Call Volume" includes both NFIRS and EMSIRS reports sent to the State. These "double" reports are only counted once in our annual call volume.

A CLOSER LOOK

Wooster Fire

Apparatus Call Volume

1/1/2016 - 12/31/2016

MEDIC 1	1,636
MEDIC 2	1,598
MEDIC 3	556
BATTALION 1	476
ENGINE 2	331
ENGINE 1	308
LADDER 1	118
ENGINE 3	81
CHIEF 2	40
UTILITY 1	29
UTILITY 4	23
CHIEF 1	20
UTILITY 2	19
UTILITY 3	7
BRUSH 1	5
144	1
ENGINE 4	1
FIRE	1
CONFINED SPACE	1
	1
	1
	0
Total	5,253



** Apparatus Call Volume represents a unit that responds to a call. The increase compared to annual call volume, is due to a multi-unit response to an incident**

A CLOSER LOOK

Medicount Inc. is the Fire Divisions third party ems transport billing company. The below graphs provide a snap shot of the Division's account. EMS transport billing is a cost recovery system that more equitably disperses the cost of providing EMS to its users.

CITY OF WOOSTER - 102 1/1/2015 to 12/31/2015 & 1/1/2016 to 12/31/2016

1/1/2015 to 12/31/2015

Charges	\$2,156,317.32
Payments	\$731,365.26
Adjustments	\$1,070,970.10
WriteOffs	\$227,308.86

Collection Rate	83.6%
Net Rev/Run	\$252.72

1/1/2016 to 12/31/2016

Charges	\$2,190,973.64
Payments	\$756,547.75
Adjustments	\$1,174,211.74
WriteOffs	\$148,951.63

Collection Rate	88.1%
Net Rev/Run	\$258.30

Charges

ALS	\$866,618.00	1,101	38.0%
ALS 2	\$15,002.00	13	0.4%
BLS	\$1,193,165.00	1,780	61.5%
Mileage	\$81,532.32	2.0	
	\$2,156,317.32	2,894	

Charges

ALS	\$908,139.00	1,151	39.3%
ALS 2	\$28,850.00	25	0.9%
BLS	\$1,176,173.00	1,753	59.8%
Mileage	\$77,811.64	1.9	
	\$2,190,973.64	2,929	

Payments

Medicaid	\$18,285.20	2.5%
Medicare	\$245,374.39	33.6%
Other	\$69,051.86	9.4%
Primary Ins.	\$386,186.76	52.8%
TPL/Auto	\$12,467.05	1.7%
	\$731,365.26	

Payments

Medicaid	\$16,209.96	2.1%
Medicare	\$269,955.71	35.7%
Other	\$91,214.56	12.1%
Primary Ins.	\$375,090.54	49.6%
TPL/Auto	\$4,076.98	0.5%
	\$756,547.75	

Adjustments

Medicaid	\$121,197.32	11.3%
Medicare	\$289,010.84	27.0%
Other	\$4,248.55	0.4%
Primary	\$656,513.39	61.3%
	\$1,070,970.10	

Adjustments

Medicaid	\$103,710.84	8.8%
Medicare	\$322,204.72	27.4%
Other	\$2,383.14	0.2%
Primary	\$745,913.04	63.5%
	\$1,174,211.74	

A CLOSER LOOK

CITY OF WOOSTER - 102 1/1/2013 to 12/31/2013 & 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014

1/1/2013 to 12/31/2013

Charges	\$1,846,311.70
Payments	\$744,681.26
Adjustments	\$853,774.91
WriteOffs	\$232,069.15

Collection Rate	86.6%
Net Rev/Run	\$298.11

Charges

ALS	\$1,159,010.00	1,507	60.3%
ALS 2	\$11,252.00	10	0.4%
BLS	\$641,615.00	981	39.3%
Mileage	\$34,434.70	1.0	
	\$1,846,311.70	2,498	

Payments

Medicaid	\$45,600.89	6.1%
Medicare	\$274,832.32	36.9%
Other	\$76,843.89	10.3%
Primary Ins.	\$322,279.53	43.3%
TPL/Auto	\$25,124.63	3.4%
	\$744,681.26	

Adjustments

Medicaid	\$89,515.90	10.5%
Medicare	\$318,384.03	37.3%
Other	\$4,313.77	0.5%
Primary	\$441,561.21	51.7%
	\$853,774.91	

1/1/2014 to 12/31/2014

Charges	\$1,916,880.25
Payments	\$714,831.53
Adjustments	\$978,320.83
WriteOffs	\$144,078.03

Collection Rate	88.3%
Net Rev/Run	\$277.93

Charges

ALS	\$1,192,566.00	1,535	59.7%
ALS 2	\$6,828.00	6	0.2%
BLS	\$681,605.00	1,031	40.1%
Mileage	\$35,881.25	1.0	
	\$1,916,880.25	2,572	

Payments

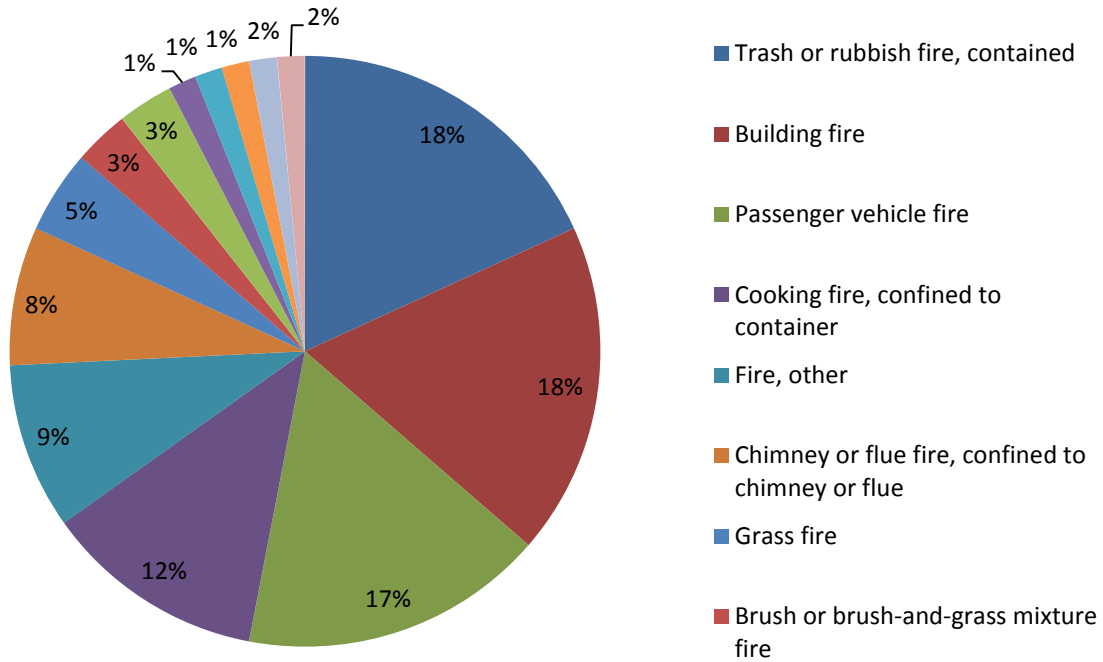
Medicaid	\$32,892.58	4.6%
Medicare	\$293,382.00	41.0%
Other	\$64,249.38	9.0%
Primary Ins.	\$309,524.06	43.3%
TPL/Auto	\$14,783.51	2.1%
	\$714,831.53	

Adjustments

Medicaid	\$151,740.67	15.5%
Medicare	\$347,822.71	35.6%
Other	\$3,328.57	0.3%
Primary	\$475,428.88	48.6%
	\$978,320.83	

A CLOSER LOOK

2016 Working Fire Type Summary

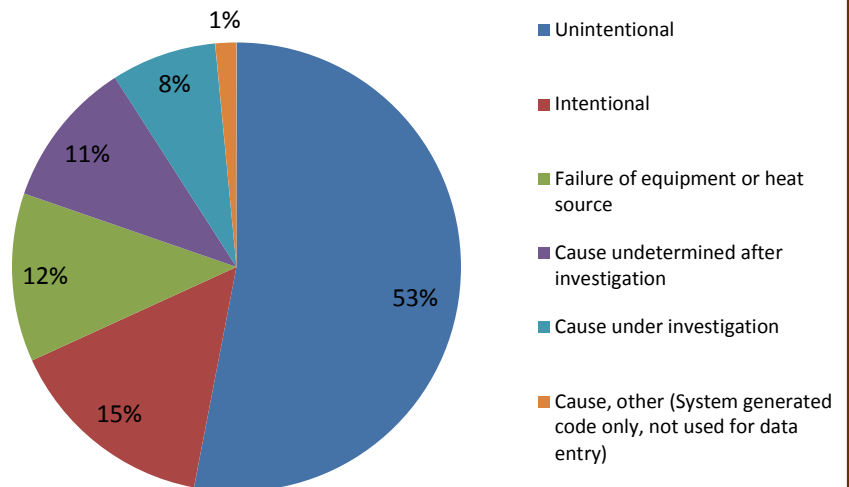


A CLOSER LOOK

Incident Number	Date	Property Value	Property Loss	Contents Value	Contents Loss	Total_Loss
16-00571-N	02/26/2016	\$3,000,000	-\$0	\$2,000,000	-\$1,000	-\$1,000
16-00781-N	03/20/2016	\$300,000	-\$500	\$0	-\$0	-\$500
16-00799-N	03/22/2016	\$250,000	-\$50	\$500,000	-\$0	-\$50
16-00803-N	03/23/2016	\$1,000,000	-\$5,000	\$500,000	-\$0	-\$5,000
16-00840-N	03/26/2016	\$50,000	-\$1,000	\$20,000	-\$0	-\$1,000
16-00948-N	04/06/2016	\$160,000	-\$200	\$40,000	-\$0	-\$200
16-01068-N	04/19/2016	\$290,000	-\$5,000	\$5,000	-\$500	-\$5,500
16-01119-N	04/24/2016	\$0	-\$0	\$135,000	-\$5,000	-\$5,000
16-01214-N	05/02/2016	\$1,500,000	-\$0	\$200,000	-\$10	-\$10
16-01306-N	05/11/2016	\$600,000	-\$0	\$15,000	-\$200	-\$200
16-01495-N	05/27/2016	\$36,000,000	-\$5,000	\$0	-\$0	-\$5,000
16-01741-N	06/19/2016	\$75,000	-\$100	\$0	-\$0	-\$100
16-01933-N	07/05/2016	\$100,000	-\$60,000	\$30,000	-\$15,000	-\$75,000
16-01977-N	07/08/2016	\$60,000	-\$40,000	\$10,000	-\$10,000	-\$50,000
16-02131-N	07/22/2016	\$1,000	-\$1,000	\$100	-\$50	-\$1,050
16-02964-N	09/27/2016	\$2,000,000	-\$500	\$1,000,000	-\$500	-\$1,000
16-03126-N	10/11/2016	\$300,000	-\$60,000	\$350,000	-\$5,000	-\$65,000
16-03404-N	11/05/2016	\$4,500	-\$4,500	\$0	-\$0	-\$4,500
16-03536-N	11/17/2016	\$200,000,000	-\$400,000	\$50,000,000	-\$100,000	-\$500,000
16-03653-N	11/27/2016	\$3,500,000	-\$600	\$1,000,000	-\$0	-\$600
16-03668-N	11/28/2016	\$3,000	-\$3,000	\$0	-\$0	-\$3,000
16-03684-N	11/30/2016	\$500	-\$500	\$50	-\$0	-\$500
16-03799-N	12/10/2016	\$49,290	-\$7,500	\$20,000	-\$1,000	-\$8,500
16-04031-N	12/29/2016	\$200,000	-\$0	\$12,000	-\$12,000	-\$12,000
Grand Total:		\$249,443,290	-\$594,450	\$55,837,150	-\$150,260	<u>-\$744,710</u>



2016 Cause of Ignition Summary



Training

The Fire Division training unit prepares, provides, and tracks the professional development needs for all personnel.

The training unit had another transition of leadership in 2016. LT. Maag was the unit leader until his promotion to Captain in the fall. At that time, LT. Keller was appointed as the unit leader. Both officers collaborated to complete the yearly training for our members.

The goal for 2016 was to reorganize the training unit to provide more standardized training across all three shifts. To accomplish this goal, the Fire Division focused on certifying our personnel as fire/EMS & AHA instructors.

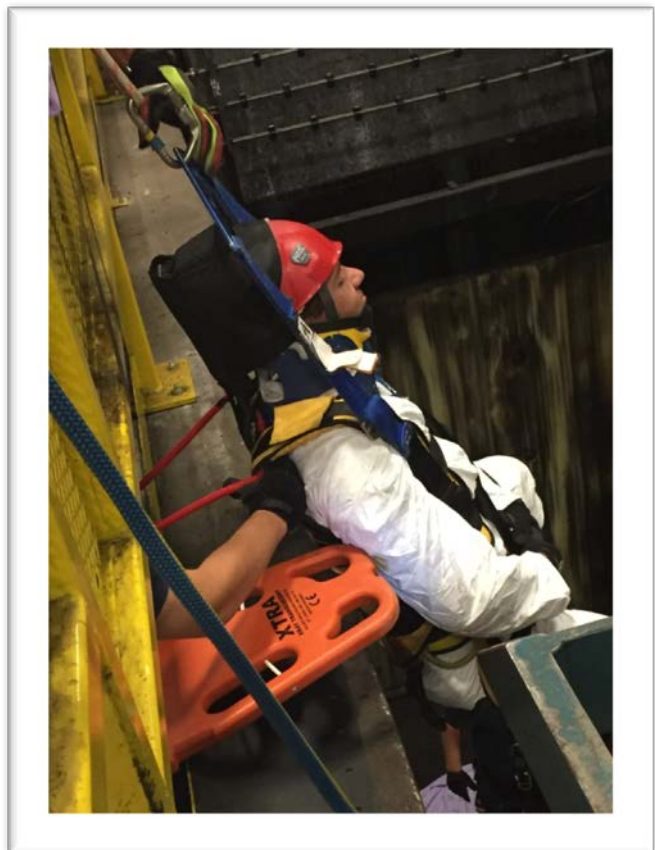
The training division coordinated the following classes/programs:

- Basic Life Support Instructor
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support Instructor
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support Instructor
- Ohio Fire Instructor
- Nationally recognized Blue Card incident management training.
- Strategy & Tactics for Initial Company Officer
- Multi-Company Drill At the Wayne County Training Center
- Ohio Fire Executive (Chief & Asst. Chief)

In addition to officer development, the training division continued to coordinate training for our special operations units, which included:

- Confined Space Rescue refresher
- Haz-Mat Operations refresher
- Ice Rescue
- Fire Investigation Refresher

The unit continues to look for quality training opportunities for our members. The Division collaborated with the Wayne County Training Center, The Ohio Fire Academy, and Cleveland State University to acquire the highest level of training for our members. 2017's plan is to continue this position and coordinate the use of multiple training specialty trailers from the Ohio Fire Academy.



Training in Detail

In 2016 the total number of training hours was 5785.5. The source for the data below is CenterLearn, the division's web-based training and records management system.

Training Hours by Group for date range 01/01/2016 - 12/31/2016

	FF/EMT- B	FF/ EMT-P	
CCEMT-P - Continuing Education	0	97	
ISO - Firefighter	224.75	1277.25	
ISO - Hazmat	40	209	
ISO - Officer	140	886.5	
NFPA - 1002 Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator	0	5	
NFPA - 1021 Fire Officer	142	891.5	
NFPA - 1031 Fire Inspector	0	26	
NFPA - 1033 Fire Investigator	8	207.5	
NFPA - 1041 Fire Service Instructor	0	12	
NFPA - 400 Hazardous Materials	40	210	
NREMT - Airway	0	20	
NREMT - Airway, Breathing and Cardiology	2	61	
NREMT - Childbirth & Children	0	14	
NREMT - Circulation	0	16	
NREMT - Illness & Injury	5	145	
NREMT - Medical/Behavioral	6	115	
NREMT - Medical Emergencies	10	167	
NREMT - OB, Infants, Children	0	15	
NREMT - Obstetrics and Pediatrics	0	27	
NREMT - Operational Tasks	8.5	91	
NREMT - Patient Assessment	0	14	
NREMT - Preparatory	0	46	
NREMT - Trauma	1	114	
Ohio EMS - Geriatric	0	9	
Ohio EMS - Pediatrics	8	84	
Ohio EMS - AED	0	2	
Ohio EMS - Emergency Cardiac Care	2	52	
Ohio EMS - General Topics	20.5	314	
	<u>657.75</u>	<u>5127.75</u>	<u>5785.5</u>

SPECIAL UNIT SUMMARY

Fire Investigation Unit:

In 2016; the FIU Unit welcomed a new member to the team, Fire Inspector Mike Berry. Inspector Berry finished his training at the end of 2015 and became FIT certified in 2016. As the newest member and with just completing his initial training, Inspector Berry was able to help with the revision of the unit's policies and procedures manual.

A fire investigation refresher was held at station 3. This training was mandatory for the all FIU personnel to attend, and prerequisite class assignments were completed. All officers were invited to attend to understand and work better with the members of the fire investigation unit. Members of the unit also attended an NFPA 921 and 1033 update class, provided by the Medina County Fire Investigation Task Force.

During the Fire Investigation Refresher, members of the FIU team were introduced to the development of a curriculum vitae (C.V.). This document is a resume of the investigator's classes and certificates to have as court credentials. As a baseline for continuous improvement, CFI Trainer was introduced to the members of the unit to further their education and build a stronger C.V.

Fire Zone, the computer aided drafting software, was installed on a computer at every station and the inspector's office. Currently, we have four licenses with fire zone, which is sufficient for the Fire investigation unit at this time.

WFD-FIU, Lt Etter

FIU- Photography Unit

The FIU-PU consists of 7 members, all firefighters, and works closely with the Fire Investigation Unit. There were no personnel changes in 2016, although, in 2017, several unit members will be added.

Mike Sherrick, OIC; C - Shift (Jonathan Stull and Lance Powers have been asked, awaiting approval and training)

John Sherrick, Ed Edgell, Jeff Buzzard; B - Shift (Kristen Peterman has been asked, awaiting approval and training)

Ron Balas, Mike Springer, Matt Cudlip; A - Shift

The FIU-PU recorded all incidents digitally and recorded all photos to CD and backed up to the shared file on the City server in 2017.

FIU-PU Equipment list that is *current and in use* is as follows:

- **Canon EOS Digital Rebel T3i camera with zoom lens, Canon 430EX Flash Unit**
- **Canon EOS Digital Rebel T1i camera with zoom lens, and Canon 220 flash unit**
- **Rocketfish High Speed flash card reader at Station 1 in the training office.**
- **Zio flash card reader at Station 2 in the bedroom.**



SPECIAL UNIT SUMMARY

New purchases – Replaced because of damage was a Canon Flash unit and a zoom lens. Purchased new were 3 Fujifilm XP point and shoot cameras and placed in service on each engine.

The FIU-PU has remained effective by producing quality photographs in a timely and efficient manner for the WFD-FIU and State Fire Marshall Investigators.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael D. Sherrick

Michael D Sherrick, OIC
Fire Investigation Unit - Photography Unit
Wooster Division of Fire

Juvenile Fire Setter Program

2016 was the 12th year that the Juvenile Fire Setter program had been offered to Wooster residents. For those that have children exhibiting improper behavior dealing with fire. To ensure that our residents are aware of this program, The Division has a brochure on the fire department website, the schools, and court system has been provided with contact information and a program summary. 2016 marked the first year with no participants seeking this educational program.

Respectfully submitted,
Lt. Chris Green

SCBA- Breathing Air Apparatus Unit

The Breathing Air Apparatus Unit oversees all Wooster Division of Fire's breathing air apparatus. This includes the Divisions Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), Rapid Intervention Bags (RIT), Confined Space Escape Packs, Confined Space Supplied Air Fill Stations, and the Air Compressor/ SCBA Fill Station located at Station #1 and the breathing air cylinders on Ladder 1 (138).

The unit consists of the following members:

Matt Cudlip, OIC; A - Shift

Scott Iannarelli; B - Shift

Joshua Brownson; C - Shift

In 2016 the Wooster Division of Fire applied for a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters micro Grant (AFG). This grant money, if approved will be used to update the fire division's breathing air and communications equipment used for confined space. The current equipment used by the fire division is approximately 18 - 19 years old and is in need of replacement.

SPECIAL UNIT SUMMARY

Most, if not all fire division members received extensive hands-on training with the fire divisions MSA G1 SCBA that had been placed in-service in the Fall of 2015. Members were able to use the SCBAs in the Spring of 2016 at the training house and business located on the Friendsville Road property. This is the current site of the new Safety Service Center currently under construction. Again in the Fall of 2016 each shift was able to spend a day at the Wayne County Fire & Rescue Association Regional Training Facility located in Apple Creek Ohio. There members trained in the Burn Building practicing many different firefighting skills while using the MSA G1 SCBA.

Additions to the Breathing Air Unit:

- (1) One additional/ improved RIT bag was added in the Summer of 2016 when the fire division went from operating two stations to a three station operation. All front line Engines are now equipped with a RIT bag. MSA.
- The manufacture of the Divisions SCBA provided free of charge, rechargeable batteries for all 34 of the divisions SCBA. They also provided two charging stations. These rechargeable batteries have reduced the overall weight of the SCBA by approximately one pound. The division also purchased an additional charging station for Station #3 and spare rechargeable batteries.
- In the Fall of 2016, six escape pack cylinders used for the confined space unit were replaced due to being out of Hydro Date. These cylinders have a 15-year service life and were in need of replacement. All confined space unit escape packs are in-service and in "Hydro."

Repairs/Service:

Overall, the fire division's MSA G1 SCBA had minimal repairs during 2016. These SCBAs have performed extremely well during 2016. In June of 2016, all fire division SCBA was flow tested by Fire Force Inc. This test is the national standard set forth by 29 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Parts 1910.134 and 1910.156 and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1852, Standard on the Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Open-Circuit Breathing Apparatus and is done on a yearly basis.

Respectfully submitted,
FF Matt Cudlip

Matt Cudlip, OIC
Breathing Air Apparatus Unit
Wooster Division of Fire



FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY

The Fire Prevention Division enforces state and local fire codes, performs fire safety inspections, along with plan reviews and acceptance testing. The members of the division also coordinate public education programs and our smoke detector initiative.

Plan Review

The fire marshal (Asst. Chief Murphy) reviewed 26 plans in 2016. This was a decrease from 2015 but due to time constraints of supervising the Training and Operations Divisions. AC Murphy formally documented plan reviews that pertained to fire protection. Any other plans received a courtesy review and forwarded any concerns to the Building Dept. In addition to the plan review activity, the fire inspector had to conduct multiple on-site inspections and meetings for the majority of these projects.

Plan Review	26
Life Safety Inspections and Acceptance Tests	690

Life Safety Inspections & Education

The division's fire inspector has an extremely busy position. In addition to the inspection of current business occupancies, and new construction inspection tests; the fire inspector conducts inspections on state licensed day care and residential care facilities, and all schools. Depending on the building occupancy type, each inspection can last from one hour to multiple days. This inspection activity is in addition to responding to emergencies, conducting public education, and required departmental training activities.



In 2016, the fire inspector conducted:

- 690 Fire Inspections
- 131 Fire Extinguisher Trainings
- 1,799 Public Education to 961 children and 838 adults.
- 265 people attended tours of the fire stations.
- The topics of education include Fire extinguisher training, station tours, "Stop Drop & Roll," fire drills at home.

The Fire Division's Prevention Division has also developed a vacant building structure identification program. This program allows the Division to identify structures that are vacant and a hazard to our operational personnel. Once identified, the fire inspector hangs a sign that shows our firefighters the type of hazards that are present in the structure. This program's objective is to reduce the risk of injury and death to our members.

The Fire Prevention Division has also developed a program to offer and install FDC signs. This program will help our fire crews identify the hundreds of fire department connections throughout the city.





Inspection Square Footage Conducted

Acceptance Test ^{FS}	185	9,900,952
Complaint ^{FS}	25	296,299
Deficiency Report ^{FS}	35	5,044,360
Knox Box ^{FS}	48	741,949
License ^{FS}	23	67,150
Misc. ^{FS}	89	5,673,111
Plan Review ^{FS}	1	0
Regular - Assembly 1 ^{FS}	1	0
Regular - Assembly 2 - Assembly 5 ^{FS}	6	0
Regular - Business ^{FS}	62	137,690
Regular - Education ^{FS}	19	175,968
Regular - Factory ^{FS}	4	304,000
Regular - Institutional ^{FS}	1	0
Regular - Residential ^{FS}	18	1,900
Regular - Storage ^{FS}	1	0
Regular - Utility ^{FS}	4	6,283
Re-inspect ^{FS}	145	3,759,933
State ^{FS}		

The growth of the City has placed an increased demand on the Fire Prevention Division. New construction, redevelopment, and building expansions at LUK, GOJO, and Daisy Dairy have overextended the capabilities of our fire prevention workforce. The fire prevention staff is only able to keep up with state-mandated inspections and new construction acceptance testing. This leaves a large deficiency in our ability to reduce the potential of fire before they start in existing structures.

The Fire Division needs to reevaluate the deployment of the Fire Prevention Division (similar to the reorganization of the operations division) and reorganize to increase our efficiency and effectiveness.

STAFF

Firefighter of the Year



Mike Berry

Each year the Wooster Exchange Club honors local emergency service members. This year, Mike Berry was nominated and selected to receive this award. Mike was presented with the award during a ceremony at the Wooster Inn. With dedication, Mike has served the division and community for 16 years. Mike is the Fire Inspector and conducts all life safety inspections for the Division. Mike also coordinated the Vacant Building- Hazard identification program, an FDC signage program, and the continued successful smoke alarm initiative.

Retired

LT Stan Brown

LT Brown was hired in March of 1987 as a firefighter. During his time with the department, he was promoted to LT, Asst. Chief, and Chief. In 2006, Stan took a self-demotion back to Lieutenant.



FF John Sherrick

John was hired in August of 1991 as a firefighter. During his tenure John served on a variety of special units.



Capt. Tom Graf

Capt. Graf was hired in November of 1981 as a firefighter. During his tenure with the fire department, Tom was promoted to LT and Captain. Tom coordinated the Logistics Division and all maintenance of the Divisions apparatus.



Promotions

Mike Maag- Captain

Mike was hired in May of 1992. Promoted to LT in 2000 and promoted to Captain in Oct. 2016, following the retirement of Capt. Graf. During his time at Wooster Fire, Mike has contributed as the confined space unit leader, training officer, and has always strived for continuous improvement. He earned many additional certifications as a Fire Instructor, Fire Officer I&II, Leadership 1, and has an A.S. Degree in Construction Management.



Chris Hawkins- Lieutenant

Chris was hired in 2004 and promoted to LT in May of 2016. Chris is a highly motivated employee who strives for excellence. During his time at Wooster Fire, Chris has functioned on the Fire Investigation Unit and as a shift training member. Chris has continued to increase his knowledge of the job by earning additional certifications as a Fire Instructor, Fire Officer I&II, Fire Investigator, and has an A.S. Degree in Fire Science

Scott Meshew- Lieutenant

Scott was hired in May of 2000 and promoted in May of 2016. During his time at Wooster Fire, Scott has functioned as a Haz-Mat Tech. During his off-duty time, Scott has dedicated himself to helping those with disabilities to enjoy the outdoors and hunting.

Greg Thompson- Lieutenant

Greg came to the division in August of 2002 and was promoted in May of 2016. During his time at Wooster Fire, Greg has assisted with Basic Life Support education of our members and out in the community. Greg has earned additional certifications as an EMS CE Instructor, Fire Officer I&II, and Leadership 1.

Joe Kiefer- Lieutenant

Joe was hired at Wooster in 2001 after serving with Mifflin Twp. Fire. Joe also runs with Loudonville Fire as a volunteer fire officer since 1988. He was promoted to Lieutenant in Oct. of 2016. During his time at Wooster Fire, Joe has been a member of the Fire Investigation Unit and has additional certifications as a Fire Inspector and Fire Officer I.



GOALS & OBJECTIVES ACCOMPLISHED

In 2016 the division successfully met multiple goals and objectives.

Stations, Equipment, and Apparatus:

- The renovations of Fire Station #3 were completed in the spring of 2016. The Fire Division utilized an existing building that was for sale and renovated it to fit our needs. This option provided significant cost savings and a station in a growing industrial section of the City. In July, the Fire Division began to operate out of Fire Station #3 with three personnel, combo-staffing an engine and medic.



- After much hard work and planning, the Wooster Safety Center (Fire Station #2) broke ground in the fall of 2016. This facility will house the Wooster PD and be an out station for the fire department. The facility is anticipated to open in the summer/fall of 2017 and will house three personnel, combo-staffing an engine and medic. The fire department administration will also temporarily relocate to this station until station #1 can be renovated in the future.



- The division remounted an old Medic/Rescue. The new unit is on an International 4300 chassis, and we utilized the old medic box and had it refinished and remounted on the new chassis. This new Medic will operate out of Fire Station#3 and serve the east side of the City.

- In the summer of 2016. The City Administration and City Council authorized the purchase of a new fire engine. This engine is anticipated to be delivered in the fall of 2017 and will replace a 1990 fire engine that is over its service life and not NFPA compliant.

- 2016 marked a period of significant upgrades to our public safety communications system. In July of 2016, the police and fire departments opened and began operating out of the Wooster-Ashland Communications Center. In addition to the change of dispatch centers, the Fire Division also migrated off of an old antiquated VHF radio frequency. Onto the Ohio Multi-Agency Radio Communications System (MARCS). The MARCS system is an 800 MHz, P25-interoperable system, which covers the entire State of Ohio. The utilization of this system and the upgraded Motorola APX 6000 digital radios has revolutionized our communications. Our members can now communicate clearly and over greater distances. This upgrade has corrected critical issues that we have been fighting for years.



LOOKING FORWARD...

Safety Center (Fire Station #2) Opening

The Division is excited to see the Safety Center open. This station will provide the fire division much-needed space and storage capabilities. The location of the Safety Center will help provide services to the growing north end of the city and help redistribute call volume into Station #3's district.

Staff Development and Training

Succession planning and technical rescue operations are high priorities for 2017. The Division has and will continue to see multiple members become eligible for retirement. To absorb the loss of our experienced members, the Division will continue to conduct staff development training.



As part of my Executive Fire Officer training, I have been researching the technical rescue capabilities of our county and the city. 2017 will provide an end to my research and will be a catalyst for the County Fire Chiefs to redevelop our technical rescue operations. This operational development, in conjunction with the training officer recommendation will require additional advanced training in land-based rescue operations. The training unit is preparing training plans based on current and future needs of the Division, so that we will be in an optimal position for success in the future.

Purchases

In addition to purchasing any required supplies to get St. 2 operational, the division has budgeted funds for the purchase of a new medic unit, a set of extrication tools, and a LifePack cardiac monitor for our fourth Medic.

Growth

The Fire Division has seen a steady increase in call volume. This increase and with the industrial/commercial development will require the need to evaluate our staffing levels. 2016's operational changes have made us more efficient with our current staffing levels, but our growth will soon exceed our capabilities to maintain our current level of services. In 2017, the Fire Administration will roll out the Fire Division's Strategic Plan, which will provide a foundation for our future.

