

ANNUAL REPORT

2019



BOX 15 CLUB, INC.

SERVING COLUMBUS AND CENTRAL OHIO SINCE 1947

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Rehab 2 in Reynoldsburg - T. Knowles photo

President's Message

Greetings and welcome to 2020. We finished 2019 with a total of 129 responses, which surpassed our busiest year of 2018 when we had 113. During the year we had 26 extreme weather standby days where our crews stay at a fire station with our truck and responded immediately on any working incident. Our team of dedicated volunteers staffed our trucks for over 2,000 hours. This commitment shows our appreciation to all of the firefighters and first responders that serve our communities. I greatly appreciate and thank our active members for their service and dedication.

I hope you will take the time to look over our statistics, the numbers which reflect the volume of products we dispensed. We are very fortunate to have generous businesses and personal donations that provide us with water, sports drinks, and equipment. The financial donations help us with the cost of other supplies and maintenance of our trucks. We continue to add equipment to our trucks that can be used during the extreme weather conditions we have been seeing more of.

We are very proud to say all donations we receive, or funds raised during apparel sales, goes back to our first responders, again thank you to those who support us. As we look forward to 2020, we will continue to serve the men and women in public safety whenever and wherever we're needed.

Regards,

Joe O'Brien

Box 15 President

Mission Statement

The Box 15 Club, Inc. is dedicated to providing Canteen and Firefighter Rehab Services, and to support, as best we can, in every practical way, the work of our "first line of defense against the ravages of fire" - the men and women of the fire service.

Meetings

Box 15 meets on the last Tuesday of every month except December. Our meetings are held at various locations, mostly area fire stations. Meeting times are generally at 7:00 PM (1900 hours); however, certain meetings have associated activities and begin at 6:00 PM. Information about meeting dates, times, and locations can be requested by emailing Board@Box15.org.



Saving Our Own at Mt. Carmel - B. Barber photo

Overview

2019 – Oh, what a year! From our highest-ever number of responses, to a banner year for donations, to some really significant upgrades in equipment and our first run under our State-wide Disaster Support Protocol, it was one for the record books. We’ve said “welcome” to some new members and “goodbye forever” to one long-term member as well as a family member of another long-time member. We also had to say farewell to a few dear friends in the fire service community. Membership-wise, we added two people who have become very active. With runs stretching from Delaware (city) to Baltimore, in Fairfield County, to Dayton, OH, and just about everywhere in between. We also provided support (first time ever) for a humane rescue activity. We saw temperature extremes from a heat index reaching +112 degrees to a chill factor down as low as negative 35 degrees. Operationally, we’ve stepped up our support for firefighter training (including PPE and personnel decontamination) and for public fire safety awareness initiatives.

Financially, we did OK even though our vehicle maintenance costs were way up. We were able to add some reserve to our Apparatus Replacement Fund. Someday, in the future, we’ll be able to purchase a new unit, spec’d out to our exact needs. Thanks to some very generous donations, we also added some new equipment and we placed a lot of emphasis on firefighter decontamination in effort to reduce the risk of occupational cancer. All in all, this was one of the most successful years in our 72-year history.



Decon shower in use - J. O'Brien photo

Compliance

Box 15 operates under the guidelines set forth in NFPA-1584 “Standard on the Rehabilitation Process...”. However, since we serve 40+ fire departments across three counties (and mutual aid to other Rehab Groups beyond those limits) and considering the potentially diverse range of EMS protocols, we rely on the “jurisdictional” agency to provide the EMS monitoring portion of the standard, in order to make sure their firefighters are adequately served in compliance with their department’s standards. We concentrate our efforts on hydration, nutrition, core temperature stabilization, rest, and skin as well as PPE decontamination.

Activity – Month by Month

New this year, we've added more detail on the weather conditions as well as the approximate number of personnel that were served. Also new – you'll see that we've color-coded many of the responses. During some "extreme weather standby" shifts, we were fortunate that there were no working incidents, but responses made during those shifts are highlighted as CWS (cold weather standby) and HWS (hot weather standby). We've also provided more detail regarding the training and civic events.

January

Rehab 2 came back from extensive repairs shortly after the first of the year. It had been in the shop since November. It was good to get it back in service because January turned out to be pretty busy. Repairs wound up costing \$13,000 but, thanks to the generosity of the Columbus Firefighters Foundation, Genoa Township Firefighters and several others – including a Facebook appeal by a Columbus firefighter (and great friend), donations covered a little more than half of the bill. We made it to the middle of the month before our first major fire (a 2-alarm apartment fire), however we did have several days of rehab support for firefighter training activities and spent two days along a frozen retention pond to "thaw out" dive/rescue team members, as they tuned up their ice rescue skills. We pulled a total of seven 12-hour shifts of cold weather standby, including a 60-hour non-stop stretch to close out the month.



Magnolia Blossom - J. O'Brien photo

Those last few days of the month saw a lot of activity. In addition to the two days of ice rescue training, we made a 25-mile run into eastern Delaware County for a house fire. We used our kerosene heater to thaw out an extension ladder so it could be placed back in service. This was followed by a house fire in the south end of Columbus when the wind chill reached a balmy (negative) 17 degrees. Then, just after midnight, Rehab 1 was called out to Pickerington for another house fire and we spent the morning of



Great Wall Chinese Rest. J. O'Brien photo



Ice Rescue Training - B. Barber photo

the 31st demonstrating our rehab capabilities to a group of doctors at the Hilliard Community Center. They really appreciated having the kerosene heater warming our tent with it being zero degrees outside. In the spirit of sharing, we received 72 surplus folding cots from Red Cross and shared them with several other rehab groups in Central Ohio.



Morse Rd. car lot - J. O'Brien photo



Firefighters Foundation check presentation – L. Phillips photo

Date	Location	Run Type	Weather	Served
4-Jan-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	Saving Our Own	35 °F, partly cloudy, 5 mph	30
7-Jan-19	255 Reeb Ave., Columbus	Saving Our Own	35 °F, overcast, 10 mph	40
14-Jan-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	Night Ops Training	20 °F, partly cloudy, 5 mph	45
15-Jan-19	284 Directory Dr., Columbus	2 Alarm	18 °F, partly cloudy, 10 mph	40
20-Jan-19	Cold weather standby protocol - 20:00 - 08:00 hrs			
20-Jan-19	4922 Magnolia Blossom Dr., Columbus	Working Fire (CWS)	-7 °F (chill), clear, 8 mph, gust 15+	30
21-Jan-19	Cold weather standby protocol - 20:00 - 08:00 hrs			
21-Jan-19	1214 S. James Rd., Columbus	Working Fire (CWS)	3 °F, clear, 0 mph	20
21-Jan-19	2733 Morse Rd., Columbus	Working Fire (CWS)	5 °F, clear, 3 mph	40
21-Jan-19	1846 Sunbury Rd., Columbus	Working Fire (CWS)	-6 °F (chill), clear, 7 mph	35
22-Jan-19	3616 Fisher Rd., Columbus	Working Fire (CWS)	-2 °F (chill), overcast, 6 mph	10
28-Jan-19	1900 Haul Rd., Columbus	Ice Rescue Training	33 °F, Overcast, 5 mph	20
29-Jan-19	Cold weather standby protocol - 20:00 - 08:00 hrs			
29-Jan-19	1900 Haul Rd., Columbus	Ice Rescue Training	-5 °F (chill), snow, 20 mph, gust 30+	15
30-Jan-19	Cold weather standby protocol - 08:00 - 08:00 hrs (24 hour shift)			
30-Jan-19	5295 Red Bank Rd., Genoa Township	Working Fire (CWS)	-10 °F (chill), overcast, 7 mph	35
30-Jan-19	1554 Wilson Ave., Columbus	Working Fire (CWS)	-17 °F (chill), cloudy, 17-30 mph,	10
31-Jan-19	Cold weather standby protocol - 08:00 - 08:00 hrs (24 hour shift)			
31-Jan-19	360 Sheryl Dr., Pickerington	Working Fire (CWS)	-13 °F (chill), partly cloudy, 5 mph	30
31-Jan-19	3800 Veterans Pkwy, Hilliard	Cold Weather Ops	3 °F, partly cloudy, 2 mph	15

February

The bitter cold at the end of January eased up as February began. On the 5th, Rehab 2 was requested for a house fire in Orange Township (Delaware County) and three days later, we were called to a working fire on the west side of Columbus. Two days later, Rehab 2 was requested for a house fire in far north Columbus. On the 16th, we again provided assistance for the First Responders Faceoff hockey match.

First Responders is a non-profit group that raises funds to purchase “particulate-blocking” hoods for firefighters. On the 18th, we were requested for a house fire in Reynoldsburg and on the 19th, a “Mayday” was called for trapped firefighters in a house fire on the east side of Columbus. That became an automatic greater alarm with Box 15 responding. Fortunately, the firefighters were located and no one sustained any injuries.



Hyatts Rd fire - J. O'Brien photo



Rainbow Park fire - J. O'Brien photo

Date	Location	Run Type	Weather	Served
5-Feb-19	275 Hyatts Rd., Lewis Center	Working Fire	49 °F, overcast, 0 mph	40
8-Feb-19	303 S. Wheatland Ave., Columbus	Extra Co. Fire	30 °F, partly cloudy, 5-8 mph	30
10-Feb-19	10209 Arnold Place, Columbus	Working Fire	30 °F, partly cloudy, 5 mph	35
16-Feb-19	Borror Drive (OSU Schott Arena),	1st Responders Faceoff	25 °F, clear, 5-10 mph	5
18-Feb-19	936 Hilton Dr., Reynoldsburg	Working Fire	25 °F, clear, 5 mph	37
19-Feb-19	1754 Rainbow Park, Columbus	2 Alarm	32 °F, clear, 4 mph	40
27-Feb-19	6366 Cherylbrook Lane, Columbus	Working Fire	34 °F, mostly cloudy, 6 mph	30

March

Unfortunately, the month of March brought some tragic news. A Columbus firefighter, whom we had known since his first day in the Academy, took his own life – apparently a victim of PTSD. And just a few days later, we were requested to provide shelter and canteen services during a drowning recovery, when the temperature was well below freezing. In addition, we served at two working fires as well as a second alarm in a high-rise. Our friends at MSC Supply notified us that they had another Gatorade donation. We did not need it directly but did distribute it to other rehab groups, so nothing went to waste. With the topic of PTSD fresh in everyone’s mind, it was appropriate that we had scheduled a special training session for our March meeting –



“Dying in Blue”, a program developed by Groveport Police Chief Ralph Portier. Ralph was not only law enforcement, he had spent many years in EMS, as well. Timing could not have been better.



Long Rd., Pickerington - J. O'Brien photo



1445 E. Broad St. CFD Aux photo



Donation at MSC Supply - B. Barber photo



Burn building Ohio Fire Academy - J. O'Brien photo

Date	Location	Run Type	Weather	Served
4-Mar-19	Cold weather standby protocol - 20:00 - 08:00 hrs			
4-Mar-19	5459 Coachman Rd., Columbus	Working Fire	19 °F, clear, 14 mph (chill=5)	32
7-Mar-19	337 Alton-Darby Creek Rd., Prairie Twp.	Funeral Service	30 °F, partly cloudy, 5-10 mph	20
8-Mar-19	5080 Tuttle Crossing Blvd., Dublin	Drowning	20 °F, overcast, 0-5 mph	20
10-Mar-19	10845 Long Rd., Pickerington	Working Fire	30 °F, partly cloudy, 5-10 mph	30
13-Mar-19	8895 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg	Firefighter II live burn	42 °F, overcast, 5-10 mph	36
19-Mar-19	1445 E. Broad St., Columbus	2 Alarm (high rise)	29 °F, mostly cloudy, 0-5 mph	75

April

In April, we had three second alarm fires within a two-week span. We also suffered another firefighter PTSD loss – this one an Orange Township man that we had known from his Columbus Fire Auxiliary days. We were once again honored to provide a variety of support services during visiting hours as well as at the cemetery, which was a wet, windy, raw day. Near the end of the month, we partnered with Red Cross and Whitehall Fire to do a smoke alarm installation and education program. During our annual Spring Apparel Sale, we took the opportunity to change out certain equipment on each one of the trucks in order to prepare for warm weather. Heaters were emptied and put in storage, while misting units were tested and put in service.



Murphy Funeral - J. O'Brien photo

As has been our practice since it was developed, we provided rehab for “Saving Our Own” evolutions. This time we had two donated houses in the Linden area. Our April business/training meeting was held at Columbus fire station #3, with Capt. Brobst giving us a talk on the responsibilities of the Incident Safety Officer. Following his talk, he was presented with a replica of the SO-2 “buggy”. On Sunday, April 28, we held our annual Awards Dinner & Recognition. More on this in the Awards and Honors section.



RSU-2 at Saving Our Own - J. O'Brien photo



Captain Brobst & Pres. O'Brien - B. Barber photo



Saving Our Own training - J. O'Brien photo



Vail Pine Pl. 2nd alarm - J. O'Brien photo



E. Dublin-Granville 2nd - J. O'Brien photo

Date	Location	Run Type	Weather	Served
3-Apr-19	3384 Argus Green Ct., Columbus	2 Alarm	40 °F, part cloudy, 5-10 mph	40
14-Apr-19	2151 E. Dublin Granville Rd., Columbus	2 Alarm	43 °F, overcast, 5-10 mph	60
18-Apr-19	5070 Vail Pine Place, Columbus	2 Alarm	81 °F, mostly cloudy, 5 mph	75
23-Apr-19	6405 Havens Rd., Jefferson Township	Working Fire	52 °F, mostly cloudy, 5-8 mph	40
23-Apr-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	Saving Our Own	65 °F, mostly cloudy, 10-15 mph	45
24-Apr-19	2408 Cleveland Ave., Columbus	Saving Our Own	50 °F, part cloudy, 3-5 mph	32
25-Apr-19	337 Alton Darby Creek Rd., Prairie Twp.	Funeral Service	50 °F, rain, 0-5 mph	50
26-Apr-19	5175 Old State Rd., Lewis Center	Funeral Service	48 °F, rain, 20 mph, gust 30+	50
27-Apr-19	390 S. Yearling Rd., Whitehall	Red Cross Smoke Alarm	52 °F, clear, 5-8 mph	67

May

May turned out to be the busiest month in history, with 22 responses in 31 days. Nine of those were day-long outings to support training activities, including five outings to support Rescue Tech classes. We had two second alarm fires and four working fires, an extended deployment due to an overturned tanker truck/hazmat incident, three more days working with Red Cross, Westerville and Worthington firefighters for another smoke alarm distribution and a very unique heavy rescue incident. We closed out the month by responding to Dayton with the Central Ohio Strike Team because of a major outbreak of tornadoes. Sandwiched into this, one of our members participated in several days of training on the new Strokemobile, put in service jointly by Columbus Fire and Ohio Health. This unit brings stroke evaluation and treatment to the patient instead of transporting the patient to the hospital, thus saving precious minutes for intervention. We've been told that every minute saved at the outset can reduce recovery time by a week.



Westerville Rd. Hazmat - J. O'Brien photo

While we've been distributing pre-moistened wipes for several years to help firefighters clean exposed skin, this month we stepped up that process by creating "First In, First Out" decontamination kits. These kits contain the wipes, soap and brushes for cleaning PPE, particle masks, nitrile gloves, disposable gear bags, and tags. Along with our shower unit on Rehab 2, we can perform "gross decontamination" in the field when requested. Protocols for this are still being developed by the fire departments that we serve, but we're ready when they are.



Darbyshire house fire - J. O'Brien photo



Strokemobile training - J. O'Brien photo



Smoke Alarm orientation - J. O'Brien photo



Old Hall Rd. house fire - J. O'Brien photo



High Point rescue training - J. O'Brien photo



Overtuned Tanker - J. O'Brien photo



RSU-2 at Dayton Tornado - J. O'Brien photo



Tornado Damage - J. O'Brien photo

Date	Location	Run Type	Weather	Served
1-May-19	4256 Darbyshire Ct., Hilliard	Working Fire	83 °F, partly cloudy, 15-18 mph	34
1-May-19	6420 Old Hall Rd., Prairie Twp.	Working Fire	83 °F, partly cloudy, 10-15 mph	55
1-May-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	Night Ops Training	63 °F, mostly cloudy, 0-5 mph	50
4-May-19	307 Huber Village Blvd., Westerville	Red Cross Smoke Alarm	55 °F, overcast, 0-5 mph	45
4-May-19	106 E. Ticonderoga Dr., Westerville	Working Fire	52 °F, overcast, 0-5 mph	24
6-May-19	8895 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg	Division Ops burn	70 °F, sunny, 5-10 mph	57
7-May-19	I-270 & US 33, Dublin	Haz-mat	70 °F, partly cloudy, 5-10 mph	50
9-May-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	Rescue Tech Training	72 °F, mostly cloudy, 10 mph	22
10-May-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	Rescue Tech Training	58 °F, overcast, 5-10 mph	15
11-May-19	6500 N. High St., Worthington	Red Cross Smoke Alarm	68 °F, clear, 0-5 mph	6
13-May-19	5198 Fallston Ct., Columbus	2 Alarm	55 °F, overcast, 0-5 mph	80
14-May-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	Rescue Tech Training	58 °F, clear, 5 mph	21
15-May-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	Rescue Tech Training	70 °F, partly cloudy, 5-10 mph	17
16-May-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	Rescue Tech Training	75 °F, clear, 0-5 mph	17
17-May-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	VES Training	75 °F, clear, 0-5 mph	22
18-May-19	6500 N. High St., Worthington	Red Cross Smoke Alarm	77 °F, clear, 0-5 mph	50
18-May-19	CSX RR over Scioto River	Rescue	88 °F, clear, 0 mph	2
23-May-19	5095 Westerville Rd., Columbus	Haz-mat	75 °F, partly cloudy, 5 mph	45
25-May-19	217 S. Dawson Ave., Bexley	2 Alarm	84 °F, overcast, 0-5 mph	60
28-May-19	1 Mirada Dr. N., Lewis Center	Working Fire	73 °F, rain, 5-8 mph	50
28-May-19	?? N. Dixie Hwy., Dayton OH	Tornado	85 °F, partly cloudy, 10 mph	75
31-May-19	8895 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg	Firefighter II live burn	77 °F, partly cloudy, 10 mph	60

June

June continued with a lot of training, including Saving Our Own, a Firefighter II burn, a tank fire simulation and the tri-annual disaster drill at Rickenbacker Airport. This year's drill simulated an air tanker collision with a structure. June also saw our first Hot Weather Standby days as well as the annual Muster for the Central Ohio Antique Fire Apparatus Association. This was our 30th year to participate in this event. Over the past few years, we've been joined by some of the other Rehab units from adjoining

counties. Always a good time and an opportunity to share lessons learned. On June 28, in addition to staffing for hot weather responses, we worked with Columbus recruit class #109 for Saving Our Own training at the old Mt. Carmel (Franklinton) hospital, which was soon to be demolished.



LCK Tri-Annual Disaster Drill - J. O'Brien photo



CEPAC Drill at Marathon w/Franklin Twp. J. O'Brien photo



LCK Tri-Annual Drill - J. O'Brien photo

Date	Location	Run Type	Weather	Served
6-Jun-19	Phillipi & Fisher Rd., Franklin Twp.	Tank Farm Fire Training	75 °F, mostly cloudy, 5 mph	70
11-Jun-19	8895 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg	Firefighter II live burn	70 °F, clear, 10 mph	40
12-Jun-19	2295 John Circle Dr., Columbus	LCK Disaster Drill	76 °F, clear, 5-10 mph	100
22-Jun-19	8895 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg	COAFAA Muster	80 °F, partly cloudy, 0-5 mph	50*
25-Jun-19	4216 Indianola Ave., Columbus	Working Fire	82 °F, partly cloudy, humid, 5-10 mph	26
26-Jun-19	Main St. & Rt. 161, New Albany	Gas Leak	82 °F, partly cloudy, humid, 5-10 mph	15
28-Jun-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
28-Jun-19	793 W. State St., Columbus	Saving Our Own	88 °F, clear, humid, 0 mph (Index 95)	48
30-Jun-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			

* = visitors accommodated. Not an incident or training response.



Indianola Ave. 2nd Alarm - J. O'Brien photo



Rehab at Ohio Fire Academy - J. O'Brien photo



High-Rise & Saving Our Own @ Mt. Carmel - J. O'Brien photo



Saving Our Own at Mt. Carmel - B. Barber photo

July

July was another busy month, beginning with five straight days of hot weather standby that included three fire responses. For the third year, we provided support services for first responders at the annual Red, White & Boom event. July is also when the Ohio Fire Chief's annual convention is held. Box 15 staffs an information booth during the vendor display days and provides overnight security for the exterior displays and we assist the vendors during "move-in" and "move-out". For the month, we worked at four working fires, a second alarm apartment fire and two days of Saving Our Own training for Columbus recruits. It was during the 2-alarm fire that we learned of the untimely passing of a very dear friend, retired Violet Township Fire Chief John Eisel. John had been great advocate for Box 15 over the years and his family continued that support by requesting donations to us, in his obituary.



Fire Chief John Eisel - Violet Twp photo

The family also made a sizeable donation and with those donated funds, we were able to install powered awnings on both Rehab 1 and 2.



Rehab 1 at Red, White & Boom - J. Penty photo



Ohio Fire Chief's Conference - J. O'Brien photo



S. Glenwood fire - J. O'Brien photo



Vent/Entry/Search Training - J. O'Brien photo

[July con't]

Date	Location	Run Type	Weather	Served
1-Jul-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
1-Jul-19	1834 Oak St., Columbus	Working Fire	90 °F, clear, humid (Index 92)	5
2-Jul-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
3-Jul-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
3-Jul-19	120 Marconi Blvd., Columbus	Red, White & Boom	77 °F, rain, 0-5 mph	65
4-Jul-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
5-Jul-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
5-Jul-19	859 Grenada Rd., Obetz	Working Fire	88 °F, partly cloudy, 7 mph (Index 95)	2
5-Jul-19	5816 Chatford Dr., Columbus	2 Alarm	85 °F, partly cloudy, 0 mph, (Index 89)	55
10-Jul-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
11-Jul-19	3900 Chagrin Blvd., Columbus	OFCA Conference	90 °F, cloudy, humid, 12-15 mph	25*
11-Jul-19	550 Hill Rd. N., Pickerington	Funeral Service	90 °F, rain, humid, 12-15 mph	75
11-Jul-19	3900 Chagrin Blvd., Columbus	Overnight Security	80 °F, partly cloudy, calm winds	2
12-Jul-19	3900 Chagrin Blvd., Columbus	OFCA Conference	(indoor activity)	10*
12-Jul-19	3900 Chagrin Blvd., Columbus	Overnight Security	80 °F, partly cloudy, calm winds	2
13-Jul-19	3900 Chagrin Blvd., Columbus	OFCA Conference	(indoor activity)	10*
15-Jul-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
15-Jul-19	1732 E. Hudson St., Columbus	Working Fire	92 °F, clear, humid, 0 mph, (Index. 98)	50
16-Jul-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
17-Jul-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
18-Jul-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
19-Jul-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
20-Jul-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
24-Jul-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	Saving Our Own	79 °F, clear, 5-10 mph	52
25-Jul-19	793 W. State St., Columbus	Saving Our Own	84 °F, clear, 5-10 mph	52
31-Jul-19	278 S. Glenwood Ave., Columbus	Working Fire	88 °F, sunny, 5-10 mph, humid	42

* = visitors accommodated. Not an incident or training response.

August

August brought us the only third alarm fire. MillTech, a custom cabinet manufacturer went up in a spectacular blaze on the 16th and Box 15 was on the scene for several hours. We also had a working fire and two seconds during the month. A few days prior to the MillTech fire, we were requested for support by the Columbus Humane Society when they rescued more than 250 animals from a puppy mill in Grove City. This was our first time ever assisting at an activity of this kind. August also had us working at three days of recruit training and participating at three public safety education events.



RSU-2 bath time - J. O'Brien photo



Rehab at CFD TA - J. O'Brien photo



Animal Rescue mission - B. Barber photo



MillTech 3rd Alarm - J. O'Brien photo



Radbourne Dr. house fire - J. O'Brien photo



CFD Station 16 Groundbreaking - J. O'Brien photo



MillTech 3rd Alarm - J. O'Brien photo

Date	Location	Run Type	Weather	Served
5-Aug-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	Night Ops	80 °F, partly cloudy, 5 mph	50
6-Aug-19	Huntington Park, Columbus	First Responders Event	83 °F, clear, 5 mph	10*
8-Aug-19	707 King Ave., Columbus	Battelle Volunteer Expo	84 °F, partly cloudy, 20-30 mph	10*
10-Aug-19	2708 Lackey Old State, Berlin Twp.	Touch a Truck	79 °F, partly cloudy, 5-10 mph	30*
10-Aug-19	1195 Milepost Dr., Columbus	2 Alarm	76 °F, sunny 0-5 mph	45
13-Aug-19	3145 Demorest Rd., Grove City	Abused Animal Rescue	75 °F, overcast, 0-5 mph	25
16-Aug-19	364 Centab Dr., Columbus	3rd Alarm	80 °F, clear, 5 mph	100
18-Aug-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
18-Aug-19	839 Radbourne Dr., Columbus	Working Fire	91 °F, partly cloudy, humid, (Index 97)	60
19-Aug-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
29-Aug-19	8895 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg	Firefighter II live burn	77 °F, sunny 10-15 mph	63
30-Aug-19	8895 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg	Firefighter II live burn	80 °F, sunny 10 mph	63
31-Aug-19	530 Postwoods Dr., Reynoldsburg	2 Alarm	74 °F, overcast, 5 mph	60
* = visitors accommodated. Not an incident or training response.				

September

Although temperatures in September usually tend to be pretty mild, we did have some pretty hot days and they resulted in some runs for us. On the 13th, while a couple of us were attending the recruit class graduation ceremony, we were requested to respond to the Diley Ridge Medical Center in Canal Winchester. A man had intentionally driven his truck through the front of the structure, killing a worker inside and injuring two others. The temperature hit 90 degrees and humid with full sun, making outside work oppressive. A week later, with temps still around 90, we were called out on successive days for a couple of house fires. Other activities for the month included the annual Labor Day parade in Pickerington, the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb, a public safety open house in Jefferson Township and the long-awaited ground breaking ceremony for (replacement) Columbus fire station #16. We also threw in a couple days of rehab support for firefighter training, including a day-long burn with BST&G in Delaware County. At the Violet Township parade, the Violet Firefighters Association presented us with a sizeable donation, which was matched by the Eisel family. Patrick Mignogno was accepted as an active member.



Chase Plaza at 9/11 Climb - J. O'Brien photo



Box 15 Crew at 9/11 Climb - J. O'Brien photo

Date	Location	Run Type	Weather	Served
2-Sep-19	100 Opportunity Way, Pickerington	Violet Labor Day parade	75 °F, partly cloudy, 5 mph	20
8-Sep-19	100 E. Broad St., Columbus	911 Memorial Stair Climb	70 °F, overcast, 0-5 mph	400
13-Sep-19	7911 Diley Rd., Canal Winchester	Auto/Structure	90 °F, sunny, humid, 0-5 mph	36
14-Sep-19	1201 N. Galena Rd., Galena	In Service live burn	73 °F, sunny 10-15 mph	60
14-Sep-19	6767 Havens Corner Rd., Blacklick	Jefferson Twp open house	77 °F, partly cloudy, 0 mph	25*
16-Sep-19	8895 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg	Division Ops live burn	82 °F, sunny, 0-5 mph	48
17-Sep-19	1465 Oakland Park Ave., Columbus	CFD #16 groundbreaking	83 °F, sunny, 5 mph	75
18-Sep-19	2128 Sullivant Ave., Columbus	Working Fire	87 °F, sunny, humid, 0 mph	35
20-Sep-19	1914 W. Mound St., Columbus	Working Fire	90 °F, partly cloudy, humid, 0 mph	40
24-Sep-19	1159 Clinton St., Columbus	2 Alarm	65 °F, clear, 0-5 mph	40

* = visitors accommodated. Not an incident or training response.



9/11 Climb - B. Barber photo



Div. Ops. burn at OFA - J. O'Brien photo



Columbus Police & Fire Drum Corps. J. O'Brien photo



Rehab at BST&G burn - J. O'Brien photo

October

October, because of Fire Prevention Week, is typically when public safety awareness programs peak and 2019 was no different. We attempt to participate in as many of these activities as possible, however staffing does limit us because many of the fire station “open houses” occur simultaneously. We only had three fires during the month. One of those was during a hot weather standby, when the temperature sat at 94 degrees and while were working the Prairie Twp. Open house, we had to pack up and leave in order to take in the Grove City fire, which involved a historic barn as well as two garages.



RSU-1 at 1st Friday Delaware - JJ Corcella photo



Westerville Open House - J. O'Brien photo



Demorest Rd. Barn Fire - B. Barber photo



Excaliber Place fire - J. O'Brien photo

Date	Location	Run Type	Weather	Served
1-Oct-19	Hot weather standby protocol - 12:00 - 20:00 hrs			
2-Oct-19	9220 Worthington Rd., Columbus	Working Fire	94 °F, sunny, humid, (H.I. 95+)	24
4-Oct-19	10 Sandusky St., Delaware	First Friday Delaware	60 °F, clear, 5 mph	35*
6-Oct-19	8700 US Rt. 62, New Albany	Plain Twp. Open House	70 °F, mostly cloudy, 0-5 mph	50*
6-Oct-19	260 N. Fourth St., Columbus	Fire Museum Open House	(indoor activity)	50*
11-Oct-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	Saving Our Own	70 °F, overcast, 10 mph	38
12-Oct-19	123 Inah Ave., Prairie Twp.	Prairie Twp. Open House	60 °F, mostly sunny, 10-15 mph	25*
12-Oct-19	2005 Demorest Rd., Grove City	Working Fire	60 °F, mostly sunny, 10-15 mph	20
13-Oct-19	400 W. Main St., Westerville	Westerville Open House	50 °F, sunny, 15 mph	30*
15-Oct-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	Saving Our Own	70 °F, overcast, 10 mph	38
21-Oct-19	8895 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg	LP & Auto Fire Training	56 °F, partly cloudy, 15-20 mph	45
26-Oct-19	8870 US Rt. 23, Lewis Center	Meijer Public Safety Event	48 °F, rain, 5 mph	15*
26-Oct-19	5610 Excaliber Pl., Columbus	Extra Co. Fire	53 °F, rain, 5-10 mph	42
28-Oct-19	3663 Parsons Ave., Columbus	Night Ops Training	47 °F, clear, 0-5 mph	45

* = visitors accommodated. Not an incident or training response.

November

One event we look forward to every year is the annual Veterans Day parade. For 11 years running, we've setup a shelter and provided hot beverages, donuts, and a warm place to sit, for the parade organization staff – all volunteers. This year, we used the new inflatable shelter. Another highlight for the month was when we took Rehab 2 out to Violet Twp. Station #591 to demonstrate the new powered awning and have members of the Eisel family affix a memorial plaque. Violet Fire was able to have everyone on duty drop by for the event. November is not usually a busy month but, this year, we had two working fires and two second alarms. Along with two days of training burns, we managed to stay pretty busy. Our Annual Meeting and election of Officers always closes out the year. This month, we also welcomed new active member Anthony Jorge. The results of the election appear near the end of this document.



Vets Day Parade - J. O'Brien photo



Awning Demo at Violet Twp. J. O'Brien photo



LP & Auto fires at OFA - J. O'Brien photo



2 Alarm in Baltimore – J. O'Brien photo



Brook Forest, Pickerington - J. O'Brien photo

Date	Location	Run Type	Weather	Served
2-Nov-19	2555 Gardner Rd., Galloway	Working Fire	41 °F, rain, 5-10 mph	35
8-Nov-19	McConnell Blvd., Columbus	Veterans Day Parade	20 °F, sunny, 5-10 mph	40*
14-Nov-19	21 Lockville Rd., Pickerington	Awning Unveiling	(indoor activity)	25*
15-Nov-19	8895 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg	LP & Auto fire training	28 °F, partly cloudy, 10-20 mph	38
17-Nov-19	1315 W. Market St., Baltimore	2 Alarm	43 °F, partly cloudy, 0-5 mph	25
18-Nov-19	8895 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg	Firefighter II live burn	42 °F, partly cloudy, 0-5 mph	42
25-Nov-19	12408 Brook Forest Ct., Pickerington	2 Alarm	35 °F, partly cloudy, 5-10 mph	43
27-Nov-19	5029 Meadowbrook Dr., Columbus	Working Fire	49 °F, partly cloudy, 30+ mph	30

* = visitors accommodated. Not an incident or training response.

December

We closed out the year with a bang. Starting off with a fire in a multiple unit storage building way up north and then a two-alarm fire in a business clear across the county. Temperature was right at freezing but a stiff wind made warm beverages quite welcome. Two days later, we responded to a hazmat situation in a home. The run activity continued with an early morning callout to respond up to Delaware (city) for a warehouse fire. Weather conditions included moderate cold, brisk wind and rain. This was an extended overhaul operation and, during the 11-hour deployment, we served breakfast and lunch to 70 firefighters. A huge THANKS goes out to Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers for donating the mid-day meal. Another "middle of the night" run occurred right after Christmas, when the vacant Valleyview Swim Club burned and, just to close out the year out on a memorable note – on the 31st, with sleet falling and stiff winds, a driver lost control of his auto and slammed into the side of a house, shearing off the gas meter, setting the house ablaze. Due to the weather conditions, Box 15 was requested, and speaking of weather conditions, through discussions with Columbus Fire, we are changing our Extreme Weather Standby protocols. Raising the cold weather threshold from zero to +10 degrees (actual temp or chill factor). Our new hot weather threshold lowers from 95 degrees to 90 degrees (either the actual temperature or heat index) but also considers full sun and high humidity which could trigger a standby as low as 80 degrees.



Station St. fire - J. O'Brien photo



Rehab at Delaware Warehouse 2nd - J. O'Brien photo



Valleyview Swim Club fire - J. Penty photo



Meadowbrook Dr. house fire - J. O'Brien photo



Decon at OFA - J. O'Brien photo



Kenny Rd. auto vs. house - J. O'Brien photo

Date	Location	Run Type	Weather	Served
3-Dec-19	7925 Station St., Columbus	Working Fire	32 °F, overcast, 9 mph	40
3-Dec-19	5069 Harrisburg Pike, Grove City	2 Alarm	32 °F, partly cloudy, 5-10 mph	20
5-Dec-19	6387 Chippenhook Ct., Columbus	Haz-mat	38 °F, sunny, 0-5 mph	32
6-Dec-19	8895 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg	Firefighter II live burn	42 °F, overcast, 10-15 mph	40
9-Dec-19	435 Park Ave., Delaware	2 Alarm	48 °F, rain, 10-15 mph	70
18-Dec-19	Cold weather standby protocol - 20:00 - 08:00 hrs			
27-Dec-19	2737 Valleyview Dr., Valleyview	Working Fire	52 °F, mostly cloudy, 0-5 mph	40
31-Dec-19	1878 Kenny Rd., Columbus	Working Fire	33 °F, sleet, 15-20 mph	44

Vital Statistics



J. O'Brien photo

Total number of Responses – 129

By Battalion/Department

Columbus Battalion 1	6	Hamilton Township (170)	1
Columbus Battalion 2	9	Madison Township (180)	1
Columbus Battalion 3	6	Franklin Township (190)	1
Columbus Battalion 4	2	Jackson Township (200)	2
Columbus Battalion 5	5	Pleasant Township (230)	1
Columbus Battalion 6	7	Prairie Township (240)	2
Columbus Battalion 7	5	Delaware City (300)	2
CFD Training Academy	32	Liberty Township (320)	1
Norwich Township (80)	2	Genoa Township (440)	1
Washington Township (90)	2	Violet Township (590)	5
Westerville (110)	2	Basil Joint (610)	1
Plain Township (120)	2	Red Cross	4
Jefferson Township (140)	2	Civic & Misc.	23
Truro Township (160)	2		

By Unit

Rehab 1	28	Rehab 2	76	Rehab 3	20	POV	10
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By Unit Day

1 Unit - 37	2 Unit - 50	3 Unit - 42
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Extreme Weather Standby

Cold Weather - 9	Hot Weather - 17
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By Run Type

Working Fire - 34	Structure Collapse - 1	Funeral - 2
Extra Company Fire - 2	Gas Line Rupture - 1	Training - 35
Second Alarm - 16	Hazmat - 3	Civic/Public Safety Event – 31
Third Alarm - 1	Rescue - 1	
Auto vs. Structure - 1	Drowning - 1	

By Month

January - 15	May - 22	September - 10
February - 7	June - 7	October - 13
March - 6	July - 14	November - 8
April - 9	August - 11	December - 7

Service

Number of People Served – 4,906	Tent(s) Deployed - 15
Vehicle “In Service” Hours – 822 hours	Awning Deployed - 6
Staffing Hours – 2,039	Generator Hours - 59
Miles Driven – 3,902	Misting Unit Hours – 9

Kerosene Heater Hours – 8
Diesel Fuel Consumed – 372 gallons

Gasoline Consumed - 7 gallons
Kerosene Consumed – 13 gallons

Products Consumed

Bottled Water (1/2 liter) – 7,903
Bulk Water Gallons - 88
Coffee (pots) - 180
Hot Chocolate Packets - 90
Granola Bar Packets – 1,639
Sports Drink (20 oz. bottles) – 1,284

Sports Drink Packets - 461
Sports Drink Mix Gallons -
Ice – 1,713 pounds
Rehab towels - 77
Cancer Wipes – 1,958
Gear Tags - 92

Meals Served

Donuts/Snacks – 7 dozen donuts
Delaware Warehouse – 70 Breakfast, 70 Lunch
Murphy Funeral – 70 Lunch
Eisel Funeral – 75 Lunch

LCK Disaster Drill – 100 Lunch
Tornado Deployment – 75 snacks
Hazmat (Overturned Tanker) – 40 Lunch

Miscellaneous

Decontamination (FIFO) Kit used – 6 times
Decontamination Shower Used – 3 times
Inflatable Shelter Deployed – 1 time

Financial Performance

Funding Sources

Our primary source of funding is still the sales of apparel – tee & sweat shirts, shorts, sweat pants, hats and, most recently added – hoodies. In addition, being a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation, we have been blessed with a number of significant donations – both financial as well as equipment, services and consumable products. We should note that this was our best year ever for donations. Combined, these have strengthened our financial position and even allowed us to add a modest sum to our Apparatus Fund.



QFM96 & Raising Cane's Donation - QFM 96 photo

Income/Expense Statement

Revenue (rounded to nearest \$)	
Apparel Sales	29,259
Donations	15,397
Member Dues & Fees	1,924
Shipping	18
Banquets & Events	1,486
Raffles	60
Interest Income	505
Other	9
Total Revenue for 2019	\$48,658
Expenses (rounded to nearest \$)	
Fund Raising	
Cost of salable items	21,679
Charge Card Fees	867
Sales Tax Paid & Shipping	1,866
Operations	
Licenses & Insurance	3,000
Tools & Equipment	1,539
Repairs & Maintenance	14,496
Consumables	819
Fuel	35
Miscellaneous	987
Administrative	
Postage & Office Expense	165
Background Checks	115
Professional Dues & Fees	150
Computer/Internet/Connectivity	1,137
Awards Dinner, Certificates	2679
Donations made	150
Advertising & Promotion	98
Admin Misc.	1
Total Expenses	\$49,783
Net Gain (Loss) – Retained Earnings	(\$1,125)

Benefactor Acknowledgments

Over the years, we've been fortunate to receive the help from a great number of friends and sponsors, in the form of products, services and financial support. Box 15 would be hard-pressed to provide our level of service without the generosity of these individuals and organizations. We would like to publicly acknowledge and thank the following for their support in 2019:



Water donation - Firehouse Subs - J. O'Brien photo

- Columbus Division of Fire
- Columbus Firefighters Local 67
- Columbus Firefighters Foundation
- Advanced Eco Systems
- Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers
- WW Williams Co.
- Bridgeway Cummins
- Thompson Building Associates
- Niagara Water Company
- MSC Industrial Supply
- Firehouse Subs
- Fire Chief's Association of Central Ohio
- TAG Farms & Landscape
- Delaware County Fire Chief's Association
- Genoa Township Firefighters
- Orange Township Fire Department
- Retired Fire Chief Scott Skeldon
- QFM96 Iconic Rock Radio
- Meijer (Lewis Center)
- CME Federal Credit Union
- 1-800-BOARDUP
- Firefighters 4 Kids
- The family of John Eisel
- Columbus firefighter Craig Mignogno
- Plus many individual donors

Apparatus & Equipment

Due to the desire to "ramp up" firefighter decontamination efforts by several fire departments in our service area, we implemented "FIFO" kits on each of our trucks. This list details the contents of each kit. Gross decontamination of PPE is an essential part of cancer mitigation, along with skin cleansing. These kits provide tools to accomplish both.

First In, First Out (FIFO) Decontamination Kit Contents:	
Item	Minimum Quantity
Particle Masks	2 boxes (40 masks)
Disposable Gear Bags	2 rolls (50 bags/roll)
XL Nitrile Gloves	2 boxes (100 gloves)
Trash Bags – 33 Gallon	6 each
Decontamination Wipes	3 packages (135+ wipes)
Detergent Spray Bottle*	1 bottle (spray is best)
Brush – short handle	1 each
Brush – long handle	1 each
Duct Tape	1 roll

Sharpie Markers	2 each
Wired ID Tags (to label gear bags)	100 each

In addition, we've added awnings to the curb side of both Rehab 1 and 2. These provide shelter from direct sunlight or moderate rain. Another enhancement is our 13'x16' inflatable shelter (on Rehab 2) which provides a very effective accommodation for inclement weather. Rehab 2 also carries a portable "field relief station".

The following is a detailed schedule of the capabilities of each of our response units. There are a few differences, primarily due to available space on each truck, but all have generally the same service capabilities.

RSU-1 (aka Rehab 1)

Rehab #1 – 2001 Ford/Horton - Responds from Columbus Fire Station #1

Equipment on-board:

- 2 ea. 2000 watt portable generator w/8 hour fuel capacity
- 14'x8' power awning
- 40 Gallon liquid capacity (bulk water container)
- 1 ea. 40-quart capacity ice chest
- 1 ea. 120-quart capacity ice chest
- 50' Potable water hose
- Black & Decker "pour-over" Brewing Unit
- Bunn A-10 "pour-over" Coffee maker
- 4 ea. Coffee pots (to serve coffee & hot water)
- 2-burner electric hotplate
- 70,000-BTU Infrared Kerosene Heater
- Gear & skin decontamination (FIFO) kit
- Hazardous Materials Pre-hydration Kit
- 2 ea. Collapsible serving tables
- 1 ea. 100' heavy duty (12/3) electrical extension cord reel pails
- Power conversion "pigtailed" to interface with other fire department apparatus
- 10 gallon/18" misting unit – 5-hour capacity
- 2 ea. 20" cooling fans
- 10'x10' collapsible tent w/removable side walls
- Fluid (electrolyte) replacement mixes, coffee, tea, hot chocolate & condiments
- Energy (granola) bars (2-3 boxes of 98)
- 200 cup serving capacity
- 8 ea. Folding Chairs
- 2 ea. 6' Folding bench
- Assorted towels & blankets (36-48 towels)
- MARCS IP Radios – direct communications to all fire departments that we serve



RSU-1 - J. O'Brien photo

RSU-2 (aka Rehab 2)

Rehab #2 – 2008 Freightliner/Horton - Responds from Columbus Fire Station #33

Equipment on-board:

- 14'x8' Power awning
- 13'x16' Zumro Inflatable Shelter
- 2 ea. 2,200 watt generator w/8 hour fuel capacity
- 40 Gallon liquid capacity (bulk water container)
- 1 ea. 45-quart capacity ice chest
- 1 ea. 120-quart capacity ice chest
- 50' Potable water hose
- High capacity Commercial "pour over" coffee maker
- 4 coffee pots
- 2-burner hot plate
- 70,000 BTU Infrared Kerosene Heater
- Gear & skin decontamination (FIFO) kit
- "First Wash" decontamination shower
- Hazardous Materials Pre-hydration Kit
- 2 ea. Collapsible serving tables
- 2 ea. 100' heavy duty (12/3) electrical extension cord reel pails
- 1 ea. 50' 14/3 electrical extension cord reel
- Power conversion "pigtales" to interface with other fire department apparatus
- Portable lighting (clamp lights)
- 10 gallon/18" misting unit – 5-hour capacity
- 2 ea. 20" cooling fan
- 2 ea. 10'x10' collapsible tents w/removable side walls
- Fluid (electrolyte) replacement mixes, coffee, tea, hot chocolate & condiments + granola bars
- Energy (granola) bars (2-3 boxes of 98)
- 7 ea. Folding Chairs
- 2 ea. 6' Folding benches
- 200 cup serving capacity
- Assorted towels & blankets (24-36 towels)
- MARCS IP Radios – direct communications to all fire departments that we serve



RSU-2 - J. O'Brien photo

RSU-3 (aka Rehab 3)

Rehab #3 - 1997 Ford/Horton - Responds from Columbus Fire Training Academy

Equipment on-board:

- 3,000 watt generator w/8 hour fuel capacity
- 1,000 watt generator w/8 hour fuel capacity
- 40 Gallon liquid capacity (bulk water container)
- 1 ea. 40-quart capacity ice chest
- 1 ea. 120-quart capacity ice chest
- 50' Potable water hose
- Bunn Model VP17-3, High Capacity Brewing Unit
- 4 ea. Coffee pots (to serve coffee & hot water)
- 2-burner electric hotplate
- 70,000 BTU Infrared Kerosene Heater
- Hazardous Materials Pre-hydration Kit (Igloo Playmate)
- 2 ea. Collapsible serving tables
- 1 ea. 100' heavy duty (12/3) electrical extension cord reel pails
- 1 ea. 50' heavy duty electrical extension cord reel
- Power conversion "pigtaills" to interface with other fire department apparatus
- Portable lighting (clamp lights)
- 10 gallon/18" misting unit – 5-hour capacity
- 2 ea. 20" cooling fans
- 10'x20' collapsible tent w/removable side walls
- Fluid (electrolyte) replacement mixes, coffee, tea, hot chocolate & condiments
- Energy (granola) bars (2-3 boxes of 98)
- 6 ea. Folding Chairs
- 200 cup serving capacity
- Assorted towels & blankets (24-36 towels)
- MARCS IP Radios – direct communications to all fire departments that we serve



RSU-3 - J. O'Brien photo

Technology & Social Media

In this day and age of information sharing, a strong Social Media presence is essential and we feel we are fulfilling that need. We do post regularly to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Awards & Honors

Every year since 1985, Box 15 has publicly honored an outstanding Columbus Firefighter with the Max Haverman Award. The 2019 Awards Celebration was held at Station 67 on Sunday, April 28, with Simply Delicious catering the meal. Beginning in 2004, we expanded that program to also honor an outstanding firefighter from a suburban fire department with the Larry Parlett Award and in 2014, we implemented a couple of "performance-based" recognitions for our members – The Harry Knodel and Pete Fowler

Awards. All awards are named in honor of past members who went way “above and beyond” to make Box 15 what it is today. For 2019, we were pleased to honor the following individuals:

Max Haverman Outstanding Columbus Firefighter Award

Nomination for Lt. Cullison

Lt. Thad (T.J.) Cullison joined the Columbus Division of Fire in 1997 and spent the majority of his career as a firefighter/paramedic at fire station #14 prior to his promotion in 2017. Upon his promotion to Lieutenant, TJ took a special assignment in recruit training where he currently serves as Recruit Commander over all CFD recruits. In this capacity, TJ has demonstrated the qualities and attributes that make him deserving of the Max Haverman Distinguished Fire Service Award.

The Training Bureau, specifically Recruit training, often speaks of “Being the standard”. To serve in recruit training, Division members must be model firefighters and represent the standard to which we hold our newest members. This means members must look the part, be knowledgeable, dependable, and carry out the Training Bureau’s mission in the most professional and dedicated manner. Lt. Cullison does all of this and more and he does it on a daily basis. It starts well before roll call where TJ is one of the first people in the door every day and one of the last to leave. His appearance and uniforms are neat and his shoes are always shined to a mirror finish. The latter a likely product of his time served in the U.S. Army’s 187th Airborne Infantry Regiment. When a recruit needs reminded of what his or her uniform are supposed to look like, the recruit staff can point to Lt. Cullison and say “That’s the Standard”.

TJ is the Program Director for Columbus Fire’s state charter and he was responsible for our charter renewal process last year. He is the Lead for our state Firefighter II Certification program where he does everything from program administration and test development to recruit firefighter mentorship and counseling. TJ’s dedication to the fire service extends far outside of Columbus Fire. He serves as a fire instructor at the Ohio Fire Academy, trainer for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation and has established professional relationships with departments and organizations across the country that he uses to benefit our membership. When the Training Staff has a question on state standards or requirements, Lt. Cullison knows the answer. When we need to know who to call at the state level, Lt. Cullison knows and likely has a good working relationship with that person. One of TJ’s primary duties in Recruit Training is organizing the recruit calendar. Not an east task considering it requires the coordination of 86 recruits across two recruit classes broken down into four companies, spread across different phases of the eight-month recruit training process. This is done in addition to normal recruit instruction, physical training and various other administrative duties.



L-R B/C Hageman, Lt. Cullison, Joe O'Brien, Joe Penty – Box 15 photo

Lt. Cullison possesses the professional skills, ability and dedication that make him worthy of the Max Haverman Award. However, it is his character that makes him an invaluable asset to not only Recruit Training but to Columbus Fire, as a whole. You will not find a recruit, past or present, or peer who says Lt. Cullison doesn't carry out his duties in the most dedicated and professional manner. TJ is fair yet firm when dealing with recruits. He remains approachable and many recruits have described him as trustworthy, an important characteristic to have in a recruit environment that can often be described as overwhelming. To his peers and supervisors, he's dependable, courteous and the definition of a professional. In other words, Lt. Cullison "Is the Standard!"

Larry Parlett Outstanding County Firefighter Award

Nomination for Lt. Belcher:

Lt. Dave Belcher began his full-time career at Violet Township Fire Department (VTFD) 33 years ago in January 1986 as a Firefighter/Paramedic. He was one of the first full-time members hired as the department transitioned from all volunteer status. As the department grew, Dave became one of the first three full-time company officers and led 1-Unit for many years. In 2008, Lt. Belcher moved into the Fire Prevention Bureau where he continues to work today. Lt. Belcher's knowledge, expertise and leadership has not only benefitted VTFD, but the Central Ohio fire community as well. He has been an Ohio Fire Academy (OFA) instructor for over 20 years. At the Academy he has taught, and continues to teach, numerous classes to include fire attack, search and rescue, auto extrication, LP fire attack, pump operations and Certified Fire Inspector. He has been instrumental in suggesting and implementing changes to the curriculum at the Ohio Fire Academy.

Dave has served on numerous committees, both locally and statewide, as well as his involvement with various fire associations. Some of his accomplishments include:

- Ohio Society of Fire Service Instructors, President
- Central Ohio Fire Council
- International Society of Fire Service Instructors, Director-at-Large
- Worked on the OFSFI Fall Instructors Development Symposium
- Instrumental in merging the OFSFI Annual Conference with the Ohio Fire Chiefs Conference
- Involved in coordinating the Ohio Weekend at National Fire Academy
- Statewide involvement with the Ohio Fire Code Officials
- Has worked with legislators and testified on numerous pieces of legislation
- Maintains involvement with the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC)
- Annually attends the Congressional Fire Service dinner in Washington, D.C. and represents the Ohio fire service with our federal legislators



Pres. O'Brien congratulates Lt. Belcher - Box 15 photo

As you can see, Lt. Belcher is the epitome of a public servant. He has dedicated his entire life to the fire service in Violet Township and in the state of Ohio. Since his transition to Fire Prevention, he has expanded the bureau and created relationships in our community that will benefit our department for years to come. He developed a new pre-plan program for the department as well as introducing Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) code changes that have markedly decreased fire alarms in our township. Lt. Belcher has become an authority in the Central Ohio area regarding fire prevention practices. He is conferring daily with surrounding departments about fire prevention practices. Dave works every day to support the Mission, Vision and Values of our department. Lt. Belcher is a lifelong resident of Violet Township. He and his wife, Marcia, currently reside in Canal Winchester (Violet Township). Dave has chosen to retire this year after spending most of his life serving the community in which he lives. The benefits of his knowledge and expertise will be missed by our department.

Harry Knodel (Outstanding) Service Award

This service-based award is named for Harry Knodel - a member who gave 42 years to our organization. Harry was a 3rd generation member of Box 15 – His grandfather, William Feil, was one of the original founding members of the organization and his father, Robert was also with the group for many years.

Harry served in several capacities over the years and was President of the International Fire Buff Associates. Harry was instrumental in bringing the IFBA Annual Convention to Columbus three times – in 1975, 1985 and 1998. In addition, Harry was a Truro Township firefighter, serving as Assistant Chief for many years. It is with a deep sense of respect that we have dedicated the Harry W. Knodel Outstanding Service Award to members who have participated in at least 40% of our functions throughout the year. This year, we had two members who have achieved that lofty goal.

Joe O’Brien, our current President, is everything an organization could ask for. In addition to having served as Secretary and as Vice President. Joe is a tireless worker and quick to volunteer for any task that needs accomplished. He is also one of our primary “go to” people for extreme weather standbys. Joe worked 57 percent of our activities. Joe is also a five-time recipient of an award.

Brett Barber, currently sits as Past President. Brett has been a member for more than 25 years and has held every elected position except Secretary. In addition to serving as liaison to the Columbus Fire Training Academy, he has also headed up our fund raising efforts for the past 15 years and coordinates distribution of rehab supplies among ten different fire rehab units in the state.

Peter Fowler (Distinguished) Service Award

This service-based award is named for Pete Fowler - a member who gave 41 years to our organization. Among Pete's accomplishments was the acquisition of our first response vehicle – the original red van. Pete also was instrumental in acquiring our 2nd unit - the blue van, as well as performing the design & most of the interior work when we acquired the Truro medic in 1995. Mr. Fowler enlisted 2 of his sons – Jerry & Chris, to participate and together they worked many memorable fire scenes. Pete served as our Safety Officer for many years, until his health deteriorated. The Peter R. Fowler “Distinguished Service Award” is granted to any member who participates in at least 25% of our activities per year.

Joseph Penty is as reliable as anyone could ever expect. Since joining Box 15 in 2015, he has been one of our most reliable members. Joe is single and works at TAG landscaping, yet he still finds time to put in more effort than most of our members. Prior to joining Box 15, Joe had no prior fire service experience, only an interest to help out. Joe responded to 38 percent of all activities. This is Joe's fourth consecutive year to receive an award.

Robert Hess is one of our seasoned veterans, having been a Box 15 member since 2004. Bob has served in several capacities within the organization, including Vice President and President. Bob began his fire service career as a volunteer at Truro Township and maintained his paramedic card for several years. He is employed as a part time dispatcher at MECC. Bob responded to 26 percent of our activities, this year.



L-R - R. Hess, J. Penty, Lt. Belcher, Lt. Cullison, Joe O'Brien, Brett Barber - Box 15 photo

Membership



The Crew - L-R - J. Keaton, J. O'Brien, B. Lerner, JJ Corcella, M. Fuhrmann, T. Knowles, R. Mullins, C. Maupin, C. Corbisello, K. Woods, R. Karr, P. Fricke, P. Murphy, R. Evans, R. Hess, B. Barber - Box 15 photo

We did have some turnover in membership during the year. Josh Gibson, Pam Murphy and Lisa Phillips opted to convert to Affiliate status, while we welcomed two new members – Patrick Mignogno and Anthony Jorge. As of December 31, Active membership stands at 20, Affiliate at 8 and Life members totaled 14. We’d like to recognize all of the Active members for their commitment.

<u>Member</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Years of Service</u>
Barber, Brett	27 years	Knowles, Tom	5 years
Corbisello, Cameron	1 year	Lerner, Bruce	2 years
Corcella, J. J.	5 years	Lewis, Sonny	16 years
Davidson, Duane	4 years	Maupin, Chris	16 years
Fricke, Pete	16 years	Mignogno, Patrick	Welcomed in 2019
Fuhrmann, Mory	13 years	Mills, Zackerie	4 years
Hess, Robert	16 years	Mullins, Robert	3 years
Jorge, Anthony	Welcomed in 2019	Northrop, Greg	23 years
Karr, Ryan	4 years	O'Brien, Joe	9 years
Keaton, Jerry	7 years	Penty, Joseph	4 years

Training

Not only does Box 15 take an active role in supporting firefighters during their training evolutions, training is an important process for us, as well. Although there is always some deviation, depending upon needs, we try to have a mix of business and training gatherings, with a few social activities scattered in. We continually cover topics such as radio operation protocols, documentation, equipment function and deployment, driver training, and new member orientation. In 2019, member training included recognizing & addressing PTSD, the Bryx911 dispatching app., CPR Refresher, Understanding the function of the Safety Officer and training on all new equipment – awnings, inflatable shelter, FIFO decontamination kits, etc.

Partnerships & Alliances

Cooperation is essential in life, especially in the fire service. Fire departments have formal mutual aid agreements. We are fortunate to share cooperative efforts with both the Columbus Fire Auxiliary and the Central Ohio Fire Museum & Learning Center. We would also like to acknowledge the cooperative efforts between Box 15 and several other fire rehab services throughout Central Ohio, including the Union County EMA, Box 49 in Madison County, Box 65 in Pickaway County, Support 401 in western Licking County, Box 13 in Urbana, Knox Rehab, and both Box 5 and Box 16 in Athens & Hocking Counties. We also appreciate the cooperative effort with Red Cross, Delaware County EMS, and Stark County Fire Department Rehab Unit. We couldn’t do what we do without the efforts of all these groups. Most of these groups have signed on to participate in the statewide “Regional Rehab Disaster Response Plan”.

Box 15 is pleased to have affiliations with the International Fire Buff Associates (IFBA), the Ohio Association for Rehab Support (OARS), the Fire Chiefs’ Association of Central Ohio, the Franklin County Fire Chiefs’ Association, the Delaware County Fire Chief’s Association, the Fairfield County Fire Chiefs Association, the Franklin County Chiefs of Police Association, Franklin County CERT, Northwest Area Strike Team, and the Central Ohio Strike Team

Charitable & Community Support

Box 15 also believes in giving back to the community. Each year we participate in several public and civic events. During 2019, we were involved with or donated to the following causes:

- Central Ohio Fire Museum & Learning Center
- National Fallen Firefighters (annual golf outing)
- Central Ohio Antique Fire Apparatus Association
- Ohio Arson School
- 24/7 Commitment/Firefighter Wife – 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb
- Ohio Fire Chiefs' Association
- First Responders Foundation
- Military Veteran's Association
- American Red Cross
- First Friday Delaware
- Columbus Humane Society

Executive Board for 2020

President – Joseph O'Brien – 3rd term, formerly Vice President - 2 terms and Secretary – 2 terms

Vice President – Joseph Penty – 2nd term

Secretary – Brett Barber – 1st term, formerly Trustee - 3 terms, Treasurer – 1 term, Vice President – 2 terms, President - 8 terms

Treasurer – Christopher Maupin – 1st term, formerly Trustee - 3 terms

Trustee – J. J. Corcella – 1st term

Trustee – Robert Hess – 2nd term, formerly President – 2 terms, Vice President - 2 terms, Secretary – 3 terms

Cover Photo Credit

This year's cover photo was taken by President Joe O'Brien during Columbus Fire recruit training at the Ohio Fire Academy.

Action Shots



Rehab at Dayton - J. O'Brien photo



Saving Our Own Training - J. O'Brien photo



Loading hose on Sunbury Rd. - J. O'Brien photo



Red Bank Rd. fire - J. Penty photo



Above - J. O'Brien saving the tree - Box 15 photo



Preparing to attack - J. O'Brien photo



Below - Rehab Area at the OFA - J' O'Brien photo