Henry County Fire Department
Annual Report
2012
"Our Family Protecting Your Family"
Mission Statement
The mission of the Henry County Fire Department is to provide safe, professional service through education, prevention, emergency services, and community relations.

Philosophy of Operations

Values
The Henry County Fire Department recognizes that its primary function is to provide for the safety and well-being of the citizens of Henry County. The most precious and valued resource of the Henry County Fire Department is its members. The Department values the contributions of these members and their families to the organization, the community, and the fire service profession.

Service
The Henry County Fire Department recognizes that the measurement of its actions is determined by the service its members deliver to the community. The department strives to provide the best fire protection and EMS service to our community. The department believes that the citizens of our community are safest when they receive preventive fire and life safety education programs. The department also believes that both our members and our citizens are safest when our personnel constantly improve their knowledge, skills, and professional abilities by actively participating in training and education programs.

Accountability
The Henry County Fire Department recognizes that fire service professionals are accountable in the government they represent, and to the communities and personnel that they serve. Accountability applies not only to the professional manner in which the department meets its primary goals, but also to the efficiency, effectiveness, and fiscal responsibility which guides all departmental actions.
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I am honored to offer introductory comments to the Henry County Fire Department’s Annual Report. The men and women of this department serve this community and its residents in ways that others may not even consider. The undeniable truth is that most will run away from a burning building. Firefighters run to them and they do so without regard to their own personal safety. They put their lives on the line for us, and we are grateful they do. This county is blessed to have one of the most professional, highly trained, and well prepared fire departments. Those who serve deserve and have our profound respect and admiration.

Fire suppression will always be an element of the responsibilities of the Fire Department and the information in this report will amply illustrate the myriad of additional services provided. Emergency medical services, smoke alarm installations, life safety code enforcement, and fire and life safety education contribute to making Henry County one of the safest communities in which to live, work, and visit.

The Fire Department has encountered and successfully met various challenges in 2012. The performance of the department continually exemplifies dedication, professionalism and integrity. When circumstances called for it, their performance remained courageous. The details exist to be found in the following pages, and I commend this report to your attention.

Sincerely yours,

Tommy N. Smith
Chairman, Henry County Board of Commissioners
“February’s multi-alarm fire at the Hudson Self Storage Facility was one of the more significant incidents during the year.”

First arriving units found heavy smoke and upon entry into the facility were met with heavy flames. Despite the aggressive efforts, the compartmentalization within the structure made extinguishment difficult. The unknown fire load within each unit posed a significant hazard for the firefighters battling the blaze. Units worked through the night and all day on the following day to extinguish. 200 of the 400 units suffered extensive fire and smoke damage. A grade-all from the City of Stockbridge was eventually used to breech the walls of the structure to assist in extinguishment.

Fortunately, there were no injuries to firefighters. The property manager and his family living on site were assisted by The American Red Cross.
Henry County, Georgia’s fifty-second county, comprises 323 square miles in the Atlanta metropolitan area south of the city. Named for Revolutionary War (1775-83) patriot and orator Patrick Henry, it was created in May 1821 by the Georgia Land Lottery Act of that year. Enacted four months after the Creeks ceded a large portion of their land in the Treaty of Indian Springs, the act named five new counties, Henry among them.

McDonough, laid out by the state legislature on the site of a prominent Indian trading post, was incorporated on December 17, 1823, as Henry County’s seat. It was named in honor of Thomas Macdonough, a naval captain who defeated the British fleet on Lake Champlain during the War of 1812 (1812-15).

The current courthouse was built in 1897 and restored in 1981. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.

According to Henry County Census 2010 results, the population of the area was approximately 203,922 people. From 2000 to 2010, the Henry County population growth percentage was 70.9% (or from 119,341 people to 203,922 people).
The Henry County Fire Department’s operating budget runs on a fiscal year from July 1-June 30th each year. The Fiscal Year 2012 totaled $19,526,067, $119,883.00 less than FY2011. The HCFD FY2012 budget was 17.14% of the County’s overall budget. In the face of recent recession, the challenge of fiscal management has been daunting. The HCFD under the leadership of Chief Bill Lacy, has been proactive in meeting this challenge. In 2013, the fire department will remain on the forefront of initiating both operational and fiscal efficiencies, with continuous efforts made to save Henry County dollars. To ensure the highest quality of service to the community and the most economical means of delivery, the fire department is constantly reviewing the latest technology and strategies for fire protection and life safety.
Battalion Chief
Chris Sherwood

Battalion Chief
Stacey Ponder

Captain
Jim Nelms

Captain
Jonathan Burnette

Battalion Chief
Barry Cooper

Battalion Chief
Tom Gardner

Captain
Jeff Sheffield

Captain
Brian Dees

Battalion Chief
Tommy McClain

Battalion Chief
Steve Copeland

Captain
Ed Lewis

Captain
Damion Vaughan
Fire Station Locations

The Fire Stations of Henry County

#6 680 Fairview Rd, Stockbridge
#9 122 Rock Quarry Rd, Stockbridge
#11 792 Flat Rock Rd, Stockbridge
#13 2815 Hwy 20 East, McDonough
#1 664 Industrial Blvd, McD.
#2 35 Francis Ward Drive, Locust Grove
#3 3030 Hwy 42, Stockbridge
#4 1002 Keys Ferry Rd, McDonough
#7 1800 Hwy 155, North McDonough
#8 1672 Flippen Rd, Stockbridge
#10 1059 Upchurch Rd, McD.
#12 1123 Old Jackson Rd, McD.
FIRE STATIONS

1. Located at 664 Industrial Boulevard, McDonough
   - Opened in 1987
   - 24-hour coverage with a minimum of 10 firefighters
   - Houses the Office of Battalion Chief as well as Engine 1, Ladder 1, Squad 1, Rescue 1, Rescue 14, and Hazardous Materials Resource Unit
   - Home of the Henry County Hazardous Materials Unit
   - Responds to 20.50% of the county’s emergency calls
   - Responded to a total of 4615 emergency scenes in 2012

2. Located at 35 Frances Ward Drive, Locust Grove
   - Opened in 1979
   - 24-hour coverage with a minimum of 4 firefighters
   - Houses Engine 2 and Rescue 2
   - Responds to 8.16% of the county’s emergency calls
   - Responded to a total of 1838 emergency scenes in 2012

3. Located at 3030 Highway 42, Stockbridge
   - Opened in 1996
   - 24-hour coverage with a minimum of 5 firefighters
   - Houses the Engine 3, Ladder 3, and Rescue 3 (as needed as a peak volume resource)
   - Responds to 7.52% of the county’s emergency calls
   - Responded to a total of 1694 emergency scenes in 2012

4. Located at 1092 Keys Ferry Road, McDonough
   - Opened in 2005
   - 24-hour coverage with a minimum of 2 firefighters
   - Houses Engine 4 and the 911 Mobile Communications Unit
   - Responds to 1.93% of the county’s emergency calls
   - Responded to a total of 435 emergency scenes in 2012
Located at 10 Elm Street, Hampton
Opened in 1993
24-hour coverage with a minimum of 5 firefighters
Houses Engine 5 and Rescue 5
Responds to 9.62% of the county’s emergency calls
Responded to a total of 2167 emergency scenes in 2012

Located at 680 Fairview Road, Ellenwood
Opened in 1989
24-hour coverage with a minimum of 5 firefighters
Houses Quint 6 and Rescue 6
Responds to 7.40% of the county’s emergency calls
Responded to a total of 1667 emergency scenes in 2012

Located at 1800 Highway 155 North, McDonough
Opened in 2006
24-hour coverage with a minimum of 4 firefighters
Houses Engine 7, Rescue 7, Brush Truck 7, Air &Light 7, and the Mobile Command Vehicle
Home of the Henry County Fire Department Mobile Command Unit
Responds to 7.37% of the county’s emergency calls
Responded to a total of 1661 emergency scenes in 2012

Located at 1672 Flippen Road, Stockbridge
Opened in 1985
24-hour coverage with a minimum of 4 firefighters
Houses Engine 8 and Rescue 8
Responds to 12.93 of the county’s emergency calls
Responded to a total of 2911 emergency scenes in 2012
Fire Stations

- Located at 122 Rock Quarry Rd., Stockbridge
  - Opened in 2012
  - 24-hour coverage with a minimum of 4 firefighters
  - Houses Office of Battalion Chief as well as Engine 9 and Rescue 9
  - Responds to 9.53% of the county’s emergency calls
  - Responded to a total of 2146 emergency scenes in 2012

- Located at 1059 Upchurch Road, McDonough
  - Opened in 1995
  - 24-hour coverage with a minimum of 4 firefighters
  - Houses Engine 10 and Rescue 10
  - Responds to 5.57% of the county’s emergency calls
  - Responded to a total of 1256 emergency scenes in 2012

- Located at 792 Flat Rock Road, Stockbridge
  - Opened in 1999
  - 24-hour coverage with a minimum of 5 firefighters
  - Houses Engine 11, Squad 11, Trench 11, and Car 2
  - Responds to 3.59% of the county’s emergency calls
  - Responded to a total of 810 emergency scenes in 2012

- Located at 1123 Old Jackson Road, Locust Grove
  - Opened in 2001
  - 24-hour coverage with a minimum of 3 firefighters
  - Houses Engine 12, Tanker 12, Car 1, Dive Truck 12 and 2 Rescue Boats
  - Responds to 2.33% of the county’s emergency calls
  - Responded to a total of 525 emergency scenes in 2012
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Located at 2815 Highway 20 East, McDonough
Opened in 2006
24-hour coverage with a minimum of 5 firefighters
Houses Engine 13 and Rescue 13
Responds to 3.42% of the county’s emergency calls
Responded to a total of 772 emergency scenes in 2012

FIRE HEADQUARTERS

Located at 110 South Zack Hinton Parkway, McDonough
Opened in 2008
Houses the Office of the Fire Chief, Office of the Division Chief of Operations, Office of the Division Chief of Prevention/Fire Marshal, and Administrative personnel
Henry County Fire Department and Henry County Police Department share the Henry County Public Safety Complex

FLEET SERVICES

Located at 121 Work Camp Road, McDonough
Opened in the early 1970’s
Services all Fire Department apparatus and vehicles

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony
Celebrating the Completion of Fire Station #9
July 18th, 2012
Fire Chief

The Fire Chief is responsible for the overall management of the Department. These responsibilities include the establishment of personnel standards and policies, work schedules, public relations, and the continuous review of operations and performance. Fiscal management of administrative processes, including the Operating and Capital Improvement Program budgets and personnel, also fall under the Chief’s duties. The Chief initiates specific projects impacting the operation of the department and the services that it provides to the community. In October of 2011, Chief Bill Lacy was appointed Fire Chief by the Board of Commissioners.

The Fire Administration Division maintains and controls the operations of the Fire Department. The Office of the Chief, Fire Department Receptionist, Accounts Administrator, Fire Equipment Fleet Maintenance, Quarter Master, and Fire Hydrant Maintenance as well as specified divisions and special operations, fall within Fire Administration. All administrative functions ultimately are conducted to support the Operations, Prevention and Training divisions of the department.

2012 FIRE ADMINISTRATION NUMBERS

- 2 Administrative Staff (Civilian)
- 2 Fire Equipment Maintenance (Civilian)
- 1 Quarter Master (Civilian)
- 1 Fire Hydrant Coordinator (Civilian)

Fire Department Receptionist

This position is the “first impression” of the HCFD. The receptionist is the voice and the face of the fire department as she greets our customers each day over the phone or in person. Duties involve routine typing, filing, receptionist, cashier, and record keeping.

Accounts Administrator

This position serves as an Accounts Administrator to the fire chief and fire department of nearly 300 employees. Duties require advanced secretarial and office coordination skills as this position is critical to the efficient operation of an administrative office. This position provides administrative support for a variety of department programs.

Fire Equipment Fleet Maintenance

Fleet Maintenance serves as the critical link keeping the Fire Department operable, providing quality and timely service ensuring all department vehicles and small equipment are maintained and repaired properly and efficiently. Fleet Maintenance works out of the Henry County Fleet Services maintenance facility, where they are equipped with full automotive and heavy truck repair capabilities. They perform all preventative maintenance and overhauling of department equipment including emergency apparatus, staff vehicles and small tools and equipment.

Quartermaster

The Quarter Master ensures the field is supplied with tools and uniforms and maintains a stock of supplies for all stations and the fire department headquarters. Additionally, he acts as the primary point-of-contact for the Fire Chief on the Fire Department facility needs.

Fire Hydrant Coordinator

This position schedules and manages maintenance operations on all fire hydrants inside Henry County. He coordinates and manages bi-annual hydrant maintenance and service tours performed by suppression personnel. The Fire Hydrant Coordinator is also responsible for ordering, stocking inventory, and the distribution of all medical supplies to the stations.
OPERATIONS

The Operations Division is supervised by the Chief of Operations and oversees daily suppression operations of the department, medical emergencies and ambulance transports, and all other special operations. This division contains field personnel working in fire stations and responding to the constant requests for assistance from the citizenry. All field personnel work a 24/48—hour schedule. They report to their assigned fire station by 7 a.m. and are in-service working for the citizens for 24 hours. The following morning at 7 a.m. their shift ends and they are relieved by the oncoming shift. After 48 hours off, they return for their next 24-hour shift.

TRAINING

The Training Division trains all personnel in all matters of fire department functions. This division maintains training records and ensures appropriate personnel are up-to-date in all certifications obtained and that they are receiving the required number of training hours for their level of expertise.

PREVENTION

This division contains the Fire Marshal, personnel for building plan review, fire code inspectors, fire investigators, and fire and life safety educators. This division plays a role in the construction of new buildings ensuring that the structures are built to meet or exceed today’s life safety codes as well as inspecting existing structures to ensure occupants are remaining within the life safety code. This division also investigates fires for origin and cause of any fires that appear suspicious or criminal in nature and/or unlawfully set, or of which the immediate cause cannot be determined. Community fire and life safety education is scheduled and coordinated out of this division.

2012 DIVISION NUMBERS

OPERATIONS
♦ 248 Shift Personnel / Line Personnel
  1 Administrative (Civilian)
  3 EMS Billing (Civilian)

TRAINING
♦ 1 Fire—EMS Instructor (Civilian)
  1 Paramedic Instructor
  1 Administrative Assistant (Civilian)

PREVENTION
♦ 1 Administrative Assistant (Civilian)
  5 Inspector/Investigators
  1 Plan Reviewer
  1 PIO/Fire Safety Educator
  1 Fire Safety Educator
The Operations Division is overseen by Division Chief Brad Johnson, and includes all of the apparatus, firefighters and paramedics who respond to emergencies when citizens call “911.” Thirteen stations are staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, prepared to respond at a moment’s notice.

The HCFD Operations Section responds to emergency requests from the public for fires, medical calls, motor vehicle crashes, rescues from entrapment, hazardous materials incidents, and many other emergency situations. As first responders, our firefighters are also Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) who can begin administering treatment before an ambulance arrives on scene. The cross-training is an important component of how the HCFD Operations Division works together to provide the most efficient and effective medical care for the citizens of Henry County. 2012 statistics consist of 22,481 responses; 782 were fires 17,282 were Emergency Medical Services (EMS) responses, 457 were hazardous condition responses; 1,482 were good intent responses, 779 were false responses and 2,869 consist of other types of responses.

The Fire Section serves unincorporated Henry County and cities of Stockbridge, Hampton, and Locust Grove, with 12 Engine Apparatus, 1 Quint Apparatus, 2 Ladders, and 2 Squads for fire fighting and rescue operations, supplemented with EMS ambulances.

Fire Section responds to all Fires, Rescues (extrications), and Special Operational commitments (Hazmat, Confined Space, Trench Rescue and Dive Rescues). Fire Section promotes and disseminates progressive equipment and tactics for Henry County’s growing needs in changes from rural to suburban housing.

Fire Section also supplements City of McDonough Fire Department with an on going automatic aid agreement.

The Fire Section in conjunction with EMS, have implemented and maintained 10 Advanced Life Support (ALS) First Responder Engine Apparatus to supplement the ever increasing call volume and demand for EMS thus providing the community with the highest level of first responder care available at this time.

**Administrative Assistant**
Under limited supervision, performs work of moderate-to-complex difficulty of an administrative and/or supervisory nature in assisting in the management of the division. This position assists in the planning and/or supervision of the administrative function of the Division.

**Fire District Map**

**Captain Stan Jones**

**Engine Responses in 2012**

**Ladder & Squad Responses in 2012**
Henry County Fire Department provides emergency medical service coverage for all of Henry County utilizing 11 ALS ambulances, 10 ALS fire apparatus, 3 Basic Life Support (BLS) fire apparatus, and a host of first responders. In addition, EMS Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI), the EMS Billing Department, and the Bike Team all function under the EMS Section.

Henry County Fire Department sends a medical response to all requests for medical care and other calls in which the need may arise such as hazardous materials and structure fires. All HCFD response personnel are required to have an Emergency Medical Technician Intermediate (EMT-I) certification at a minimum. HCFD is staffed with 114 members licensed as paramedics.

The Billing Department assures fiscal responsibility to the citizens of Henry County by collecting revenue generated from the ambulance transports and ensuring compliance to the complex rules and regulations from federal agencies such as Medicare and Medicaid. The Billing Department continues its momentum carried over from 2011 with an increase in billing collections of 5.25%. The department billed out $151,553.34 more than in 2011.
THE TRAINING DIVISION

The Training Division, under the direction of the Training Chief, conducts and coordinates all department training activities including but not limited to recruit training, fire suppression, emergency medical, technical rescue, officer development and other training programs as necessary to meet established state and federal mandates each year. The division is responsible for ensuring that all department members meet the requirements as set forth by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), Insurance Services Office (ISO), Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training, Georgia Department of Human Resources, and the internal requirements by the Fire Department.

The goal of the Henry County Fire Department Training Division is to provide the highest quality training, instruction, and educational support to our members. This is intended to prepare our department to serve our community in the most efficient and effective means possible, and to ensure the safety of our citizens and personnel.

Administrative Assistant

Under limited supervision, this position performs work of moderate-to-complex difficulty of an administrative and/or supervisory nature in assisting in the management of the Training Division. This position assists in the planning and/or supervision of the administrative function of the division. It serves as the point of contact for this division, maintaining required paperwork and documentation, maintains personnel training files, serves as the “registrar” for Academy classes, and performs related work as required.

The Training Division is responsible for the following:

- Processing applications for new employees.
- Testing, interviewing and hiring new employees.
- Conducting recruit school for new employees
- Conducting EMT school for new employees.
- Developing a continuing education plan for all personnel
- Conducting Paramedic school.
- Providing “Academy Style” classes for continued education, to teach new skills, and to assist each employee with career development.
- Conducting Promotional processes for competitive rank positions.

Simply, we are mandated to make sure our personnel are trained. Georgia Firefighters Standards and Training Council and Georgia Department of EMS both require that we obtain a certain amount of training on an annual basis so that our personnel remain competent in their assigned certified positions. Above that minimum, it is a goal of the Henry County Fire Department to adhere to the training requirements set forth by the Insurance Service Office. In addition to Fire and EMS requirements there are several other competencies that require yearly training. Those include but are not limited to Basic Mandate Law Enforcement (LE), Hazardous Material, Tech Rescue, Dive Operations, and several others. These requirements are accomplished by:

- Providing a Continued Annual Training plan for yearly training.
- Encouraging individual and company training every shift.
- Hosting and delivering developmental classes for our personnel
- Keeping abreast of all training requirements.
- Maintaining for reference, a Master Course File of classes instructed within the HCFD.
- Maintaining complete comprehensive training records.
- Delivering the most meaningful and realistic training possible while ensuring personal safety.
Division Chief of Training

This position is responsible for organizing, designing, implementing, and managing training and employee development programs for the Henry County Fire Department. This position may also serve as a Command or General Staff Officer when necessary on incident scenes. Listed are some of the major duties of this position: developing training goals and objectives in conjunction with Fire Department Senior Staff; organizes and develops training programs for Firefighters and EMTS; provides new recruits with an orientation program and is responsible for conducting and administering all training requirements and programs, including the operation of an assessment center for prospective recruits; Assists the Division Chief of Operations by providing FF/EMTs and FF/Paramedics with training courses and by assisting them in preparing for certification courses and re-certification requirements; Ensures all Fire/EMS personnel are properly certified by maintaining employee training/certification files and provides monthly reports to the Deputy Chief, and performs related work as required.

Fire – EMS Training Captain

This position is primarily responsible for coordinating and presenting training classes and drills in all levels of training within the department, under the general direction of the Division Chief of Training. It is responsible for supervision of personnel assigned to training activities. This position can be required to perform operational duties at emergencies, rescues and at stations or elsewhere in the general department operations if needed. The purpose of this position is to provide effective training and drills for all members of the department. Performance in this position may directly and/or indirectly affect the health and well-being of the citizens.

Paramedic Instructor

The Paramedic Instructor is primarily responsible for coordinating and presenting HCFC’s in house EMT and Paramedic program. This position is responsible for supervision of personnel assigned to training activities. In addition, this position assists in instructing on-duty personnel in both basic and advanced EMS skills.

Classes Hosted by the EMS Academy

2011-2012 Paramedic Class
ACLS Recertification
PHTLS Class
National Registry Skills Assessment
National Registry Refresher
Basic Life Support Instructor

Classes Hosted by the Fire Academy

Hosted Fall MATO Instructor Workshop
Hosted Annual “Live Release” Ammonia Drill
National Fire Academy Leadership
Conducted Recruit School 12-01
Conducted Certified Physical Agility (CPAT) Practice & Testing
Facilities

The Training Division offices are located at 664 Industrial Blvd. This facility hosts the offices for the Training Captain and the Paramedic Instructor. We have three class rooms available at this facility as well as a library, conference room, and a personnel training file room. Also located at 664 Industrial Blvd is our training ground. This area is approximately 1 acre devoted to the “hands on” training of our personnel. On these grounds is a drill tower, class “A” burn building, confined space simulator, SCBA maze, and props for Liquid Petroleum (LP) training. The Paramedic / EMS Instructor’s office was previously located at Station 5 on Elm Street in Hampton until mid 2010. At that location we have a class room, conference room and a supply area for EMS training. The Division continues to support the classroom at Station 5 as well as the classrooms located at Station 10 on Upchurch Rd and at Station 11 on Flat Rock Rd. The classrooms are located in the second floor of the facilities and are used throughout the year by our personnel for in service classes as well as Academy classes.

Operational Summary

♦ 2012 was another dynamic year for the Henry County Fire Department Training Division.

♦ Because of budgetary concerns, we continue to operate with just one Training Captain/Field Training Officer (FTO) on staff from a previous staff of three FTO’s. This reduction in force limited the presence of the Training Division department wide. While every attempt has been made not to let the reduction in force effect our product it has diminished the amount of training provided by the training division.

Recruit School

The hiring of fifteen new members, to fill exiting vacancies, prompted the need for a recruit school. HCFD Recruit School trained the new members in the skill of firefighting as well as the other disciplines they would encounter. The men and women were subjected to comprehensive testing and completed all necessary classes and satisfied all requirements completing 520 hours of firefighter training. The new firefighters will continue their training on their respective shifts. The 2012 Class was the first recruit class conducted in four years.

Paramedic School

♦ In September, the 2012-2013 Paramedic Class began. Thirty-three students enrolled. Class 2012-2013 is due to graduate in December 2013.

♦ Initiated the accreditation process for Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Profession.

♦ HCFD hosted a National Registry Skills Assessment.

In Service Training

♦ We assisted line personnel as we could with in service training. These were done with several drop drills, and train the trainers for new equipment.

♦ Core Competency Training – In January the Core Competency task books were issued. These were completed by most personnel by the end of March. All of our personnel completed their required core competencies in 2012.
Continuing Education – All of our certified personnel obtained their yearly required Continuing Education Credits for 2012.

Other Accomplishments

- In January we issued the 2012 Operations / Training plan and course calendar.
- In 2012, we offered classes in an Academy format. The classes are divided into the Fire Academy and EMS Academy.
- The Training Division also worked with Georgia Firefighters Standards and Training Evaluations and Validations for Fire Service testing throughout the year.

As one can see we have a fairly substantial training operation. Over the past few years we have become more self sufficient and provide most of our developmental classes in house. We have found that having in-house training of personnel results in higher quality service providers and in higher employee retention rates. The Henry County Fire Department Training Division intends to provide the highest quality training, instruction, and educational support to our members in support of the goal that “Everyone Goes Home”.

-Chief Ike McConnell

Training Division 2013 Goals

2013 Annual Training Plan

Develop a 2013 training plan that will be used to satisfy continued annual training requirements for Fire and EMS certifications as well as Henry County requirements.

Promotional Process

Continue to update and conduct promotional processes for competitive rank.

Hire New Personnel

Hire personnel to fill open positions.

2013-2014 Paramedic Class

Continue with the in house paramedic program.

Technical Rescue Training Program

Continue the current Technical Rescue Training program that provides regular updates for Technical Rescue personnel.

Training Ground Maintenance and Improvements

Replacement of Burn Building

Update Curriculums

Update current curriculum so that all resources are up to date and relevant.
The Fire Prevention Division is led by the Fire Marshal and Division Chief of Prevention, Joe Kelley. The Prevention Division is charged with enforcing "Rules and Regulations for the State Minimum Fire Safety Standards" as adopted by the State Fire Commissioner. The Prevention Division is the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) in these matters for all of unincorporated Henry County and the cities of Hampton, Stockbridge and Locust Grove.

The Fire Prevention Division is divided into 3 sections, the New Construction Inspection Section, the Existing Inspection / Investigation Section and Fire Safety Education Section. The division is currently staffed with 2 captains, 5 Lieutenants and an Administrative Assistant.

The New Construction Section offices relocated, returning their offices back to the Henry County Public Safety Annex. This past year we had 4 inspectors handling existing inspections. For the second consecutive year the division inspected all of the businesses in Henry County. We also handled all the high hazardous target inspections including:

- Schools (Public and Private)
- Churches
- Apartments
- Day Cares
- Hotels

The Fire Marshal's Office has six major responsibilities:

- Conduct fire & life safety inspections of existing buildings and structures.
- Review plans and specifications for proposed buildings and structures, issue joint building permits with the Henry County Building Department when plans are approved, and conduct fire & life safety inspections of such buildings and structures.
- Issue joint, permanent and temporary certificates of occupancy with the Henry County Building Department.
- Conduct cause and origin investigations of fires, and if criminal activity is determined, initiate a criminal investigations to include arrests.
- Provide code enforcement to ensure compliance with the county’s burn ordinance.
- Provide educational programs in schools and various venues throughout the county for the purpose of informing and protecting the public.
New Construction

Captain Dale Hutchison currently supervises the New Construction Inspection Section, which is responsible for handling plan reviews and conducting inspections on new buildings. Hutchinson has been an employee with the department since September of 1993. His section’s primary responsibility is to ensure the life safety of all new buildings in the County. The inspection section is staffed with 1 Inspector, and 1 Plan Reviewer. This Section is actively involved with development efforts in the county. Personnel in the Inspection section regularly participate in due-diligence meetings, on-site consultations, pre-review meetings, and work hand-in-hand with other county development agencies such as the building department, tax commissioner, planning & zoning, and the county’s water authority. All certified Fire Inspectors are members of the Georgia Fire Inspectors Association, and the International Building Code Council. This section reviewed 396 building and site plans and inspected 486 new buildings in 2012. In 2011, 400 building and site plans were reviewed and 666 new buildings were inspected.

Existing Inspection / Investigation

Captain Ron Reagan currently supervises the Inspection /Investigation Section, which is responsible for investigating the cause and origin of fires which may be suspicious in nature, high-dollar loss, or a fire where the cause cannot be determined and for inspecting all existing buildings. Fire scenes involving criminal activity are the responsibility of the Inspector/Investigator Section. Captain Reagan became employed with the department in February of 2002. The Investigation Section works closely with the law enforcement elements in the county, such as the County Police Department, Sheriff’s Department and the District Attorney’s Office (for both adult and juvenile courts). Investigators also work closely with Insurance companies and their respective investigators, and when needed provide assistance to the State Fire Marshal’s Office. The Existing Inspection/Investigation Unit is staffed with 4 Investigator/Inspectors. In addition, the Fire Marshal and 5 of his personnel are cross-trained, and certified as Fire Investigators. The Fire Marshal and both Captains are also certified police officers, which allows them to apply for search and arrest warrants. All the sections have certified investigators that are members of the Georgia Fire Investigators Association and the International Fire Investigators Association. The Fire Marshal and both Captains also are members of the Metro Arson Task Force (a function of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms).

Captain Reagan was instrumental in the creation of the County’s Juvenile Fire-setter Program. Once juvenile firesetters are identified, the investigator works in conjunction with Fire Safety Educators, juvenile court officials and mental health professionals, to provide counseling and treatment.

2012 INTENTIONALLY SET FIRES

- Structures
- Vehicles
Community Education

The Henry County Fire Department prides itself on being accessible to the community. Fire Department personnel participate in a variety of community activities and perform numerous public relations details throughout the year. Highlights from 2012 include the following events:

- National Night Out
- Fairview National Night Out
- Henry Seniors Business Expo & Health Fair
- Hampton City Parade
- Home Depot Safety Days
- Locust Grove Days

Fire & Life Safety Priorities

- Reduce deaths from structure fires to zero and limit property damage from structure fires to the area of origin.
- Create an environment where the public is made aware of the fire problem and their role in fire prevention.
- Locust Grove Days
- Hampton Bear Creek Festival
- Henry County Special Olympics
- Southern Belle Farms Hero Day
- McDonough Christmas Parade
- Locust Grove Christmas Parade
- Shop with a Deputy
- Relay for Life
- Georgia Kayak Association– Foster Kids Day

Educating members of the community about fire prevention and the dangers of fire is an important initiative of the Henry County Fire Department. In 2012, the department reached over 45,820 citizens through its various fire and life safety education programs.
Other programs provided by this office include:

- Juvenile Firesetter Intervention
- Fire Safety Education Theater
- Fire Safety House
- Education through Clowning and Robotics
- Read to Succeed
- Child Safety Seat Inspection/Installation
- Smoke Alarm Installation/Distribution

- 55 Station Tours
- 44 Schools visited
- 23 Preschools visited
- 46 Career Days
- 38 Juvenile Firesetter Evaluations
- 4 Senior Fire Safety Events
- 9 Events attended by the fire safety house (a mobile classroom designed to aid in teaching children what to do in case of a fire in their home)
- Nearly 20,000 educational materials were distributed
“Get Alarmed Henry” Smoke Alarm Program

It is our goal to ensure that no one lays their head on their pillow another night without the protection of an early detection device, a smoke alarm. One hundred eleven smoke alarms were provide and/or installed for citizens free of charge. Our smoke alarms are obtained through the Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation and the citizens of Henry County. Below is just one example where smoke alarms made a difference between life and death during 2012.

"I was doing laundry and I heard the smoke alarm and I saw all the kids getting out," stated the resident. At just after four this afternoon in Henry County, a Locust Grove family of nine escaped their fire filled home because of a simple little device called a "Smoke Alarm." Two adults and 7 children resided at 84 Locust Grove Griffin Road, where a fire gutted what this family knew as home. Fortunately, they all escaped without injury. "Smoke Alarms Save Lives! Henry County Fire Department is urging all citizens to check their smoke alarms each month.

Sixty-two child safety seat inspections and/or installations were conducted to ensure proper installation. In addition to the inspections eleven child safety seat classes were conducted for recipients of child safety seats provided through the Georgia Child Passenger Mini Grant Program.
Citizens’ Fire Academy

The Citizens Fire Academy is a ten-week program designed to educate and inform citizens about fire and emergency services. Participants gain a greater understanding of the inner workings of the Henry County Fire Department. Currently one class is offered in the Spring of each year. Classes are held one night per week.

In the Spring of 2012, there were thirteen citizens that began the ten week class. In May, the participants of the 2012 Citizens Fire Academy graduated.

The goals of the Citizens’ Fire Academy are to:

♦ Provide residents a basic understanding of the tactics and strategies of firefighting and rescue operations.

♦ Provide a greater understanding of the services the Henry County Fire Department is able to provide to the community.

♦ Encourage academy participants to return to their families and neighborhoods and share their experiences. Thus providing more safety conscious and informed citizens.

♦ Provide an enjoyable, interactive atmosphere in which fire department members and citizens can share information and concerns.
*Figures may not add up exactly to total incident responses for the year. The total incident responses for 2012 were 22,481; However, there were 22,512 reports generated for scenes comprised of additional exposures and multiple patients.
*Figures may not add up exactly to total incident responses for the year. The total incident responses for 2012 were 22,481; However, there were 22,512 reports generated for scenes comprised of additional exposures and multiple patients.
In 2012, the Henry County Fire Department responded to 22,481 incidents—the most alarms in a single year in department history. As is evident, the demand for the county’s emergency fire and emergency medical services has steadily grown and the trend of growth is expected to continue.

### 2012 Breakdown of Structure Fires and Other Fires and Incidents

- Other Structure Fires: 31
- Hazmat Responses: 178
- Residential Structure Fires: 180
- Other Hazardous Responses: 268
- Mutual Aid (Given): 391
- Other Fires & Incidents: 508
- False Alarms: 774
- All Other Responses: 2,869
- Rescue / Emergency Medical: 17,282

**Total Incidents in 2012:** 17,282
2012 Top Twenty Medical Complaints

- Pain: 2,531
- Seizure: 554
- Stroke: 136
- Weakness: 810
- Abdominal Pain: 783
- Breathing Problems: 1,093
- Allergic Reactions: 165
- Altered LOC/Uncolnscious: 303
- Back Pain/Non Traumatic: 178
- Behavioral/Psychiatric Disorder: 541
- Cardiac Arrest: 124
- Diabetic: 1,250
- Dehydration: 104
- Fever: 158
- Hypertension: 329
- Nausea & Vomiting: 421
- Obst/Gyn & Delivery: 134
- Pain: 554
- Seizure: 136
- Stroke: 810
- Weakness: 32

2012 BREAKDOWN OF FIRES

- Industry / Utility: 1
- Health Care / Penal: 2
- Schools & Colleges: 2
- Stores & Offices: 3
- Public Assembly: 4
- Other Structures: 6
- Other Vehicles: 8
- Storage in Stuctures: 13
- Apartments: 19
- Rubbish/Dumpsters: 70
- Highway Vehicles: 96
- Non-Structure/Non-Vehicle: 105
- Private Dwellings: 161
- Brush/Grass/wildland: 229
Explorers Program

Accomplishments:

- Membership is currently at 18 members strong.
- 80% of post members finished basic requirements to participate in ride-a-longs (shadowing Fire and EMS personnel on emergency calls). New members completed approximately 75% of required training to participate in ride-a-longs. Subjects include: hose, ropes/knots, tools & equipment, fire behavior, extinguishers, PPE & more
- Individuals participated in 70 plus ride a-longs

Participated in:

- February 2012 Winterfest, finishing very close in 3 events.
- April 2012 Gwinnett Scout Blast, received 5 individual award, & 3 team awards
- October 2012 Henry Explorer Expo, received 2 individual awards & 3 team awards

Upcoming in 2013:

- Currently training for Winterfest 2013. We will travel to Gatlinburg for competition with thirteen competitors.
- Trussville, Alabama Competition
- Planning for CPR certification for all members in the Spring of 2013
- Planning for at least one special training event in the Spring/Summer 2013, possibly repelling, training burn, or vehicle extrication
- Live Burn Exercise in May 2013
- Host 5th Annual Explorer Competition & Expo
- Host 2nd Annual Antique Fire Truck Show
- Expecting to lose some current members throughout upcoming year due to age, school, and/or jobs. This will require new membership drive again in Fall 2013 to maintain current membership levels.
- Currently looking for more community projects/events to participate in, such as Christmas Adopt a Senior program, Geranium Festival, and others.
- Anticipating upcoming opportunities to assist HCFD training division with regular department training.

Henry County Explorer Competition & Expo

In October 2013, we will host the fifth annual Henry Explorer Expo. It is expected to experience growth again this year. We hope to have two to five additional posts to register this year, possibly increasing to 100 plus individuals participating.

Notables:

- All of our new members helped coordinate, manage, and clean-up the Henry Explorer Expo in October 2012.
- 2012 Henry Explorer Expo grew from seven to eight posts competing with 80 plus individuals competitors
- There were five members of Post 190 hired in 2012 as HCFD firefighters. An additional member received his EMT certification
Henry County Fire Department lost two of the finest, seasoned firefighters our department has ever known. The retirement of Firefighter/EMT Phillip Hammond and Firefighter/Paramedic Hugh Coffee will be felt for some time to come. The noble leadership and combined experience of over 40 years will be greatly missed by all those who worked along side these two gentleman.

**Phillip Hammond**

Phillip came to work in Henry County in January of 1994, after retiring from the United States Marine Corp with nearly 15 years. Phillip, a second generation firefighter, was a great leader and a vital part of the department’s Honor Guard. Phillip answered his last emergency call from Station #13 on August 5, 2012, after serving 18 years of dedicated service with Henry County Fire Department.

Hammond was born in Anniston, Alabama and at the age of three landed in his hometown of Forest Park, Georgia. He attended Forest Park High School where he graduated. He attended the University of Southern California before joining the United States Marine Corp in 1973. Hammond retired from the U.S Marine Corp after serving nearly fifteen years. He has one daughter and twin granddaughters. When Hammond retired he was engaged and had plans to pursue an adventure in real-estate with his fiancé.

On July 30, 2012, at Station #9 in Stockbridge, Hammond was honored, with great regard, by Henry County Fire Chiefs, fellow firefighters, and friends and family. His long-time partner and crew honored him well with a prepared lunch and great time of fellowship. Many memories were shared and well wishes were bestowed.

**Hugh Coffee**

Hugh came to work in Henry County in December of 1990 after having served as the Chief of Monroe County Emergency Services. Hugh also served as a Trustee for the Monroe County Hospital Authority, the Deputy Director for Monroe County EMS, as a Legislative Assistant, and as the Assistant Project Director for Region Four EMS. While on medical leave for surgery, Hugh made the decision that it was time to retire from Henry County Fire Department.

Hugh Graduated sixth in his class with a B.A. in Political Science from Mercer University and earned a Masters of Public Administration from Georgia State University. Hugh is the author of *Ditch Medicine: Advanced Field Care Procedures for Emergencies*. This text along with the many military certifications Hugh received while conducting mission work in Guatemala in the 1990’s, have provided fodder for a number of firehouse “theories” and “legends.” Hugh also developed and implemented the SWAT Medic program in Henry County and has served as a liaison between the Police and Fire departments while advocating for the SWAT Medic program. Hugh’s hours of dedication and devotion to this program far outweigh any compensation that he ever received and his calm thoughtful demeanor will be missed by all SWAT Team members.

On March 24, 2013, at his last duty station, there will be a retirement reception to honor Hugh Coffee.

“*The contributions made by these gentleman to the community of Henry County are immeasurable. While we are happy that they can now enjoy the fruits of their labors, both our organization and our community will miss them dearly,*” - Chief Lacy.
The Henry County Honor Guard honors fallen public safety professionals and military veterans. Training and services are provided on a voluntary basis by members of the Fire Department. The Honor Guard responds to many service requests for funerals, parades, and other various venues for flag presentations each year. The Honor Guard has also been selected in previous years to lead in the honors and flag presentation at the Georgia Public Safety Training Centers’ September 11th Memorial Ceremony.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Henry County Fire Department Honor Guard to honor Fire Service members, both past and present, and the United States of America with the highest degree of professionalism, dedication, loyalty, and dignity possible.

Membership

Membership to the Honor Guard is open to any member of Henry County Fire Department. To be considered for membership personnel submit a letter of request to the Honor Guard Coordinator through their chain of command. The three most important characteristics looked for in a member of the Guard are: Participation, Dedication, and Dependability.

Details

Throughout the year, the Guard is available for several different types of events. Some are listed below:

- Flag Presentations:
  - Graduation Ceremonies, Parades, Football Games, and Public Events.
  - Funerals and Memorial Services: Henry Fire Personnel (Current and Retired), Public Safety Personnel, County and Local Dignitaries.
  - Weddings of HCFD Personnel
  - Retirement Ceremonies
  - Any other activity that requires the formality of a flag or guard presentation.

Currently we have 16 personnel that are on the Guard. In 2012, those personnel carried out funeral details, memorial services, and Colors Presentations throughout the community.

An annual event that the honor guard participates in is the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg Maryland. In 2012, three of our members served as part of the National Honor Guard and a fourth served as an Escort for the family of a Fallen Firefighter. At the conclusion of the Memorial weekend the guard traveled to Arlington National Cemetery. There a wreath was laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in recognition and memory of the Veterans of Henry County.

Future

In 2013 the HCFD Honor Guard will strive to increase our membership as well as increase the participation of that membership.

In early 2013, we will begin making plans for a return trip to The National Memorial in Maryland. This will take place in October and we intend to have more personnel participate than in 2012.
Charlie Rice, a retired Battalion Chief from the City of Atlanta Fire Department and a previous Henry County Volunteer Fire Chief, Firefighter and Training Officer, said he wanted to get back into the fire service some how some way and his first thoughts were a rehabilitation unit for the firefighters of Henry County. On January 1, 2009, Squad 82 Rehab Unit was born. “Squad 82” is manned by Charlie Rice, his wife Gloria, his son Dale Rice, also a previous Henry County volunteer firefighter, Retired Clayton County Battalion Chief Jerry Neal, Harold Williamson, and Lee Morgan. Each of the above mentioned citizens are totally volunteers, some of whom are personally connected to the fire service.

Charlie retired from the fire service after 35 years at Atlanta Fire. Charlie commented, “You can take the firefighter out of the fire, but you can’t take the fire out of the firefighter. I just knew I wanted to reconnect with the fire service and this was a way I could do it and serve the county in which I live!” Charlie and his crew keep the unit stocked with supplies and appliances themselves. The stock on the unit consist of Gatorade, water, coffee, hot chocolate, ice, candy bars, quick microwave meals and snacks, etc. Charlie said that the hot item has been “Snickers” candy bars but he continues to keep warm meals on board for those who may need more than just a candy bar. The unit is positioned where personnel can check in to rehab, remove some of their gear, get a drink and take a seat while medical personnel check out their vital signs and any signs or symptoms that could lead to injury. All personnel remain under the incident command and accountability systems while in rehab.

Some might question the need for rehabilitating personnel on scenes; however rehabilitation is an imperative part of operations on incidents requiring personnel to work extended hours and under various climatic conditions. Firefighting has the greatest short-surge physiologic demands of any profession and 50 percent of all firefighter deaths and 66 percent of injuries happen on emergency scenes.

The Henry County Fire Department is a diverse and progressive organization dedicated to protecting lives, property, and the well-being of the citizens, businesses, and visitors of Henry County. The fire department is very proud to have Squad 82 and the volunteer staff that rehabilitate and regenerate fire personnel that protect and serve the citizens of Henry County.

**Number of Runs:** 39
**Gallons of Fuel Consumed:** 139.4
**Cases of Gatorade:** 80
**Cases of Water:** 61
**Bags of Ice:** 189
**Pots of Coffee:** 19
**Packs of Hot Cocoa:** 24
**Packs of Crackers and Candy Bars:** 529
**Total Man Hours:** 235.5
IN SUMMARY

OPERATIONAL DATA

General
Sites/Areas
Stations 13
Battalions 02

Positions
Uniformed 261
Civilian 13

Staffed Functions
ALS Engines 11
Engines 12
Heavy Rescue 02
Aerial Apparatus 02
Quint 01

Response Data
Incidents
Structure Fires 211
Other Fires and Incidents 508
Total Fires 719
Medical 17,282
False Alarms 774
Mutual Aid Given 391
Hazmat Responses 178
Other Hazardous Responses 268
All Other Responses 2,869
Total Emergency Responses 22,481
Total Reports Generated (exposures & multiple patients) 22,512*
Average Response Times for Fire Calls 8:00
Average Response Times for EMS Calls 8:15
Overall Avg. Response Time (all call types) 8:08

Technical Rescue Services
Hazardous Materials 178
Other Hazardous Responses 268
Total 446

Fires
Total Residential 180
Total Structure Fires 211
Other 224
Vehicle 104
Severe Weather 45

Calls By Station
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<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Calls</th>
<th>Engine Responses</th>
<th>Rescue Responses</th>
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<td>772</td>
<td>Engine #13 357</td>
<td>Rescue #13 1067</td>
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Fatalities 02
False Alarms
Malicious 50
Malfunction 298
Unintentional 423
Other 03

Property Value
Total Property Affected By Fire $31,635,833.00
Property Saved $27,874,088.00
Property Loss $  3,761,745.00

Emergency Medical Services
Responses 17,282
Patient Contacts 17,894
Patient Transports 12,431
EMS Bills Out 12,674
Amount Billed $7,282,101.73
Amount Collected $4,224,668.00

Inspections
New Construction 486
Existing Construction 6412
Pre-Construction Meetings 256
Plan Reviews 396

Investigations
Fire Investigations 130
Fire Investigations Closed 96
Fire Investigations Open 34

Life Safety Education
Preschool Visits 23
School Visits 44
Station Tours 55
Career Days 46
Total Pop. Receiving Fire & Life Safety Education 45,821

Training
Training Activities Completed 61,924
**Community Outreach**

Child Safety Seat Installation/Inspections  __________  62
Smoke Alarm Donated/Installed  __________  111
Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation  __________  $18,626.32
10% Incentive Back to HCFD  __________  $1,862.63
Juvenile Firesetter Evaluated  __________  38

**Community Events**

- National Night Out
- Fairview National Night Out
- Henry Seniors Business Expo & Health Fair
- Hampton City Parade
- Home Depot Safety Days
- Locust Grove Days
- Hamptons Bear Creek Festival
- Henry County Special Olympics
- Southern Belle Farms Hero Day
- McDonough Christmas Parade
- Locust Grove Christmas Parade
- Shop with a Deputy
- Relay for Life
- Georgia Kayak Association – Foster Kids Day

**Child Safety Seat Program**

- Child Safety Seats are inspected and/or installed for citizens requesting assistance.
- Child Safety Seats are provided to needy citizens. Funding made possible through a mini grant obtained through the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety and the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant.
- Child Passenger Safety Presentations (educational classes) are mandatory for all recipients of donated child safety seats.
- Child Safety Seat Technicians undergo a comprehensive National Highway Safety Administration (NHTSA) Training Course and are required to update and recertify bi-annually.

**Support Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation**

- Henry County Fire Department supports the efforts of the Georgia Firefighters Burn Foundation each year.
- A boot drive is conducted each year in late Spring or early Fall. Ten percent of monies collected comes back to the county for fire safety education purposes.
- Henry County Fire Department is a partner in Project R.E.A.C.H. (Recycling Every Aluminum Can Helps.) Project R.E.A.C.H is a year-round aluminum can recycling program in which Henry County serves as drop-site location for the collection of empty aluminum cans for recycling.

**Senior Fire & Fall Safety Program**

- Henry County Senior Citizens are taught Fire & Fall Safety Prevention

**“Get Alarmed Henry” Smoke Alarm Program**

- Provides for the distribution and installation of smoke alarms by firefighters-free of charge.
- Provides batteries for smoke alarms in residential occupancies upon request

**Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program**

- Evaluates children with fire play behavior.
- Educates them on the dangers fire play
When I am called to duty, God, wherever flames may rage,
Give me the strength to save some life whatever be its age.
Help me embrace a little child before it is too late,
or save an older person from the horror of that fate.
Enable me to be alert and hear the weakest shout,
and quickly and efficiently to put the fire out.
I want to fill my calling and to give the best in me,
to guard my every neighbor and protect his property.
And if according to my fate I am to lose my life this day,
Please bless with your protecting hand my family this I pray.