

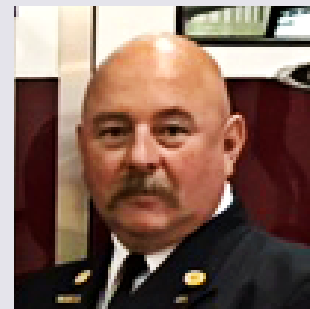


PENNSYLVANIA'S 1ST REGIONAL COMBINATION FIRE DEPARTMENT



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FIRE CODES

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Fire Prevention

Here is a brief overview of the 2016 Fire Prevention and Public Education statistics for our department.

We are constantly striving to educate the public on fire safety, and have some exciting programs coming in 2017!!! More information to come.

- ❖ Fire Extinguisher Training -- More than 60 events, and over 400 people trained
- ❖ Public Education – Over 130 total events, totaling more than 3000 people
- ❖ Smoke Detectors – More than 150 detectors were distributed free of charge

- ❖ *As always, please remember to check the batteries in your detectors. We always suggest changing the batteries in your detectors when you change your clocks for daylight savings time in the spring and fall.*
- ❖ *Should you find that your alarm is out of date or not functioning, they can be purchased at any hardware store. If you need assistance with installation, obtaining a detector, or if you have any other questions relating to smoke detectors or fire safety – please contact our office at 717-718-2381. WORKING SMOKE DETECTORS SAVE LIVES!*
- ❖ *Have you ever conducted a fire drill at your home or office? This simple task can save your life! Ensuring that your family or co-workers know what to do and where to go in the event of a fire is critical. Do you have an established meeting place? Is someone counting the occupants as they leave to be sure everyone has made it out safely? Our department is happy to assist you with creating an evacuation plan, and we can oversee your drill FREE of charge. To schedule, please contact PublicEducation@Yaufr.com or 717-718-2381.*

Did you know that York Area United Fire & Rescue offers Fire Extinguisher Training for your organization?

We can come to your location with our self-contained demonstration trailer and provide the following services to your staff:

- ❖ Fire Extinguisher Operation
- ❖ Classifications of Fire
- ❖ Types of Fire Extinguishers
- ❖ Hands-On Fire Extinguisher Operation with a propane-based fire

For details on pricing and scheduling, please contact PublicEducation@Yaufr.com or 717-718-2383.

Why preplan?

It's almost that time of year again. Battalion Chiefs will be assigning preplans to be conducted during 2017. Why do we do them? There is a lot of information collected, so what can it be used for? NFPA 1620 is the Standard for Pre-Incident Planning. In the 2010 edition, it was changed from a "Recommended Practice" to a standard, incorporating minimum requirements for their development. Pre-incident planning is also an ISO requirement. The ISO requirements have been revised to more closely match NFPA.

Preplanning is part of an educational tool to help familiarize ourselves with the buildings that we protect. During the preplan process, we should be able to identify the layout and construction of a building, who and what is inside, how it is used, and where important features are located. The information collected on the YAUFR preplan survey forms follows the requirements in NFPA 1620, and is arranged to make it easier to enter into Fire Programs. Recording the data makes it available for other personnel to study. Preplans are required to be reviewed and, if necessary, updated regularly. By comparing the updated data with what was previously recorded, we can track changes in a building that may affect how we react to an incident at that location. Some of the information captured in a preplan is also required in certain fire incident reports. By tagging a property in an incident report, this data is automatically copied into the report, reducing the information that must be manually entered.

Fire Codes

Understanding Fire Codes

Fire codes are sets of rules and standards that establish minimum life safety requirements for buildings. Fire codes compliment building codes by ensuring that required life safety systems are maintained and functional. The development of fire codes has evolved in reaction to thousands of fire-related deaths and injuries in public buildings throughout history.

Major events such as the Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire in 1911, the Rhythm Club fire in 1940, the Winecoff Hotel fire in 1946, the Coconut Grove Nightclub fire in 1942, the General Motors Plant fire in 1953, and the Beverly Hills Supper Club Fire in 1977 all resulted in substantial deaths and injury to occupants in those buildings. Each of these incidents also resulted in major changes to the way that buildings are constructed today and how the people

in those buildings are supposed to be protected.

But those incidents are all part of history, right? Surely, under today's standards, buildings are much safer, aren't they? Unfortunately, this may not always be the case. While fire codes set the minimum standard for safety, if their provisions aren't followed, similar tragedies could still occur. Sadly, the Station Nightclub fire in 2003 and the Ghost Ship Warehouse fire in December 2016 are modern cases. So how does this continue to happen, and what can be done to help prevent future tragedies? It can start by understanding what the codes say, and how they apply.

Each of the municipalities served by YAUFR has adopted a fire code. Some of the most common fire code requirements include having fire alarms, fire extinguishers, and fire

suppression systems serviced by trained professionals annually. Exit doors should never be blocked or chained, and the pathways to exits should be well-marked and kept clear of obstructions. Extension cords should not be used as permanent wiring, and trash and debris should never be allowed to accumulate. Renovations or additions to, or a change in use of an existing building requires that a building permit be obtained from the township.

It is ultimately the responsibility of a property owner and a building's occupants to ensure that codes are followed. YAUFR is your partner in code compliance. Should you have questions concerning fire codes in a building that you own or occupy in Manchester, Springettsbury, or Spring Garden Township, please feel free to contact YAUFR headquarters and we will be happy to provide guidance in any way we can.



EMA Volunteers Needed

YAUFR has assumed the Emergency Management duties for Manchester, Spring Garden, and Springettsbury Townships.

We are currently seeking volunteers from the community to staff positions in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). During a disaster, the EOC staff helps to coordinate government operations and support emergency responders in the field. Much of the initial training can be completed online at your convenience. If you are interested in helping your community during a disaster, please contact YAUFR Headquarters for additional information.

YAUFR Volunteers

YAUFR is always looking for dedicated individuals to join our department as volunteers.

Opportunities exist for fire suppression, EMS, fire police and administrative support. Stop by our office at 50 Commons Drive to pick up an application regardless of which station is closest to your home.

Our Grantley station and Eagle Fire Company in Mount Wolf also offer live-in programs where you can exchange comfortable living conditions for community service, if you meet the qualifications. This is a terrific opportunity for college students who are trying to control the costs of higher education or individuals who are just looking for experience and comradery of the fire station. For questions on the individual live-in programs contact the Grantley Fire Company at 843-4112 or the Eagle Fire Company at 266-2342.

Employee Spotlight

In an effort to highlight our employees, each edition of the YAUFRR newsletter will feature an introduction of one of our employees.

We start 2017 by introducing Captain Michael Freet.

What is your role in YAUFRR?

Fire Captain @ Station 89-4

What advice do you have for prospective YAUFRR candidates?

If you want to join our team, study hard, work hard, know your job, and make a commitment to be the best!

What are three words to describe YAUFRR?

Professionalism, Teamwork, and Integrity

What do you like most about YAUFRR?

No two shifts are the same. You never know what challenges will pop up next. You can only prepare to conquer those challenges.

What is your proudest moment at YAUFRR?

When I was promoted to Captain.

Any random facts you could share with us?

I joined the fire service as a volunteer in 1986 @ West York Fire Department, From 1990 to 1994 I was a firefighter in the Air Force, stationed at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware. I came home in 1994 and was hired part-time at West York Fire Department, then in 1995 was hired full-time at the same department. In 2000 I was hired by Spring Garden Fire Department, which turned into YAUFRR in 2008.

Best vacation you've been to?

Jamaica, Couples Swept Away Resort in Negril. I recommend everyone should go!

Do you have a favorite quote?

I never said it would be easy, only that it would be worth it!

People would be surprised if they knew:

I am a pinball machine geek. I currently have 4 pinball machines in my basement!

Tell us a little about your family.

I am married to a wonderful woman, Lori. I have 3 sons; Zachary, who was recently married, Nathan, and Ryan.



Captain Michael Freet



I never said it would be easy, only that it would be worth it!"

THREE WORDS TO DESCRIBE YAUFRR -
**“Professionalism, Teamwork,
and Integrity”**

What are 3 career lessons you've learned thus far?

- 1. If you make a mistake, own up to your mistake and don't make it again.*
- 2. Hard work always pays off.*
- 3. Treat others the way you want to be treated.*

What books are at your bedside?

- 1. First In, Last Out by John Salka*
- 2. Blackbeard the Pirate, by Robert Earl Lee*

What book did you last read?

It's Your Ship by Captain D. Michael Abrashoff

Where would you like to go on a dream vacation?

Italy

CHIEF'S CORNER

As we kick off 2017 and look forward to a successful and safe year, we also need to reflect on the past year which was filled with a lot of change.

We experienced a change in leadership near the midpoint of the year, saying goodbye to Chief Robert H. McCoy, the first leader of our regional department. His leadership and vision will be evident for many years to come and we wish him all the best in his retirement. This change prompted several

other personnel moves and additions to fill created openings.

We said goodbye to Captain Lee Sowers, FF Greg Moul and FF Dave Eckman - three employees with a combined 88 years of career experience. We welcomed FF Cody Stiffler, FF Mike Rhoads and FF Nick Wilcox as full time employees. All three men were part time employees for YAUFRR prior to being hired for full time positions, which is proof of the effectiveness of our part time program.

In 2016 we began our internal Officer Development program, introduced The Blue Door Forcible Entry Simulator to our department and began using Target Solutions as a training and record keeping asset.

We were able to accomplish a new collective bargaining agreement for 2017 thru 2019. Although this was not our first agreement, it was the first one we were able to accomplish on time and in York, saving both parties the expense of a process heavy with legal counsel involvement. It is our hope that this sets the tone for a relationship between labor and management that will be productive and focused on the best interests of the community and the department as a whole.

We ended 2016 on a high note with YAUFRR employees joining together with donations to help two families in our service area enjoy a memorable Christmas. Personally, I was extremely proud of everyone's efforts in giving from the heart to put others first - which is the hallmark of our service - and paying it forward for all the blessings we have received in our lives. It is my hope that this can become a routine way for YAUFRR to celebrate the Christmas Season, and that it can grow to reach even further into the community.

The new year will see us continuing the Officer Development program and doing a new promotional process to establish a list for future officer openings. We will continue to develop our regional emergency management function and look for volunteers to help develop this into a model for the Commonwealth. Continued dedication to training and improvement of our knowledge, skills and abilities will be our focus in 2017 with the goal of "being better today than we were yesterday".

I would like to thank everyone who has supported our department during the past year through the change in leadership and some of the challenges that came with that change. I continue to believe in the excellence of this department and our personnel. I look forward to a long history of YAUFRR being a leader not only in the delivery of emergency services but, within the community, as a model organization. That only happens with teamwork, commitment and a focus on taking care of the little things. I am extremely proud of the things we have done as a team in 2016 and anxiously anticipate setting the bar even higher in 2017.

**Thank you and be safe!
Chief Hoff**