



PENNSYLVANIA'S 1ST REGIONAL COMBINATION FIRE DEPARTMENT



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Daniel J. Hoff

Fire Chief

John Woods

Battalion Chief

Brett Graham

Battalion Chief

Curvin Wolfgang

Battalion Chief

Matt Arnold

Battalion Chief

Joe Madzellan

Battalion Chief

Headquarters
50 Commons Drive
York, PA 17402

Office: 717-718-2383

Office Hours :
Mon. thru Fri. - 7:00 to 3:00
Operation Hours : 24/7

www.YAUFR.com

2020 YEAR END REVIEW



@YAUFRChief



/YorkAreaUnitedFireandRescue

FIRE CHIEFS CORNER

On behalf of the command and administrative staff, I would like to welcome you to York Area United Fire and Rescue's first newsletter of 2021.



YAUFR Command Staff



Lisa Einsig, Administrative Director



Laurie Noel, Administrative Assistant

FIRE CHIEFS COMMENTS

This newsletter takes on a different look from previous editions, as this will also serve as our year-end report for 2020. We are extremely proud to present this information, which highlights our department's efforts and initiatives for 2020, to all of you.

We are all familiar with the rhetoric regarding the past year and what it has meant to so many, but we will simply say that 2020 was an opportunity for our organization to stand out. Our personnel handled each opportunity for creativity and redirection with the professionalism and commitment that we have come to expect from our department.

YAUFR handled 3,617 calls for service - opportunities to excel - in 2020. Of these dispatches, 82.7% required no additional aid from outside sources. Aid given and aid received data for the year shows 230 instances of aid given versus 272 instances of aid received. Fire loss for the year was \$1,274,120, with property saved (pre-incident values) in excess of \$120 million.



Looking back at 2020's challenges, which included COVID 19 (and the multitude of issues that accompanied), political and social unrest in the nation and the everyday circumstances presented by life in general, 2020 was difficult for the people we serve and the servants alike. We started off the year with some very valuable month-long training on Rapid Intervention Training operations and new member orientation training at North George and Route 30, utilizing some homes set for demolition.

The springtime presented personnel with several challenges that were pandemic-related, a change in the daily routines, and uncertainty about how this virus would affect patient contact, station life and home life. Necessary changes in routine provided additional levels of stress and require continued focus on the well-being of personnel. Nevertheless, as the men and women of this department have proven time and again, there is no challenge they are unable to meet. Their resilience and continued effort have been inspirational.

Our mission and vision statements continue to provide us guidance to be the best that we can be and to provide levels of service making us an invaluable asset to the York County Fire Service:

Mission Statement

The Mission of York Area United Fire and Rescue is to provide the highest level of proactive, professional service to the citizens and businesses of our participating municipalities, through the provision of regional fire suppression, fire prevention, emergency medical services, disaster planning and public education.

Vision Statement

YAUFR aspires to be a collaborative, inclusive, world-class fire department that operationally supports, as needed, the firefighting and fire prevention efforts of all departments in York County, through our dedication to professionalism, education, training, community involvement and support of those beyond our municipal borders.

Our values statement directs our entire organization on daily performance expectations:

Values Statement

YAUFR is able to provide this level of service by adhering to a core set of values that guide our service delivery:

Commitment to our community, to our service, to each other and to proactive, relevant education;

Professionalism in the performance of our duties;

Honor in placing service before self;

Pride in being a premier provider of emergency services within the region;

Embrace change and recognize that continuous improvement is necessary to remain the best we can be.

Throughout 2020, our commission provided necessary direction and support to ensure that all of our efforts were in sync with what best served our community and firefighters alike. Volunteers continued to serve and find new ways to support our mission. Their understanding of pandemic-related restrictions being essential to health and safety for all, cannot be understated.

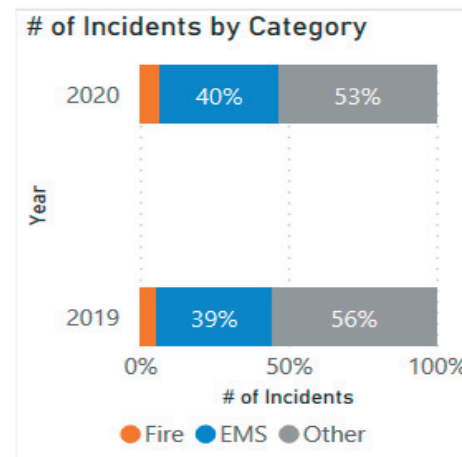
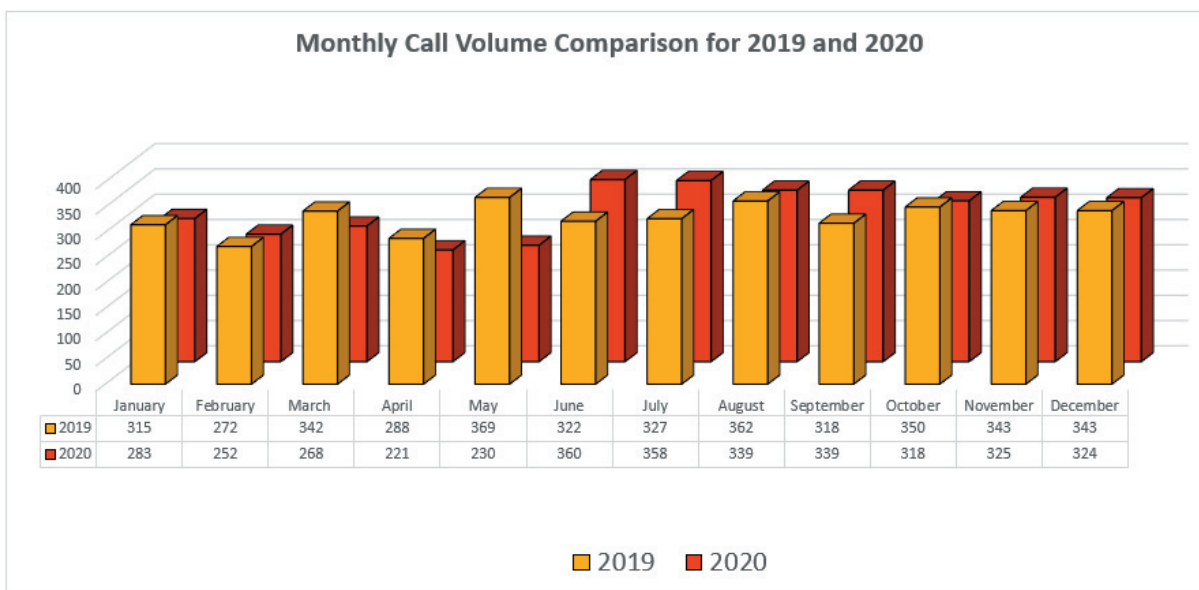
No one can dispute that 2020 was difficult. But it was also an opportunity to see what we were made of, and to test our creativity and resolve. Did we hit every opportunity out of the park? No, we did not. But, we proved that we could handle adversity and those lessons learned will only help to strengthen our organization for the future.

On behalf of the YAUFR Commission, Command and Administrative Staff members, I would like to thank each and every member of the department and community for a successful, albeit challenging, 2020. We are blessed to have exceptional people to help us achieve our goals and fortunate to have support from our communities and community partners to live up to our mission.

Stay Safe !

Daniel J. Hoff
Fire Chief

Emergency Response



GRANTS

BC ARNOLD AND BC RYNO

During 2020, we were awarded several grants to assist in purchasing new equipment, and sustain operations. The Pennsylvania Office of the State Fire Commissioner awarded grants of \$11,646.38 to York Area United Fire & Rescue, Springettsbury Township Volunteer Fire Company, and Victory Fire Company #2. In addition, each organization received an additional \$22,740 as part of COVID-19 Cares Act Grant funding. These funds will help supplement lost revenue for our volunteer affiliates, as well as assist with obtaining medical supplies needed by crews to help protect both responders and citizens.

2021 Outlook – We continue to seek grants that assist with our goals and missions as a department. We expect the Office of the State Fire Commissioner to award the annual grants in the spring of 2021, which will assist YAUFR in purchasing new equipment and our volunteer stations with new equipment and/or debt reduction.

SCHEDULING / LEAVE

BC ARNOLD

As with most other items, COVID-19 significantly impacted scheduling for 2020. Below is a summary of significant scheduling statistics for the year.

Total Sick Days Taken (Including COVID leave): **98 Days**

Total COVID Leave Days (ACT 17 Approved): **31 Days**

Total Overtime Hours Worked (Stations 891, 892, 893, 894): **3304 Hours**

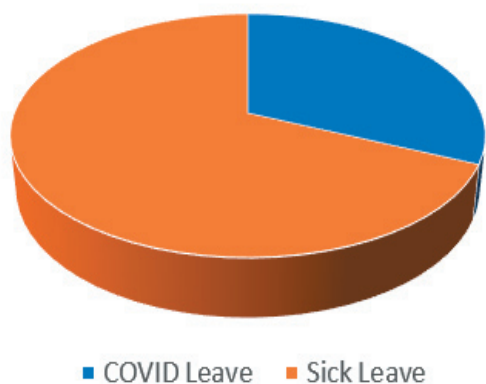
Part Time Hours Worked (Stations 891, 892, 893, 894): **2800.25 Hours**

Total Overtime Hours Worked (Station 895): **1117 Hours**

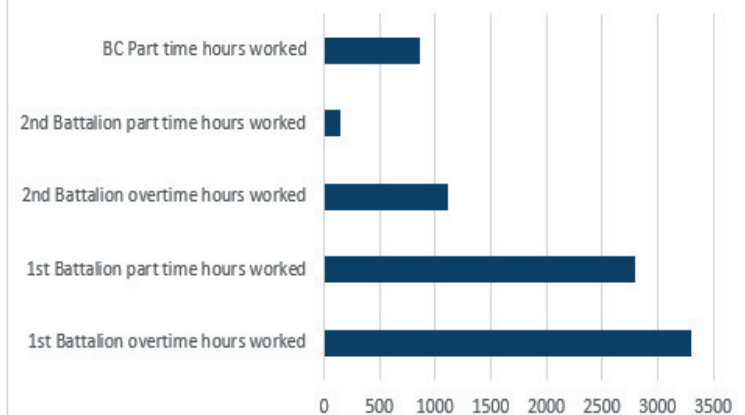
Part Time Hours Worked (Station 895): **144.75 Hours**

Part Time Battalion Chief Hours: **861 Hours**

2020 Sick Leave



Overtime and Part time Hours Worked



2021 Outlook – COVID-19 (Act 17) leave in 2021 has already exceeded 2020, and we expect this trend to continue. We continue exercising recommended precautions in our stations and in all interactions to minimize exposure of staff. We continue utilizing part time staff as much as possible within our boundaries to control overtime costs, and ensure compliance with Pennsylvania Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control protocols for employee re-entry to keep our staff safe.



GEAR EVALUATION

BC ARNOLD

Similar to our SCBA replacement project, YAUFR began an evaluation of our turnout gear, fire gloves, and hoods during the latter stages of 2020. The goal was to evaluate the big four providers in the market and ensure that gear we are supplying our staff is safe, effective, and provides comfort. We have been evaluating Lion, Globe, Quaker, and Morning Pride gear since the process began in early November.

2021 Outlook – The physical evaluation of PPE ended in February 2021. In March, we will be reviewing surveys completed by staff after evaluating various products. April is our target for ordering the 2021 allotment of gear.



PUBLIC EDUCATION

BC ARNOLD

COVID-19 had a dramatic impact on our public education program in 2020. Many programs typically offered were either cancelled or scaled back as we learned new delivery methods. As a result, overall totals for participants were down, but we were able to start some new programs and develop new avenues for public outreach.

Summary:

Total Contacts with Public Education Programs – 690
Total Number of People Trained in Fire Extinguisher Use – 366
Total Number of Smoke Alarms Distributed – 27
Total Number of Supervised Fire Drills Conducted – 7
Total Number of Drive By Parades Conducted – 13
Total Number of Station Tours Provided – 11



Youth Safety Camp 2020:

One highlight of 2020 was our inaugural Youth Safety Camp in July. We had 15 young men and women attend our camp, experiencing an amazing learning opportunity in the following disciplines:

Vehicle Rescue

Fire Department Organization

Engine Company Operations

Truck Company Operations

Fire Behavior

Fire Safety

Fire Extinguisher Use

Pump Operations

Personal Protective Equipment



During class, students were also visited by Officer Jen Kennedy of the Springettsbury Township Police Department and wrapped up the event with an opportunity to become certified in CPR/First Aid. In all, personnel invested over 175 staff hours into this program, and we couldn't be happier with the result. We look forward to offering the program again in 2021.

2021 Outlook - We look forward to a year of renewed interactions in 2021, with new offerings and alternative delivery methods to suit community needs.



TRAINING

BC GRAHAM

Throughout 2020, YAUFR personnel focused on maintaining certifications and completing requisite renewals such as CPR/AED recertification, Hazardous Materials Operations, bi-annual live fire evolutions and Respiratory Protection.

As part of their career development and continued pursuit of excellence, three personnel achieved Fire Instructor I and Fire Officer I certification and another member achieved Fire Officer II.

Facility Training represents training conducted at the York County Fire School. Examples of this training category include fall and spring burn sessions, hand line advancement, search and rescue, ladders and vehicle rescue scenarios.

Hazardous Materials Training addresses our annual hazardous materials operations requirements.

Officer Training depicts all required and elective training required for existing and future officers.

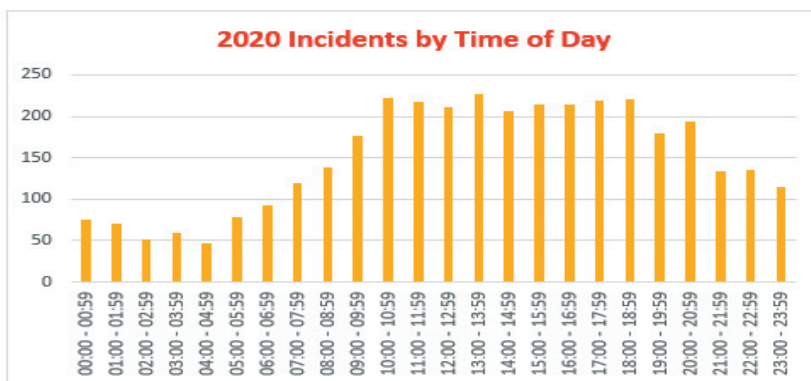
The category with the highest accumulation of hours is Company Training which includes our daily training program and includes topics such as building construction, saw operations and maintenance, water supply, fire detection / alarm / suppression systems, General Order review, forcible entry, ropes & knots, fire behavior, building familiarization / reviews, elevator rescue, hand line advancement, ground ladders and others as dictated by our incident experiences.



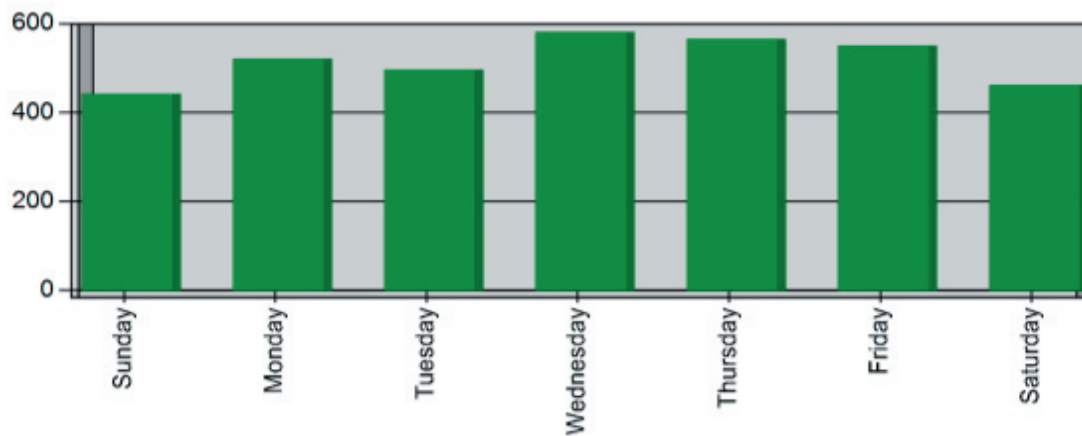
2021 Outlook - Volunteer and Career staff annual training requirements will include:

- A. Respiratory protection fit testing.
- B. Hazardous materials operation refresher
- C. Confined Space Operations Refresher
- D. Bi-annual company level burns

The department will provide training to credential our personnel in Driver Operator/Pumper, High Angle Rope Rescue and Active Shooter Operations during 2021.



2020 Incidents By Day of the Week



DAY OF THE WEEK	# INCIDENTS
Sunday	442
Monday	521
Tuesday	496
Wednesday	581
Thursday	565
Friday	550
Saturday	462
TOTAL	3617

APPARATUS

BC WOLFGANG

2020 helped YAUFR realize the benefit of replacing most of our aging frontline fire engines and the 2001 American LaFrance ladder truck. A comprehensive warranty on these units prevents unexpected budget impacts that can occur with older units in our fleet. Our warranty plan keeps maintenance costs in line and allows for a focused preventative effort on older apparatus, helping to control future budgets.

We finished the year under budget by approximately 3%. While this may seem minor, 2020's budget was reduced, by approximately 10%, with the expectation that new apparatus would deliver savings related to ongoing maintenance operations, which proved to be true.



In concert with warranty and lower operating costs of newer apparatus, station personnel are trained and certified in apparatus maintenance, providing outstanding value. In many cases, costs of repairs were limited to associated part costs. Maintenance tasks completed in-house included valve rebuilds, pump testing, complete warning light upgrades, and more. Having YAUFR personnel complete specific house maintenance tasks saved approximately \$9,500.00 in external labor costs in 2020.

Another area of continuing improvement is our purchasing of parts and service. While we continue to develop more comprehensive partnerships with local suppliers, initial efforts have seen savings of 10-15% and reduced labor costs for repetitive preventative maintenance operations. We are fortunate to operate in a community that offers quality products and service and is willing to support our operations.

Below are summarized apparatus utilization and associated maintenance costs.

Apparatus	Maintenance Completions	Out of Service Hours	Usage Hours	Milage	Fuel Consumed (Gallons)	2020 Costs
E891 (2018)	19	442	947	9,606	2043	\$2,595.00
E892 (2018)	18	146	830	7792	1322	\$1,883.00
E893 (2018)	19	235	773	8430	1561	\$2,407.00
E894 (2014)	21	48	145	1864	229	\$3,729.00
E895 (2018)	22	24	838	10,821	2014	\$1,740.00
TK891 (2019)	22	120	1029	10,575	3229	\$8,734.00
TK892 (2002)	53	66	565	6,251	2081	\$12,946.00
R89 (2002)	42	62	223	2,865	845	\$11,639.00
XE896 (2010)	10	9	136	859	168	\$2,885.00
XE897 (2010)	9	16	112	656	176	\$2,896.00
TOTAL	235	1,168	5,598	59,719	13,668	\$51,454.00

EQUIPMENT

BC WOLFGANG

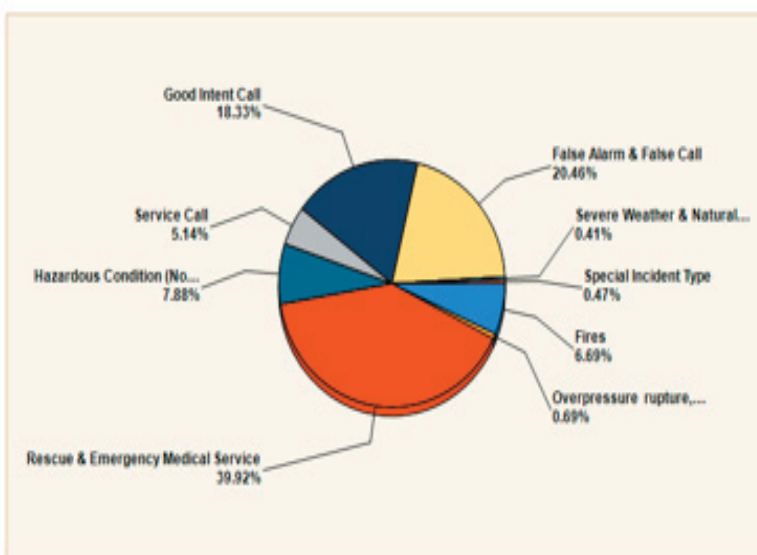
Life safety and portable equipment maintenance costs for 2020 met budgetary expectations. Moving to a more comprehensive preventative maintenance program for portable equipment did create some initial cost increases, which were offset by maintenance operations being completed by station personnel versus outside service centers. Monthly air monitor calibrations, annual hose testing, and most annual portable equipment preventative maintenance functions are completed by station personnel saving YAUFR over \$20,000.00 in those areas alone.

One significant cost impact was increased spending related to Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). Due to the age of our existing equipment, we saw a budget overage of almost 125% for that category. Specific components that were failing cost over \$2,500.00 each to replace. With maintenance costs increasing, an effort was made to find alternative solutions to replace aging SCBA units. With assistance from a federal grant and funding provided by our charter municipalities, (and supported by our Commission), existing SCBA will be replaced with new units with lifetime warranties and are expected to be in service by the summer of 2021.

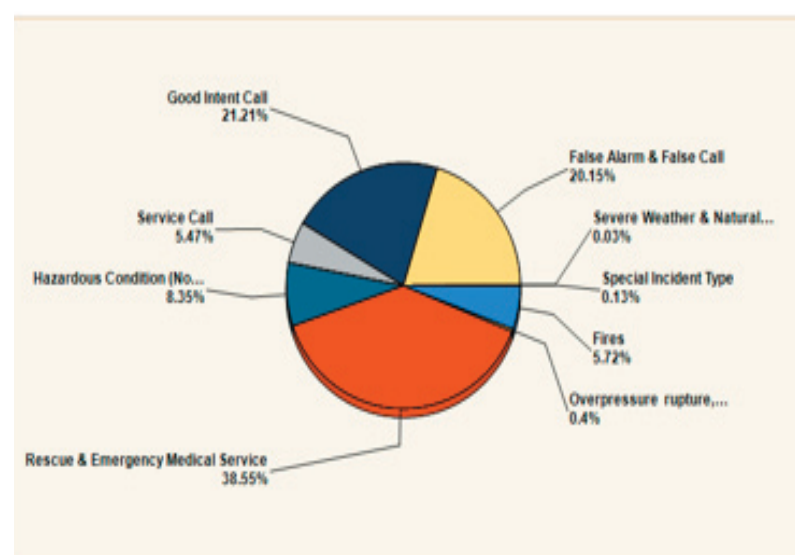


Comparison of Major Incidents

2020



2019

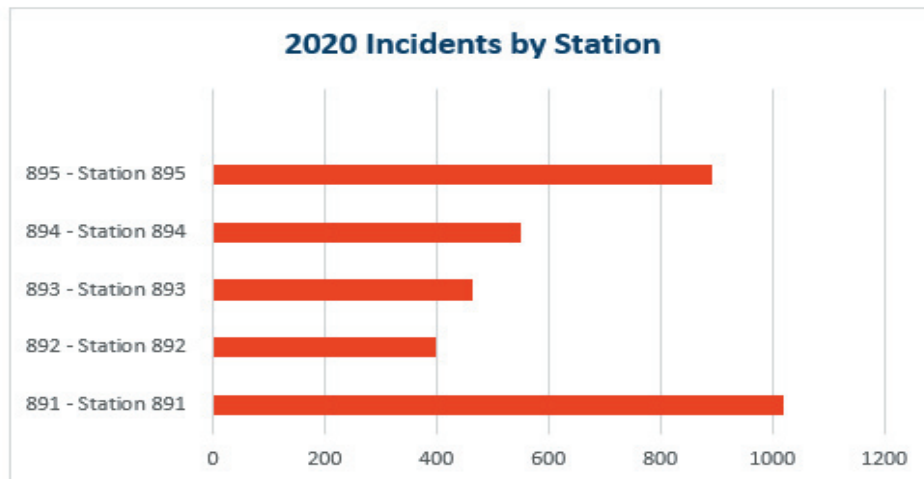


CAREER DEVELOPMENT

BC Woods

Two captains successfully completed officer's probation during 2020. Probationary assignments included written communications such as documenting employee counseling, accident and injury narratives, requests for equipment and supplies, delivering training topics to their respective crews, reading assignments on subjects such as building construction, fire protection systems, strategy and tactics, self-improvement and leadership. Probationary Captains are also evaluated and critiqued on critical decision-making ability on incident scenes.

Eight firefighters completed probationary training during 2020. The YAUFR recruit study guide, and job performance requirement JPR manual, outlines tasks to be accomplished by recruit firefighters in their first two years. Tasks include completion of 120 hours of orientation training before being counted as staffing and even prior to beginning work on recruit study guides. Recruit study guides focus on general orders, station protocols, apparatus and equipment operation, area knowledge and research into twentieth century fire department history and technology. This guide is divided into four chapters with tests at the end of each chapter. During the second year, firefighters are expected to complete their JPR manual, which consists of nearly 150 "hands on" tasks - that once completed will move our new firefighters into the role of a journeyman firefighter.



January	283		April	221		July	358		October	318
February	252		May	230		August	339		November	325
March	268		June	360		September	339		December	324

Recruit firefighters for 2020

FF Vincent Lacognata – Station 894 A-shift. Completed RSG with a score of 94%

FF John Findley – Station 895 A-shift. Completed RSG with a score of 98.5%

FF Ryan Bosserman – Station 891 A-shift. Completed RSG with a score of 95.25%

FF Adam Potter – Station 891 B-shift. Completed RSG with a score of 94%

FF Andrew Pennington – Station 894 C-shift. Completed RSG with a score of 91%

FF Nathan Baker – Station 895 B-shift. Completed RSG with a score of 96.5%

FF Sean Montgomery – Station 895 C-shift. Completed RSG with a score of 96%

FF Justin Poole – Station 894 B-shift. Complete RSG with a score of 97%

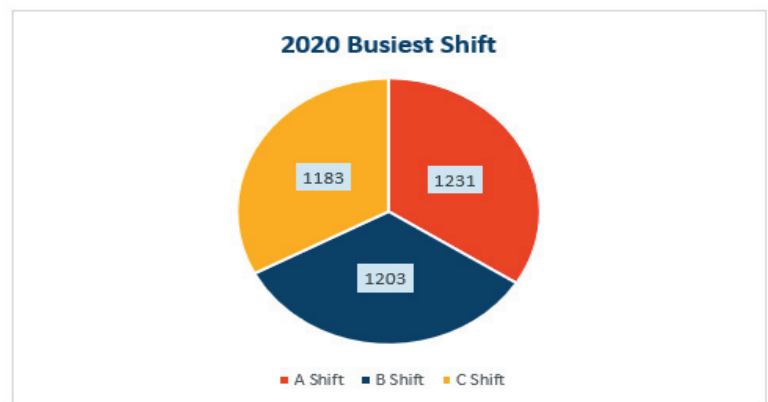
Six part-time firefighters completed York Area United Fire and Rescue's 120-hour orientation training program during 2020. This program consists of practical training in Engine, Truck and Rescue company operations, operator training, pump operations and fireground operations specific to YAUFR and our applicable policies. These firefighters were already certified as Firefighter I, EMT-B, HAZMAT and Engine company operations in order to gain employment with our department.

With the advent of an annual department training plan, quarterly evaluations have taken on a new look. Each station and shift will now know a year ahead of time what they can expect for evaluations. During spring and fall, crews will participate in practical evaluations. Over the winter crews will participate in written tests and summer evaluations will consist of a combination of both.



Fall 2020's evaluation involved a pumping scenario, stabilization of an overturned vehicle and a low angle haul system. Overall, Command Staff was very pleased with results from fall evaluation scenarios.

2021 Outlook - Our recruit study guide is going through a normal revision cycle to keep pace with industry changes and will be ready for the first recruit for 2021. The department should be prepared to on-board additional part time staff in order to maintain our part time ranks at the maximum allowable number. Command and company officers need to continue interacting - station to station, shift to shift and between battalions - to continue developing training ideas and enforce good study habits.



INFECTION CONTROL AND SUPPLIES

BC Woods

COVID -19 helped YAUFR realize the need for centralized ordering and distribution of critical supplies included but not limited to medical PPE, cleansing and disinfecting supplies and equipment as well as everyday consumables where usage spiked in 2020 due to increased cleaning efforts. Thanks to efforts by BC Woods and the balance of our command staff, we are not only well established in infectious disease mitigation supplies, but we have sought out the best value for our personnel without sacrifice. Through donations, grants and assistance from York County EMA, we received numerous items at very little cost to the department. As household products have risen in cost during 2020, personnel have done a great job with conservation of station supplies while also being extra vigilant regarding station cleaning. As a result of these combined efforts, we finished 2020 nearly \$3,200 or 14% under budget.



2021 Outlook - Our Primary goal is to continue efforts from 2020 and finalize storage solution steps necessary to complete the central bulk storage location at Station 893.

INSPECTIONS, PLAN REVIEW, AND CODE ENFORCEMENT

BC MADZELAN

In 2020, approximately 998 hours were spent on plan review and inspection activity. Despite 2020 being a year plagued with restrictions and shutdowns, total activity increased modestly from 2019. A total of 159 plan reviews were conducted, including 61 for Manchester Township, 9 for Spring Garden Township, and 89 for Springettsbury Township. This included review of land development plans, as well as plans submitted for commercial building permits. YAUFR also attended 10 staff plan review meetings among all three municipalities. These meetings provide township staff an opportunity to actively discuss submitted plans with developers.

243 inspections were conducted, including building permit-related inspections of new or renovated buildings, changes in occupant, as well as investigations of complaints and life safety inspections conducted at the request of a business owner. 82 inspections were conducted in Manchester Township, 28 in Spring Garden Township, and 133 in Springettsbury Township.

Presently, half of our Command Staff are now certified as commercial building inspectors, with 2 additional staff currently studying for the exam. Priorities for 2021 include the implementation of a commercial and rental property registration system in all three charter townships.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

BC MADZELAN

The Emergency Operations Plan was reviewed and updated at the close of 2020 and submitted for promulgation in February 2021. The next review is scheduled for the end of 2022. As of February 2021, there is no need to maintain a separate radiological plan, due to Three Mile Island decommissioning.

Other notable Emergency Management-related activity in 2020 included assisting with review of and/or revisions to emergency plans at the following facilities:

1. York County Prison
2. Central York School District
3. York Suburban School District
4. SpiriTrust Lutheran's Sprengle Village
5. Winfield Solutions

ACCREDITATION

BC MADZELAN

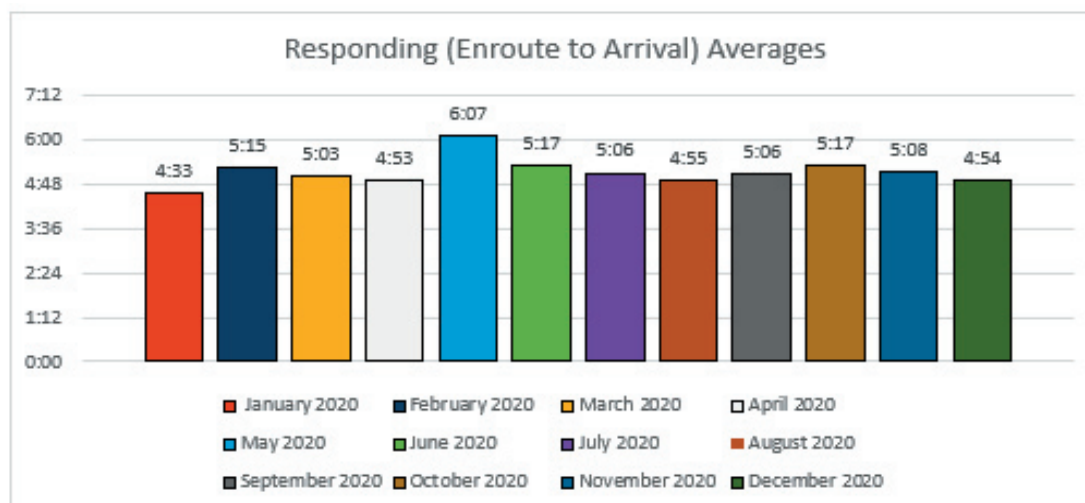
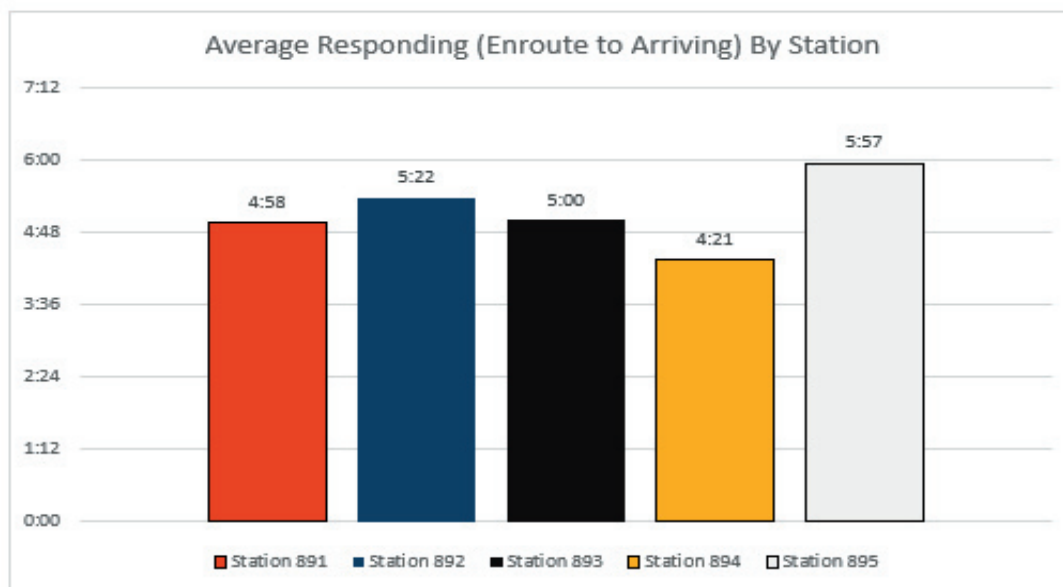
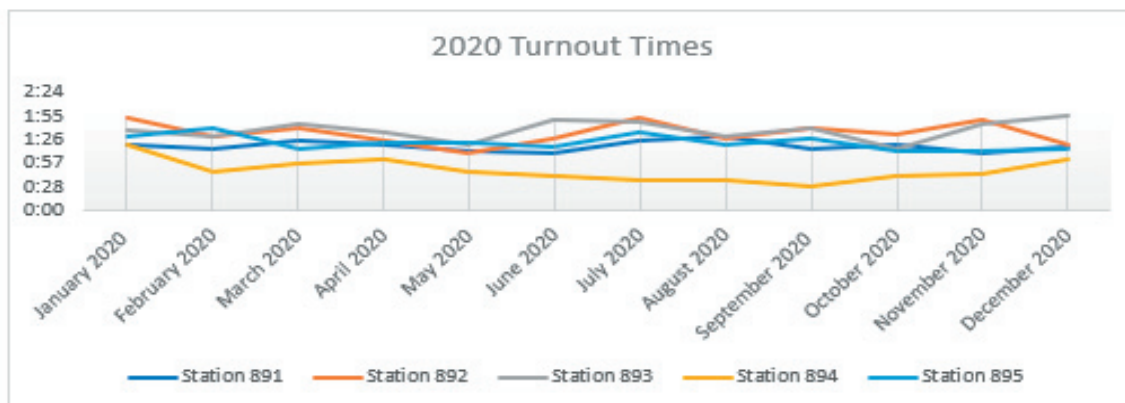
The Department officially became a Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) Registered Agency in 2020. Personnel have been working on various assignments related to developing of a Standard of Cover (SOC) document. To date, we have completed area characteristics and review risk assessments by box area. The SOC document is well underway, and personnel are currently working on operational program assessments. A Strategic Planning Committee has been assembled, and work will commence in March 2021.

The generalized timeline, based on CPSE recommendations, for the overall accreditation process is as follows:

1. Registered Agency - Started in 2020 and good for three (3) years during which time, the agency is expected to complete the risk assessment, standard of cover document and strategic planning. This is the present level of YAUFR's efforts in the process.
2. Applicant Agency – estimated transition time for YAUFR is 2022, this status is good for eighteen (18) months. During this time, we will work with an assigned mentor to address two hundred fifty (250) performance indicators, of which ninety-four (94) are required core competencies.
3. Candidate Agency – estimated to be reached in 2024. The department will remain in this status once it has successfully answered the items for Applicant Agency and prepared documentation accordingly. This is the stage where the department submits all of its work and explanatory information to the Accreditation Board for review. This stage also has a required interview of the entire committee as the final step to being approved for accreditation. This occurs at one of two annual events hosted by the CPSE.

Priorities for 2021 include completion and adoption of the strategic plan, as well as revision of the Standard of Cover to include goals and objectives from that plan.

Response Time



PRE-PLANNING

BC MADZELAN

YAUFR Personnel conducted 519 preplans in 2020, despite suspending of the program for several months due to COVID. Personnel will continue with preplans through 2021 and beyond, until every commercial occupancy has had one completed and entered in our records management system. Once all initial preplans are completed, personnel will resume an annual completion schedule. Future plans include a web-based program that involves property and business owners more directly in the process to help facilitate a faster and more complete preplan and risk assessment process by allowing businesses to enter preplan information into the system themselves.

