



PENNSYLVANIA'S 1ST REGIONAL COMBINATION FIRE DEPARTMENT





SCBA TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT

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YorkAreaUnitedFireandRescue

FIRE CHIEFS MESSAGE

Welcome you to the second edition of the YAUFR Newsletter for 2021.



Our staff hopes that this edition finds everyone healthy and ready to start returning to a somewhat normal level of activity. The past year has presented our department members with numerous challenges, both professionally and personally, and with summer on the horizon, it will be nice to get back to some traditional activities.

In the coming months we look for a return to in-person meetings of the commission which will provide an opportunity to finally observe the ceremonial swearing in of our three newest employees. This is an important event in their careers, and we want to be sure they are able to share the experience with family and friends.

Our strategic planning process is well underway, and we are seeing an awesome commitment from our community partners. The amount of engagement and positive feedback we are experiencing from this process is reassuring that this effort is on track to helping us become better community servants. We continue to encourage all personnel to get in involved with projects and assignments that will help strengthen our department as we build our future. If you feel you have a strength or talent, please do not hesitate to reach out and indicate your interest.

Some positive changes that are worth mentioning include new SCBA, which we hope to be putting in service in the coming weeks, and turnout gear revisions. There has been so much time dedicated to both of these projects by line and staff personnel in an effort to do what is best for our department, I cannot thank those involved enough for their willingness to participate and to the command staff for leading the processes. The end result in both cases takes us away from product lines that have a long history with our department. We are confident that recommendations and choices made will provide the protection and comfort during use that all of our personnel deserve. To all who have been involved in these processes, I thank you.

I wish each of you and your families the safest, happiest and most memorable of summers.

Stay Safe!

Chief Hoff

TRAINING

• YAUFR members completed a total of 7,826 training hours in the 2nd quarter of 2021.



- During the 2nd quarter of 2021 crews focused on training in the following areas: Truck Company Operations (Search and Rescue, Ventilation, Ladders, Overhaul, Utility Control and Aerial Operations), Engine Company Operations (Pumps and Hydraulics, FDC Operations, Leader lines and long lines, Hotels and Apartment Operations) and RIT Operations (Firefighter Safety and Survival, LODD Report Review, SCBA review and operations, Various RIT Drills).
- On April 27th, Crews assisted Life Team EMS with a Vehicle Rescue Skills day for their Emergency Services Academy. Our staff assisted with instruction and working through various scenarios to not only educate new providers but to strengthen our relationship with our EMS partners.



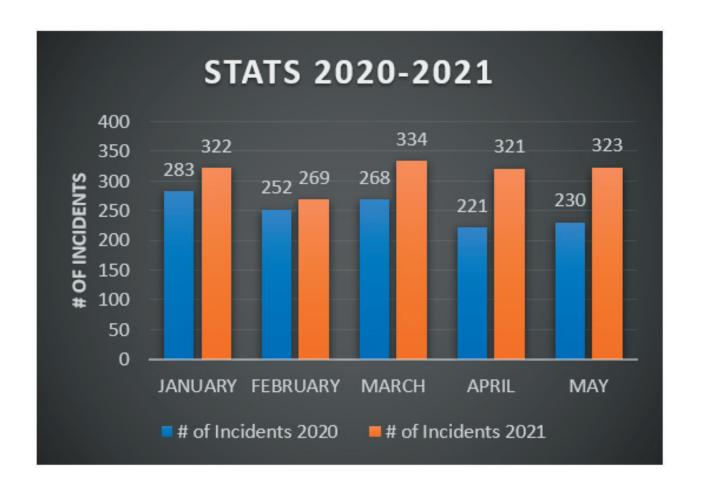
Training- Continued

- Crews will be completing the PA Fish and Boat Commission Water Rescue and Emergency Response Program in the month of July. This training provides personnel with hands on practical in water training.
- Annual respiratory FIT testing has been completed by all shifts on the new Scott Air Packs.
- Annual spring company level burn training was completed on April 4th, 17th and 21st. Evolutions focused on scenario-based situations to hone skills in initial engine company operations.
- Annual Haz-Mat Refreshers were completed by all personnel.
- Remember to check your EMT con-ed status. Personnel are reminded to ensure all required con-ed is submitted and the recertification application is completed in a timely manner to avoid any issues before your certification expires.
- Don't forget to enter all your daily training in Target Solutions. Check your training tracker to monitor your required ISO training hours for the year.
- Please forward copies of training certificates that you receive so we can keep your training records current.



RESPONSE STATS





STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS IS UNDERWAY

The YAUFR Strategic Planning Committee began its work on March 31, 2021. The Committee is comprised of thirty-five members, representing our career and volunteer staff, Commission members, residents and businesses from each of our Townships, as well as representatives from some of our partner agencies. Committee members spent time during the month of April learning about fire department operations, including opportunities for hands-on experiences. The Committee will continue to review strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats over the next several meetings, and help prioritize goals and objectives that will guide the future of York Area United Fire and Rescue over the next three to five years.





Spring is the time for planting. As you tend to your landscaping this year, please keep in mind that what you plant should not obstruct visibility of or access to fire hydrants. Just like during a snowstorm, at least 36" of clear space should be provided around fire hydrants.



Also make sure that your address numbers aren't blocked by trees, shrubs, or any other part of your landscape.

FIRE EXTINGUISHER TRAINING

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 717-718-2381.

SWIMMING SAFETY TIPS

Here are some safety suggestions from the American Red Cross when it comes to safety while swimming:

- Always swim with a buddy; do not allow anyone to swim alone.
- Never leave a young child unattended near water and do not trust a child's life to another child; teach children to always ask permission to go near water.
- Have young children or inexperienced swimmers wear U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jackets around water, but do not rely on life jackets alone.
- Maintain constant supervision.
- If you have a pool, secure it with appropriate barriers. Many children who drown in home pools were out of sight for less than five minutes and in the care of one or both parents at the time.
- Avoid distractions when supervising children around water.
- If a child is missing, check the water first. Seconds count in preventing death or disability.
- Have appropriate equipment, such as reaching or throwing equipment, a cell phone, life jackets and a first aid kit.



OUTDOOR FIREPLACES

Outdoor fireplaces are another fun way to spend a nice evening outside.

Please review the township codes for how they can be used and follow all of the manufacturer's safety recommendations.

- Fire code requires that these be placed at least 15 feet from any structure or combustible material.
- Should you choose to have a small campfire (in a vessel other than one available commercially), these must be done **at least 25 feet** from any structure or combustible material.
- A recreational fire should be constantly attended at ALL times and have a fire-extinguishing agent (fire extinguisher, garden hose, sand, dirt, etc.) available for immediate utilization.

 More details are available on the FAQ section of our website, or directly located at http://www.yaufr.com/Portals/0/Documents/Open-Fire-Code.pdf.

GRILLING SEASON

Now that we are into grilling season, we wanted to remind you of some things that can help to keep you safe as you enjoy time with family and friends:

- Keep your grill at LEAST 10 feet from your home.
- If you use charcoal, consider using a chimney starter instead of lighter fluid and never user lighter fluid to "re-light" a grill!
- Be sure that a drip cup is attached to the bottom of your grill to catch the hot grease that may escape while cooking.
- Keep a three-foot safety zone around your grill. This will protect children and animals from grease splashing as well as avoiding a risk for the grill being knocked over.
- ALWAYS properly dispose of any ashes. Never bring them into the home or put them into a trash can while warm.
- Do not leave the grill unattended while cooking, even if burning off old food items.
- Follow the manufacturers instructions for lighting, and never leave the gas on for more than a few attempts to light the burners.
- If the flames get out of control, turn off the gas if you can safely do so and call 911.
- If you live in an apartment, remember the fire code **does not permit** grills on balconies.

SAVE LIVES WITH WORKING SMOKE DETECTORS

As always, please remember to check the batteries in your smoke detectors as well.

We always suggest changing batteries in your detectors when you change your clocks for daylight savings time in the spring and fall.

Should you find that any of your detectors are over 10 years old, 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, CO, or fire safety – please contact our office at 717-718-2381.

ONLY WORKING DETECTORS SAVE LIVES!



Apparatus & Equipment Update

After almost a year of testing and evaluation, the new Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and supporting accessories have arrived.

While our crews are familiar with these SCBA, through field testing trials, every crew member will now go through hours of extensive training. Training includes general use, emergency operations, and cleaning and maintenance. Crews will perform tasks such as high effort air usage, air conservation, sharing air with other firefighters in an emergency, and many other functional tasks. Once in-service training is complete, each crew member will be evaluated to verify they are competent and ready to use these new SCBA.

About the new SCBA: The SCBA chosen by YAUFR is the Scott X3 Pro from 3M. Certified "Made in the USA" with their main facility located in North Carolina. Scott is one of the largest SCBA manufacturers in the United States, supplying SCBA to the U.S. military, NASA and some of the largest city fire departments in the country. Scott provides a comprehensive warranty that covers these SCBA for as long as we own them, and they are the only manufacturer to offer 30-year life SCBA cylinders, which in the past was limited to 15 years.





As you are traveling through our communities, you may see our crews out testing their fire hose. Hose testing is done annually to ensure that hoses our firefighters depend on are ready for the most demanding firefighting operations. Following procedures from the National Fire Protection Association and manufacturers' recommendations, every piece of hose in our inventory goes through visual inspection, pressure, and flow testing.

Fire hose facts: YAUFR carries over 3,000 feet of fire hose on each of its fire engines. Hose carried range in sizes from 1-3/4 to 5" in diameter, and some hoses can flow up to 1500 gallons per minute.





EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

This edition of the YAUFR Newsletter Employee Spotlight features two of our newer hires within the department – Justin Poole from the First Battalion and Austin Little from the Second Battalion.

- 1.) How long have you worked for the department?

 I started part time with the department in June of 2019 and became full time April of 2020.
- 2.) Before working for the fire department, what was the most unusual or interesting job you had?

 Before becoming a fireman, I worked as an Orthopedic Technician putting casts, splints, and braces on people.
- 3.) How or why did you become involved in the fire service?

 All my immediate family is involved in the fire service so growing up I was always around the firehouse.



Firefighter

Justin Poole

894 B Shift

First Battalion

- 4.) What is your proudest fire service moment?

 My proudest fire service moment is being hired and making this job a career.
- 5.) If Hollywood made a movie about your life, who should be cast to play you? Will Farrell
- 6.) What is your favorite travel or vacation spot?
 North Dakota
- 7.) What is your favorite past time?
 Although I'm not that good, I really enjoy golfing.
- 8.) What are the top two items on your bucket list?
 Go waterfowl hunting in Arkansas in the flooded timber and go skydiving.
- 9.) If you could live anywhere in the world where would it be and why?

 Anywhere south where it doesn't snow.



- 10.) Tell us one thing about you that would surprise most people. I'm a decent cook.
- 11.) **Anything else you might want people to know about you.** I married my high school sweetheart on June 12th..

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

- 1.) How long have you worked for the department?

 I was hired as a part time employee for YAUFR in August of 2020 before being brought on full-time in March of this year.
- 2.) Before working for the fire department, what was the most unusual or interesting job you had?I worked as a 911 dispatcher in Adams County PA.
- 3.) How or why did you become involved in the fire service? I began my journey in the fire service as a junior firefighter at age 16 with the Hampton Fire Company in Adams County PA following in the footsteps of both my father and grandfather.



Firefighter
Austin Little
895 B Shift
Second Battalion

- 4.) What is your proudest fire service moment?

 Graduating the fire academy in Frederick County MD. Also being offered a full-time position with YAUFR affording me the opportunity to serve the community in which I now live.
- 5.) If Hollywood made a movie about your life, who should be cast to play you?

 Matt Damon
- 6.) What is your favorite travel or vacation spot? Hunting cabin in Northern PA
- 7.) What is your favorite past time?
 I enjoy all things outdoors hunting, fishing, hiking, riding my motorcycle etc.
- 8.) What are the top two items on your bucket list?

A motorcycle tour of Europe Travel the world and hunt



- 9.) If you could live anywhere in the world where would it be and why? Either Montana or Wyoming, I always enjoyed watching Western movies as a kid and still do!
- 10.) Tell us one thing about you that would surprise most people. I am deathly afraid of spiders.