

GILFORD FIRE- RESCUE DEPARTMENT



1 Fire-Rescue members conduct cold water/ice rescue training in Lake Winnepesaukee.

2010

ANNUAL REPORT



INTRODUCTION

I am proud to present this summary of the activities of the Gilford Fire-Rescue Department for the year 2010. Like every other department in the town, we too, are faced with many new challenges due to the economic climate. Our delivery of emergency services is second to none and will continue to be our top priority. We will continue to search for new and creative ways to educate our citizens in fire safety. We remain committed to constant evaluation of our operations and response models, looking at innovative ways to deliver emergency services in the most effective and fiscally responsible manner possible.

The Gilford Fire-Rescue Department responded to 1,391 calls for emergency and non-emergency assistance, which is an increase of nearly 8% when compared to last year. There were 793 calls for Emergency Medical Service, representing 51.01% of our calls. The Fire Department transported 726 patients to area hospitals.

In addition to our emergency activities, we continue to provide our members with one of the most comprehensive Fire/EMS training programs in the State of New Hampshire.

We deliver fire safety and prevention programs to the business community through code enforcement inspections and to the public by way of offsite programs, fire extinguisher training and fire station visits. We continue to prepare for possible large scale incidents under the auspices of the Town's Emergency Management program.

The department has the ability to respond with specialized equipment and personnel to incidents involving hazardous materials, cold water/ice rescue, technical rope rescue, backcountry search & rescue, and structural rescue. These types of incidents require significant amounts of training and equipment for our personnel. The Gilford Fire Department participates and responds with the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association, the Statewide Mobilization Task Force and the Central NH Hazardous Materials Response Team. These associations greatly reduce our cost while providing exceptional service.

The Gilford Fire-Rescue Department continues to be very proactive, efficient, and exceptionally effective in our delivery of services. We are an exemplary organization, thanks to the support of the Board of Fire Engineers, Board of Selectmen, as well as other Town Departments and governmental agencies. Most importantly we could not exist without the support of our residents. I thank everyone involved for their support and commitment to the Fire Department.

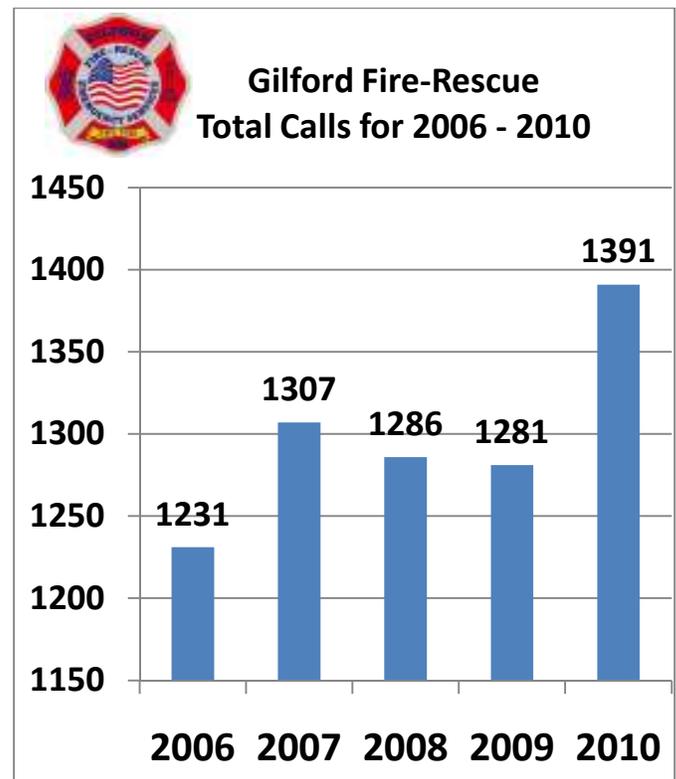
Chief John J. Beland

EMERGENCY ACTIVITY

Gilford fire fighters continue to respond to an array of incidents and a variety of calls for service, including extinguishing fires, providing Advance Life Support techniques at medical emergencies and motor vehicle accidents. They also respond to hazardous materials incidents, a variety of rescue calls, water related incidents, and numerous weather related incidents. At full staffing the department consists of 14 career Firefighter/EMT's and 30 Call Company Firefighter/EMT's. Firefighters respond from one fire station located at 39 Cherry Valley Rd. in Gilford Village. The station's staffed 24 hours a day throughout the year with paramedic response available on almost all EMS calls. Additionally the department employs 1 civilian position and one part time fire inspector.

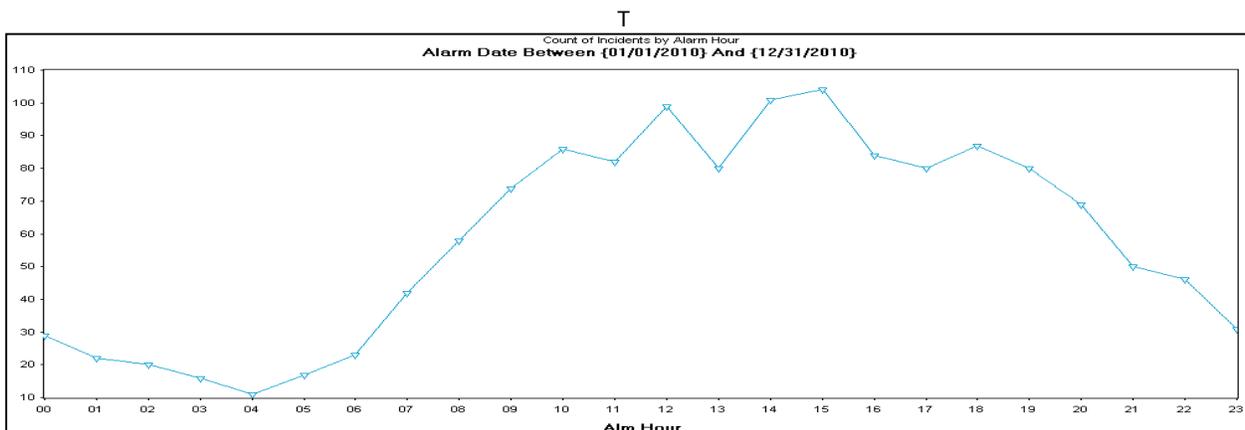
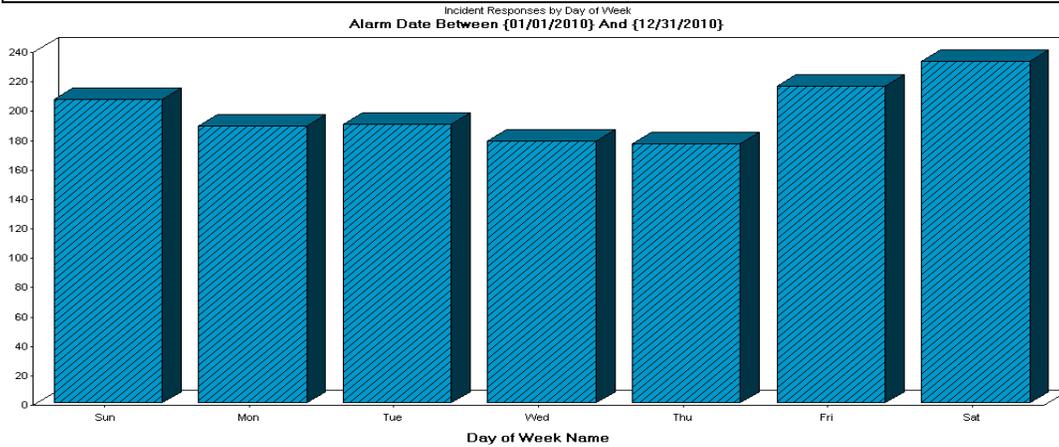
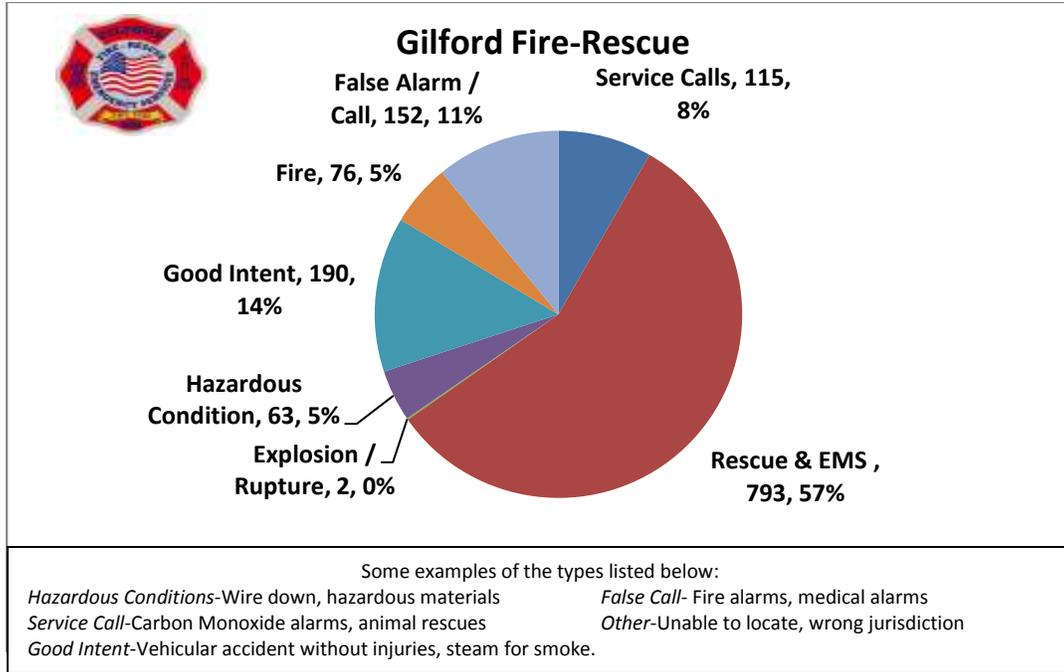


2Captain Balcom, FF Proulx demonstrates hose line maneuvers for GES class.





EMERGENCY ACTIVITY





FIRE PREVENTION

The department responded to 50 fires in buildings in 2010, an increase of 31.6% from the previous year. As a result of fire during 2010 there were 2 civilian injuries, no firefighter injuries and no fire deaths. Of the 29 fires in buildings; 5 required 2 alarms or greater to bring the fires under control.

A total of 597 building and fire safety inspections were conducted in 2010. The department participated in many fire safety education programs, and appearances which impacted several hundred individuals. Our Nationally Registered Car Seat Technician conducted 15 Child Car Seat inspections and proper installation training sessions.

Mutual Aid

As part of the Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association the Gifford Fire Department received mutual aid from surrounding departments 33 times and rendered aid to other departments 47 times.



3 Fire-Rescue members allowing children to become familiar with a firefighter in gear in order to reduce their fear of a firefighter during an emergency situation.



4 Members operate at 3rd alarm building fire



5 Members operating at motor vehicle accident.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

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We participate and have representation on the State medical control board. This allows Gilford Fire-Rescue Department to stay on the cutting edge of pre-hospital emergency medicine but also to influence the direction of EMS using our expertise.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

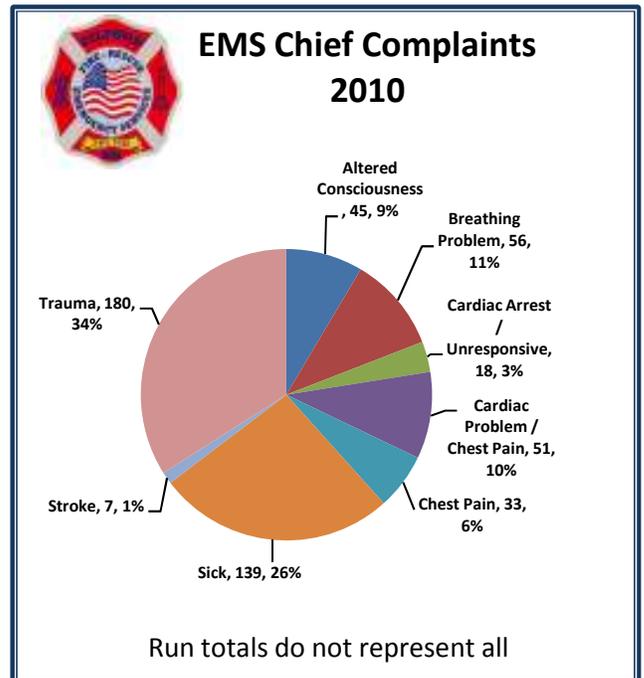
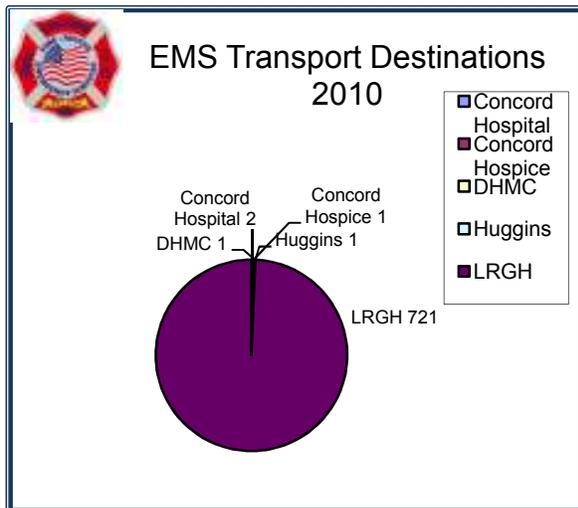
The Gilford Fire-Rescue Department operates a combination Basic/Advanced Life Support, Emergency Medical Services, (EMS) with Advance Life Support available for the majority of emergency medical responses. This means that emergency medical technicians and paramedics may perform advanced airway control, initiate intravenous (IV) access, administer medications, conduct cardiac monitoring and defibrillation, and then transport the patient to the appropriate hospital for definitive care. Within its ranks the department employs (6) Paramedics, (14) Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate and (9) Emergency Medical Technicians-Basic. One member has successfully graduated his paramedic program and will soon be sitting for the National Registry exam.

When an emergency (911) call is received by the Communications Center, the Dispatcher initiates an emergency response and then provides instructions by the phone to the caller to begin patient care. This allows care to begin immediately and is continued until the patient is delivered to the Emergency Department.

Gilford Fire-Rescue Department has been on the leading edge of pre-hospital care providing 12 lead electrocardiograms (ECG) to diagnose heart attacks in the field, and Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) for the care of patients with difficulty breathing.



6 Medical Training at Gilford Elementary School





FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING

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Department members participated in over 3,300 hours of training in 2010! The topics included a wide variety of fire and EMS issues; including things such as SCBA, search and rescue, driver training, rope rescue, EMT recertification, and other specialized courses. FF Mike Thevenin completed his 15 month Paramedic program, and was presented his diploma in a ceremony held at the Elliot Hospital.

The department continues to build its new Training Facility at the Recycling Center. This is a 3 story building made of shipping containers. Many donations have been collected for this project and we are proud to say that it will not cost the taxpayer a dime. The benefit to the department will be substantial; allowing us to use the structure to train, basically any time that we want to. The facility will allow us to advance hoselines, perform ladder drills, practice ventilation, hone our search and rescue skills, and extinguish live fires. A huge amount of volunteer work from both our full time and call personnel has been dedicated to this effort. Without the donations of both time and money, none of this would have been possible. We look forward to an Open House at the facility in the spring!



7 Rescue Training on "Snuffer" Fire Boat 1



9 Members conduct Engine Company Operations Training at the NH Fire Academy.



8 Gilford Fire-Rescue Department; Fire-Rescue Training Center.



RECOGNITION

Special awards were presented to the following outstanding members:



Firefighter Paramedic Chuck Campbell.
LRGHealth Care EMS Provider of the Year



Paramedic Rae Mello Andrews
NH Bureau of EMS. EMS Educator of the Year
GFR EMS Provider of the Year



Chief James Hayes (Retired)
GFR Fire Officer of the Year



Firefighter/EMT Brian Akerley
GFR Firefighter of the Year



Firefighter/EMT Scott Mooney
25 Years of Service



Firefighter/EMT Jeff Madon
10 Years of Service



Firefighter/EMT Patrick McGonagle
10 Years of Service



Administrative Staff

John J. Beland, Fire Chief
Stephen M. Carrier, Deputy Fire Chief
Dana Pendergast, Fire Inspector (PT)
Catherine Tokarz, Executive Secretary

Group 1

Lieutenant Richard Andrews
Firefighter Scott Mooney
Firefighter Dominic DeCarli

Group 2

Captain Michael Balcom
Firefighter Chuck Campbell
Firefighter Nick Proulx

Group 3

Lieutenant Frank Latosek
Firefighter Brian Blanchette
Firefighter Mike Thevenin

Group 4

Lieutenant Nick Mercuri
Firefighter Thomas Aselton
Firefighter Jeff Madon

Call Company

Firefighter Robert Adams
Firefighter Samuel Adams
Firefighter Brian Akerley
EMT Chris Archibald
Firefighter Martin Barrett
Firefighter Scott Davis
EMT Sharon Davis
Firefighter Jason DeCoff
Firefighter Daniel Doucette

Firefighter Roger Ellsworth
Firefighter Kyle Griffin
EMT Susan Hildreth-Brown
EMT Lynn Latosek
Firefighter David Low
Firefighter Patrick McGonagle
EMT Rae Mello-Andrews
Firefighter Dave Poole
Firefighter James Sanborn

EMT Brett Scholbe
Firefighter Chris Scholbe
Firefighter Gary Wilson

Firefighter Interns:
Ryan Cronin
Joshua Wise