

SCFD No. 1

Sedgwick County, Kansas



Calendar year 2009

www.sedgwickcounty.org



*Sedgwick County...
working for you*

A message from Fire Chief Gary E. Curmode

CFO/CMO/EFO

The personnel of Sedgwick County Fire District No. 1 continued to raise the bar of excellence during 2009, despite a downward spiral in the economy.

The District broke ground on its newest station—identified as Station 39—at 3610 South 263rd Street West this year. This is the third of a five-station relocation program approved by the Sedgwick County Commission in 2005. This, along with the relocation of Station 35 to Goddard in late 2010, will save citizens in the respective response areas over \$500,000 a year in fire insurance premiums and will greatly increase emergency response efficiency.

The Station Review Committee is headed by Deputy Fire Chief Rick A. Brazill, who monitors the construction progress daily, and Capital Improvements Program manager Division Chief Stewart D. Segraves. The project manager from Sedgwick County is Robert Lawrence. These relocated stations will greatly improve services for the west and southwest part of Sedgwick County, including Lake Waltana, Viola, Garden Plain, and Goddard.

During 2009, Captains Bryan E. Ellis and Craig A. Leu participated in a beta test group for the “Fire Officer” designation through the Center for Public Safety Excellence’s (CPSE). This is a highly select program that included approximately fifteen individuals from around the nation. The captains received their formal “FO” designations at the Fire-Rescue International conference in Dallas, Texas last August. Division Chief David A. Matthew received a renewal of his CPSE “Chief Fire Officer” designation in Dallas as well.

Seven recruit firefighters graduated from the District’s formal training academy in 2009, and the District had ten personnel of various ranks attend the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The District had three employees retire from service in 2009—lieutenant Richard Janne, Captain Gary Boomershine, and Lieutenant Tom Slicker.

The District’s first annual compliance report to the CPSE was approved in August of 2009. This report covers ten categories, covering 77 core competencies, and more than 250 specific indicators, each helping create a roadmap of the District’s overall performance. In four more years, the District will be up for its third formal accreditation renewal. Each annual compliance report is a critical, mandatory step in the process of ongoing quality improvement. The re-accreditation process culminates at the end of every fifth year with a visit from a panel of experienced peer assessors from around the United States. Thanks to the Accreditation Committee, staff, and members of the District for their participation in this process.

Critical to our accreditation and success is our Strategic Plan, Standard of Coverage, and Hazard Risk Plan. They are covered in detail in this report.

The secret to the success of Sedgwick County Fire District No. 1 is our employees—they make it happen! My sincere thanks and appreciation goes out to them, the Board of County Commissioners, the County Manager and his staff, and our citizens.



To serve the public by protecting life and property, minimizing the impact of fire, and rapidly responding to medical emergencies, potential disasters, or uncontrolled events that adversely affect the community and environment.

MISSION

VISION

To be the best we can be

We strive for excellence in both emergency and non-emergency service.

Customer service is our focus

We work hard to provide quality service to our internal and external customers.

Our most important assets are our employees

We strive to help our employees reach their potential through training, mentoring, counseling, education, and role model opportunities.

We are good guardians

We use our fiscal and human resources in a responsible manner.

Teamwork is a vital part of our foundation

We develop partnerships and networks through active inter-agency and jurisdiction interface.

Integrity is always maintained

We maintain high ethics and standards.





IN MEMORIAM

SCFD No. 1 remembers these three fallen firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice while in the line of duty.

Gerald Lee Lloyd

Last alarm June 13, 1973

Todd David Colton

Last alarm September 6, 1990

Bryon Wayne Johnson

Last alarm September 24, 2007



RESPONSE CAPABILITIES

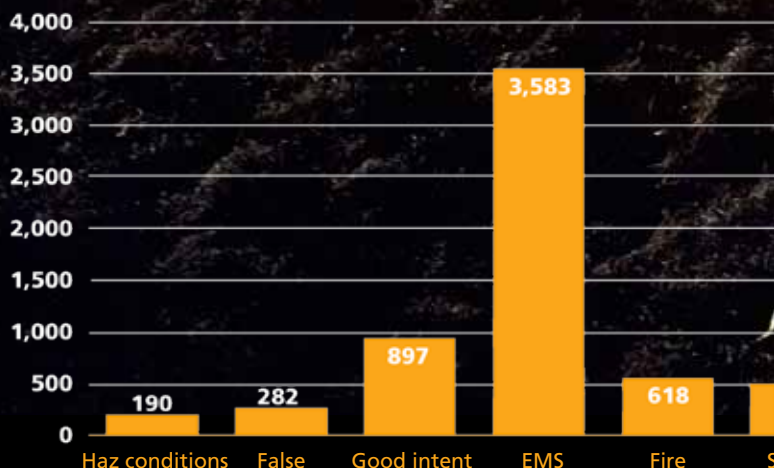
- Nine fire stations staffed 24 hours a day
- Arson task force
- Carbon monoxide response program
- EMT emergency medical first responder FORCE
- Hazardous materials team
- Kansas Task Force Five technical rescue team
- Motorist assist program
- Regional HazMat response team
- SC Kansas Regional Technical rescue team
- Senior management response team
- WMD/terrorism response



SCFD NO. 1 PERSONNEL

Operations	129
Fire Prevention	5
Fleet Maintenance	2
Medical/Safety	2
Administrative	4
Part-time	2

SCDF NO. 1 RESPONSE DATA 2009



RESPONSE



CITIES IN SCFD NO. 1

Andale
Bel Aire
Bentley
Furley
Garden Plain
Goddard
Haysville
Kechi
Maize
Park City
Peck
Viola

MAJOR INDUSTRIAL SITES IN SCFD NO. 1

Air Capitol Transfer
Air Products
Alef's Harley Davidson
Boeing Company
Buckley Industries
Carlson Products
Cessna Aircraft Company
Coleman Company
DeBruce Grain
Dillons Stores
Foley Tractor
Hartman Arena
Hawker-Beechcraft
The Hayes Company
Kansas Golf and Turf
Kice Industries
Norland Plastics
Oxychem Chemicals
Roberts Trucking
Spirit AeroSystems
Thayer Aerospace
T.W. Metals
United Warehouse
Via Christi West
Waste Connections
Weckworth Mfg
Westar Energy
Wickham Glass

SCFD No. 1

Serving for 54 years

1947 Sedgwick County Highway Department purchases 1917 Seagrave pumper.

■ Volunteers use the pumper and other makeshift equipment to put out bridge fires. Citizens learn of this practice and begin calling the county yards to report fires.

1948 Firefighters become more organized and purchase a new Ford F-7 fire truck. Calls continue to increase and another truck, a 1949 Ford F-8, is purchased.

1950 A third truck is added to the fleet, a 1950 Ford F-8 1750-gallon tanker.

1952 Calls increase to the point that firefighters are forced to discontinue all protection except that for county bridges. Radios are installed in all front-line equipment.

1953 Kansas legislature passes legislation allowing counties to create fire departments and levy taxes to support them.

1954 Sedgwick County creates a full-time paid county fire department—the first of its kind in Kansas. Five Ford F-8 pumpers and three Ford F-8 tankers are purchased. First firefighters are hired; training begins late in the year.

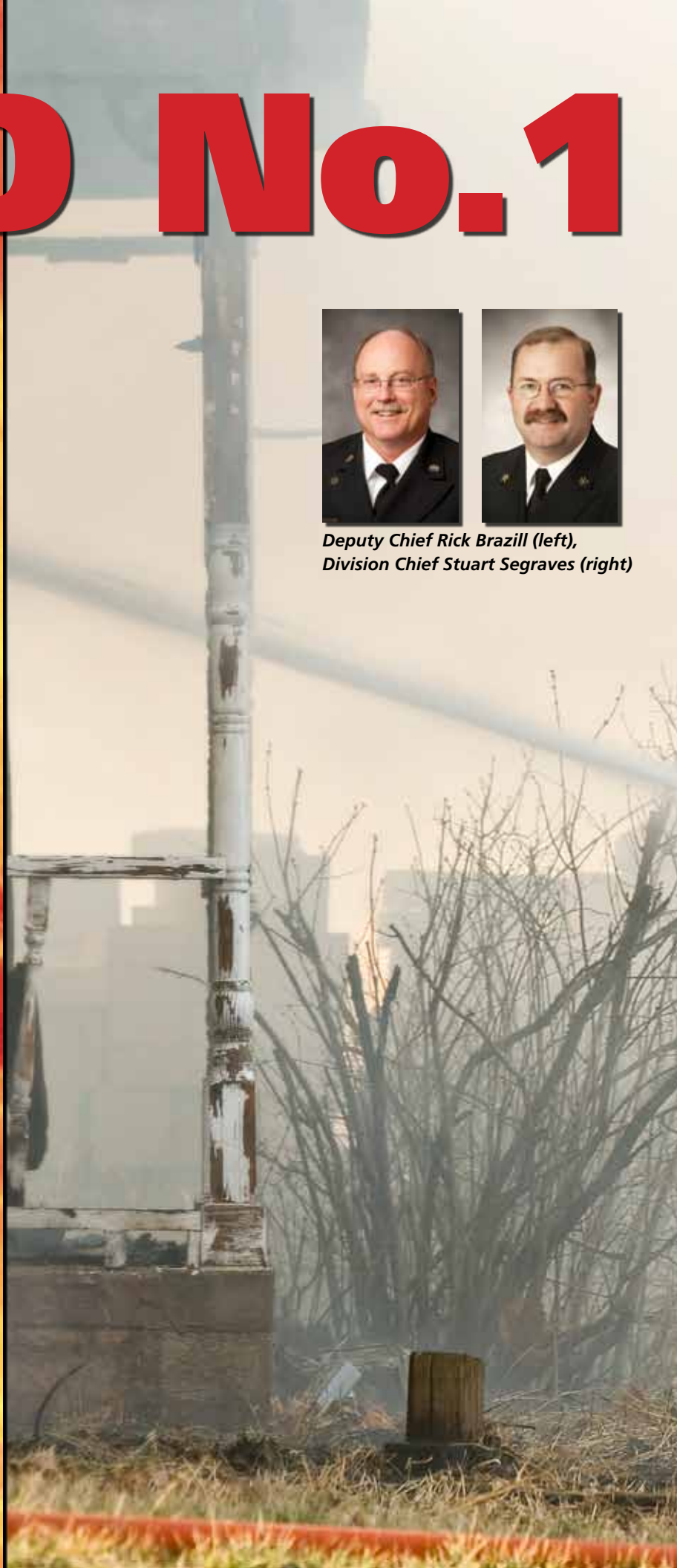


1955 County fire department begins service. Total of 36 firefighters and officers work 24-on/24-off shifts.

■ **Raymond Davis is first fire chief.**



*Deputy Chief Rick Brazill (left),
Division Chief Stuart Segraves (right)*



Procuring staff and equipment for new and existing stations was a highlight of 2009 for the **OPERATIONS DIVISION** of Sedgwick County Fire District No. 1.

A fire station relocation plan, first adopted by the Board of County Commissioners in 2005, allows for the addition of a new station location in southwest Sedgwick County, and the relocation of four others—two of which were completed in 2008. Planning and construction continued for the next two stations to be opened—Station 39 near Lake Afton, and Station 35 in Goddard. Station 39 will be opened in the spring of 2010, and Station 35 in very late 2010. Construction of the final stations in the project has been pushed back one to two years due to concerns over the economy. The station relocation efforts have been led by Deputy Chief Rick Brazill and Division Chief Stuart Segraves.

To properly equip these new facilities, several pieces of fire apparatus were speced and ordered in 2009. Two engines (a tanker/pumper combination) will be received and deployed in early 2010, and a new Quint (engine with aerial ladder) will be placed into service with the opening of Station 35. A new mobile air truck has also been ordered. This apparatus is used at fire scenes to refill air tanks, provide supplemental lighting after dark, and carry rehabilitation supplies and equipment.

To staff these new facilities, the Board of County Commissioners approved the addition of six new firefighter positions in 2009. Consequently, the district was able to hold two recruit training academies in 2009; the first was conducted in January with four new recruits, and the second in August with three.

Other activities of the Operations Division included the testing and evaluation of new self-contained breathing apparatus for all commissioned personnel, liquidation of vacated facilities due to the station relocation program, and conducting testing for promotions.



OPERATIONS

1955 Stations 1 through 4 are opened.



1956 First fire dispatchers are hired. They work out of sheriff's office dispatch radio room in the courthouse.

1957 Fire and explosions at Andale Co-op. Seven firemen are overcome with heat exhaustion.



1960 Missouri Pacific Railroad diesel shop near 25th Street North and Cleveland is destroyed by fire. Loss is \$1 million.

■ Fire destroys Blue Note Ballroom near 31st Street South and Oliver—where Bob Hope had just performed.

1961 Fireman's Relief Association of Fire District 1 is formed.

\$200,000 Blaze Levels Ballroom; 2 Workers Flee

Fire destroyed the Blue Note Ballroom, 3401 S. Oliver, early Saturday. Loss was set at between \$200,000 and \$250,000. Two men at work in the ballroom at the time barely escaped with their lives.

1963 International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) Local Number 1474 is formed.

1966 Stations 5 and 6 are opened.

■ Admin offices move from Station 1 to courthouse.

1971 Five new engines are purchased to update aging apparatus.

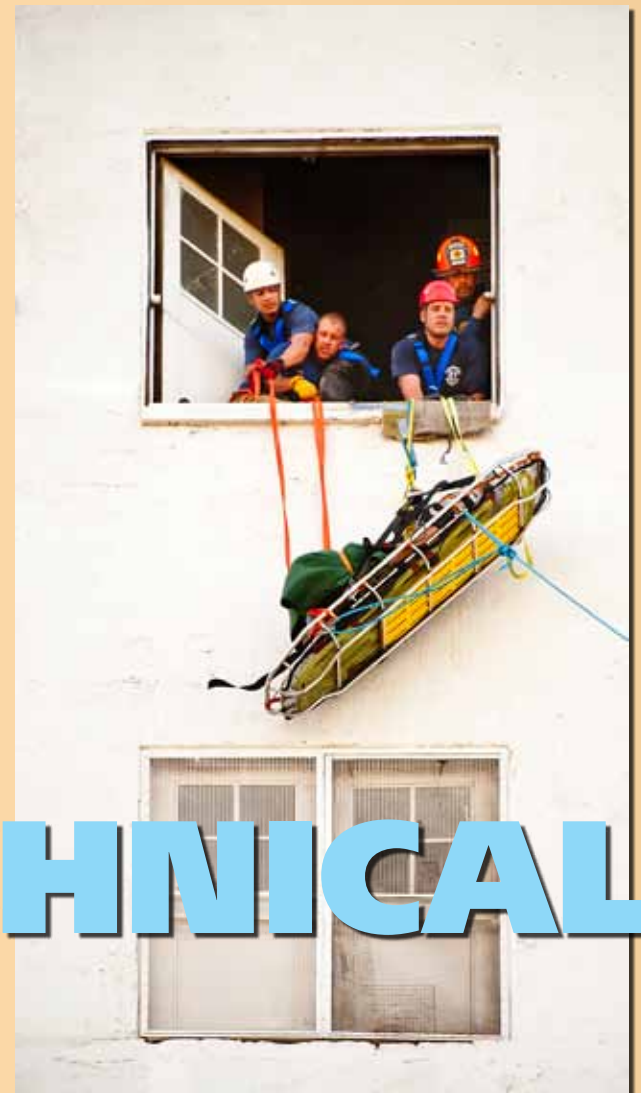


PREVE

The **FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION** consists of five employees who perform building inspection, plan review, public education, fire investigation, code enforcement, night club life safety inspections, and law enforcement duties.

In 2009, the Division performed 71 fire investigations of which 36 were structure fires. Eighteen of the fires investigated were considered to be incendiary in cause and four arrests were made. The **Investigation Section** works closely with the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Office Investigation Division on those fires that are determined to have criminal involvement. The Investigation Section reported no civilian or firefighter fatalities in 2009.

Nine youth firesetters and their families were assisted by Fire Prevention staff last year to help reduce their dangerous behavior. This is the second lowest number of youth firesetters recorded since records were began in 1997.



TECHNICAL

NTION

The Division's **Inspection Section** is a joint effort by the fire prevention personnel and the line officers in the stations. In 2009 they conducted 1,561 inspections and found 944 violations of the fire code. The Inspection Section currently has five inspectors of which three are certified as Fire Inspector One and one inspector is a Certified Fire Protection Specialist through the National Fire Protection Association.

The **Plan Review Section** reviewed 72 commercial building projects valued at \$37,498,983 in 2009. Plans are reviewed by a Certified Plans Review examiner who is certified through the National Fire Protection Association and the International Code Council.

The **Public Education Section** is made up of Fire Prevention personnel and the line personnel in the fire stations. The section's mission is to create a positive change in thinking toward fire and life safety behaviors and inform the public of methods to keep fires from occurring. Fire education is provided through ongoing education programs and public awareness campaigns that help people make informed decisions regarding fire safety. In 2009 educational programs were delivered to 80,756 citizens through 368 program events. One of these programs, Fifth-Grade Fire Prevention Adventure recorded its highest ever attendance of 2,778 fifth graders. Fire Prevention targets children and senior citizens who are most at risk from fires and fire injuries.

The **TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM**, based out of Station 37 in Bel Aire, is a specialized group of firefighters that responds to emergency calls involving confined-space, high-angle, swift-water, trench cave-ins, building collapse, and SCUBA rescues. The team responds jointly with its counterpart from the Wichita Fire Department to provide the highest level of expertise available within the Sedgwick County area.

A major goal of the District and the Technical Rescue Team became a reality in 2009. With a \$400,000 federal grant, rescue equipment was purchased for Kansas Task Force Five, of which SCFD No. 1 is a part. Joining teams from Newton, Hutchinson, Winfield, and Wichita, FTF-5 provides a joint regional response for large-scale or specialized rescues, such as those resulting from a tornado.

Photo by Lieutenant Patti Peterson



The Public Education Section delivered a variety of programs including Fire Clown Educator, the annual Sedgwick County Fire Camp, the Fifth-Grade Fire Prevention Adventure at the Sedgwick County Zoo, fire station tours, fire station open houses, Wet and Wild, and special programs via media releases. Personnel remain active in the SCFD No. 1 Adopt-A-School program, with nine crews assisting students and faculty in seven elementary schools. The District has also embarked on creating fire safety video presentations for showing in schools as well as on city information channels on cable TV.



*Fire Marshal
Tim Milspaugh*

In September, three TRT members traveled to Colorado to attend a multi-day swift-water training class. This brings the total number of SCFD No. 1 personnel with swift-water certifications to 15. This training paid off for TRT members Lieutenant Brad Broyles and Lieutenant Bob Ratzlaff who assisted in rescuing youths trapped in the Cowskin Creek following heavy rains in Sedgwick County. Broyles and Ratzlaff were consequently given awards from the Insurance Women of Wichita, Haysville VFW, the City of Wichita, and *Firehouse* magazine for their heroic efforts. Other training in 2009 included participation in Viligant Guard 2009, a multi-state, multi-jurisdictional disaster simulation held at Crisis City near Salina; and ice-rescue diver training in December.



*Lieutenant Brad
Broyles (left),
Lieutenant Bob
Ratzlaff (right)*

RESCUE

MEDI

1973 Station 7 is opened. Administrative offices move from courthouse to basement of Station 7.

- Gerald Lloyd dies in the line of duty.

1975 First Fire Chief Raymond A. Davis and Assistant Chief L.E. McCabe retire.

- Sedgwick County begins first EMS—fire department provides drivers for EMS units that run out of SCFD Stations 1, 2, 3 and 5.

1976 Fire Marshal Gary Nichols is promoted to Fire Chief.

- Three-platoon system begins giving firefighters 48 hours off between shifts.
- All department personnel become certified EMTs.
- SCFD Honor guard is created.



1978 IAFF Local Number 2612 is formed after Local 1474 disbands in the early 1970s.

- Centralized dispatching begins for all emergency services in Wichita and Sedgwick County.

1979 SCFD joins with Wichita Fire Department to form joint Haz-Mat team.

- Countywide fireworks ban goes into effect drastically decreasing the number of fires.

1980 New Stations 3 and 4 open, replacing aging buildings. State-of-the-art 100-foot aerial platform goes into service.

- Devonshire apartment fire prompts mutual-aid discussions between county and city.

■ **Crews respond to Clearwater Trucking fire on North Broadway.**



1981 Mini-stations 8 and 9 open.

1982 City of Wichita and Sedgwick County sign their initial first-responder agreement.

1983 SCFD adds division chief positions.



The **MEDICAL DIVISION** responded to 59 percent of the emergency calls made by SCFD No. 1 in 2009. To support them in this endeavor, the Medical Division provided approximately 2,000 clock hours of medical continuing education and training in 2009. This coursework included refreshers in the areas of basic patient assessment and O2 delivery, aspirin and Albuterol administration, removal of patients from uncommon locations, injury management, and firefighter rehabilitation.

In 2007, the district helped develop a countywide credentialing process for all emergency personnel certified as EMTs and Paramedics. To provide the best possible patient care, a uniform credentialing process ensures that all response personnel are trained and tested to a uniform standard established by the medical director. Thirty-four district personnel were credentialed in 2009, and the credentialing test was given to 100% of district personnel. Following this initial credentialing, all emergency responders will be recertified on a four-year cycle.

With elevated concerns about both the seasonal flu and H1NI in 2009, SCFD No. 1 Paramedics were utilized to help administer the vaccines to district personnel, family members, and responders from outside response agencies.

Other district-wide training conducted in 2009 included rapid intervention (downed firefighter), water shuttle, use of new RAD-57 SpCO monitors, and use of Albuterol breathing treatments. Regular training also continues with other area emergency response agencies, thus strengthening all aspects of emergency responses in Sedgwick County.



CAL/SAFETY

The **SAFETY DIVISION** investigates any accident involving district personnel and property. This division also maintains a health committee, a safety committee and an accident review board. The district is currently developing a work-based physical evaluation to assess individuals' abilities for safely performing job-related tasks and assess overall fitness levels. As part of the district's peer fitness program, peer fitness trainers are developing both group and individual workout plans.



*Medical/
Safety Training
Division Chief
Buddy Pressnell*



1986 Work on new Station 8 is completed.



1987 City of Wichita and Sedgwick County sign first-responder operation agreement.

■ Station 1 and Mini-Station 8 are closed.

1988 Founding Chief Raymond A. Davis dies.

1990 Mini-station 9 is closed.

■ Todd Colton dies in the line of duty.

1991 New Station 2 opens.

■ **SCFD assists with Andover tornado rescues.**



1994 County Fire Chief Gary Nichols retires.

■ City and county sign an enhanced first-responder agreement.

1995 Staffing is increased at Stations 33 and 35.

■ Research and Development team is formed.

Gary Curmode becomes third SCFD Chief.



1997 Technical Rescue Team begins operating—a joint effort with the WFD.

1998 Firefighters respond to major flooding in the county.

■ Station 31 opens, serving the Andale area.

■ **Crews fight fires after an explosion at DeBruce Grain.**



1999 Department receives its first thermal imaging cameras.

■ SCFD responds to Haysville tornado.



HAZMAT

The **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM** is part of a larger local task force comprised of members from the Sedgwick County Fire District No. 1, the Wichita Fire Department, Sedgwick County Emergency Management, and the Sedgwick County Health Department.

Personnel from all four agencies may respond in the event of a large scale incident. Currently the HazMat Task Force operates under four levels of response known as incident leveling. Depending on the severity of the alarm, anywhere from a single unit response up to 10 units may be dispatched on an alarm.

Sedgwick County Fire District No. 1 also serves as part of the Kansas State Fire Marshal's Office Hazardous Materials Regional Response Team. The team's primary responsibility is to assist or lead mitigation in south central Kansas counties; however the team maybe dispatched to assist as needed throughout the state.

During 2009, The HazMat Task Force utilized a quarterly training schedule for local teams. Four quarterly sessions were provided for each of three shifts, ensuring at least 30 hours of continuing education for each member. Chemistry review and HazMat technician review were two of the sessions offered. SCFD No. 1 hosted an onsite National Fire Academy 80-hour class entitled Chemistry for Emergency Responders. The course was completed by 11 district team members.

Team members also trained with the Kansas National Guard's 73rd Civil Support Team during the year on a combined evolution. One team member was accepted and attended an 80-hour HazMat course at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Many of our local team members assist with teaching WMD/Hazmat courses from Public Safety Sampling to Technician Level training for first responders throughout the state.

SCFD No. 1 team members also delivered 360 total classroom hours of instruction for an Operations Level refresher to our own personnel on the topic of dealing with fuels containing alcohol.

The **FIRE MAINTENANCE DIVISION** continued to operate from the Sedgwick County Fleet Management facility at 1015 West Stillwell. During 2009, all front-line equipment remained on a four-month preventive maintenance inspection and service cycle, while all staff vehicles remained on a 4,000-mile preventive maintenance and inspection cycle. All reserve equipment remained on a preventive maintenance and inspection cycle every six months.

Four new staff vehicles were purchased and placed into service this year, along with specification development of a new mobile air/light truck and new quint for procurement in 2010. Two new engines remained under construction by Smeal Fire Apparatus, with anticipated delivery in the first quarter of 2010.

Throughout 2009, fire mechanics created 353 work orders that included a large percentage of in-station repairs thus keeping fire personnel available in their response areas. During the year 218 work orders for

repairs and 135 preventive maintenance inspection work orders were also generated. To support these work orders, \$27,398 worth of stocked parts and \$88,206 of non-stocked parts were issued. Repairs not feasible for in-shop technicians were sublet to outside vendors at a cost of \$19,974.

The District also saw the retirement of Master Fire Mechanic Captain Gary Boomershine this year. Gary's dedication and experience will be greatly missed. SCFD No. 1 wishes Gary a long and happy retirement.



*Mechanics
Captain
Antonio Cossio
(top), Captain
Brian Richey
(bottom)*

MAINTENANCE



ACCREDI

1999 SCFD personnel assist in the rescue of young Jesse Kraus from a well in Mulvane.



2003 SCFD becomes an accredited agency through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International.

2004 Rescue team receives new state-of-the-art Pierce Heavy Rescue.

2005 SCFD No. 1 celebrates its 50th anniversary.



2007 Bryon Johnson dies in the line of duty.
■ Crews assist with Greensburg tornado search and rescue, fight Barton Solvents fire in Valley Center.

2008 New stations 32 and 33 open.



TATION

STRATEGIC PLAN

- Created annually
- Presents vision, mission, and historical information
- Outlines short and long term goals
- States ongoing district activities related to the accreditation process
- Presents the personal goals of the fire chief and the director of public safety
- Specific accreditation criteria spelled out in a series of categories/performance indicators
- Virtually all goals achieved in 2009

Dr. John Leslie, Assistant Accreditation Manager (left), Captain Bryan E. Ellis (right)



STANDARDS OF RESPONSE COVERAGE (SOC)

- Defines the level of service that a fire service should be committed to provide its constituents
- Consists of risk/hazard and probability analyses of a specific fire response zone
- Determines the location of assets (fire stations) used to mitigate the risks outlined in the risk/hazard analysis
- Analyzes the concentration and assignment of human and physical resources used to respond to a particular risks/hazards
- Determines response times from unit notification to arrival on-scene

RISK/HAZARD PLAN

- Integral part of Standards of Response Coverage process
- Develops fire response zones based on population demographics defined as urban, suburban, and rural
- Based on an analysis of risk to human life and property that is correlated with occupancy types
- Probability of occurrence is factored in resulting in a loss/probability matrix
- Result of loss/probability matrix is used to create response time/distribution/concentration parameters used in the SOC document

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Critical incident stress management team Assists with defusing/debriefing personnel involved in critical incidents in Sedgwick County and surrounding communities.

Self-contained breathing apparatus maintenance program Technicians perform annual SCBA maintenance tests, fit-testing of all personnel, routine repairs, maintaining an inventory of parts, and quarterly breathing air quality tests.

Hypertension screening Free blood pressure checks available on a walk-in basis at all District stations.

SWAT tactical medic team Specially-trained paramedics are available to assist the Wichita Police Department SWAT team in critical situations.

Adopt-A-School program Personnel volunteer in the classrooms of "adopted" schools to assist faculty and administrators in a variety of classroom functions.

Assist-A-Citizen Program District personnel may assist citizens in distress—from making a phone call to changing a flat tire.

Vaccine/immunization program SCFD paramedics assist the Sedgwick County Health Department with the administration of immunizations at various locations.

Senior management response team Personnel from the rank of division chief and above may assist other Kansas agencies in the handling of a major event or disaster.

Y-Fire task force The District, along with other partners, conducts a special program for youth who have shown an interest in playing with fire or who have set fires.

Hydrant testing/inspection In addition to testing 1,440 fire hydrants, a database now gives units information on flow data, main size, etc. during emergencies.

Fire Education Clown Program Firefighters volunteer their time to appear as clowns, educating the public about fire safety at schools, day care centers, hospitals, and special events.

Arson task force Cooperates with eighteen other member organizations from the local to federal level in assisting with the investigation of complicated fire scenes in south central Kansas.

Grant-writing committee Routinely researches and applies for available grants to assist with the cost of new equipment and programs.

Research and development team To keep abreast of new developments and technologies, the R and D team researches new equipment and strategies, and assists with grants and accreditation.





RETIREES 2009 (Left to right) Captain Gary Boomershine (8 Years), Lieutenant Richard Janne (34 years), Lieutenant Tom Slicker (26 years)



Photo by Division Chief Eddie Fajardo

RECRUITS 2009 (Above, left to right) Winter class: Jonathan Longbine, Todd Swift, Arlan Spexarth, Bobby Southern. (Below) Fall class: David Richmond, Stephanie Swope, Nathan Splane



Senior Administrative Officer LaWanda Deshazer (left), Fiscal Associate Janice Robinson (right)



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

Office hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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- Station 32 501 East 53rd Street North
- Station 33 10625 West 53rd Street North
- Station 34 3914 West 71st Street South
- Station 35 651 South 247th Street West
- Station 36 6400 South Rock Road
- Station 37 4343 North Woodlawn Boulevard
- Station 38 1010 North 143rd Street East
- Station 39 3610 South 263rd Street West

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