



Goodwill Fire Company #1 Germansville, Pennsylvania

Fall 2008 Newsletter

From the Chief's Desk.....

2008 has again been a very successful year for the firefighters at Goodwill Fire Company #1. Over the past three years we have responded to an average of 130 calls per year. This year we are projecting approximately 130-140 emergency calls. This accounts for 5000 to 6000 man-hours protecting the residents of this community. We have again received grant funds to purchase some much needed forestry equipment. The equipment will be used for protecting our residents in our community where sprawl is expanding into more forested and rural areas. We have purchased a Polaris Ranger 6x6 and outfitted it with a tank and pump, which can also be removed to haul equipment and patients in the mountainous terrain. Some of our main goals in 2009 include nationally certifying a group of our firefighters to the Firefighter I level, expanding our mutual aid training opportunities, and working on our junior firefighter program.

Not many residents realize the commitment needed to have a well-trained and dedicated fire department. Today it is like a second job, one you do not get paid to do and puts unneeded stress on family life. It is now 166 hours of basic training to become a firefighter, over \$3000 to equip each firefighter, and over \$300,000 to purchase, equip and operate a fire engine. All of this is done by a small group of individuals committed to the betterment of their community. That not only includes the firefighters going into burning buildings but the fire police, cooks and servers in the kitchen and the officers and directors that keep the fire company functioning. My hats go off to all of those EXTREMELY dedicated individuals..... And to those of you who take your 100% volunteer fire company for granted, I challenge you to become involved, help out, and make a difference before the only option left is to pay for the service.

Training is every Tuesday night at 7pm sharp, at the firehouse. We are always looking for dedicated individuals willing to learn. Or you can contact the firehouse at 610-767-7757 and leave a message.

We will be out and about conducting training in the next few weeks. If you ever see us training and want to see what being a firefighter is all about, stop by, ask one of us to show you around the trucks. We always welcome kids and adults to the station for tours! Just give us a call.

In the name of Safety,

Jay Scheffler
Chief

Goodwill Fire Company is **100% VOLUNTEER** and protects residents in four different zip codes (18053, 18066, 18078 and 18080). We are **YOUR** fire company and need your help and support both financially and physically throughout the year. **PLEASE SEE THE ENCLOSED FLYER TO INDICATE HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE FIRE COMPANY.** Come out and socialize with "neighbors" you might not even know! We cannot emphasize enough that members of this fire company receive full service in the event of an emergency at **NO CHARGE!!!!!!!**