



2022 ANNUAL Report

CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP
Volunteer Fire Company





BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Dave Smith
Vice President Tom Klingensmith
Director Dave Mack
Director Nouhoum Cisse
Director Jeff Ammerman
Director Ron Feil
Treasurer Mark Sekera

BRIGADE OFFICERS

Division Chief Mike Hanks
Assistant Chief Pristas
Captain Chris Snedeker
Captain Tim Barch
Lieutenant Connor Mack
Lieutenant Sean Mulraney
Lieutenant Amy Behun
Lieutenant Justin Grogan



2022 CTVFC ANNUAL REPORT

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Message from the Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company

OUR MISSION:
**To preserve and
protect the life and
property of the
citizens and visitors
from the dangers
of fire, disaster and
other emergencies
through education,
prevention, and
emergency response.**



It has been another year of change. To some organizations, change is an intimidating word.

However, the Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company believes that if change is done correctly, it can be one of the most important things to happen to an organization.

With the support of the community, as well as a solid relationship and backing of Cranberry's Board of Supervisors and administration, CTVFC is poised to handle change and be successful.

Members have continuously sat down at the table at the firehouse to ascertain what can be done to better serve customers internally and externally. Young and old have shared ideas that have been successful and some that were not. Every suggestion has been considered and, become a part of our process, if applicable. If they weren't, we revisited how we could improve them and try again.

In early 2022, the Board of Directors conducted a membership survey. These discussions took place face-to-

face as well as through a third-party platform. This survey yielded results and feedback from membership that allowed us to try different things.

Some changes were very simple and implemented quickly while others were more complex and required additional attention to execute. The requested changes varied from shift hour and training suggestions to aesthetic changes inside the walls of the firehouse.

Two very prominent operational lessons came out of the survey which have helped the organization drive forward. Those were culture and training opportunities.

The direction of our culture is simple: we want our firefighters to be firefighters. When we show up at a call that warrants it, we want lines on the ground, ladders in the air, and proper positioning of apparatus.

These skills, being perishable, also drive us to the next point. The group desired for continued realistic training events like the 24-hour Emergency Response



OUR VISION:

We strive to be a highly respected model of professional fire service delivery, with a sufficient number of competent, well-trained, well-equipped, active, and healthy members to meet the challenges and demands we may face, while delivering the best possible service to our community.

Simulations and certifications such as ProBoard programs to be hosted at the Public Safety Training Center. In 2023, we have come out of the gate with numerous in-house training opportunities that ensure our firefighters have the skills to perform under pressure. Both areas are continuously being addressed by the Chiefs, Brigade Officers, and the Training Officers.

A vital component to our success is our people, and the recruitment never stops. We have recently embarked on a proactive media campaign to attract new members. This campaign on social media, along with a direct mail piece is aimed at regional firefighters, as well as Cranberry residents.

The current recruitment environment is extremely difficult in attracting eager volunteers. Our efforts are focused on all ages and walks of life with a staffing program that makes active membership with the organization a lot easier to achieve than in prior years. Come in, do your shifts, and train. Unless it's an event or a critical call, we want volunteers to relax and enjoy their families.

However, when at the station, we expect our volunteers to bring their best every time. The preliminary results have been very positive, but with each new recruit there is a 6-12 month training process for certification.

The organization, driven by the Board of Directors and Brigade Officers, remains committed to continuously exploring every option to bring a high-quality, highly-trained, and time-driven product 24/7.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve this great community!

DFES Chief Scott Garing

CTVFC Division Chief Michael Hanks

CTVFC Assistant Chief John Pristas

CTVFC President David Smith

CTVFC Vice President Tom Klingensmith



Overview

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

We set another record this year with more calls in the calendar year than any year prior, and we expect to see that trend continue as our area continues to grow.

We unfortunately are plagued with what modern communities deal with most: automatic alarms. Over the last year we began billing frequent false alarms to incentivize a resolution. While a small percentage result in true fires, we have no intentions of changing our response for automatic alarms. When they work correctly, they allow the organization to be notified in a timely manner.

We also see our call numbers continue to climb because of a staffing program that allows quicker response with trained members. This has become relied upon by our partners in EMS, police, and our neighboring fire departments.

2022 Incident Statistics



2022 Incident Statistics continued

970

Calls for service

3.35

Average number of responders per apparatus

7.33 Minutes

Response times for suppression apparatus

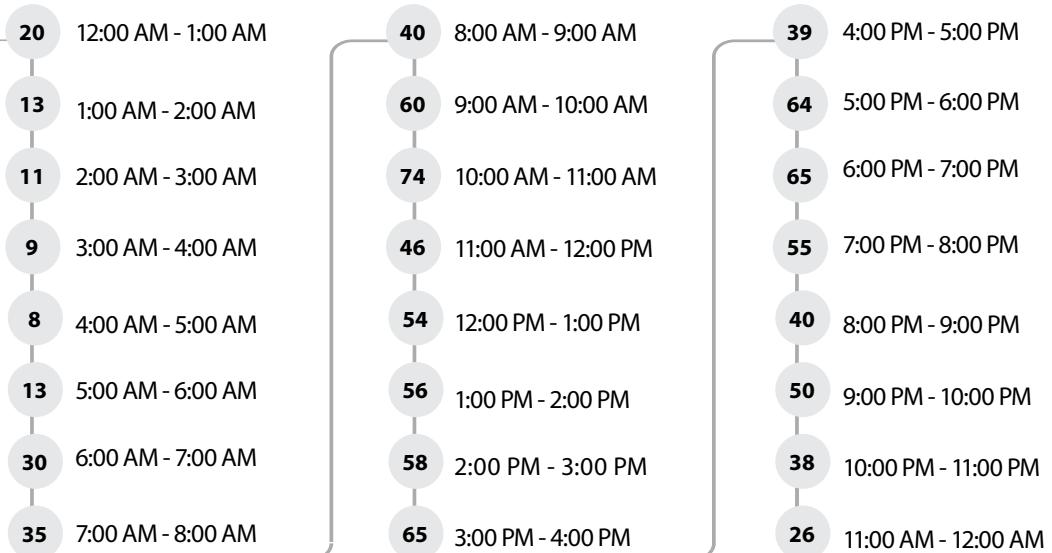
4,619

Manpower hours

INCIDENTS BY DAYS OF THE WEEK



INCIDENTS BY HOURS



Overview

PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY



The staffing program continues to grow. Based off survey feedback, we tried a few different things with the program. One of those changes was to create shorter shifts on the weekends. While we anticipated it would increase participation, it actually had a negative impact - so much so that statistics on paper appear to have dropped. In reality, they increased.

The focus continues to be 24/7 coverage by firefighters and officers so we can make a difference. These numbers only reflect staffing by CTVFC personnel.

Through our scheduling program, we can identify vulnerable days and times. The Brigade Officers pay close attention to those times and request additional staffing. If we are unable to provide station staffing, we quickly add mutual aid to our alarms to supplement our duty and home response programs.

Our per call response averages have increased and our call response times have decreased by over 1 minute for 2022. This incredible feat could only be achieved by having the station staffing program. We are proud to report that our response times are below the NFPA standard for volunteer departments.



CTVFC MEMBERSHIP

Brigade	59
Associate	9
Juniors	8
Administration	20
Auxiliary	22
Non-part Life	34

TOP 20 RESPONDERS/ HOURS

Pristas, John	573
Cisse, Nouhoum	498
Herzog, Richard	494
Martin Jr, Nunzio	474
Dellinger, David	387
Hanks, Michael	357
Ammerman, Jeff	343
Sekera, Bryce	325
Blew, James	312
Behun, Amy	284
Garing, Scott	278
Mulraney, Sean	259
Hepler, Alex	249
Smith, Trent	224
Klingensmith, Thomas	213
Mack, David	192
Coles, Bryan	190
Barch, Tim	178
Upton, Aidan	170
Mack, Connor	166



4,619.83

Response Hours

6,660.18

Training Hours

29,928.62

Station Staffing Hours

4,912.65

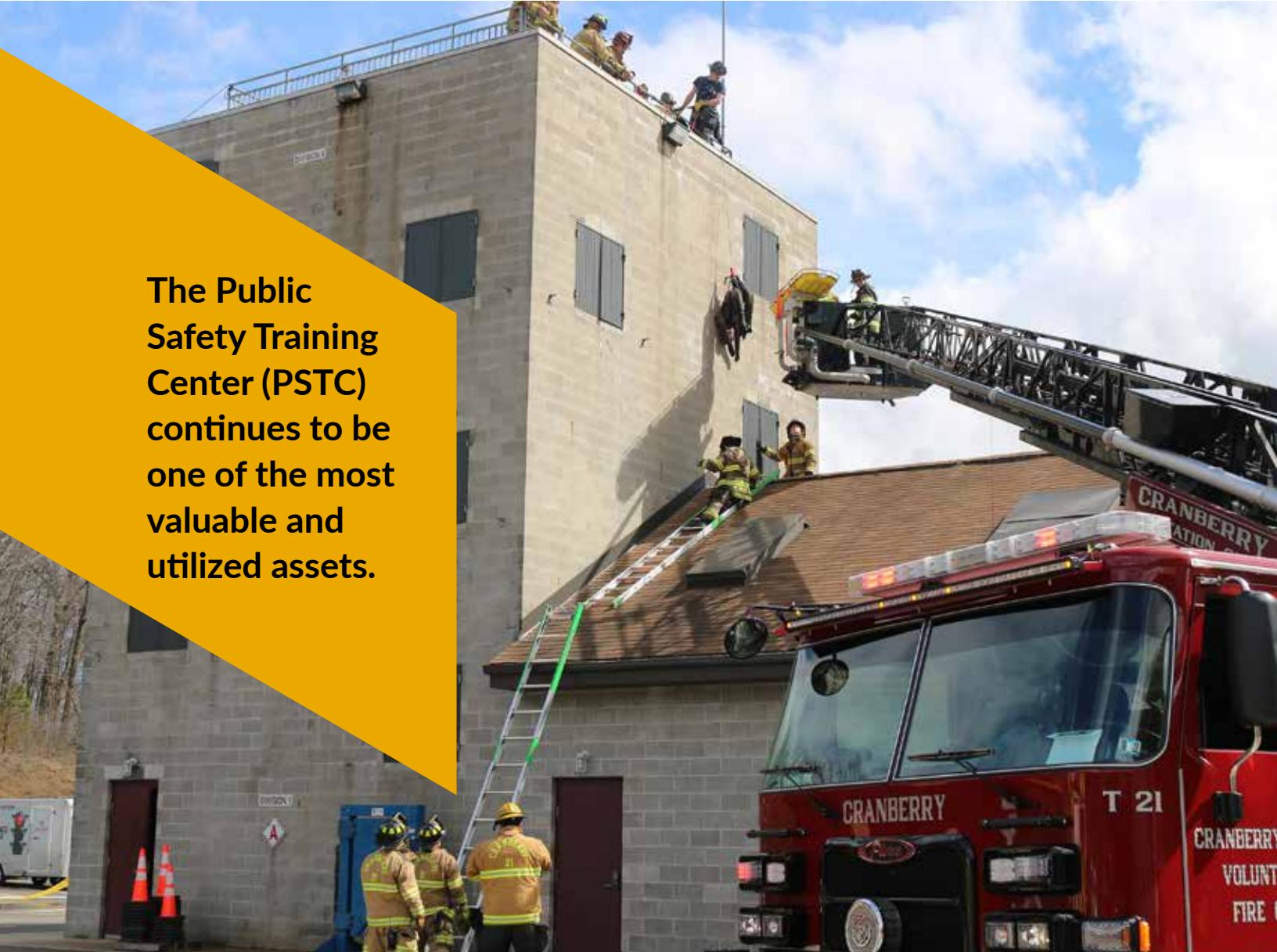
Other Events

2022 NOTABLE CERTIFICATIONS

Cory McLaughlin	- FF1, BVR Tech
David Smith	- FF2
Tim Barch	- Fire Officer 3
Aidan Upton	- Fire Instructor 2, Fire Officer 3
Sean Mulraney	- Fire Officer 1
Chris Snedeker	- Fire Officer 1, Fire Officer 2, HazMat Technician, Confined Space Rescue 1 & 2
Connor Mack	- Fire Instructor 2
John Pristas	- Fire Officer 2
David Dellinger	- Firefighter 1, BVR Tech

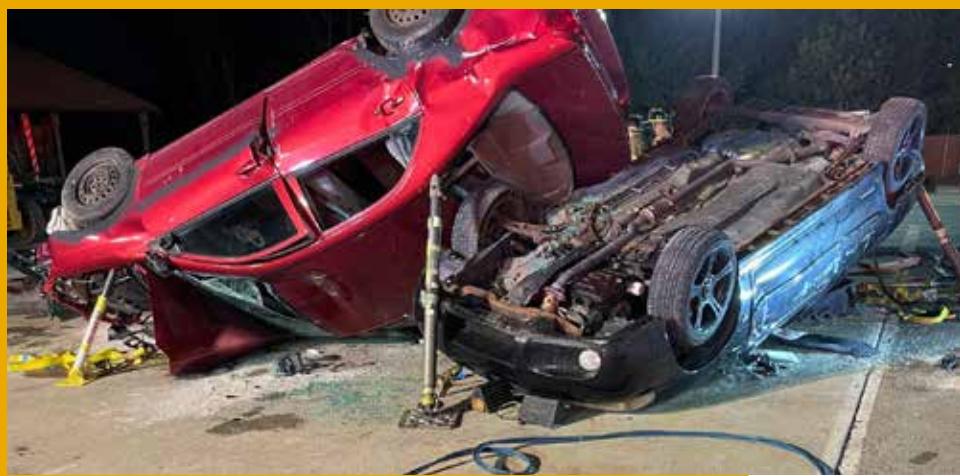
TRAINING & EDUCATION

The Public Safety Training Center (PSTC) continues to be one of the most valuable and utilized assets.



The PSTC is utilized as the townships largest and most advanced classroom. The training ground outside the classroom continue to be just as busy, hosting outside agencies with controlled fires in our 3 story burn can facility as well as general drills in the midrise tower. The burn can was purchased by our relief association in 2021 and has proven to be one of our best additions to our training arsenal. A relationship with Butler County Community College, other training agencies, and mutual aid departments means there are few nights the facility is not being utilized. That's was the vision of the facility: to invest in the future of the fire service in Cranberry Township and beyond. We continue to be creative in our programming, and to provide first class training opportunities right in our back yard.

The use of burn can is coordinated by Division Chief Hanks, our internal training programs are led by Captain Snedeker, and our external training is led by Master Firefighter Hezlep.



TRAINING

- In-house Drills: 182
(includes Duty Shift trainings)
- In-house Hour Total: 4,666.6
- External Training Hour Total: 1,992
- Pro Board Certification
Totals: 20





889
Fire Prevention Hours

2,800
Adults Educated

500
Smoke Detectors Distributed

4,700
Children Educated



2022 ACHIEVEMENTS

It is easy to lose track of our achievements over a full year. However, through documents such as this annual report we can retrace our steps on what we accomplished.

- Conducted a spring and fall 24-hour Emergency Response Simulations exercise focused on the readiness of the firefighters.
- Increased the pre-plans for commercial structure available in our system as well as Knox box compliance.
- Implemented our small vehicle replacement plan with the help of the CTVFC Relief Association. Both squads at Park and Haine stations, as well as both command vehicles, will be replaced. Delays continue to be experienced due to product shortages.
- Ordered the replacement for our 1989 FMC reserve engine. This engine, 21-3, will become the primary suppression piece of apparatus out of the Park station and engine 21-2 will become our reserve/training engine out of the Haine station.
- Secured a grant to purchase personal lockers at both fire stations. The focus on the lockers is cancer prevention. It gives the members a place to store extra clothing so they can change during their shifts as well as store personal items.
- Recruitment campaign focused on attracting new members from within the community.
- Completed NFPA 1582 physicals.
- Purchase of an additional door prop for the PSTC that offers many different training opportunities.
- Held the second Fire Cadet Academy for teens age 14-18 in August at the Public Safety Training Center.

2023 GOALS

- Finish the upfitting of both new squads and IC's
- PSTC training prop upgrades
 - Cut stations
 - Utility pole
 - Storage container
- Spec the replacement for Rescue 21
- Seek grant funding for replacement of SCBA's
- Continue to explore opportunities to increase membership and staffing
- Conduct the first ever CTVFC Citizens Fire Academy





CLOSING REMARKS

Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company continues to focus its efforts on professionalism.

Our brigade members and officers are held to the highest standards in the industry. This is done to ensure that we are bringing resources to a call that can help in a time of need.

Fires and rescue calls are the same no matter the community. The difference is a timely and professional response to any request for service to intervene in the compounding chain reaction. Reducing time initiates an opportunity to create positive outcomes for most emergencies.

With the rate in which fires burn in the 21st century, reducing time is the most important thing a fire service can do. In the 1980's, many agencies dealt with legacy construction made with natural woods and fibers. In the 21st century, modern construction is made of plastics and petroleum-based products.

There is a HUGE difference in the rate in which these materials burn. While legacy builds gave 30 minutes to exit a home, modern homes can be engulfed within 5 minutes.

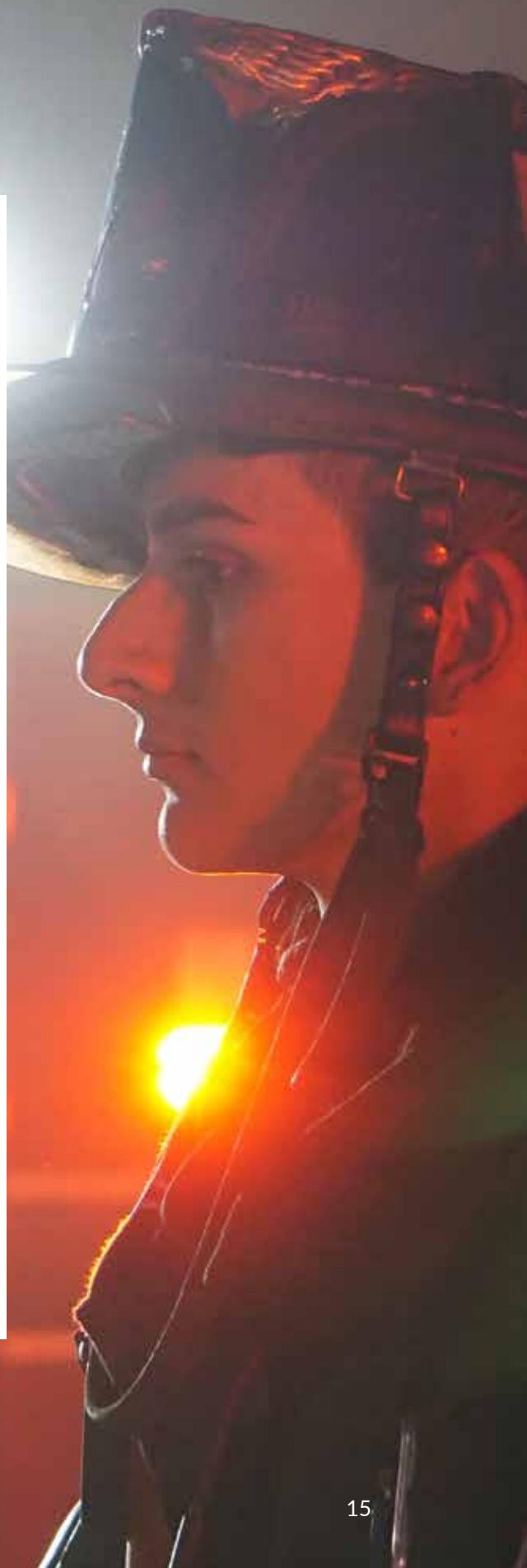
This is why staffing the firehouse 24/7 is the most important thing we can focus on. It encompasses everything we emphasize— our culture, training, environment, leadership, opportunities, and amenities.

Besides staffing and training to ensure proficiency, the next best thing is prevention.

Our Fire Prevention & Safety team continues to push the envelope on educating the community and getting lifesaving products out on the streets with the distribution of detectors and fire extinguishers. If there is a fire, these tools can absolutely save a life or assist with dealing with the event successfully.

To have our prevention team attend an event, event organizers are asked to complete an online form that is housed at ctvfc21.org.

Thank you for reviewing the CTVFC Annual Report.





CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

20727 Route 19, Suite 21
Cranberry Township, PA 16066
CTVFC21.org | 724-776-6130
Emergency Dial 9-1-1

Scott Garing, Fire & Emergency Services Chief

