

THE WICHITA HEAT

***JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH
2006***



HACKER PHOTO

A firefighter vents a second floor window at a residential fire in the 100 block of N. Millwood. First due Squad 4 and Engine 1 had heavy smoke showing on arrival. The fire was located in the kitchen area and had extended to the walls and floor of the second story.



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Station 1-B

Firefighters discuss strategies at a multi alarm apartment fire in the 2300 block of N. Woodlawn. The fire extended to all three floors via the walls. Captain Ast and FF Becker work to open the roof using a trench cut to stop the extension in the attic.





You respond as a first due company to a reported residential fire. The area is mostly residential and primarily comprised of single story wood framed dwellings. The time of day is 02:30 on a Saturday morning, 25 degrees with a 15 mph wind out of the South. The information from dispatch indicates there may be a person or persons trapped. The structure is a single story bungalow with fire showing from the A side. On arrival, these are the conditions you are confronted with.

1. Size-up factors
2. Extent and location of fire
3. Construction features
4. Where would you stretch the initial line
5. Ventilation, PPV or horizontal
6. Where you would start the initial search and why

C-shift crews work to extricate patients from an accident with a pin near Kellogg and Meridian.



Firefighters work on hot spots from the exterior at a heavily involved residential dwelling under construction in NW Wichita. Station 16 was first due at the address.



From the Wichita Fire Department Training Division

The addition of two Medical Training Officers (MTO) and a Recruit Training Instructor (RTO) in August 2005 has had a major impact on the Training Division. The addition of the MTO's affords us the ability to focus on the medical aspect of our service and has given us a voice and an identified role in the EMSS arena. We anticipate this role will be expanded and refined as we work to truly build a seamless SYSTEM.

The Recruit Training Officer gives us some much-needed stability in a position that has great and far reaching impact on the Department. We hope to cross train Captain Bohannon and Captain Call so we are not totally reliant on either one to perform certain functions. To that end, Captain Bohannon and Call are attending a training class at Station 38, the week of February 21, to repair the S2 and S4 Interspiro airpaks. We will also be sending them to some other training later in the year.

Since 2001 the Training Division has been holding a "retreat" toward the end of the year. This year we held our Retreat at the Auburn Hills Club House on December 20th. Our main goal is to develop the Training Calendar for the upcoming year however, we also review where we have been, what we have accomplished, where we want to go and accomplish in the coming year. We brainstorm and evaluate weaknesses that have been identified at alarms or in other training sessions. We try to look into the future and identify what we need as a Department and we take into consideration new concepts and ideas from across the country as well as input from members of the Department. After doing all of that we identified the following training sessions for 2006.

- EMSS - Stroke Protocols, Mark I
- NIMS, Uniforms, Projects
- EMSS – Adult Cardiac
- Fire Officer
- EMSS – Pediatric Airway
- Accountability System
- Truck Company Operations
- EMSS – Pediatric Cardiac Arrest
- Responding to Routine Emergencies

The following training classes or events will also take place in 2006.

- Promotional Test & Assessment
- Grant Writing USA, March 27, 28
- Probationary Testing, March 28, 29, 30
- NFA Command & Control of Target Hazards, April 17 – 21
- Stanley Tool Training, June 19, 20, 21
- KU Instructor I, June 26 – 29
- NFA Incident Safety Officer, September 14, 15
- Pump Test September 25 – 29
- Pump Operator, October 9 – 19

In addition to the training committed to the Wichita area, the Training staff continues to reach out and attend fire service training across the country. We had representation at the National Fire Academy 3 times, Fire House Expo, FDIC and TRADE in 2005-2006. This is a testimony to the commitment we have made to you and to the Department, all in an effort to make it the best it can be, now and into the future. We will also continue to seek National Certification programs and encourage participation.

The Training staff has hopefully created the impression that we are responsive and accessible. We value your input and have developed committees in many areas for this purpose. Thanks for all of your help. We look forward to continuing this joint partnership to make our Department an even better one.

WFD Project Update:

Here is a brief update where we are at on several projects.

2004 Assistance to Firefighters Grant

With this grant the Department has purchased and received:

- 9 - Complete Sets of HURST Jaws. The Jaws were placed on Squads 2, 3, 8, 9, 12, 14, 15, 16, and 19. There is also a set of Jaws on Squad 1 that are 2002 model, and two sets of tools on Heavy Rescue 4 that are 2005 models. As a result the Department now has 12 sets of Jaws on track on eleven different units.
- 4 - Thermal Imaging Camera's
- 4 - Four Gas Monitors
- 1 - Confined Space Camera
- 1 - Confined Space Listening Device
- 2 - Complete Sets of Stanley Concrete Breaching Equipment
- 1 - Complete Set of Paratech Shoring Equipment and Airbags
- 25 - Training for Simulated Disaster Exercise in KCK

A purchase order has been issued for 28 - Jackrabbit Tools with the intent to put one on each engine/quint for forcible entry operations.

A purchase order has also been issued for a 32' gooseneck trailer, to Trailers and More to carry all of the new rescue equipment. The trailer will housed at Station 4 along with a flat bed truck to pull it.

2005 Assistance to Firefighters Grant

The bid for 3 Breathing Compressors should go out any day. The Department is also buying equipment to upgrade both Mobile Air trucks to 6000-psi systems. This includes purchase of Haskel Pumps. The Haskel Pump is an air driven pump that will pump air from one storage cylinder into another so bottles can be topped off, without having to go back to the station and refill the entire system.

20 SCBA Bottles and Masks for the RIC Packs as well as an Interspiro Cart System are also being purchased with this grant.

2006 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Proposal

The Department is working to develop the grant proposal for the 2006 grant. The submission deadline for this grant is mid April. The request will be for Exhaust Emissions System at Stations 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18. The Department is in the research phase at this time gathering specifications and costs estimates. Hose type systems are not being considered at this time.

2007 Assistance to Firefighters Grant

The Department is working with a committee to refine a proposal for the 2007 grant. This proposal would be for a physical fitness program that would include a medical evaluation, fitness assessment for each firefighter. It would also include training for key individuals to become Certified Personal Trainers and Peer Evaluators. Exercise equipment as well as Health and Wellness Education Program would be included in the proposal as well. This is still in concept phase and will require a lot more work to get it ready for submission.

Accountability System

In cooperation with the Sedgwick County Fire Chiefs organization the Department is working to develop and implement a County Wide Accountability System. Part of this system includes a Dog Tag System with advanced electronic tracking capabilities. Currently we are developing the database for the system and formulate a color-coding system for the tags.

Drivers Manual

Captain Bohannon has recently completed the drivers manual which includes the Rule of Thumb information, (Chapter 12 will be removed from Ops Manual), Driver Requirements as well as Break-in, Testing Procedures, General Driver Information, Driver Functions, Squad, Pierce and Central States Information. The manual is going to be placed on Department shares, given to each recruit upon graduation

and placed in all station libraries.

Equipment Manual

Captain Cole is developing an Equipment Manual. The manual will list every piece of equipment on the Department, (Chapter 13 will be removed from the Ops manual), a picture of the equipment, equipment specifications, cost and vendor info, along with a description and location of the equipment. The manual should be completed by early fall.

Operations Manual

Chief Gonzalez, Chief Keeton and Captain Jones are working to revise the Operations Manual. It is their intent that it will ONLY contain information that is applicable to WFD members. The equipment will be in separate manual, as will the driver, apparatus and rule of thumb information. The new manual will reference several other texts to prevent duplication and/or conflict of information. All specialty information will be relocated to an appendix. If you see problems or mistakes in the most recent revisions, please notify Captain Jones.

Training Academy Improvements

The Department is waiting to acquire final approval to proceed with the improvements at the Training Academy. This is a \$1.7 Million Dollar Project that headed up by the Public Works Department and includes a new Training Tower, replacement of 73,000 ft² of concrete, and a new classroom.

Acquiring final approval to remodel Training Offices

The Department is also waiting to acquire final approval to proceed with the improvements at the Training Office. This project will also be headed up by Public Works and involves creating an office for the MTO's and updating the classroom.

Developing List of Equipment to purchase with 2006 Apparatus

The Training Division is working with the Equipment Committee to develop the list of loose equipment for the 2006 Apparatus. Some of the items being considered are new self-escape packs (to replace the current rope bags on the air packs), Pulse Oximeters and Glucose Meters for each engine/quint and squad, personal facemasks, additional SCBA bottles and binoculars. We are hopeful will also be able to fully outfit the Reserve Apparatus however, it is dependant upon the dollars remaining after the new apparatus are designed and purchased.

Promotional Process

The written test for Captain and Lieutenant promotional process will be administered at Century II on March 16. The written test will be followed up by the Lieutenant Assessment on April 4, 5 and the Captain Assessment April 6, 7. The old promotional process will be utilized as the new promotional process is still on "hold".

