

THE WICHITA HEAT



craigHACKER



CONTENTS

TRAINING UPDATE

FIRE PHOTOS

ROOKIES

STRATEGY & TACTICS

COMMENTS ARE
WELCOME TO IMPROVE THIS PUBLICATION!

Firefighters operate big lines at a defensive fire in the 500 block of E. Central. First due companies encountered heavy smoke from the rear of the building and attempted an interior attack.

East side companies were kept busy throughout the evening on the 4th of July with several working fires on the East side. Pictured here are two firefighters silhouetted against a well involved house fire in the 1100 block of N. Dellrose. Minutes before this alarm there was another reported commercial building fire across the street from this address.



Capt. Buck and crew examine the aftermath of a train derailment South of downtown. The train severely damaged a building as it derailed. There were no reported injuries associated with the derailment or release of any chemicals.



FF Holle from 5's overlooks an employee from the water department as he attempts to shut off a water main at 9th and Hillside. A vehicle ran into a hydrant causing it to shoot water in the air about 40 feet.





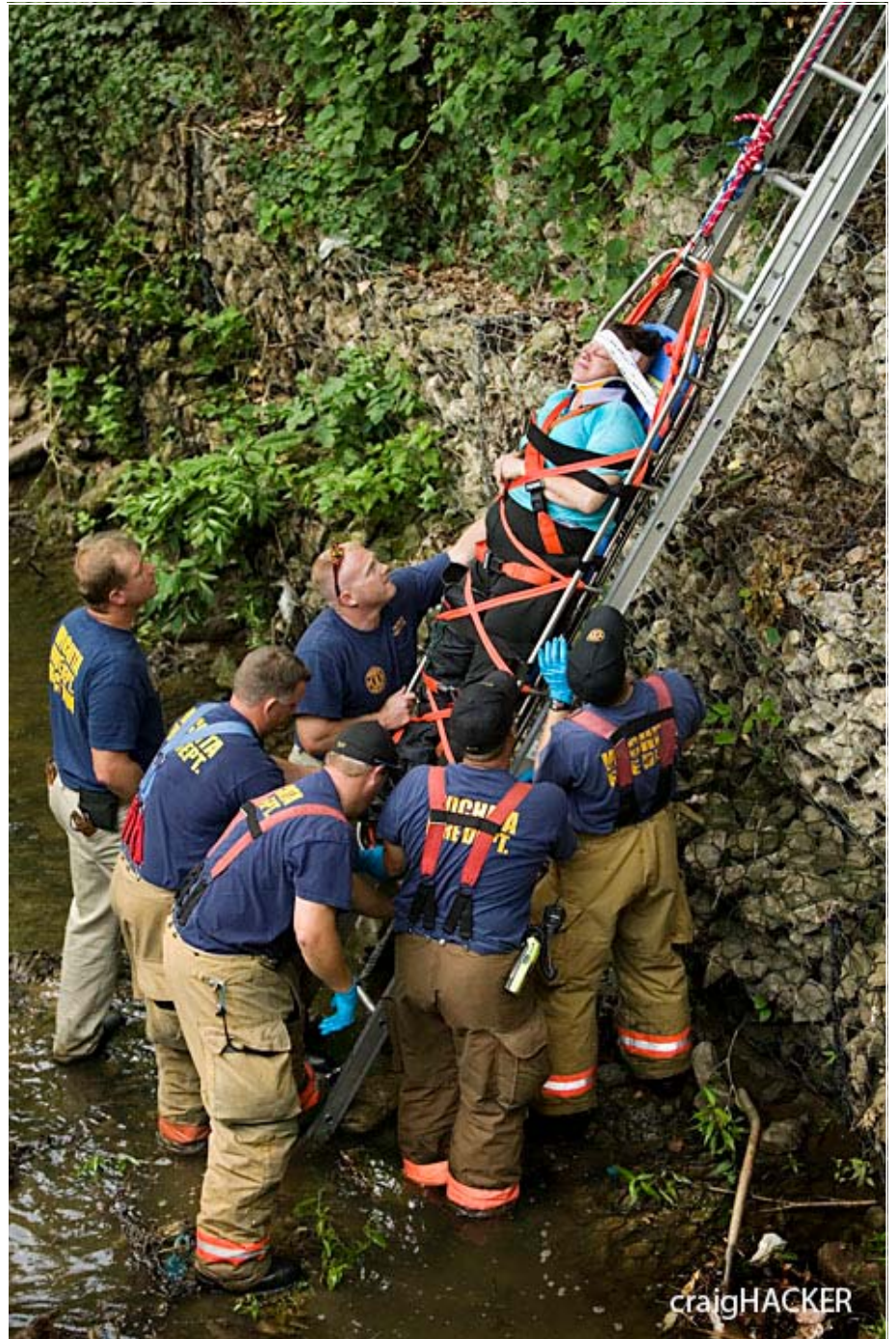
Shortly after interior companies exited the rear of the building, heavy fire blew out the front of the building. The early morning fire gutted the vacant building, and escalated to four alarms.

Training Opportunities

Incident Command for Structural Collapse- October 24, 2006 Wichita-Kansas

NIMS Incident Command System- October 21, 2006 Mulvane-Kansas

Rescue team members package a patient as a result of a fall and prepare to raise her up from an embankment. The Wichita Fire Department and Sedgwick County Fire Department as well as numerous other area fire departments have been participating in a Rescue Systems class held at the training grounds. Upon completion of the 80 hour course, rescue team members will have a certification similar to that of a USAR Team.



Rookies from the latest class have graduated and are currently at their assigned firehouses. Pictured to the right and below are probies training prior to graduation. Photos courtesy of Capt. Bohannon





Engine 10 and Squad 1 were sent to assist a citizen call, on our arrival this is what we encountered! The roof was overloaded and began to collapse as the roofers were tearing off shingles. The roofers quickly exited the roof and propped a 2x4 against the load bearing wall on the South side of the structure.

Strategy & Tactics

This photo was taken in Baltimore Maryland in the downtown area. This type of structure is very predominant on the East Coast, but can also be found throughout the country. This end of the row structure is attached to several other apartments of equal height that run the length of a city block. In the city, these can be found along Douglas in Old Town as well as on West and East Douglas. Your firehouse arrives first due at one of these structures and you find a moderate smoke condition on the second floor.

What are your initial considerations?

Multi alarm on arrival?

Destination of the first line?

Size of the first line?

Ventilation concerns?

Where would you begin your initial search for life/fire?

How does the time of day/night play into your initial consideration?



From the Wichita Fire Department Training Division

Recent Activities

Captain Bohannon with the assistance of Chip Froome and a number of Operations personnel have been diligently training fifteen fire recruits and two Airport Safety personnel. They are scheduled to graduate on October 6. The listed below are the recruits and their assigned Battalion/Shift.

Matthew Angell – 9/B
Joshua Brubacher – 2/B
Kimberly Frame – 2/A
Jeff Frye - 2/A
Justin Halper - 2/A
Casey Hauschild – 9/A
Charles Helm – 9/B
Micah Hoelscher – 1/B
Damon Holmes – 2/B
Brock Johnson – 1/B
Brad Parsons – 9/C
Brandon Scott – 1/C
Joel Wiens – 9/C
Jeremiah Williamson – 2/B
Matthew Woods – 9/C

The Rescue Team completed an eighty-hour structure collapse class. The training will prepare the team members to acquire National certification equivalent to that held by FEMA USAR members. The training was concluded with a realistic collapse scenario at a building that was to be demolished. All new Rescue Team members are to receive basic rope training in October.

All uniform issues are suspended until several pending issues are resolved.

The Department hosted Incident Safety Officer on September 14 and 15. The two-day National Fire Academy regional delivery class was held at the Training Academy and was attended by participants from Wichita, Derby, Hutchinson, Lawrence, Mulvane, and Shawnee.

The Department also hosted KU's Fire Instructor I class. The class, which is required to achieve certification in Fire Officer I, was attended by approximately 20 firefighters from the region.

Several members of the Department attended a "Transforming Wichita Together" (TWT) workshop. Conway Management, who conducted the training, is now in the process of training a number of City employees to deliver the training to the rest of the organization. I am one of the City trainers. TWT is a new City initiative started by City Manager George Kolb, in an effort to make the City more responsive and efficient.

Renovations will hopefully begin soon at the Training Academy. The current Training Tower, which was built in the late 1930's, is to be demolished shortly after October 6. The current tower was moved to its present location in 1965. It was originally located behind old Station Two at Lewis and Topeka and moved to Third and Wabash (old Station Eight) before being moved to its current location at 31st and Oliver. The new Tower design is nearly completed and plans are being made to replace 78,000 ft² of concrete. Improvements and/or modifications to the building are undefined at this time as the Department is pursuing plans to expand the scope of the project.

The Fraternal Order of Leatherheads Society (FOOLS) recently hosted "The Reality of Burn Injuries" presented by Brian Alkire at Century II. Both sessions were well attended, as was the social.

The Training Division recently distributed Pulse Oximeters to be added to every medical bag. The new protocols allow treatment to be based on pulse oximeter readings.

The Medical Training Officers are going to train all Captains in the new protocols. Captains will be responsible for training their respective personnel. Dr. Young has asked that all personnel complete an exam over the protocols by the end of the year with at least 80% proficiency. There are a lot of details concerning this program that have yet to be worked out.

UPCOMING TRAINING EVENTS

Pump Test September, October 2 – 6

Protocol Training (Captains Only) October 2 – 19

I recently rode out with Chief McClure from 0700 to 2100. I anticipate making this an ongoing practice and eventually ride out with every Battalion Chief. This will provide me the opportunity to visit with the Battalions and make some alarms. However, the main reason I am doing this is to visit with the crews in the stations so that I have the opportunity to hear your concerns or suggestions as I value and welcome your input. If you have any ideas or suggestions relating to new equipment or procedures that you think the Department should consider, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks for all you have done and continue to do that make this one of the best Departments in the Nation.

BE SAFE.

WFD Project Update:

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

2005 Assistance to Firefighters Grant

Two of the three new Bauer compressors have been installed (Station 1 & 2). A new electrical service has to be run at the Training Academy before the unit at that location can be installed. Captain Bohannon and Call received factory training on the compressors and are now responsible for the air maintenance program. Mobile Air 1 has been upgraded, however Mobile Air 2 has not been completed.

2006 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Proposal

The Department submitted a proposal to replace the Exhaust Emissions System at Stations 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18. The Department requested stand alone filtration units that do not require any type of hose connections. The Grants should be released soon. I am very optimistic that we will acquire this grant.

2007 Assistance to Firefighters Grant

The Health and Wellness Program is still being targeted for the 29Department is 007 Grant. The proposal includes a medical evaluation and fitness assessment for each firefighter.

Accountability System

The City and County IT Departments are in the process of developing an electronic database. Once the database is established, several stations will be selected to enter data so a test can be run.

Equipment Manual

While I feel the equipment manual is important I have neglected this project and as a result we have not made much progress. I still hope to complete the manual before the end of the year.

Equipment for new apparatus

The RIT Escape Harness have been ordered and should be delivered soon. These are rope systems that are integrated into the waist belt of the air pack and replace the current rope bags

