



2008 Annual Report

Presented by the Redings Mill Fire
Protection District to its citizens,
stakeholders, and customers.



Mission & Value Statement

To improve the quality of life within the boundaries of our Fire District by minimizing the effects of fire, hazardous material releases, medical emergencies, natural and artificial disasters.

It is the belief of the Redings Mill Fire Protection District that customer service to our citizens is the highest priority there is. This is accomplished through understanding that our personnel are extremely important factors in the delivery of our service. We will ensure that all members and customers of the Redings Mill Fire Protection District will be served with honesty, trust, and compassion that is expected and demanded as we continually work to protect the citizens we serve.

"We Care"



A Message from the Fire Chief to Our Citizens, Customers, and Stakeholders:



Fire Chief Andy Nimmo

I am pleased to offer to the citizens of our fire district the 2008 annual report. The information contained in this report is to allow you as our customer understand more about how we performed in the past year. We are fortunate to continue to have great support within the community creating a true partnership between our organization and the citizens we serve.

2008 was a year in which multiple natural disasters affected our communities and the citizens that live in them. The most devastating and certainly destructive force came on May 10th, when an EF4/5 tornado ripped through the southern edge of our fire district claiming lives and destroying property. This year proved to be a defining moment for our organization as we were faced with challenges unlike any that we have ever faced before. After experiencing the May 10 tornado, I don't believe any organization can truly prepare for what was encountered on that fateful day. What I did learn was that your organization is comprised of highly dedicated individuals that truly care for their community. Many hours were put in assisting citizens in need, stories of true heroism came out and many of our staff members went above and beyond the call of duty placing their life in danger to assist those that may not have even knew.

I am certainly proud of this organization, the staff members that make it up, and the community for the way they have recovered so quickly from so many devastating disasters. In looking back at the year 2008, I am filled with tremendous pride knowing that whatever challenge is faced the men and women that make up the Redings Mill Fire Protection District will do everything they can to serve you in a professional manner.

Andy Nimmo

Redings Mill Fire Protection District

Board of Directors

The Redings Mill Fire Protection District's oversight is provided by a five member Board of Directors. Their task is to set the course of the organization and maintain financial stability through effective planning and safe and efficient spending practices. Our Board of Directors meets monthly, but all have proven to be committed to being accessible to not only the public but also to our staff when needs arise. Board members serve six year terms and elections are every April of even years.



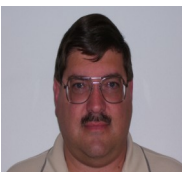
Tom Meadows— Elected to the Board April of 2000 and re-elected in April of 2006. Currently serves as Board Chairman. Tom owns and operates a local cabinet shop.



Ed St.Clair—Elected to the Board April of 2006. Ed is retired from the Missouri Division of Probation and Parole.



Bruce Anderson—Elected to the Board April of 2008. Bruce is the Vice President and General Manager of American Tripoli, he also serves as the Mayor of Loma Linda.



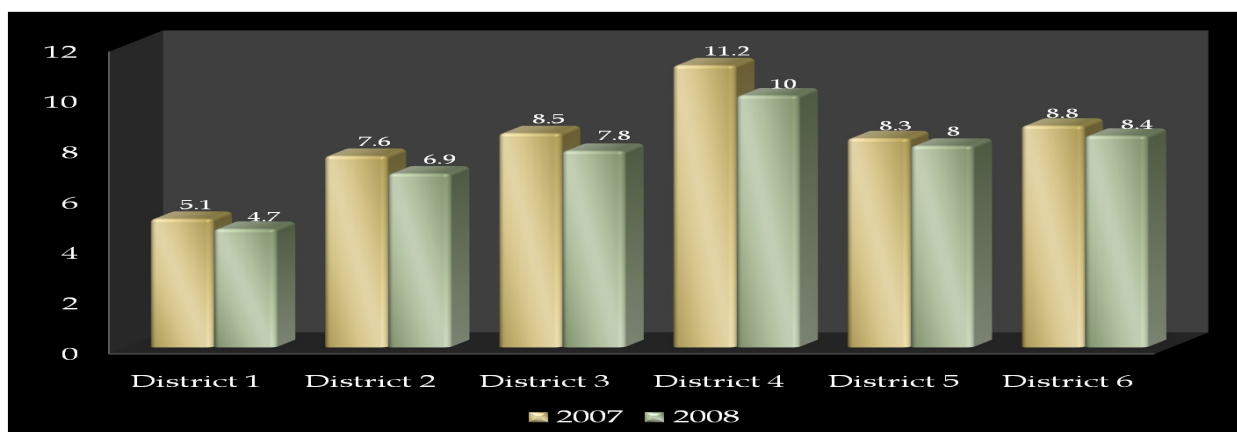
David Wunderlin-Elected to the Board April 2004, David also served 15 years as a firefighter for the fire district. David is currently the Midwest District Sales Manager for Akron Brass.



Jim Brown— Elected to the Board April 2004 and was re-elected April of 2008. Jim is retired and has been active doing community service within the village of Redings Mill for several years.

2008 Statistical Data

In terms of requests for assistance, 2008 proved to be another active year for the Redings Mill Fire District. The year was highlighted again by one ice storm, two floods, and a major tornado which resulted in a strain on our response abilities. In total, our organization responded to **1266** requests for assistance which is a small decrease from 2007. One of the things that we were extremely proud of was our reduction in response time throughout the fire district. In 2008, our average response time for major incidents was **7 minutes and 22 seconds**, nearly a **30 second** reduction from 2007. The graph below represents response times for all areas of the district compared to 2007.

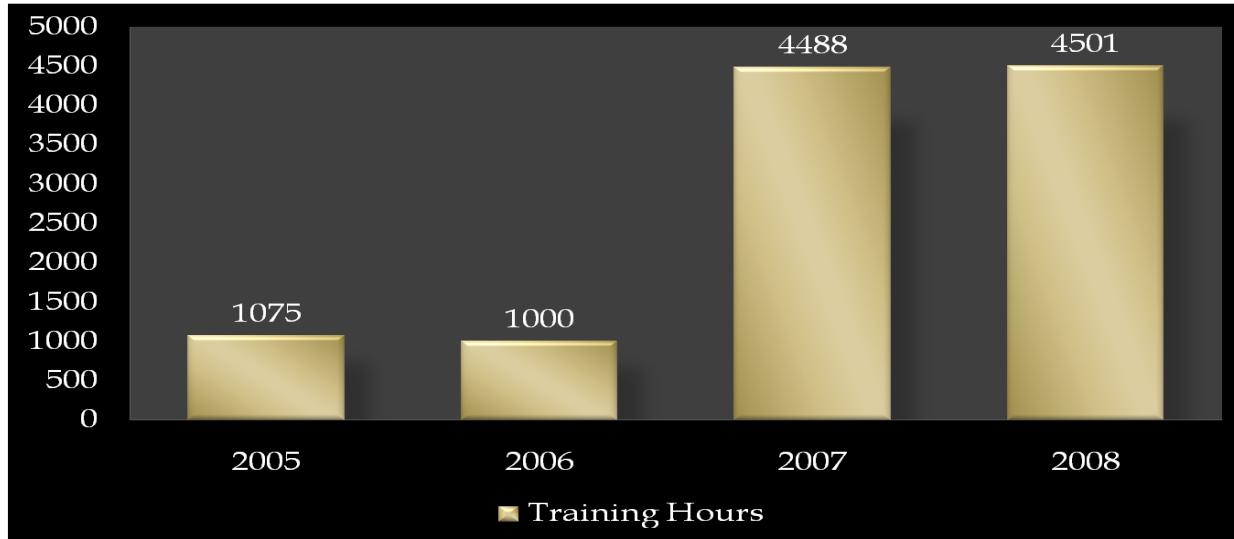


Individual Community Breakdown

Community	EMS	Fire	Total
Cliff Village	4	2	6
Dennis Acres	3	1	4
Leawood	10	17	27
Redings Mill	4	2	6
Shoal Creek Drive	13	4	17
Saginaw	22	6	28
Silver Creek	34	17	51
Shoal Creek Estates	1	1	2
Loma Linda	14	5	19
Grand Falls	7	1	8
East Unincorporated	Breakdown Unavailable	Breakdown Unavailable	349
West Unincorporated	Breakdown Unavailable	Breakdown Unavailable	361
Central Unincorporated	Breakdown Unavailable	Breakdown Unavailable	178
Out of District Responses	Breakdown Unavailable	Breakdown Unavailable	248

Training Activity

Training has always remained a top priority for our fire district. In 2008, our organization trained for a combined **4501** staff hours. In 2008, we spent a great deal of time focusing on safe and efficient operations, included in this is driver training, firefighter safety and survival, and basic skills. This emphasis on safety resulted in no claims to workers compensation due to injuries on incidents or during training. The impact of this was a significant reduction in workers compensation premiums for 2009. Additionally, our organization participated in joint training operations with other agencies that we have mutual and automatic aid agreements with. The graph below details the increase in training hours over the past four years. The large increase from 2006 to 2007 was a result of hiring a full time assistant chief assigned to training.



Non-Incident activities take up a great deal of our staff's time for both career and volunteer staff members. This includes, hydrant maintenance, hose testing, station projects, and physical fitness. In 2008, our staff members totaled **2360** staff hours of non-incident activity.

A final major component of our organization is our public education program. In 2008 we aggressively began pursuing an elite designation for our fire district known as a "firewise community". This designation is given to communities that work to prevent wildfires by educating homeowners and assisting homeowners in creating safe barriers that will prevent a wildfire from destroying their property. We are extremely close to reaching this designation and once we have reached it, we will be the first fire district in the state to be designated as a "firewise community". Also included in our public education program is a puppet show for children, 911 address signs, and other educational programs. In total, we saw **3,119** children and **3,415** adults. This is a tremendous accomplishment considering there are no schools located within our fire district boundaries.

In all, 2008 was a very busy year, totaling more than **10,861** staff hours of service to the citizens of the Redings Mill Fire Protection District. To put this into perspective, it would take **4** people working **8** hours per day every day of the year to total these staff hours.

What's in Store for 2009

Our primary focus in 2009 is to go through an evaluation process by the Insurance Services Organization (ISO). ISO is the primary evaluator of a fire departments ability to suppress fire in the United States, this evaluation will ultimately lead to a rating which will have an impact on your homeowners insurance. The ratings are from 1-10, ten being considered "unprotected" and having the highest homeowners insurance premiums. This evaluation will be a comprehensive look at our overall abilities, rating our dispatch center, our equipment, our training, and the water supply system we have throughout our fire district. This was supposed to have taken place in 2008, however, due to some issues related to apparatus we were unable to get it accomplished.

Our Fire District currently has a split rating of 5/7, those that live within 5 miles of a fire station and have a certified fire hydrant within a 1000 feet of their home receive a five, anyone living within 5 miles of a fire station but do not have a fire hydrant within 1000 feet receive a seven rating. Since our last evaluation, we have passed a bond issue, adding stations, apparatus, and equipment to our fleet increasing our operational performance. The Department of Natural Resources has installed a major water system throughout the central and southern points of our fire district adding in well over 200 fire hydrants, and finally the most recent voter approved tax increase that has added full-time staffing to our primary station. It is our belief that we will show improvement on our last evaluation and it is our hope that this evaluation will put money back in the pockets of the citizens we protect.

A second major area of focus involves preparing and planning for disaster events within the boundaries of our fire district. In the past two years our fire district has went through two major ice storms, two major flood events, multiple flash flood events, and a catastrophic tornado. Through these events we have identified areas we need to improve in as an organization. One of those areas is in the development of an emergency management division within our organization. By creating an emergency management division, we will be able to not only be better prepared as a fire district, but we can also help prepare individual communities for their roles in disaster events.

Organizational Finances

The hot topic throughout the nation is the economy and the effects that the economy has on everyone and every agency. The Fire Service unfortunately is not immune to the effects of a sluggish economy. Our funding is 100% tax based and we only see increases in funding through new construction. As the housing industry struggles then we begin to see flat growth in terms of revenues. In 2009, we saw little growth in our revenues, but as with all agencies we saw an increase in operational expenses.

The positive side of this is, that our Board of Directors recognized this trend early on and began a conservative approach to budgeting for the fire district. Even with the flat growth and increased operational expenditures we were able to budget for items that we needed as well as expend services by creating an emergency management division within the organization that we feel will bridge a gap of protection that we have for the citizens that we serve.

Our Board of Directors has continued to remain cautious and conservative with our spending ensuring that we do not over-extend ourselves in debt service and maintain adequate reserves in case of an emergency.