

# ***WINNETKA FIRE DEPARTMENT***

*Serving the community since 1898*



# 2010 Annual Report



## **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Winnetka Fire Department is to provide the community with a quality life safety and property conservation program in a comprehensive and efficient manner implemented through fire prevention, public education, fire suppression, life rescue, and emergency medical services.

# Winnetka Fire Department Organizational Chart

**Fire Chief**

**Scott Smith**

**Ralph Ensign**

Until 11/12/10  
Interim 11/12/10

**John Ripka**

Acting Deputy Fire Chief

**Lt. Erik Thornton**

Administrative Lt.

**Randy Fromm**  
Fire Prevention

**Mary Franke**  
Secretary/Receptionist

**Summer Employees**  
Hydrant Inspector  
Pre-plan Intern

## Operations

**A Shift**

**B Shift**

**C Shift**

**Captain/Medic**

**Rob Bowne**  
Captain/Medic

**Thomas Hutchison**  
Captain/Medic

**Dennis Legan**  
Lieutenant/Medic

**Ryan Banks**  
Lieutenant/Medic

**Lee Doyle**  
Lieutenant/Medic

FM Lee Fanslow  
FM Larry Dieterich  
FM James Gerard  
FM/R Tony Latronica  
FM/R Scott Porter

FM Thomas Wellington  
FM Chris Kopecky  
FM Andy MacArthur  
FM Adam Kolka  
FM/R Martin Joyce

FM Jim Minogue  
FM Steve Pearson  
FM Jon Colpaert  
FM Scott Michehl  
FM/R Chris Tillson

## Administration Programs

### **A/DC Ripka**

Fire Investigations  
Hazardous Materials  
Fire Prevention

### **Lieutenant Banks**

Emergency Medical Services  
Safety

### **Lieutenant Legan**

Apparatus Maintenance  
Water Supply  
Tools & Appliances

### **Lieutenant Thornton**

Public Education  
Preplans  
Hose

### **Captain Bowne**

Underwater Rescue & Recovery  
Breathing Apparatus  
Physical Fitness

### **Captain Hutchison**

Training Coordinator  
Technical Rescue  
Records and Reports

### **Lieutenant Doyle**

Facilities Maintenance  
Communications

## MABAS Division III Special Teams

### **Underwater Rescue & Recovery**

Captain Bowne (Team Leader)  
Captain Hutchison  
Lieutenant Doyle  
Lieutenant Thornton  
Firemedic Dieterich

### **Fire Investigations**

A/DC Ripka (Team Leader)  
Lieutenant Legan  
Firemedic Wellington  
Firemedic Colpaert

### **Hazardous Materials**

A/DC Ripka (Team Leader)  
Lieutenant Legan  
Firemedic Recruit Tillson

### **Technical Rescue**

Captain Hutchison (Team Leader)  
Firemedic Colpaert  
Firemedic Kopecky

## **Fire Department Overview**

The Fire Department provides the following comprehensive programs and services to the residents of the village: Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Fire Prevention, Public Education, and Emergency Management.

### **2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Maintained all operational programs including: Fire Prevention Inspections, Pump Testing, Public Education, Hose and Ladder Testing, Equipment and Apparatus Maintenance, Hydrant and Fire Flow Testing, as well as Personnel Training Programs.
- Maintained department equipment and personnel in a state of readiness and preparedness for response to medical, rescue and fire emergencies.
- Responded to **2,230** incidents including **681** emergency medical calls for assistance.
- Placed a new quint/aerial ladder truck in service in November.
- Continued to use part-time staff to supplement the fire prevention and hydrant inspection programs.
- Hired replacement personnel due to the retirements of 4 Fire Captains and the Deputy Fire Chief.
- Department Captains obtained NIMS 300 & 400 level certifications from FEMA.
- Completed over 7,000 hours of training for all personnel.
- Trained and certified ALL department Paramedics in “Advanced Cardiac Life Support.”
- Trained and certified one additional Hazardous Materials team member to the Technician A level.
- Trained and certified one member as a Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Specialist.
- Installed new 12 lead EKG (electrocardiogram) faxing devices on the ambulance cardiac monitor/defibrillators.
- Fire department members attended numerous outside training classes and programs in firefighting and fire prevention.
- Recertified the Village of Winnetka Emergency Operations Plan with the Cook County Emergency Management Agency.
- Updated department Standard Operating Guidelines.

## 2010 Major Events

In 2010, the Winnetka Fire Department was challenged with the retirement of 6 senior staff members (4 Captains, the department Deputy Chief and Fire Chief). The combined professionalism and experience of these members will be sorely missed. However, through their tireless dedication in the mentoring of junior members, the department is prepared to face any challenges that lie ahead. The following personnel finished their fire careers and retired from the Winnetka Fire Department:

- Chief Scott Smith
- Deputy Chief Steven Laureys
- Captains: Thomas Trausch, Michael Roeder, Mark Raupp and Dale Solberg

In 2010 the department welcomed its newest firemedic recruits:

- Firefighter/Paramedics: Scott Porter and Martin Joyce
- Firefighters: Chris Tillson and Tony Latronica

In 2010 the department promoted/appointed the following personnel:

- Acting Deputy Chief : John Ripka
- Lieutenant to Captain: Rob Bowne, Thomas Hutchison and John Ripka
- Firemedic to Lieutenant: R. Banks, D. Legan, L. Doyle, E. Thornton



Chief Smith's last day after 32yrs,11mos. of dedicated service to the village of Winnetka

## New Quint/Aerial Ladder Truck

The fire department placed a new quint/aerial truck in service in 2010. The apparatus is a 75' Quint which allows the department to continue to provide suppression, ventilation and rescue. It replaces a 20 year old truck which was purchased in 1990.



## Incident Response

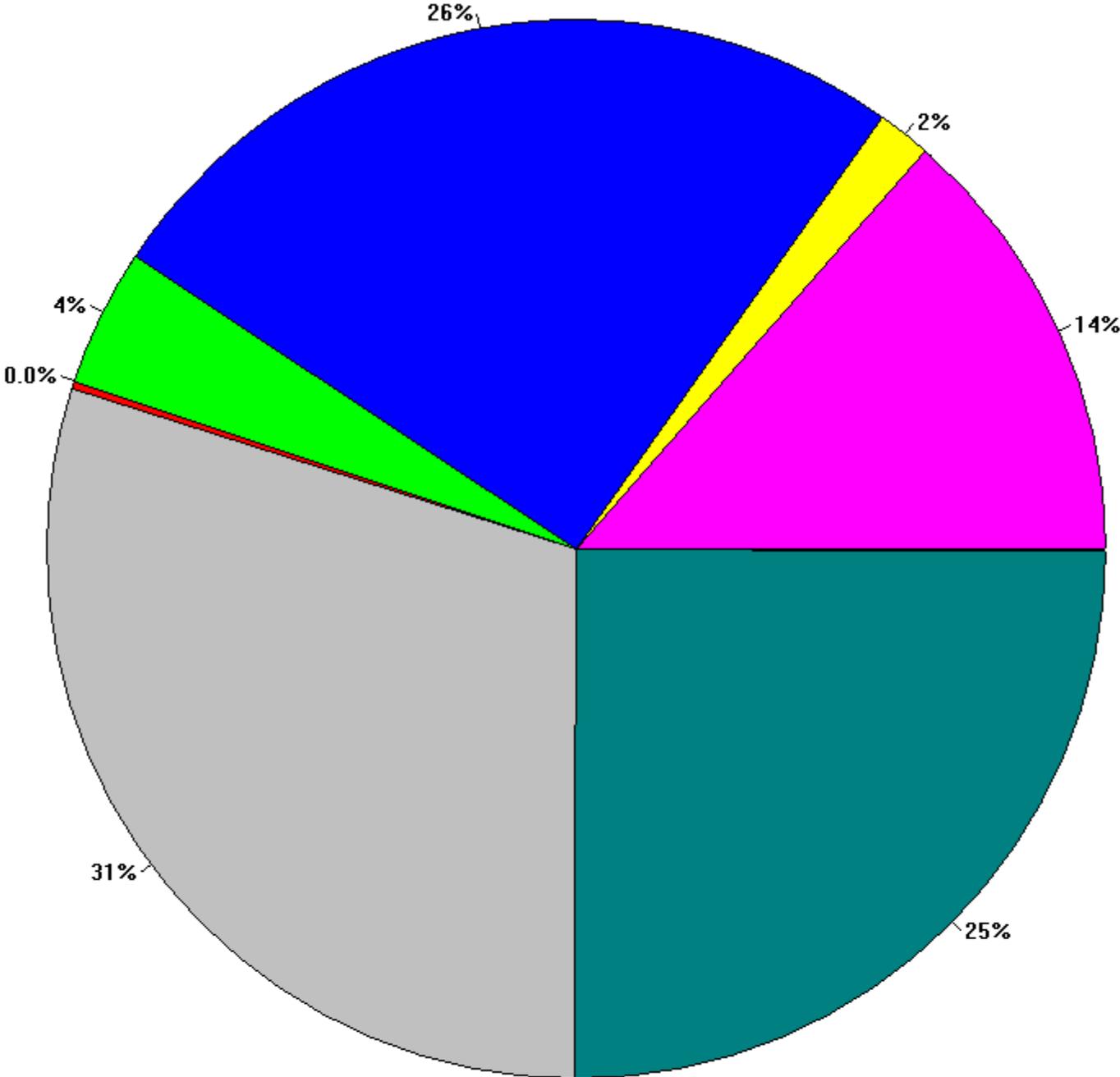
During 2010, the Winnetka Fire Department responded to **2,230** calls for service. Approximately **1.65%** of the responses were for various types of fires. Some of the more significant fires are listed below:

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Address</b>                  | <b>Loss</b>     |
|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 4/6/2010    | 2100 Elmwood –Wilmette          | Auto-Aid        |
| 4/21/2010   | 1332 Emerson Street – Evanston  | Box alarm       |
| 4/29/2010   | 140 Hawthorn Avenue – Glencoe   | Auto-Aid        |
| 4/29/2010   | 615 Dundee – Northbrook         | Box alarm       |
| 5/29/2010   | 907 Oak Street – Winnetka       | <b>\$4,000</b>  |
| 6/7/2010    | 555 Birch street – Winnetka     | <b>\$1,500</b>  |
| 6/7/2010    | 321 Sheridan Road – Winnetka    | <b>\$17,000</b> |
| 6/18/2010   | 921 Greenwood Avenue- Wilmette  | Auto-Aid        |
| 7/24/2010   | 841 Westerfield – Wilmette      | Auto-Aid        |
| 7/24/2010   | 1334 Asbury – Evanston          | Box alarm       |
| 7/31/2010   | 245 Greenleaf Avenue – Wilmette | Auto-Aid        |
| 9/14/2010   | 310 Green Bay Road - Winnetka   | <b>\$4,000</b>  |
| 11/5/2010   | 67 Estate Drive – Glencoe       | Auto-Aid        |
| 12/25/2010  | 1809 Laurel Avenue – Evanston   | Box alarm       |

The Winnetka Fire Department's largest fire loss was on 6/7/2010 at 321 Sheridan. The loss was estimated at \$17,000.

# Incident Response

Incident Type Summary  
Alarm Date Between {01/01/2010} And {12/31/2010}



- False Alarm & False Call
- Good Intent Call
- Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat(no fire)
- Service Call
- Fire
- Hazardous Condition (No Fire)
- Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident

There was **681** calls for Emergency Medical/Rescues, accounting for **30.53%** of the total incidents. **127** calls were for fire and other hazardous conditions. Service and good intent calls accounted for **1,120** incidents, or **50.21%** of the total responses.

#### INCIDENT TYPE REPORT

| <u>INCIDENT TYPE</u>   | <u>COUNT</u> | <u>PCT OF INCIDENTS</u> |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|
| <b>1 Fire</b>  |              |                         |
| 100 Fire, other  | 3            | 0.13%                   |
| 111 Building fire  | 14           | 0.62%                   |
| 113 Cooking fire, confined to container                      | 6            | 0.26%                   |
| 114 Chimney or flue fire, confined to chimney or flue        | 2            | 0.08%                   |
| 131 Passenger vehicle fire                                   | 1            | 0.04%                   |
| 141 Forest, woods or wildland fire                           | 1            | 0.04%                   |
| 150 Outside rubbish fire, other                              | 2            | 0.08%                   |
| 151 Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire                     | 1            | 0.04%                   |
| 154 Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle               | 2            | 0.08%                   |
| 160 Special outside fire, other                              | 3            | 0.13%                   |
| 161 Outside storage fire                                     | <u>2</u>     | <u>0.08%</u>            |
|  | <b>37</b>    | <b>1.65%</b>            |
| <b>2 Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat – no fire</b> |              |                         |
| 251 Excessive heat, scorch burns with no                     | <u>2</u>     | <u>0.08%</u>            |
|  | <b>2</b>     | <b>0.08%</b>            |
| <b>3 Rescue &amp; Emergency Medical Service Incidents</b>    |              |                         |
| 300 Rescue, EMS incident, other                              | 2            | 0.08%                   |
| 311 Medical assist, assist EMS crew                          | 7            | 0.31%                   |
| 321 EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury         | 591          | 26.50%                  |
| 322 Motor vehicle accident with injuries                     | 34           | 1.52%                   |
| 323 Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)               | 11           | 0.49%                   |
| 324 Motor vehicle accident with no injuries                  | 16           | 0.71%                   |
| 331 Lock-in (if lock out, use 511)                           | 8            | 0.35%                   |
| 353 Removal or victim(s) from stalled elevator               | 9            | 0.40%                   |
| 360 Water & ice-related rescue, other                        | <u>3</u>     | <u>0.13%</u>            |
|  | <b>681</b>   | <b>30.53%</b>           |
| <b>4 Hazardous conditions (No fire)</b>                      |              |                         |
| 400 Hazardous condition, other                               | 2            | 0.08%                   |
| 410 Combustible/flammable gas/liquid condition, other        | 1            | 0.04%                   |
| 411 Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill                 | 3            | 0.13%                   |
| 412 Gas leak (natural gas of LPG)                            | 37           | 1.65%                   |
| 420 Toxic condition, other                                   | 1            | 0.04%                   |
| 424 Carbon monoxide incident                                 | 13           | 0.58%                   |
| 440 Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other               | 5            | 0.22%                   |
| 441 Heat from short circuit (wiring)                         | 1            | 0.04%                   |
| 442 Overheated motor   | 2            | 0.08%                   |
| 443 Breakdown of light ballast                               | 4            | 0.17%                   |
| 444 Power line down  | 10           | 0.44%                   |
| 445 Arcing, shorted electrical equipment                     | 5            | 0.22%                   |
| 451 Biological hazard, confirmed or suspected                | 1            | 0.04%                   |
| 460 Accident, potential Accident, other                      | 1            | 0.04%                   |
| 471 Explosive, bomb removal (for bomb scare, use 721)        | 1            | 0.04%                   |
| 480 Attempted burning, illegal action, other                 | <u>1</u>     | <u>0.04%</u>            |
|  | <b>88</b>    | <b>3.94%</b>            |

| <b>INCIDENT TYPE</b> | <b>COUNT</b> | <b>PCT OF INCIDENTS</b> |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
|----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|

**5 Service Call**

|  |            |              |
|--|------------|--------------|
| 500 Service Call, other                        | 323        | 14.48%       |
| 511 Lock-out                                   | 34         | 1.52%        |
| 520 Water problem, other                       | 2          | 0.08%        |
| 522 Water or steam leak                        | 11         | 0.49%        |
| 531 Smoke or odor removal                      | 10         | 0.44%        |
| 542 Animal rescue                              | 1          | 0.04%        |
| 551 Assist police or other governmental agency | 1          | 0.04%        |
| 554 Assist invalid                             | 23         | 1.03%        |
| 555 Defective elevator, no occupants           | 6          | 0.26%        |
| 561 Unauthorized burning                       | 3          | 0.13%        |
| 571 Cover assignment, standby, move up         | <u>137</u> | <u>6.14%</u> |
|  | 551        | 24.70%       |

**6 Good Intent Call**

|   |          |              |
|---|----------|--------------|
| 600 Good intent call, other                       | 19       | 0.85%        |
| 611 Dispatched & cancelled en route               | 323      | 14.48%       |
| 621 Wrong location                                | 1        | 0.04%        |
| 622 No Incident found on arrival at dispatch      | 2        | 0.08%        |
| 650 Steam, Other gas mistaken for smoke, other    | 6        | 0.26%        |
| 651 Smoke scare, odor of smoke                    | 129      | 5.78%        |
| 652 Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke | 88       | 3.94%        |
| 653 Smoke from barbecue, tar kettle               | <u>1</u> | <u>0.04%</u> |
|   | 569      | 25.51%       |

**7 False Alarm & False Call**

|  |           |              |
|--|-----------|--------------|
| 700 False alarm or false call, other                 | 3         | 0.13%        |
| 710 Malicious, mischievous false call, other         | 2         | 0.08%        |
| 730 System malfunction, other                        | 40        | 1.79%        |
| 731 Sprinkler activation due to malfunction          | 1         | 0.04%        |
| 733 Smoke detector activation due to                 | 45        | 2.01%        |
| 734 Heat detector activation due to malfunction      | 1         | 0.04%        |
| 735 Alarm system sounded due to malfunction          | 33        | 1.47%        |
| 736 CO detector activation due to malfunction        | 27        | 1.21%        |
| 740 Unintentional transmission of alarm, other       | 27        | 1.21%        |
| 743 Smoke detector activation, no fire-unintentional | 20        | 0.89%        |
| 744 Detector activation, no fire-unintentional       | 10        | 0.44%        |
| 745 Alarm system activation, no fire-unintentional   | 59        | 2.64%        |
| 745A Medical Alarm False Activation                  | 5         | 0.22%        |
| 746 Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO       | <u>29</u> | <u>1.30%</u> |
|  | 302       | 13.54%       |

Total Incident Count: 2230

## Training

Department personnel completed **7,009** hours of fire and emergency medical training. Of the total training hours **1,587** hours were devoted to emergency medical services training. Line personnel averaged **318** hours of training for the year, or **26.5** hours per month. Some of the in-house training classes attended by department members in 2010 included:

Monthly Paramedic Continuing Education

Apparatus Operations and Driving

Emergency Operations Center Training

Reading Smoke

Chemical-Biological-Radiological-Nuclear Mask Training

Annual Right-to-Know Training

Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Training

Practical evolutions conducted at the Winnetka Fire training tower

MABAS Division III Special Teams Training including:

- Hazardous Materials Drills
- Technical Rescue Drills
- Underwater Rescue and Recovery – Dive team Drills
- Fire Investigations Task Force Drills.

Multi-company night drills conducted at the Winnetka Fire training tower

Multi-company Rapid Intervention Crew training at NIPSTA

Advance Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Class



Ice rescue training at the water plant

## Department Training con't

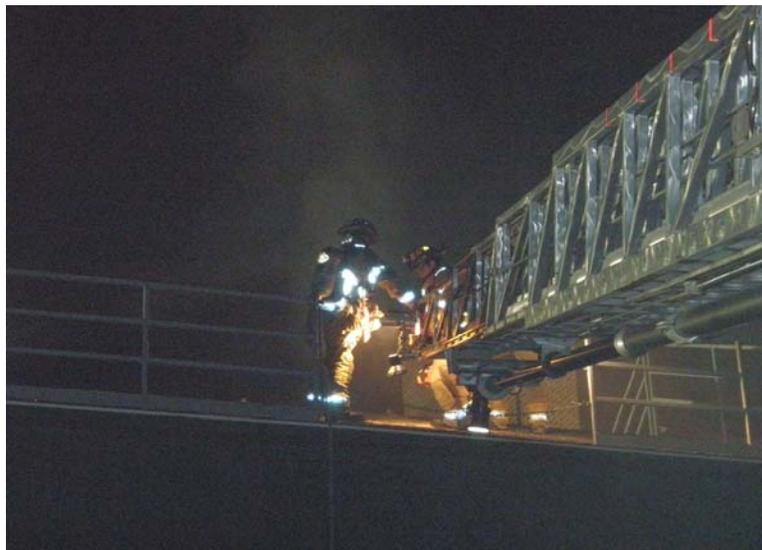
| <b>2010 Outside Training Classes &amp; Seminars</b> |  |              |
|---|--|--------------|
|   | Class  | Location     |
| One person  | DHS exercise evaluation program                  | Winnetka     |
| One person  | OSHA & Bloodborne Pathogens                      | Northlake    |
|   | Train the trainer                                |              |
| One person  | Reid Techniques of Interviewing & Interrogations | Oak Brook    |
| One person  | Fire Inspector I Certification                   | OSFM         |
| One person  | Fire Officer Workshop- An internal Size up       | Hanover Park |
| One person  | Fire Officer II Certification                    | OSFM         |
| One person  | Fireworks inspection seminar                     | IFIA         |
| One person  | 2010 Trauma/EMS Symposium                        |              |
| Two person  | 15 year Paramedic Award                          |              |
| One person  | Fire Officer I Certification                     | OSFM         |
| Two persons   | Open meetings & FOIA Training                    |              |
| Three persons                                       | NIMS 300   | NIPSTA       |
| Three persons                                       | NIMS 400   | NIPSTA       |
| One person  | Fire officer I (Leadership I)                    | NIPSTA       |
| Two persons   | Interview training for Police&Fire               | Rosemont     |
| One person  | Fire officer I (Leadership II)                   | NIPSTA       |
| One person  | ICS 400  | Schaumburg   |
| One person  | Haz Mat Tech A (40 hour)-                        | Northlake    |
| Two persons   | Seminar- "Calling the Mayday                     | NIPSTA       |
| One person  | Inspector I -(40 hour)                           | Addison      |
| One person  | Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Specialist      |              |
| One person  | Fire Prevention Principles- FOI program          | NIPSTA       |
| Two persons   | Firefighter II- 320 hour training                | NIPSTA       |
| Two persons   | FFII Fire Academy                                | NIPSTA       |
| Two persons   | FFII Certification                               | OSFM         |
| One person  | Hazardous Materials Awareness                    | OSFM         |
| One person  | Haz Mat Tech A Certification                     | OSFM         |
| One person  | Haz Mat 1st Responder- Operations level          | OSFM         |
| One person  | Instructor I Class- 40 hours                     | NIPSTA       |
| One person  | Class- "Writing to the Technical Competencies"   |              |
| One person  | NIMS- Q-297 Awareness of Command & Control       |              |
| One person  | NIMS- Q-324 ICS Simulation- Ranch House          |              |
| One person  | NIMS-Q-318 Fire Service Supervision              |              |
| One person  | NIMS-Q-325 Simulation series- Townhouse          |              |

## Night Drill at the Training Tower

One of the most valuable training assets is the fire department training tower located at the Village yards. Its versatility gives the department opportunities to prepare for residential and commercial structure fires under realistic conditions.



Night training, which is required annually, is conducted at the training tower. This training offer includes multi-company operations with our surrounding communities.



Special skills training allows department members to practice techniques that include elevated ladder operations, ventilation, rescue, forcible entry, and hose advancement.

## Special Teams Training

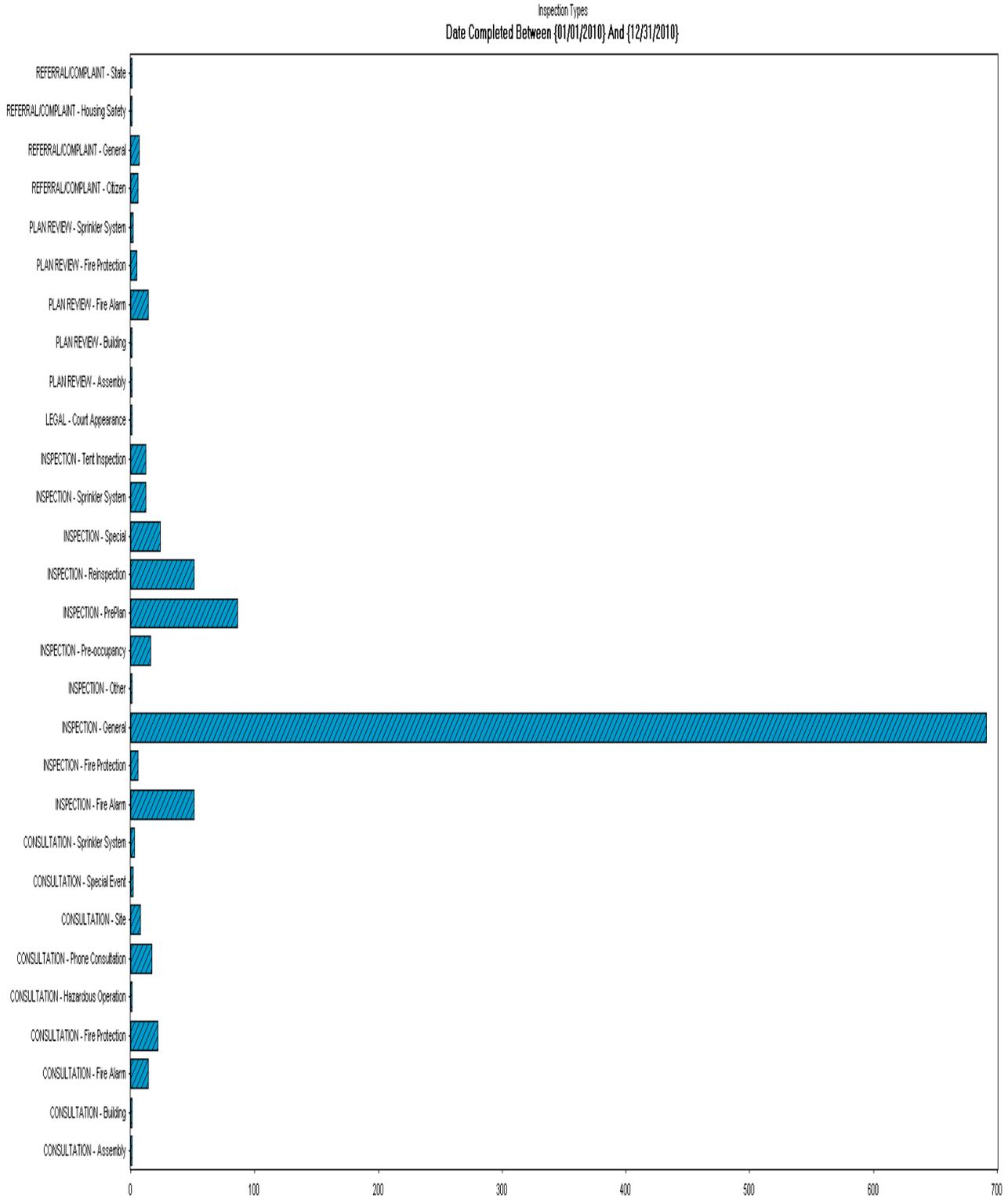


In addition to fire fighting and paramedic duties, many of our members are part of the MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System) Division III special teams. These include: Underwater Rescue & Recovery, Technical Rescue, Hazardous Materials, and Fire Investigation teams. In order to participate in the MABAS teams, members must obtain specialized certifications some of which can take over 300 hours of training. Additionally annually each member must complete at least 24 hours of team skills training. Multi-jurisdictional teams allow smaller municipalities the security of large scale deployment during emergencies, with the added benefit of cost savings through the efficient use of shared resources.



# Fire Prevention

During 2010, department personnel conducted 977 inspections and documented 1,477 violations. Also completed were 86 commercial building pre-plan reviews. The graph below lists the types of inspections completed in 2010.



## **Public Education**

The Winnetka Fire Department provided quality educational training, lectures, tours, civic appearances, and informative materials to the public to increase fire safety and prevention awareness. The department provided information on many safety issues through participation in Village events including the children's fair, local parades, and the sidewalk sale. Speakers and/or instructors were provided to civic organizations including the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and private businesses for annual CPR and first-aid training.

In October, the annual fire department open house was held at the conclusion of fire prevention week. The theme for 2010 was "Smoke alarms: A Sound you can live with". This event showcased apparatus and equipment used in firefighting and emergency medical situations. The Open House was again coordinated with the Winnetka Police Department and both departments provided activities for the community to enjoy. Department personnel were on hand to supply fire and life safety information to visitors and had the opportunity to answer any and all questions.

The Juvenile Fire Setter's Program is available to families when youths have demonstrated inappropriate fire setting behaviors. After interviewing these children, the intervention specialist provides educational material and follow-up sessions for the low risk offender. For higher risk juveniles, the intervention specialist will recommend further counseling within a network of professionals that have been established to provide further assistance.

The fire department provides a wide variety of services to the community. We continue to challenge ourselves through extensive training in order to gain the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to provide the highest level of service and response to our community. It is through this dedication that we are able to provide a modern professional Fire/EMS response.

