

# ***WINNETKA FIRE DEPARTMENT***

*Scott T. Smith, Fire Chief*



# 2009 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

**Scott T. Smith**  
Fire Chief

**Steven F. Laureys**  
Deputy Fire Chief

**Lt. John Ripka**  
**Randy Fromm**  
Fire Prevention

**Mary Franke**  
Secretary

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

### Operations

#### A Shift

**Michael Roeder**  
Captain/Medic

**Thomas Hutchison**  
Lieutenant/Medic

FM Jim Minogue  
FM Lee Doyle  
FM Dennis Legan  
FM James Gerard  
FM Andy MacArthur

#### B Shift

**Tom Trausch**  
Captain/Medic

**Mark Raupp**  
Lieutenant/Medic

FM Thomas Wellington  
FM Steve Pearson  
FM Chris Kopecky  
FM Erik Thornton  
FM/R Adam Kolka

#### C Shift

**Dale Solberg**  
Captain/Medic

**Rob Bowne**  
Lieutenant/Medic

FM Lee Fanslow  
FM Larry Dieterich  
FM Jon Colpaert  
FM Ryan Banks  
FM Scott Michehl

## Administration Programs

### **Captain Solberg**

Fire Investigations  
Emergency Management Coordinator  
Communications  
Maintenance Facilities

### **Captain Trausch**

Emergency Medical Services  
Safety  
Research & Development

### **Captain Roeder**

Training Development

### **Lieutenant Ripka**

Fire Prevention  
Hazardous Materials

### **Lieutenant Bowne**

Under Water Rescue & Recovery  
Apparatus Maintenance  
Physical Fitness

### **Lieutenant Hutchison**

Technical Rescue  
Records Management  
Water Supply  
Hose, Tools & Appliances

### **Lieutenant Raupp**

Public Education  
Information Technology  
Preplans

## MABAS Division III Special Teams

### **Underwater Rescue & Recovery**

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

### **Fire Investigations**

Captain Solberg (Team Leader)  
Captain Roeder  
Lieutenant Ripka  
Firemedic Wellington  
Firemedic Legan  
Firemedic Colpaert

### **Hazardous Materials**

Lt John Ripka (Team Leader)  
Firemedic Legan

### **Technical Rescue**

Lieutenant 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, Fire / EMS training & Certification, and Emergency Management.

### **2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Maintained all operational programs, i.e., Fire Prevention Inspections, Pump Testing, Public Education Programs, Hose and Ladder testing, Equipment and Apparatus Maintenance, Hydrant and Flow Testing as well as Personnel Training Programs.
- Maintained department equipment and personnel in a state of readiness and preparedness for response to emergency medical, rescue and fire emergencies.
- Responded to 2,276 emergency incidents including 705 rescue and emergency medical incidents.
- Continued to use part-time staff to supplement fire prevention and hydrant inspection programs.
- Continued training of all employees to comply with the Federal NIMS (National Incident Management System) requirements. Additional training level requirements are added each year.
- Department Lieutenants obtained NIMS 300 & 400 level certifications.
- Newest department recruit completed paramedic school and received licensure with the Illinois Department of Public Health.
- Personnel received the following certifications from the Office of the State Fire Marshall: Training Program Manager, Incident Safety Officer, Fire Officer I
- Personnel recognized by the Illinois Department of Public Health for years of service as a paramedic: 30 years- Scott Smith, Thomas Trausch, Michael Roeder, Mark Raupp, 25 years- Steven Laureys, 5 years- James Gerard
- Fire department members attended numerous outside training classes and programs in firefighting and fire prevention.
- Certified one member as CPR and First Aid instructor with the American Heart Association.
- Conducted the hiring process in order to maintain a hiring list of eligible candidates for firemedic position.
- Participated in our regional dispatch center (RED) strategic planning process including subcommittee process (budget and administration).

## **2009 ACCOMPLISHMENTS continued**

- Purchased replacements of 2 twelve lead monitor/defibrillators keeping our EMS cardiac equipment up to date and state of the art.
  - Participated in the State of Illinois validation of MABAS Division III Technical Rescue Team.
  - Continued enhancements to the Winnetka Fire Department training tower including props, room additions, smoke generating and burn rooms.
  - Provided 6,524 hours of training for all personnel.
  - Trained and certified ALL department paramedics in “Pediatric Advanced Life Support”.
  - Purchased advanced medical training equipment- 12 lead electrocardiogram simulator for paramedic training (12 lead EKG).
  - Conducted department head and assistant department head training- exercising the Village’s emergency operations plan.
  - Completed the installation and integration of fire department vehicles with dispatch center (RED) and mobile data dispatch terminals- Computerized dispatch
  - Participated in area wide school emergency response drill – New Trier High School personnel and New Trier Township Police and Fire Departments.
- Completed contract negotiation with the fire union.
- Specifications were written and purchase process was started for purchase and replacement of Ladder Quint vehicle.



Pictured is the 1990 Pierce aerial ladder Quint that has seen 20 year of continual service

## New Recruit — BIFF (Big Inflatable Fire Fighter)

In 2009, the Winnetka Fire Department welcomed its' newest recruit BIFF. In addition to working the Children's fair, BIFF will spend many hours during the year attending various schools and other community functions in order to fully educate the residents of the village in fire safety. BIFF was an immediate hit with the children and has fit in quite well around the station.



Biff taking a break out at the ice rink during the Park District touch-a-truck event



Biff hanging out with the kids at the Children's Fair

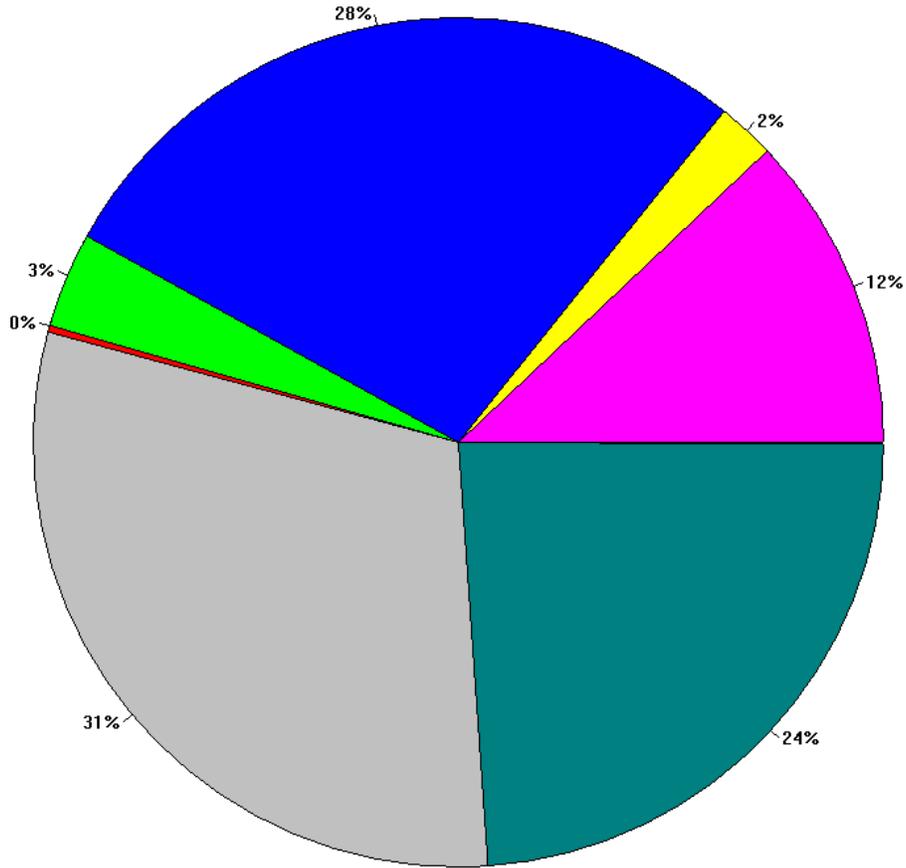
## Incident Response

During 2009, the Winnetka Fire Department responded to **2,276** calls for service. Approximately **2.19%** of the responses were for various types of fires resulting in an estimated property value saved in the amount of **\$35,039,900**. The corresponding estimated building and contents fire loss was **\$170,100** in the Winnetka primary coverage area. Some of the more significant fires are listed below:

<b>DATE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>LOSS</b>
1/22/09	29 Coventry (Northfield)	Auto-Aid
3/24/09	550 Green Bay Road (Highwood)	Box Alarm
3/31/09	4963 Old Orchard Street (Skokie)	Box Alarm
4/7/09	2047 Wilmette Avenue (Wilmette)	Auto-Aid
5/10/09	9640 Laramie (Skokie)	Box Alarm
6/3/09	177 De Windt Road	<b>\$5,100</b>
6/12/09	1188 Green Bay Road (Glencoe)	Auto-Aid
6/15/09	636 Sheridan Road (Highwood)	Box Alarm
6/18/09	1125 Dewey (Evanston)	Box Alarm
6/21/09	401 Maple Avenue (Wilmette)	Auto-Aid
7/18/09	1821 Hovland Court (Evanston)	Box Alarm
8/27/09	150 Laurel Avenue (Wilmette)	Auto-Aid
8/31/09	521 Woodlawn Avenue (Glencoe)	Auto-Aid
9/10/09	200 Ridge Avenue	<b>\$10,000</b>
9/13/09	615 Ivy Court (Kenilworth)	<b>\$115,000</b>
9/14/09	240 Beach Road (Glencoe)	Auto-Aid
10/3/09	191 Linden Street	<b>\$15,000</b>
10/7/09	2014 Dodge Street (Evanston)	Box Alarm
12/18/09	620 Lincoln Avenue	<b>\$25,000</b>
12/31/09	1020 Linden Avenue (Wilmette)	Auto-Aid

The Winnetka Fire Department's largest fire loss was on 9/13/2009 at 615 Ivy Ct in Kenilworth. The loss was estimated at \$115,000.

Incident Type Summary  
Alarm Date Between {01/01/2009} And {12/31/2009}



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 **705** calls for Emergency Medical/Rescues, accounting for **30.97%** of the total incidents. **130** calls were for fire and other hazardous conditions. Service and good intent calls accounted for **1,161** incidents, or **51.27%** 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	2	0.08%
111 Building fire	20	0.87%
113 Cooking fire, confined to container	16	0.70%
118 Trash or rubbish fire	1	0.04%
131 Passenger vehicle fire	3	0.13%
142 Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	3	0.13%
143 Grass fire	2	0.08%
150 Outside rubbish fire, other	1	0.04%
151 Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	1	0.04%
154 Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle	<u>1</u>	<u>0.04%</u>
	<b>50</b>	<b>2.19%</b>
<b>2 Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat – no fire</b>		
210 Overpressure rupture from steam, other	1	0.04%
240 Explosion (no fire), other	1	0.04%
251 Excessive heat, scorch burns with no	<u>1</u>	<u>0.04%</u>
	<b>3</b>	<b>0.13%</b>
<b>3 Rescue &amp; Emergency Medical Service Incidents</b>		
300 Rescue, EMS incident, other	3	0.13%
311 Medical assist, assist EMS crew	7	0.30%
321 EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with	616	27.06%
322 Motor vehicle accident with injuries	36	1.58%
323 Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	6	0.26%
324 Motor vehicle accident with no injuries	21	0.92%
331 Lock-in (if lock out, use 511)	7	0.30%
352 Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle	2	0.08%
353 Removal or victim(s) from stalled elevator	5	0.21%
363 Swift water rescue	1	0.04%
365 Watercraft rescue	<u>1</u>	<u>0.04%</u>
	<b>705</b>	<b>30.97%</b>
<b>4 Hazardous conditions (No fire)</b>		
400 Hazardous condition, other	3	0.13%
411 Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	5	0.21%
412 Gas leak (natural gas of LPG)	27	1.18%
413 Oil or other combustible liquid spill	1	0.04%
422 Chemical spill or leak	2	0.08%
424 Carbon monoxide incident	10	0.43%
440 Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	15	0.65%
441 Heat from short circuit (wiring)	1	0.04%
442 Overheated motor	3	0.13%
443 Breakdown of light ballast	2	0.08%
444 Power line down	4	0.17%
445 Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	3	0.13%
451 Biological hazard, confirmed or suspected	<u>1</u>	<u>0.04%</u>
	<b>77</b>	<b>3.38%</b>

<b>INCIDENT TYPE</b>	<b>COUNT</b>	<b>PCT OF INCIDENTS</b>
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**5 Service Call**

500 Service Call, other	325	14.27%
510 Person in distress, other	1	0.04%
511 Lock-out	26	1.14%
520 Water problem, other	9	0.39%
522 Water or steam leak	7	0.30%
531 Smoke or odor removal	11	0.48%
542 Animal rescue	1	0.04%
554 Assist invalid	17	0.74%
555 Defective elevator, no occupants	4	0.17%
561 Unauthorized burning	1	0.04%
571 Cover assignment, standby, move up	<u>134</u>	<u>5.88%</u>
	536	23.55%

**6 Good Intent Call**

600 Good intent call, other	37	1.62%
611 Dispatched & cancelled en route	370	16.25%
622 No Incident found on arrival at dispatch	1	0.04%
650 Steam, Other gas mistaken for smoke, other	4	0.17%
651 Smoke scare, odor of smoke	110	4.83%
652 Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be	<u>109</u>	<u>4.78%</u>
	631	27.72%

**7 False Alarm & False Call**

700 False alarm or false call, other	7	0.30%
710 Malicious, mischievous false call, other	1	0.04%
712 Direct tie to FD, malicious false alarm	1	0.04%
730 System malfunction, other	40	1.75%
731 Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	1	0.04%
732 Extinguishing system activation due to	1	0.04%
733 Smoke detector activation due to	35	1.53%
734 Heat detector activation due to malfunction	2	0.08%
735 Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	35	1.53%
736 CO detector activation due to malfunction	25	1.09%
740 Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	35	1.53%
741 Sprinkler activation, no fire	3	0.13%
743 Smoke detector activation, no fire	33	1.44%
744 Detector activation, no fire	9	0.39%
745 Alarm system activation, no fire	28	1.23%
745A Medical Alarm False Activation	4	0.17%
746 Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	<u>14</u>	<u>0.61%</u>
	274	12.03%

Total Incident Count: 2276

Total Est. Loss:

\$171,020

## Training

Department personnel completed **6,524** hours of fire and EMS training in 2009. **2,354** hours were spent on emergency medical services training. Line Personnel averaged **289** hours of training for the year, or **24** hours per month. Some of the outside training classes attended by department members in 2009 were:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class /Certification</u>	<u>Location</u>
Ripka	40 hour Certification - Inspector I	Mundelein
Hutchison	CPR Instructor Certification	Nat'l Safety Council
Dieterich	CPR Instructor Certification	Nat'l Safety Council
Raupp	NIMS- ICS 300 20 hour course 2/09	NIPSTA
Raupp	NIMS- ICS 400 16 hour course 3/09	NIPSTA
Hutchison	NIMS- ICS 300 20 hour course 5/09	NIPSTA
Kolka	Paramedic Licensure class	Highland Park
Ripka	NFPA- 3 day Life safety seminar	Chicago
Ripka	FP Seminar- "Human Behavior in Fire"	Addison
Hutchison	OSFM Incident Safety Officer Certification	Mundelein
Ripka	Fire Officer I certification	OSFM
Ripka	Pension trustee continuing education	PPFA
Solberg	NIMS- class- Introduction to Exercises	NIPSTA
Trausch	EMS conf. "In the midst of chaos"	Tinley Park
Bowne	NIMS- ICS 300	NIPSTA
Ripka	NFPA Plan Examiner Class	Downers Grove
Hutchison	Training Program Manager Certification	OSFM

### **Illinois Department of Public Health- Awards for service:**

#### **30 years**

Chief Scott Smith,  
Captain Thomas Trausch,  
Captain Michael Roeder,  
Lieutenant Mark Raupp

#### **25 years**

Deputy Chief Steve Laureys

#### **5 years**

Firemedic James Gerard

## Department Training

Monthly Paramedic Continuing Education

Apparatus Drivers training

Emergency Operations Center Training

Reading smoke class

Chemical-Biological-Radiological-Nuclear Mask Training

Annual Right to Know Training

SCBA Training

Practical evolutions conducted at the Winnetka Fire training tower

MABAS Division Special Teams Training

- Hazmat Drills
- Technical Rescue Drills
- UWRR – Dive team Drills
- Fire Investigations Task Force Drills.

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

Multi-company Rapid Intervention Crew at NIPSTA

Pediatric Advance Life Support (PALS) Class



Ice Rescue training conducted on each shift

## Tower Training

One of the most valuable training assets is the fire department training tower. Its versatility gives the department opportunity to realistically prepare for residential structure fires.



Annually required night training is conducted at the tower in the Multi-Company setting with surrounding communities participating.



Special training skills drills allow department members to reinforce ventilation, rescue, forcible entry, and hose advancement skills.

## Special Teams Training

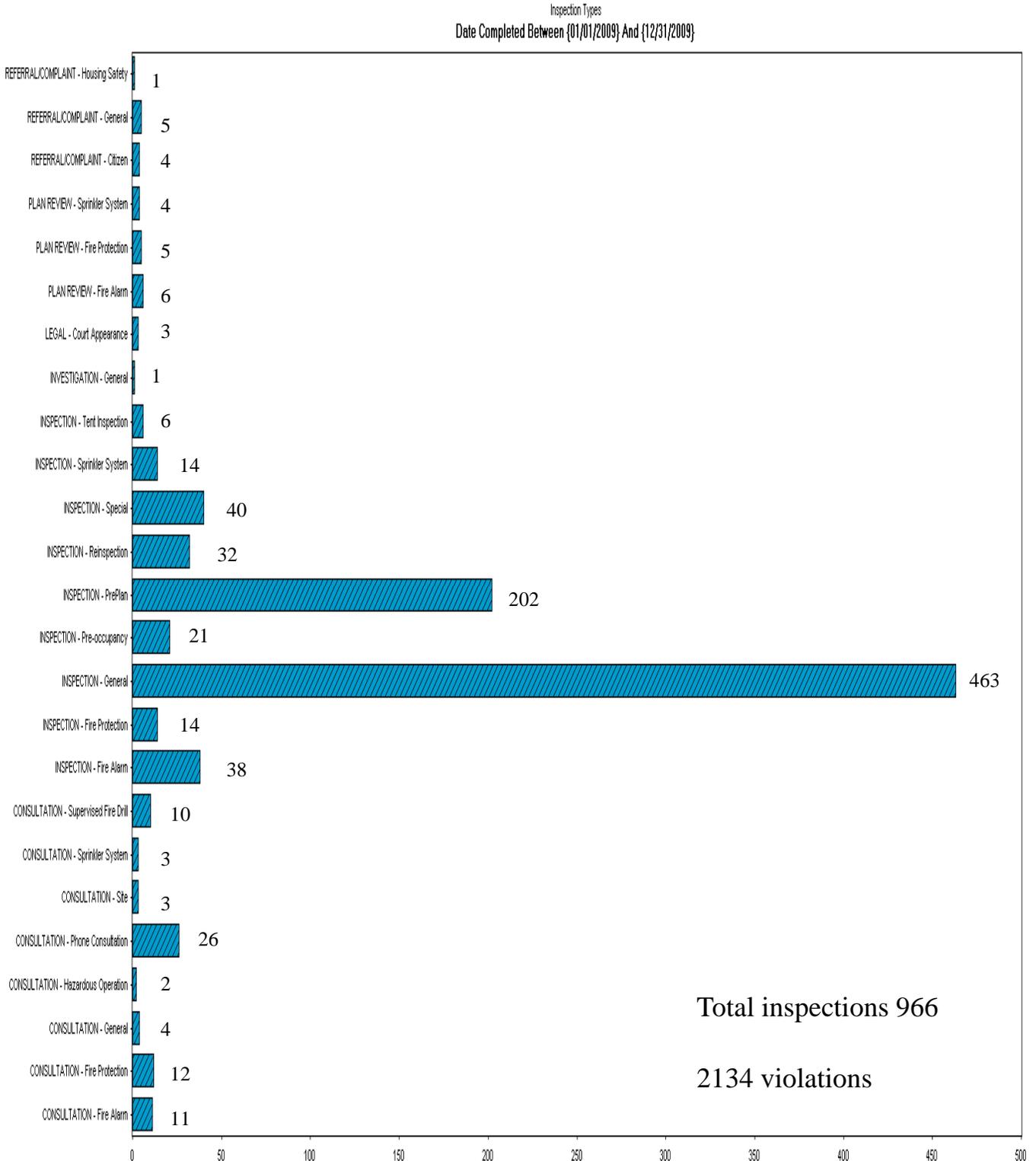


In addition to normal fire fighting and paramedic duties, many of our members are part of special teams. Under Water Rescue & Recovery (UWRR), Technical Rescue Team (TRT), hazardous material team, and fire investigations. The initial training involved to participate on these special teams can require 300+ hours in classes that carry state certification from the state fire marshals office. Additionally each member must maintain a minimum of 24 hours of team skills training annually. These teams were formed and are deployed in Winnetka and surrounding communities as part of mutual aid agreements. Theses Multi-jurisdictional teams allow smaller municipalities to enjoy the security of large scale deployment during emergencies with the added benefit of cost saving, because of the efficient use of available resources.



# Fire Prevention

During 2009, department personnel conducted 966 inspections and documented 2,134 violations. Shift members and the summer intern conducted 202 pre-plan reviews. The graph below lists the types of inspections.



## Scout Day

2009 brought the first Scout Day sponsored by the Winnetka Fire Department. The day was spent learning about the proper choice of fire extinguishers for the different types of fires encountered, with a turn extinguishing a flammable liquid fire. The scouts had the opportunity to experience the difficulty of escaping a theatrical smoke filled training tower. The day provided a chance for the scouts to wear firefighter personal protection equipment, while using the thermal imaging camera in a limited visibility environment. Scouts also experienced a chance to operate an aerial master stream used for large fires and hand lines used for smaller fires. Under the close supervision of the firefighters and scout leaders a fun/educational day was had by all.



## Scout Day



FM Kolka helping a scout with SCBA



Scouts exiting the tower after they conducted a simulated search & rescue with "stage smoke"



FM Pearson with scouts operating a hose line

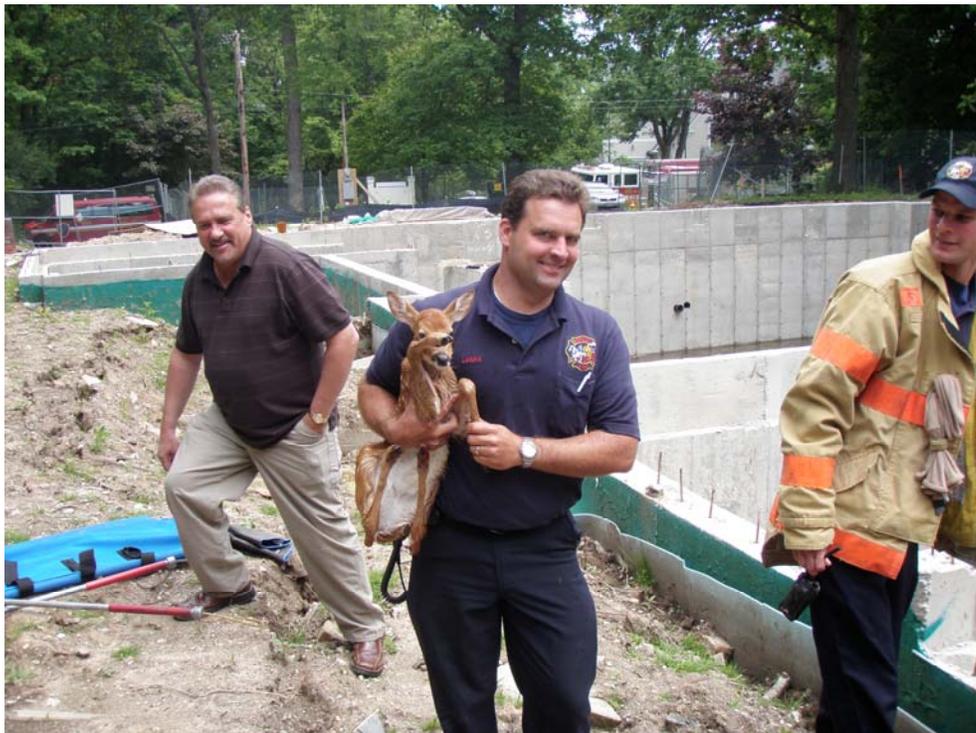


Lt Raupp instructing a scout in the use of extinguishers on live fire

## Animal Rescue



All in a days work.  
FM Legan & Colpaert shown rescuing a baby deer from a foundation.



## Public Education

The Winnetka Fire Department provided quality educational training, lectures, tours, civic appearances, and educational materials to the public in order to increase the public's awareness of fire safety and prevention. The department provided information on many safety issues through participation in village sponsored events including the children's fair, local parades, and sidewalk sale. Department members were present at these events to meet with the public and provide them with educational materials. The Department provided speakers and/or instructors to civic organizations including boy scouts, girl scouts, and private businesses requiring annual CPR and first-aid training.

In October, the annual fire department open house was held at the conclusion of fire prevention week. This event showcased apparatus and equipment used in fire-fighting and emergency medical situations. Personnel demonstrated current practices, and provided fire and life safety information to all visitors.

Group tours of the fire station were regularly provided to scout groups, birthday parties, preschools, and other interested groups. Fire safety is discussed during station tours to make the visit educational, as well as enjoyable.



## Public Education Continued

The Juvenile Fire Setter's Program was offered to families when youths have demonstrated inappropriate fire setting behaviors. This program offers individual attention with a certified juvenile fire setter intervention specialists to counsel children who demonstrate this behavior. 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.



As you can see, 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 the community. It is through this dedication that the entire staff is able to provide a modern professional Fire/EMS response.

