

Preface

The Malta – McConnellsville Fire Department's Seventieth Anniversary is upon us. To commemorate this event we have put forth this brief book for your better understanding of your volunteer fire department. The department is rich in history and tradition. We have illustrated some of the history for your enjoyment and bring you up to date with some of the technological advances the department has made.

The firefighters are volunteer and receive no money for their sacrifices. They donate their time to your community with the thought that they might help a neighbor in preventing the ravages of fire and misfortune. The members of the Malta – McConnellsville Fire Department are composed of a variety of backgrounds. Each member works for a business, industry, or in the public sector.

The department meets every Wednesday meeting for business, training and retraining. With the challenges of today the members are required to be current on all facets of fire fighting and rescue. Many of the members are also active in the Emergency Medical Services division of the Malta – McConnellsville Fire Department.

We hope our efforts will not only depict the inherent dangers we face in the pursuit of saving lives and fire fighting, but will communicate our pride, dedication, and willingness to serve our community and its citizens.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Looking back over the last 40 years, 32 of which I have had the opportunity of serving as Chief with pride and enthusiasm, I have seen many changes occur in the regulations governing fire service.

The decade of the 1990's saw the biggest single ten year growth period in the 70 - year history of the Malta and McConnelsville Fire Department.



Chief Terry Bragg - 1980

The most energetic undertaking was the construction of the 10,000 square foot addition of the second story to the fire station at a cost of \$300,000. When it was learned that it was going to cost \$100,000 to replace the old flat roof which had been plagued with a leaking problem for a number of years it was decided we should add a second story since we knew we were going to have to expand the facilities in the near future. All of the money for the much needed space was raised through contributions by the citizens, businesses, industry and fraternal and veteran's organizations in Morgan County, and various fund raisers sponsored by the fire department.

During the 90's the department purchased and paid for a new tanker, two new pumper trucks, a heavy rescue truck, a light rescue truck, a brush fire truck and replaced six emergency squad ambulances.

In addition, the department purchased new rescue tools ("Jaws of Life" and other extrication tools), new turnout gear for all 35 members of the department, and ten self-contained breathing apparatus air packs. We were the first fire department in Southeastern Ohio to purchase a thermal imaging camera which enables a firefighter to see in the dark and through smoke in a burning building.

During the 90's the voters in the eight townships and two villages serviced by the department passed fire protection tax levies which is the largest single factor in the unprecedented growth during the decade. Also the department entered into a joint effort with the Morgan Athletic Boosters to sponsor bingo at the firehouse twice monthly which benefits both organizations.

The primary motivation for all of this activity during the 90's was to improve the readiness and efficiency of the department thereby raising its insurance rating.

This goal was reached in 1998 when the Insurance Services Office improved the department's rating from a Class 5 to a Class 3 (with Class 1 being the highest rating) making the M&M V.F.D. the highest rated volunteer fire department in the state of Ohio.

I have been fortunate to have good health and the support of my family during the past 40 years and I am very proud to have two of my sons serving in the department with me. My sons are third generation firefighters and their grandfather would be proud to know of their unselfish dedication to the community and fire department of which he was a member and loved and cared for.

The M & M Fire Department is – and always has been – a close knit organization as all the fellow firefighters are like brothers. Sure, as in any family, we have our arguments and our ups and downs, but when it comes to any emergency we are always working together and worrying about each others welfare. I have seen many of my fellow firefighters injured – some very seriously – and have seen a number of them answer their last alarm while still active firefighters. These are the people who make the fire department what it is.

On behalf of all of the members of the fire department I want to thank the Malta and McConnellsville Village councils, the County Commissioners, all the Township Trustees and Clerks and the Police and Sheriff's Departments for all the support over the years. I want to give a special thanks to the Morgan County Fire Fighters Association.

Last but surely not least, I thank my officers and the membership for your great support, dedication, enthusiasm, and for entrusting me to serve you, the department and the community as Chief for the past 32 years. God bless you and yours. And a big thanks to my wife and family for their cooperation and understanding.

Over the years I have learned that there are three kinds of people – those who make things happen, those who watch things happen and those who wonder what happens. We can proudly say that during the past 70 years the majority of the firefighters in this department were and are the kind that make things happen.

Above the door in our meeting room is a sign that says “Lead, follow or get out of the way”. In 1978 we adopted a motto for the department – “We Care”. I believe these two messages speak for themselves.

In closing, I would like to thank God for giving me the health and ability to be Fire Chief of the M&M Fire Department and to assure you that as the department enters the 21st century it is well prepared to face any emergency that befalls the citizens of Morgan County.



Terry L. Bragg
Chief – M&M F.D.
Fire – Rescue – EMS
2000

Malta – McConnellsville Fire Department 1933 Membership



The 1930 beginning of the Malta - McConnellsville Fire Department

The volunteer fire department was started in the early 1900's with a hose cart and ladder wagon, both of which were hand-drawn. There was little organization, and protective equipment for the men was minimal at best. In 1929, the Village of McConnellsville purchased a Model A motorized fire truck. It was equipped with two 35-gallon pressure water tanks including a hose reel for each tank. Additional purchases included a few hand tools, ladders, and 600 feet of 2.5-inch hydrant hose.

On March 31, 1930, a meeting was organized by Mayor E.D. Shafer, and a group of eleven men formed the beginning of the Malta-McConnellsville Fire Department. In the next several weeks more men were added to the roster. Members of the Department at this time included: Edsel Miller, Carl Warne, Carl Scott, William Garner, Dana Walker, Lewis Adrean, Dallas Scott, Russel Ashton (Fire Chief), Gerald Price, Frank Howard, M. M. Sears, James Flanagan Jr., Roy Walker, John Parsons, and Lawrence Partesius.

An old coal company house from near San Toy was bought in 1930, torn down, moved, and rebuilt as a meeting place for the firemen. It was located behind the Court House and in front of the County Building that housed the fire truck. Later in the year, a 5 horsepower siren was installed in the tower of the Opera House. The siren took the place of "tolling of the bell" of the Court House clock.

Throughout the years, the Department strove to upgrade and expand its service to the community through funds received by holding dances, saving tax stamps, festivals, bake sales, cistern cleanings, steak fries, donations, and contracts.





1937 GMC



TOP: W. Bragg, W. Marquis, D. Scott, Sec. C. Warne, C. Scott, H. Davis, Asst. Chief, E. Miller, T. Kenney, W. Garner, D. Walker, R. Fox, R. Dutcher, D. Miller. Bottom: E. Scott, M. Sears, B. Ford, E. Shuler, Chief, F. Howard, R. Walker, L. Adrean, G. Abel.

July 1938

The 1940's



1940'S PHOTOGRAPH

The 1940's have been referred to as the "endurance years" – the Malta-McConnellsville Fire Department endured:

- The Depression Years
- The Hardship of World War II
- The Challenges of Change
- Rebuilding the Department
- Saving Stamps to Fund the Department

With the Depression Years behind them and the first Firemen's Festival of 1939 over, things looked up for the Fire Department. In 1941, the Department bought a new truck chassis and cab. The Village of McConnellsville had it equipped with a new pump, trading in the Model A pumper. This new pumper was utilized for fires in both villages of Malta and McConnellsville.

December 7, 1941, saw a dark day for humanity---Pearl Harbor Day. This catastrophe not only reflected throughout the world, but also brought many hardships to every small community in the United States with Malta and McConnellsville not being spared. The regular firemen that were not drafted or volunteered for the war went to work in various defense plants, leaving but a few to man the Fire Department. With the vast majority of the Fire Department's members being depleted for the war effort, an auxiliary Fire Department was organized in September of 1942. This auxiliary group was trained in fire fighting, first aid, rescue work, and civilian defense work. The auxiliary group was a lifesaver for a badly undermanned Fire Department.

During 1944, the old clubroom was torn down and a new brick addition was built for the storage of additional equipment. A new "club room" was built upstairs. This addition was the result of financial efforts of both the Fire Department and Morgan County Commissioners.

In 1946, a new five hundred gallon front mount pumper was purchased. This truck was utilized throughout Morgan County. The Village of McConnellsville turned over all of its equipment to the McConnellsville Fire Department (as it was known then) and subsequently became the M & M (Malta & McConnellsville) Volunteer Fire Department. An agreement was drawn up whereby the Village would contribute financially to the Fire Department for fire protection, and the Fire Department would furnish all equipment, maintenance, and insurance. Years of continued growth for the Fire Department was a direct result of the foresight of the Village officials and the determination of the members of the Fire Department.

1947 saw the Fire Department build a small addition to the rear of the firehouse, dividing it into a kitchen, storage room, shower room, and toilet facilities.

In 1948, the county blacktopped the Department's parking lot.

The Fire Department purchased a new pumper in 1949, replacing the underpowered 1947 front mount pumper. This new pumper had a two-stage pump midship of the truck, five hundred gallons of water, a two-speed rear-axle, and most of the latest innovations in the fire service. The '49 pumper was utilized throughout the two villages and the county.

With the Fire Department being released in 1946 from any obligations to the political sub-division, the incentive to excel in the fire service field was taken to heart by every M&M fireman. The Village of McConnellsville had placed their faith and trust in the Fire Department, and each member worked hard to fulfill this. The Fire Department members, as in the past, were made up of men from all walks of life, and regardless of the job at hand, there was always a fireman who could step forward to lead the way in any particular endeavor.

M&M F. D.'s 20th ANNIVERSARY

MARCH 1, 1950



DEDICATED VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

Row 1 W. W. Bragg, L. L. Clifton, C. Boggs

Row 2 Ed Ervin, C. Johnson, E. Roberts, E. Knox, E. Miller, Joe Aber

Row 3 A. Abel, Jr., D. Martin, H. Conkle, Chief Carl Warne, E. Balding, F. Bragg, R. McClure

Row 4 D. Wagoner, D. McInturf, F. Price, H. Robb, F. Howard, C. Hupp, A. Abel Sr.

The 1930's saw the organization of the M&M Fire Department and the great depression with its many financial challenges. The 40's dealt with WW II, but with the start of the 50's, ideas and challenges of the times brought additional advancements. After the delivery of the new pumper in 1949, the Fire Department saw a need for replacing the old pick-up that was utilized for grass fires and rescue work. The members designed and ordered an emergency rescue apparatus in 1952 and took delivery of it in 1953. The apparatus had a front mount pump and sat on a heavy-duty van type chassis. With its enclosed body, firemen were able to ride safely inside when responding to fires and other emergencies. This emergency rescue pumper carried a resuscitator and other first aid equipment.

Radios were installed in some of the vehicles in 1953. The base station at the firehouse allowed the firemen at the station to be in touch with the men at the emergency scene, and additional manpower or equipment could be dispatched as needed.

In 1954, the State of Ohio, through the State Board of Education, offered trade and industrial training for the fire service. At that time, there were very few Trade & Industry instructors in Ohio, and there were none in Southeastern Ohio. Consequently, the Fire Department designated two members of the department to take T & I Instructor Training. They received their certificates, and training programs were started.

The year 1955 saw another revolution----the Fire Department was out of debt! Unfortunately, being out of debt proved disadvantageous. Rather than working hard for other programs, complacency set in and meeting attendance went down. At this same time, it was acknowledged that a lower insurance classification rating for the two villages was needed. A committee was designated to determine what the basic requirements were to lower the rating. This inquiry revealed that the only way to lower the rating was to purchase an aerial ladder. Subsequently, an order was placed, and an aerial quint (pumper-ladder combination) was delivered and put into service in February 1957. The Village of McConnelsville, as a result of this action, received a Class VI insurance rating, allowing large savings on fire insurance premiums for all within the Village corporation limits. The Village of Malta made some repairs to its water system and received the same rating as well.

The \$30,000 cost of the aerial ladder, an astronomical amount in those times, put the Fire Department back in debt and gave them a badly needed goal to achieve. Thereafter, as debts were about to be paid off, officers would appoint committees to determine the needs of the Department and thereby provide the members with an objective to work for.

1957 witnessed the controversial termination of the annual Firemen's Festival. The festival, which was a three-day event and required many man-hours, had grown larger every year and was the major means of raising funds for the operation of the Fire Department. Immediately after the close of each festival, plans were initiated for the following year's festival. As the festival grew, criticism of the festival *also* grew. The games of chance received the most critical eye. The majority of the ministers of the two villages and some business people requested the termination of the festival, and stated they would oversee a fund drive for the Fire Department each year. Amid reluctance and reservations, the Fire Department agreed to try this method of fund raising. With the support of the citizens of Morgan County, it has proven to be successful.

Thus the 50's ended, and the first thirty years of the M&M Fire Department came to a close. The small group of men who organized the Fire Department in 1930 would have been immensely proud of the growth that had taken place through their dedication and desire to serve their fellow citizens.

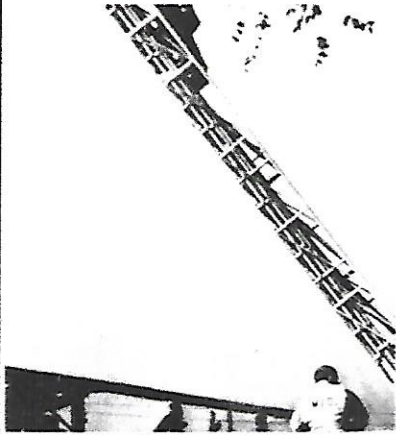
The 60's

M&M FIRE DEPARTMENT
1962

Ball Studios
McCONNELSVILLE, OHIO

1962 Membership

BILL JANES FIRE 1966



Don Palmer on ladder.



Rapid fire spread is evident.



Moving equipment from building.



Firemen on top of Dinner Bell



Fire spread through building



Four firemen were injured in this fire.

As in the preceding years and with further dedication of the firemen, the 60's continued to show remarkable improvements and further dedication of the firemen. In 1960, the Fire Department took delivery of a 750GPM (gallons per minute) front mount pumper with an 800-gallon booster tank, complete with front turret, foam system, combined with the acquisition of the latest nozzles and air packs. The new \$27,000 pumper greatly increased the Department's fire attack potential.

As additional equipment was added, the Department's housing soon became too small and outmoded. Trucks were parked bumper to bumper in its present quarters, and it soon became somewhat of an obstacle course to don protective clothing and 'make' a truck. Consequently, a committee was appointed to initiate plans for new quarters.

In 1962, the Fire Department moved into its new quarters located on the corner of Union and 4th Street---its present location. These new quarters, although quite adequate at the time, have seen many changes and additions over the years.

The 1960's saw radios installed in all apparatus. The fire alarm system was upgraded by the deployment of three additional sirens strategically located throughout the two villages.

With the advent of new man-made materials, greater dangers were present at every fire. Sophisticated equipment and the needed training to operate it became more demanding on the firemen. As a result, the membership was increased from 25 to 30 members. This would provide the additional manpower to utilize the equipment to its fullest potential.

The year 1967 saw the ten-year inspection and evaluation by the Ohio Insurance Services of the Fire Department and the water system. Although the water system of both communities had been improved somewhat and the Fire Department's equipment was greatly expanded, ground was lost in the quest to improve the insurance rating from Class VI to Class V. A master plan was initiated by the leadership of the Fire Department, and with the cooperation of both villages, the task was finally accomplished thirteen years later

In 1969, a committee was formed to draw up specifications and recommendations for the purchase of a 1000GPM pumper to replace the 1949 pumper.

The M&M Fire Department has never turned down a call for help. They responded to the Silver Bridge disaster at Gallipolis/Pt. Pleasant and to a Logan, Ohio fire. Dedicated to the saving of lives and property, the Fire Department's philosophy is: 'If it can be done better, we will do it.'

The 70's

Jerry Johnson Robert Brock Jim Murray ^{Chief} Terry Bragg Robert Nesselroad David Bailey Bill Drake
 Dorset Kincaid Junior Weaver Richard Smith Asst Clayton Woodward Chief Leonard Clifton Ben Almindinger Howard Conkle
 Ted Bragg Jack Cornell Carl Warne 40 Years Edsel Miller 40 Years John Finley Ronald Newberry
 Gene Masterson Dean Fox
 Buck Calandine Putnam Bragg Dana Nesselroad Kenneth McInturf Harry Reed Bob Thompson

M & M
 FIRE DEPT.
 1970

BALL STUDIO

1970 Members

1970 saw the delivery of a 1000GPM pumper, which was the first pumper of this size to be delivered to any volunteer fire department in southeastern Ohio. This new pumper had a 775-gallon booster tank, high pressure pump, canopy cab with Scott Airpaks mounted, which enabled the firemen to be 'packed-up' upon arriving at the fire scene. This new apparatus also had one of the latest innovations---a 2 ½" pre-connected line commonly called a 'blitz line', which allowed a new, more aggressive attack procedure to be implemented. The new attack procedure, although very successful, required more water at the fire scene. A 1500-gallon tanker was purchased and delivered to the Fire Department in 1972. Another reason for the purchase of this tanker was to meet the requirement that a 'Class A' rural fire department must have at least 1500 gallons of water on one or more pieces of equipment to properly respond to any fire.

1972 saw another major undertaking by the M&M Fire Department. With the phasing out of the funeral directors' ambulance service, a private concern secured a contract with the County Commissioners to perform those duties. Subsequently, the Fire Department bid for and received the contract for ambulance service in the county. As a result, an addition was built onto the Fire Department building to house ambulances and personnel. This addition provided sleeping quarters, a kitchen, and an alarm and dispatch office. With few exceptions, Fire Department members volunteered to undertake Emergency Medical Technician training in order to do their part. Some wives and sons of the members also took the EMT training and became active in the ambulance service. The paid personnel, with the backup of the volunteers, have proven to be a superior service to the public. The Fire Department side is dedicated to saving lives and property. The Emergency Medical Service side is dedicated to saving lives and preserving the same.

1977 saw the delivery of a 1500GPM custom pumper with automatic transmission and diesel engine. This pumper, once again the first of its size in southeastern Ohio, replaced the 750 GPM front mount, thereby leaving the 1970 pumper in reserve for in-town fires and back-up service.

In December of 1978, the M&M F.D. took delivery of a 750GPM, heavy-duty rescue apparatus. This truck was equipped with a Hurst tool (Jaws of Life) that could be used to free trapped victims of accident wreckage. With this being the first tool of its kind in the area, the Fire Department was subsequently called to Muskingum County to free a victim of a truck accident.

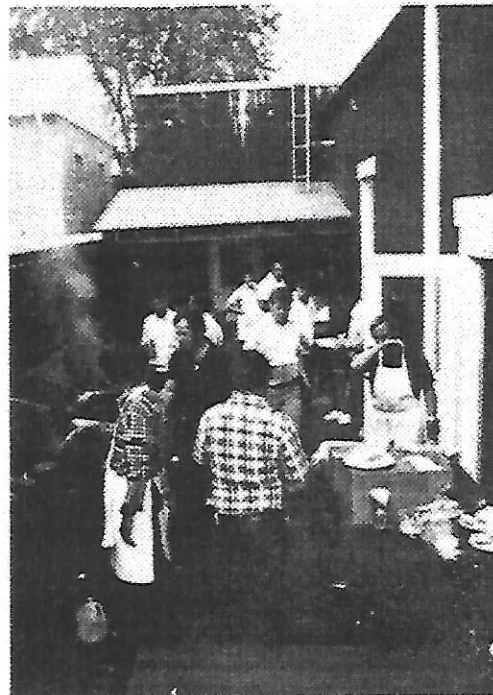
Construction commenced in 1979, to provide additional space for meeting rooms, offices, and more storage room. In conjunction with this, a house immediately north of the Fire Department was purchased and razed to provide parking space.

Through much hard work and determination, the late 70's saw the M&M Fire Department achieve a very prestigious Class V ISO Rating. This was believed to be the first time in the State of Ohio that a volunteer fire department had received such a rating.

A Ladies Auxiliary was formed in the 1970's and has since performed many valuable services. If the M&M Fire Department had not had the understanding and assistance of their wives, it could not begin to be the organization it is today.



Plane crash 1974-6 victims dead.



Steak Fry — Served 700 — 1979.



Note bodies in disaster bags. 1974 plane crash.



Flame in jump seat Truck 4.



Men removing bodies from plane crash 1974 — Left Side: Roy Patterson, Dana Nesselroad, Rich Travis. Right Side: Clayton Woodward, Don Palmer.

The decade of the 80's was very exciting and enlightening for the Fire Department. In January 1980, the department's telephone system was totally revamped. This change included two emergency lines, two business lines, and a special line as well as radio line on each telephone extension.

In January 1982, the Fire Department hosted a boxing event, which included future world heavy weight champion Buster Douglas, to provide needed funds to purchase a set of pneumatic air bags used to rescue entrapped victims of vehicle and industrial accidents. The fall election saw the passage of the first EMS levy by the Morgan County residents.

In 1983 the Fire Department took delivery of a 4-wheel drive Chevrolet Suburban (Rescue 1). This vehicle allowed safe transportation of manpower to fire scenes. The apparatus bay of the fire station was equipped with a sprinkler system in October of the same year.

1984 saw the delivery of a new tanker, the refurbishing of the cab on Engine 1, the replacement of radio base station, and the extension of the ISO Class 5 rating.

In 1985, prompted by safety and insurance requirements, the Department's 65' aerial ladder truck was replaced by a \$209,000 version featuring a 75' ladder and 1,500 GPM pump. The following year, to meet further personnel safety equipment requirements, turn out gear, including helmets, were replaced.

Funds were borrowed in 1987 to purchase a Pierce Dash 1250GPM pumper to replace old Engine 4.

A drought in 1988, similar to that of the summer of 1999, prompted the membership to borrow a large pump from The Central Ohio Coal Co. to pump water from the river to farmers' mobile tanks for their livestock.

A group of M&M Fire Department members participated in a search for the missing plane of Kent Place lost in April of 1989. The plane was subsequently found; tragically all aboard were killed.

Reflection

The growth of the M&M Fire Department from the 30's through the 80's was phenomenal and could not have been accomplished without the tireless effort of all involved with a sincere desire to achieve perfection and accepting the responsibility of neighbors helping neighbors because they care. The loyal and undying support given by the Citizens of Morgan County for the Fire Department was the cornerstone for the completion of all these achievements.

The 1990's

The 1990's entertained a variety of exciting times, challenges and projects. With firefighter fatalities on the rise within the United States, new standards and regulations were being imposed upon the fire service through out the nation.

In 1991 after a through review of water rescue techniques a new larger boat was purchased with equipment to meet the coast guard standards. The boat was a safer watercraft to handle the hazards faced with the Muskingum River.

With the "Hawk" water tank being placed into service a radio spectrum survey indicated our radio coverage area could be improved by relocating our communications equipment. The members completed the equipment move over a three weekend period without costly outside assistance.

Also in 1991 the Department reviewed the standards and ability of water tanker 6 to perform for the next 10 years. It was determined that the Insurance Service Office Classification Details could be improved with an apparatus that would do more than supply water. An upgrade of equipment permitted Engine-Tanker 6 to begin service with the M&M Fire Department.

In 1992 a new Rescue 3 was placed into service after two years of planning and design to meet the new challenges. This same year all of the officers were issued a portable radio to better function at the emergency scene. The fire station kitchen was also renovated by the members for fund raising activity.

In 1994 a major undertaking of the second story addition was one of our main projects. The additional space permitted multiple training sessions and meetings at the same time. A new improved Engine-Tanker 6 was purchased to meet the challenges of an upcoming Insurance Service Office Inspection and Audit.

In 1995 all members attended the Ohio Fire Training Academy classes as part of our continuing education requirements.

1996 was a busy year with the continuing education requirements, fundraisers, and equipment replacement.


1997 proved busy in anticipation of a visit from the Insurance Service Office. The Department had requested the inspection five years ahead of the ISO schedule. We had worked for an improved insurance rating and had established a goal of ISO Class 4 and after working and planning for years, we felt we were ready to meet the challenge.

In 1998 we were notified we had surpassed our goal of an ISO Class 4 and were awarded and ISO Class 3 rating. Without resting we are in the process of evaluating, auditing, and changing to see if an ISO Class 2 rating is possible.

In 1998 and 1999 the work, training, and sacrifice continues to prevent the ravages of fire and accidents.

With 2000 came Engine 7, a 2000 gallon per minute pumper, to assist with the challenges of change.

THE MALTESE CROSS



The emblem of the Fire Service is the Cross referred to as the **Maltese Cross**. It has symbolized the traditions and the ide-

als of the Fire Service. The arms and the tree of the Cross are of equal length. They widen as they extend from a central point. The edges are usually flat, or they may be curved slightly. This emblem differs slightly from the true Maltese Cross, which is usually indented at the end of the tree or arms. This Fire Service Cross, with its wide extended arms, symbolized the open wings of a bird, covering and protecting her young. So, it portrays the protecting power of the cross. As it was used originally, it belongs to the Christian Knights who shielded the weak just as it fittingly portrays the protecting power of the Knights. So, as the emblem of the Fire Service it signifies the protecting power of the men of that service.

The Volunteer

We are constantly hearing of animals being put on the endangered species list. Special programs costing immense dollars are initiated to prevent the permanent loss of these creatures. However, there is another animal yet to be considered for this list. It is the soon to be rare *volunteer*. Volunteer is defined by Webster as 'one who chooses freely to do something', and voluntarism is defined as 'voluntary participation in a course of action'.

The volunteer was much easier to find in previous generations. They were ready and willing to give not only of their time, but also of their lives. By today's standards and life styles, people seem to be more protective of their time than their lives. If you ask someone to consider participation in volunteer firefighting, a negative response would most likely be- 'I simply don't have the time', and it may very well be true. Membership in a volunteer fire department *does* take dedication, perseverance, and attraction to the *unusual*, and yes, time -- that might otherwise be spent in more personal activities. As long as the "me" attitude is stronger than the "you" attitude we will be hard-pressed to find an abundance of potential volunteers.

However, we can rest assured that there will always exist a core-group of individuals that will answer the call to be of assistance to those needing help. They will not only be willing to help, but will stand ready-and-waiting for the call to action. We see the elderly person literally needing a helping hand, the impoverished, the child reaching out to us, individuals suffering the wrath of nature or their fellowman. There will always be, however small the number, volunteers ready to assist.

The volunteer firefighter is the quintessence of the helping hand. He has already resigned himself to the fact that he will postpone or cancel many scheduled activities in his life and his family's life. He knows his life is exposed to unusual risks on every call. Making his body and mind respond from a sound sleep to extraordinary stress takes its toll over time. He understands that 'thanks' is not the goal, but self-esteem and satisfaction from within that keeps that firefighter mentality aroused.

One of the greatest duties you can perform in the eyes of the creator is in the service to your fellowman. The problem is not whether these people will be here in the future--they will--, but will there simply exist enough of them to get the job done. Again, our society needs to change its attitude from "What can you do for me?" to "What may I do for you?" A change in attitude such as this may well serve to correct many of our society's woes.



The **Officer of the Year** award was initiated in 1973 and given to the outstanding line officer from the Chief of the Fire Department.

1973 Donald Palmer

1974 Clayton Woodward

1975 Bob Nesselroad

1976 David Bailey

1977 Dana Nesselroad

1978 Bob Nesselroad

1979 David Bailey

1980 Roy Patterson

1981 Lloyd 'Lefty' Drake

1982 Gary Woodward

1983 Roy Patterson

1984 Maurice Hammond

1985 Dave Bailey, Jerry Johnson, Larry Gessel

1986 Jim Smith

1987 Ronald Cordray

1988 David Bailey

1989 Howard Conkle

1990 Larry Gessel

1991 David Bailey, John W. Finley

1992 Maurice Hammond

1993 Ed Nesselroad

1994 Rick Mansfield

1995 Gary Woodward

1996 John W. Finley

1997 Tim Bragg

1998 Bob Nesselroad

1999 Maurice Hammond

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Officers



Chief Terry Bragg



Bt. Chief David Bailey



Asst. Chief Gary Woodward



Bt. Chief Morris Hammond



Captain James R. Smith



Captain Tim Bragg



Captain John W. Finley

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Officers



Lt. Rick Mansfield



Lt. Ed Nesselroad



Lt. Tom Hancock



Lt. Tim Hallowell



Treasurer John K. Finley



Secretary Mark Moellendick



Trustee Robert Brock



Trustee Donald Palmer



Trustee Lloyd Drake

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Firefighters



Clyde Williams



Dana Hivnor



John "Buck" Finley



Tom Bragg



Rob Cunningham



Sam Bellville



Ed Haines



Bernie Anderson



Terry Roberts

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Firefighters



Homer Weekley



J. D. "Jake" Reinstetle



Rhett Matheny



Scott Ridgeway



Gary Starkey



Tracey Van Ness



Jason Hall



Drew Blackburn



Luke Greuey

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Firefighters



Bob Pottieger



John Robbins



Rich Travis



Terry Robison



Jacob Woodward



Rodney Stegner



Chris Scott



John Thompson



John Woltman

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Paramedics



Terry Robison



Don Oliver



Shawn Smith



Dave Nutter



Jeremy Dille



J. J. Pickering



Jacob Woodward



Chris Scott



Josh Harris

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Emergency Medical Service



Bill Ward



Ralph Hill



Mike Elliott



Tom Neff



Tammy Pauley



Mary Cunningham



Lisa King



Rita Kinney

In Training
Lei-Lana Garcia
Christina Hammond
Anna Rowland



The **Firefighter of the Year** award was initiated in 1972 in Honor of Edsel Miller and Carl Warne. Both were 40-year hard working and community minded charter members of the M & M Fire Department. This award is given to a member who has proven to be a good firefighter, who has maintained good attendance and who has a good attitude towards the Department, its members and the Community.

1972 David L. Bailey

1973 Maurice Hammond

1974 Howard Conkle

1975 Jerry Johnson

1976 Ronald Cordray

1977 Gary Woodward

1978 Bill Olasin

1979 John K. Finley

1980 Robert Brock

1981 Harold Heckman

1982 Jim Smith

1983 Mark Moellendick

1984 Larry Gessel

1985 John H. Finley

1986 John Thompson

1987 Tim Bragg

1988 Ed Nesselroad

1989 Jake Reinstetle

1990 Rick Mansfield

1991 Rob Cunningham

1992 Tom Hancock

1993 Tom Bragg

1994 Bill Bond

1995 Terry Bragg

1996 Terry Roberts

1997 Sam Bellville

1998 Homer Weekly

1999 Gary Starkey

THE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

A DEDICATED EXAMPLE

In today's ever busy world it takes a "*special breed*" of individual to enter the demanding volunteer fire service. There is no pay, benefits, vacation or retirement. With this glorious package deal we, the volunteers, are required to be on call 24 hours a day for 365 days a year. The training requirements are rigorous and ever changing. There are meetings each week and fundraising events to assist the community preventing the ravages of fire. Yes, it does take a "*special breed*" to repeatedly put his life on the line for our community. The following is an illustration of a dedicated firefighter.

Terry Bragg is a life-long resident of McConnellsville, Ohio. A Morgan County native who has the strong belief that each citizen should give something of his or her time to the community. He is a husband, a father, a grandfather, a businessman, a civic leader, a humanitarian, a public servant, a veteran, a philanthropist, an outdoorsman, and a conservationist.

Terry has been a member of the Malta-McConnellsville Fire Department for 39 years – five years as a firefighter, two years as assistant chief and 32 years as the departments elected chief. Under his leadership the M&M F.D. has grown to one of the finest volunteer fire departments in the state. The department had an Insurance Services Office (ISO) class 7 rating when Terry became Chief and today it has a national ISO Class 3 rating. With class 1 being the highest rating.

Today the department has 40 volunteer members operating out of a state-of-the-art fire station utilizing eight modern firefighting apparatus and three lifesaving boats, serving the residents of two villages and seven townships in Morgan County and one township in Muskingum County which equates to something like 424 square miles of responsibility.

In addition, under a contract from the county, the department operates a full-time emergency medical services division with eleven full-time paid paramedics, fifteen volunteer emergency medical technicians and three volunteer dispatchers using three fully equipped advanced life support medical vehicles.

During his tenure Terry has received three medals for bravery for risking his life to save the life of others and has been named Ohio Firefighter of the Year in 1997 by the Ohio Department of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. He received the Bob and Delores Hope "Good Samaritan" Award, the M&M Firefighter of the Year Award, the Ohio Masonic Grand Master's Community Service Award, and was named as Ohio Jaycee's Outstanding Local President.

Yes, it takes hours, days, months, and years of dedication and giving on one's self and family to be known and ranked as "one of the best". It takes a "*special breed*" to walk and work beside some of the best, knowing you may not come home to your family. Your long hours, hard work and dedication are seldom noticed but are expected to carry on the tradition of the Malta- McConnellsville Fire Department. The tradition of excellence.

"We Care"

SPECIAL AWARDS

YEAR	MOST IMPROVED FIRE/EMS	PARAMEDIC VOLUNTEER EMS	STAFF EMS 1 st in 1985
1975	Larry Gessel	Rick Palmer	
1976	Lefty Drake	Gary Spencer	
1977	Bill Olasin	John Foreman	
1978	Ronnie Banks	Don Drake	
1979	Mark Moellendick	Elaine Myers	
1980	Rex Bucey	Gene Hanning	
1981	Clyde Williams	Mark Moellendick	
1982	Tim Bragg	Tracy Aber	
1983	Dana Hivnor	Ron Cordray	
1984	Art Hale	John W. Finley	
1985	Ed Nesselroad	Susy Bragg	Bob Smithberger
1986	Rick Mansfield	Judy Hancock Tom Bragg	Terry Robison
1987	J. D. Reinstetle	Tim Hallowell	
1988	Tom Bragg	Ginny Bond	Don Oliver
1989	Rob Cunningham	Rick Mansfield Tim Hallowell	Dave Nutter
1990	Tom Hancock	Rob Cunningham Cindy Mansfield	Shawn Smith
1991	Sam Bellville	Tim Hallowell	Mark Thomas
1992	Terry Roberts	Linda Klies	Kathy Robison
1992	Ed Haines	John W. Finley	Shawn Smith Jeremy Dille
1994	Clyde Williams Sam Bellville	Jacob Woodward	Gary Spencer
1995	John K. Finley	Tammy Pauley	Shawn Smith
1996	Homer Weekley	Dana Moler	Todd Hensley
1997	Bernie Anderson	Glen Romine Teresa Hall	Jacob Woodward
1998	Gary Starkey	Scott Ridgeway	Terry Robison
1999	Lefty Drake	Tracey Van Ness	Chris Scott

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Rescue 1



A 1997 Chevrolet 4x4 diesel suburban light rescue, EMS – Fire – Rescue command and mobile communications vehicle. This vehicle carries a variety of necessary safety equipment.

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Brush 2



Brush 2 is a 1996 AMC General 4x4 diesel "Hummer". The vehicle has a GVWR rating of 10,300 pounds. In addition to fire duties this truck also functions in Rescue.

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Engine 1



A 1976 Pierce, refurbished in 1984, with a 1500 gallon per minute pump and a 750 gallon water tank. Carrying 500' of 5.0" hose, 600' of 3.0" hose and 300' of 2.5" hose. The annual required NFPA pump, hose, and equipment tests are conducted.

Major Equipment Carried:

1 – 200' x 1" Booster Line.	1 – 2.50" Hydrant Gate valve.
2 – 200' x 1.75" Attack Lines. (Preconnected)	1 – 3.5 KW 120/240 Volt AC Generator.
1 – 200' x 1.50" Spare Hose on Truck.	3 – 500 Watt 120 VAC Portable Lights.
2 – 200' x 2.50" Attack Lines. (Preconnected)	2 – 500 W 120 VAC Telescoping Lights.
1 – 200' x 2.50" Spare Hose on Truck.	1 – Smoke Ejector.
1 – 1000 G.P.M. Heavy Stream Device.	2 – Portable Hand Lights.
1 – 1000 G.P.M. Large Spray Nozzle.	1 – Hose Clamp.
1 – 2.50" Distributing Nozzle.	1 – Power Saw.
1 – Foam Educator.	1 – Portable Pump.
2 – 5 Gallon Containers of Foam. (Carried)	1 – Burst Hose Jacket.
3 – 5 Gallon Cans Spare Foam. (In Station)	1 – 8' Pike Pole
2 – 2.50" Solid Stream Nozzles.	1 – 10" Pike Pole.
2 – 2.50" Combination Nozzles.	1 – 1.5"x1.5"x2.5" Gated Wye.
2 – 1.50" Combination Nozzles.	2 – Mounted 2-way FM Radios.
6 – Self Contained Breathing Apparatus.	1 – Portable 2-way FM Radio.
6 – Spare SCBA Cylinders.	1 – 24' Extension Ladder.
2 – Salvage Covers.	1 – 14' Roof Latter 1 – 10' Collapsible.

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Fire – Rescue 3



A 1991 Pierce heavy rescue and salvage apparatus with a 500 GPM pump and a 300 gallon water tank. Carrying 200' of 2.50" hose.

Major Equipment Carried:

2 – 200' 1.50" attack lines.	1 – 14' extension ladder.
4 – 50' sections 1.50" hose in station.	1 – 10' collapsible ladder.
1 – 200' of 2.50" hose.	1 – 6' step ladder.
4 – 50' sections 2.50" hose in station.	2 – 6' pike poles.
1 – 500 GPM combination spray nozzle.	2 – 8' pike poles.
6 – Self contained breathing apparatus.	2 – 12' pike poles.
6 – SCBA spare cylinders.	1 – Hose hoist.
10 – Salvage covers.	1 – Hydraulic pump with hydraulic hose reels.
1 – 7.5kw 120/240 volt ac generator.	1 – Hydraulic spreader.
4 – 120 volt ac 500 watt portable flood lights.	1 – Hydraulic cutter.
4 – 120 volt ac 500 watt telescoping lights.	1 – Hydraulic combination cutter/spreader.
2 – 120 volt ac portable junction boxes.	1 – Group special hydraulic devices.
1 – 120 volt ac portable saw.	2 – Hydraulic rams and extensions.
2 – Reel mounted extension cords.	2 – Power saws.
1 – Group portable extension cords.	2 – Groups hand tools.
10 – Air lifting devices.	1 – Group hose adapters.
1 – Portable air bag lifting control station.	1 – Group manual cutters, pry, and crow bars.
1 – Group air regulators, hoses, stops and devices.	2 – Mounted FM 2-way radios.
1 – Air powered saw.	1 – Mounted FM portable repeater radio.
1 – Group air tools.	1 – Portable FM 2-way radio.
1 – Group hand tools.	1 – Camera group.
1 – Oxygen-acetylene cutting unit.	1 – Hazardous Materials group.
1 – Smoke ejector.	1 – Lot of rope, cables, and chains.

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Engine 4



A 1987 Pierce delivered in 1987 with a 1250 GPM two stage pump and a 750 gallon water tank. Carrying 1200 feet of large hose of which 700' is 2.5" or 3.0" hose with 2.5" couplings and 500' of 5" large diameter hose. Annual required NFPA pump and hose tests are conducted.

Major Equipment Carried:

2 – 200' preconnected 1.50" attack lines.	2 – 120 volt ac telescoping lights.
1 – 200' preconnected 2.50" attack line.	2 – Hand lights.
4 – 50' sections of spare 1.50" hose carried.	1 – Hose clamp.
1 – 1000 GPM heavy stream device.	1 – 2.50" hydrant hose gate valve.
1 – 1000 GPM combination nozzle.	1 – Burst hose jacket.
1 – 2.50" distributing nozzle.	1 – 10' pike pole.
1 – Foam eductor.	1 – 2.5" x 1.5" x 1.5" gated wye.
1 – 25 gallons of foam carried.	1 – Mounted FM 2-way radio.
2 – 2.50" solid stream nozzles.	1 – Portable FM 2-way radio.
2 – 2.50" combination stream nozzles.	1 – 24' extension ladder.
3 – 1.50" combination stream nozzles.	1 – 14' roof ladder.
6 – Self contained breathing apparatus.	1 – 10' collapsible ladder.
6 – Spare SCBA cylinders.	1 – High volume floating pump.
2 – Salvage covers.	1 – Group hose adapters.
1 – 3.5kw 120/240 volt ac generator.	1 – Lot extinguishers, bars, and cutters.
2 – 120 volt ac portable flood lights.	1 – Rural fire group equipment.

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Ladder – Engine 5



A 1985 Pierce 75' aerial ladder with a 1000 gallon per minute automatic elevated stream device and a 1500 GPM two stage pump with a 300 gallon water tank. Carrying 1350' of large diameter hose of which 950' is 4" large hose with 4.50" couplings and 400' of 2.50" hose. The annual required NFPA ladder, pump, and hose tests are conducted. Major Equipment Carried:

- 2 – 1.50" preconnected attack lines.
- 4 – 50' sections of spare 1.50" hose in station.
- 4 – 50' sections of spare 2.50" hose in station.
- 1 – 1000 GPM elevated stream device.
- 1 – 1000 GPM elevated automatic nozzle.
- 1 – 1000 GPM heavy stream ground device.
- 1 – 1000 GPM heavy stream device nozzle.
- 1 – Set of heavy stream device tips.
- 1 – Distributing nozzle.
- 1 – Foam eductor.
- 1 – 30 gallon foam carried.
- 2 – Solid stream nozzles.
- 2 – 1.50" combination nozzles.
- 2 – 2.50" combination nozzles.
- 6 – Self contained breathing apparatus.
- 6 – Spare SCBA cylinders.
- 10- Salvage covers.
- 1 – 3.5kw 120/240 volt ac generator.
- 3 – 120 volt ac portable flood lights.
- 1 – Smoke ejector
- 1 – Oxygen-acetylene cutting unit.

- 1 – Power saw.
- 4 – Hand lights.
- 1 – Hose clamp.
- 1 – Hydrant hose gate valve.
- 1 – Burst hose jacket.
- 1 – Hose hoist.
- 2 – 6' pike poles.
- 2 – 8' pike poles.
- 2 – 12' pike poles.
- 1 – 2.5" x 1.5" x 1.5" gated wye.
- 2 – Mounted FM 2-way radios.
- 1 – Portable FM 2-way radio.
- 1 – 14' extension ladder.
- 1 – 24' extension ladder.
- 2 – 35' extension ladders.
- 1 – 14' roof ladder.
- 2 – 16' roof ladders.
- 1 – 10' collapsible ladder.
- 1 – Group of rescue rope.
- 1 – Group extinguishers, bars, and cutters.
- 1 – Group of safety equipment.

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Engine-Tanker 6



A 1993 International Engine – Tanker with a 1250 GPM single stage pump with an 1800 gallon tank. Carrying 1200' of 2.5" or 3" hose with 2.5" couplings. The annual required NFPA pump and hose tests are conducted.

Major Equipment Carried:

3 – 200' preconnected 1.75" attack lines.	1 – Hose clamp.
4 – 50' sections of 1.50" spare in station. (200')	1 – 2.5" hydrant hose gate valve.
4 – 50' sections of 2.50" spare in station. (200')	1 – Burst hose jacket.
1 – 1000 GPM heavy stream ground device.	1 – 8' pike pole.
1 – 500 GPM heavy stream device nozzle.	1 – 10' pike pole.
1 – Set of heavy stream device tips.	1 – 2.5" x 1.5" x 1.5" gated wye.
1 – 2.5" distributing nozzle.	2 – Mounted FM 2-way radios.
1 – Foam Eductor.	1 – Portable FM 2-way radio.
1 – 10 gallons of foam carried.	1 – 24' extension ladder.
1 – 15 gallons of spare foam in the station.	1 – 14' roof ladder.
2 – 2.5" solid stream nozzles.	1 – 2000 gallon folding tank.
2 – 2.5" combination nozzles.	2 – Rechargeable hand lights.
3 – 1.5" combination nozzles.	1 – Stream shaper.
2 – Self contained breathing apparatus.	1 – Group of adapters.
2 – Self contained breathing apparatus on Rescue 1.	1 – Group of hand tools.
4 – Spare SCBA cylinders.	1 – Group of crow and pry bars.
2 – Salvage covers.	1 – Group of cutters.

Malta – McConnellsville F. D. Engine 7



Engine 7 is a 2000 Pierce Dash delivered in May of 2000. The apparatus has a 2000 GPM single stage pump and a 1000 gallon water tank with dual fire extinguishing agent foam tanks. The truck carries 1300' of large diameter hose. The large diameter hose consists of 500' of 5" hose with stortz couplings and 800' of 3" hose with 2.5" couplings. The annual required NFPA pump, hose and equipment tests are conducted.

Major Equipment Carried:

3 – 200' preconnected 1.75" attack lines.	4 – 120 volt ac portable flood lights.
1 – 100' preconnected 1.75" attack line.	1 – Group of electrical cords and boxes.
4 – Sections of spare 1.50" hose carried.	1 – Positive pressure smoke ejector.
4 – Sections of spare 2.50" hose carried.	1 – Power saw.
1 – 1000 GPM heavy stream device.	5 – Hand lights.
1 – 1000 GPM large spray nozzle.	1 – Hose clamp.
1 – 2.50" distributing nozzle.	1 – 2.50" hydrant hose gate valve.
1 – 2.5" piercing nozzle.	1 – Burst hose jacket.
1 – Truck mounted foam eductor system.	2 – 8' pike poles.
1 – Portable foam eductor.	1 – 2.5" x 1.5" x 1.5" gated wye.
1 – 25 gallon foam carried.	3 – Mounted FM 2-way radios.
2 – 2.50" solid stream nozzles.	1 – Portable FM 2-way radio.
2 – 2.50" combination stream nozzles.	1 – 24' extension ladder.
4 – 1.50" combination stream nozzles.	1 – 14' roof ladder.
6 – Self contained breathing apparatus.	1 – 10' collapsible ladder.
6 – Spare SCBA cylinders.	1 – Thermal imaging electronic device.
2 – Salvage covers.	1 – Lot extinguishers, bars, and cutters.
1 – 7.5kw 120/240 volt ac generator.	1 – Lot of salvage equipment.

Water Rescue

The Malta McConnellsville F. D. has been involved in water rescue since the 1930's. Each member is trained and retrained in the "standard operating procedures" the department has in effect. Recovery operations sometimes last several days.

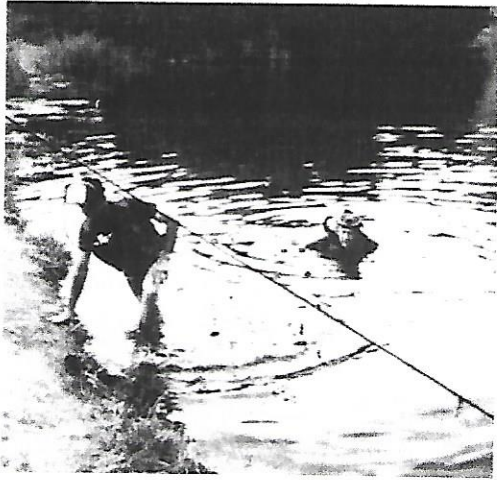


Boat 1



Boats 2 and 3

RESCUE





Emergency Medical Services



The Malta – McConnellsville Fire Department established its Emergency Care Service in the 1930's with very minimal equipment and training. The department purchased a 1937 truck and one of the first resuscitators in the area. Training in the the 1930's consisted of basic first aid training.

World War II drained the manpower available to the community which required new members and additional training. The department purchased a new truck in the 1950's and updated equipment and training.

The 1960's brought new stringent regulations governing emergency care. To meet the new regulations, the department instituted more vigorous training, bought additional equipment, and a 1968 rescue truck to continue to serve the Malta – McConnellsville area.

In the 1970's state and federal regulations forced the funeral homes to discontinue ambulance runs, the county commissioners contracted a private ambulance firm from outside the county to provide this service. As this firm proved unsatisfactory to the people of Morgan County the department created the EMS division in 1972.

The 1980's and 90's brought additional state and federal regulations. The department responded with more training and equipment purchases to meet the challenges of saving lives. Today, the advanced life support vehicles coupled with the dedicated professional paramedics and EMT's respond to the challenge. **The challenge of saving lives.**



Morgan 2



M & M Fire Department

Division of Emergency Medical Services



Saving lives and treating victims of traumatic accidents and illness is not an easy task. The 1990's set the pace for the current professional paramedics. Today our professional paramedic staff is comprised of ten paramedics. There are three crews with three "medics" per crew. They work a standard 24 hour on duty with 48 hours off duty rotation. The 10th medic is a dayshift "medic" who works five days per week unless filling in for a vacationing rotating "medic."

The 90's has witnessed our volunteer EMS members shrink to 9 crews with two to three people per crew. Some dedicated volunteer EMS crew members function on two crews. There are currently three volunteer dispatchers who respond to assume the dispatch and communications duties to free up EMT's and paramedics for emergency service. The late 80's and early 90's saw the advent of the EMS National Registry testing for Emergency Medical Technicians within Ohio. This contributed greatly to our loss of volunteer personnel both taking the initial training and recertifying their EMT cards. This testing did little to improve EMT quality. It has proven to be another non-funded mandate.

As with any organization paperwork is a large part of our funding. After the initial run sheet a third party billing company deals with Medicare, Medicaid and the insurance companies to channel monies back to the department to pay salaries, equipment costs, and operational expenses. The EMS service is also supported with tax levies that have been graciously passed and renewed by the voters of Morgan County.

There are a variety of challenges and problems on the horizon for the EMS service in Morgan County. The leading concern is the lack of volunteers to support the service, both here and nationwide.

On the positive side, the close of the century will see the addition of an enhanced 911 telephone system here in the county. The M&M Fire Department has been a leader in the planning and implementation of this project after the voters approved the system.

The Malta – McConnellsville Fire Department started victim care in the 1930's and has carried this relentless task into the year 2000. EMS is but one entity that has witnessed change – change in technology. Change was brought on, in part, by regulations. The largest change was due to people "who care."

Yes the 90's witnessed positive changes in EMS. Changes that gave the victim of a traumatic accident an increased chance of survival. Technology changed, training changed, and yes regulations changed. The department diligently worked to stay ahead of these changes.

At the dawn of the new millennium, the M&M F. D. EMS stands ready to provide skilled emergency medical service to the citizens of Morgan County.

EMS – Advanced Life Support Vehicles

Advanced Life Support vehicles carry a variety of life saving equipment. Each of M&M's ALS vehicles carries a defibrillator/EKG monitor, vacuum splints, MAST trousers, cardiac drugs, BP equipment, trauma kits, OB kits, KED extrication device, intubation equipment, pediatric equipment, and other life support equipment.



Morgan 3



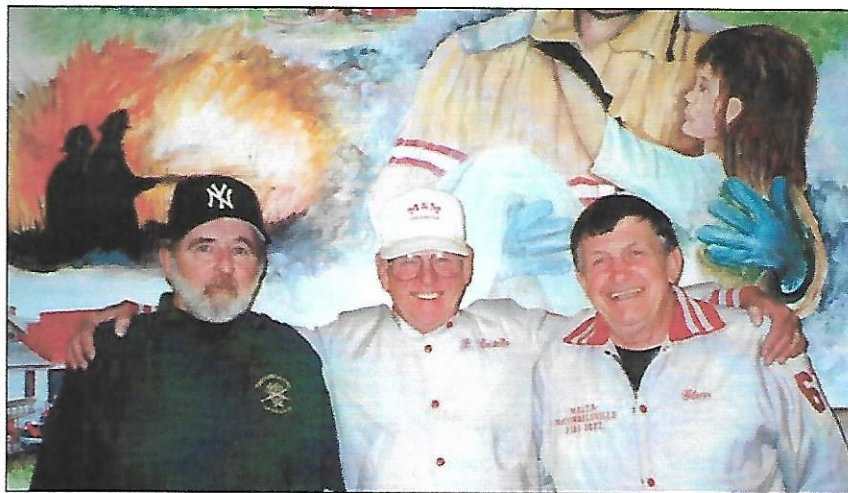
Morgan 4

Communications

Communications is an essential link to saving lives and property. The Malta – McConnellsville Fire Department maintains a variety of wire devices, tape recorders, radios, and electronic equipment for effective communications.

The Insurance Service Office (ISO) evaluates and rates the communications system of the M&M Fire Department when they evaluate the fire suppression equipment and manpower as well as the water supply. M&M has maintained an excellent ISO rating for years, which is a national rating. ISO class 3.

Communications Console

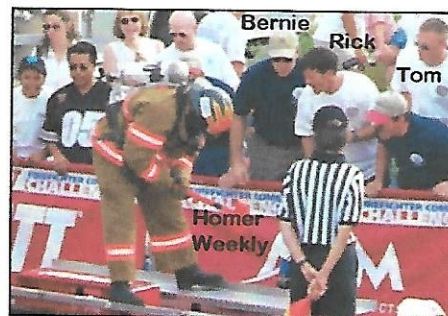
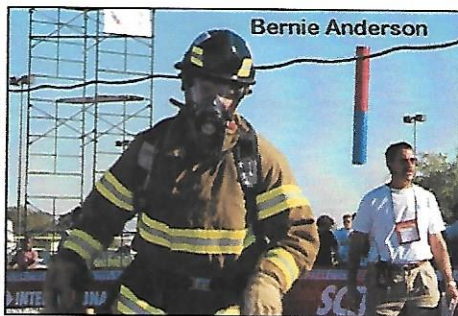


Reggie Breeze Bill Costello Glen Dawson
Volunteer Dispatchers

1999 M & M F.D. FIREFIGHTER COMBAT CHALLENGE TEAM



TOM BRAGG BERNIE ANDERSON GARY STARKEY HOMER WEEKLEY



Over 3,500 firefighters from across the United States and Canada have attempted to qualify for the 2000 national finals conducted in Las Vegas, Nevada. The M&M Fire Department team has again qualified for this event. The group qualified by posting an excellent time in the five grueling events. Any time under 3 minutes for completion of the five events is considered excellent. Each member of the M&M team has a very competitive time with some members completing the course is less than 2 minutes. The team, not funded by the department, is funded by donations, garage sales, bake sales and proceeds from food stands-- another example of firefighter dedication.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT WOMEN

Woven into the lining of the infrastructure of the fire department are the wives and friends of the firemen. Their presence was most visible during the many fund-raisers that were the mainstay of the fire department budget. These functions were never considered without the enthusiastic help of the fire department women. There are many details in the operation of fund-raisers that were taken on and handled very efficiently by the women without the knowledge of the firemen. The absence of their touch would be glaring.

However, the true measure of the support they provide for their firemen is on an everyday basis. No matter how physically and/or mentally tough it may get for the fireman, he always has that special person to help him put things into the proper perspective and help him remember why he is involved in this strange and demanding business of saving lives and protecting property.

The fire department women have always been and will always be an integral part of the volunteer fire service. God bless them all.

INACTIVE MEMBERS

An inactive member is one who has served ten or more years of active service in the Malta – McConnellsville Fire Department, requests inactive status in writing and receives a majority affirmative vote of the active membership. An inactive member is subject to call in emergency situations and standby status. An inactive member retains most of their membership rights.

Name	Year Entered
Ben Almendinger	1957
Ted Bragg	1966
Howard Conkle	1939
Donald W. "Bill" Drake	1965
Donald G. Drake	1957
Dolph McInturf	1950
Kenny McInturf	1955
James Murray	1963
Dana Nesselroad	1965
Ron Newberry	1969
Roy Patterson	1971
Jerry Johnson	1969
Larry Gessel	1971
Ronnie Bankes	1975
Rob Ewing	1985
John Thompson	1983

DECEASED MEMBERS

The deceased member list contains the names of those members who were either on active duty or had achieved inactive status when answering their last alarm.

Charles Haines	Harold Heckman
Raymond Roberts	Joe Aber
Cecil Mummy	Leonard Clifton
William Garner	Rex Bucey
Byrl Ford	C. Harry Reed
Ed Shafer	Rex Torbert
W. W. Bragg	Ralph Bamfield
Gus Able Sr.	Dorsel Kincaid
Harry Robb	Clifford Hupp
Chester Johnson	Ronald "Ode" Cordray
Gus Able Jr.	Don Martin
Carl Warne	Buck Calendine
Dean Fox	Putnam Bragg
Edsel Miller	Clayton Woodward
Robert W. Thompson	Robert E. Nesselroad
Ed Ervin	

HONORARY MEMBERS

An Honorary Member obtains this status by their positive service to the W&M Fire Department, receiving a nomination and an affirmative vote of the active duty membership.

Chris Christie	Howard Marsh, M.D.
Ralph Dye Jr.	Rodney Stegner
Joel Ginsberg, M.D.	Rich Travis
Don Keller	Jerry White
Dean Kimble	William J. Costello
Gene Lyon	Glenn Dawson
Carlos Macklem	John Woltman

DECEASED HONORARY MEMBERS

Bob Daniel	Bryan Williams
Fred Kennard	Robert Wilson
Jess Prewett	Elaine Myers
Harry Torbert	Lee North
Delmar Walker	Art Balding

THE FUTURE

Public Information Officer

William J. Costello



Unlike many fire departments throughout the country, the future of the M&M Volunteer Fire Department is bright indeed. Although many volunteer fire departments are having a difficult time retaining volunteers, the M&M V.F.D. is at its full-strength of 40 firefighters, due to the recruitment of 7 new men during the past year.

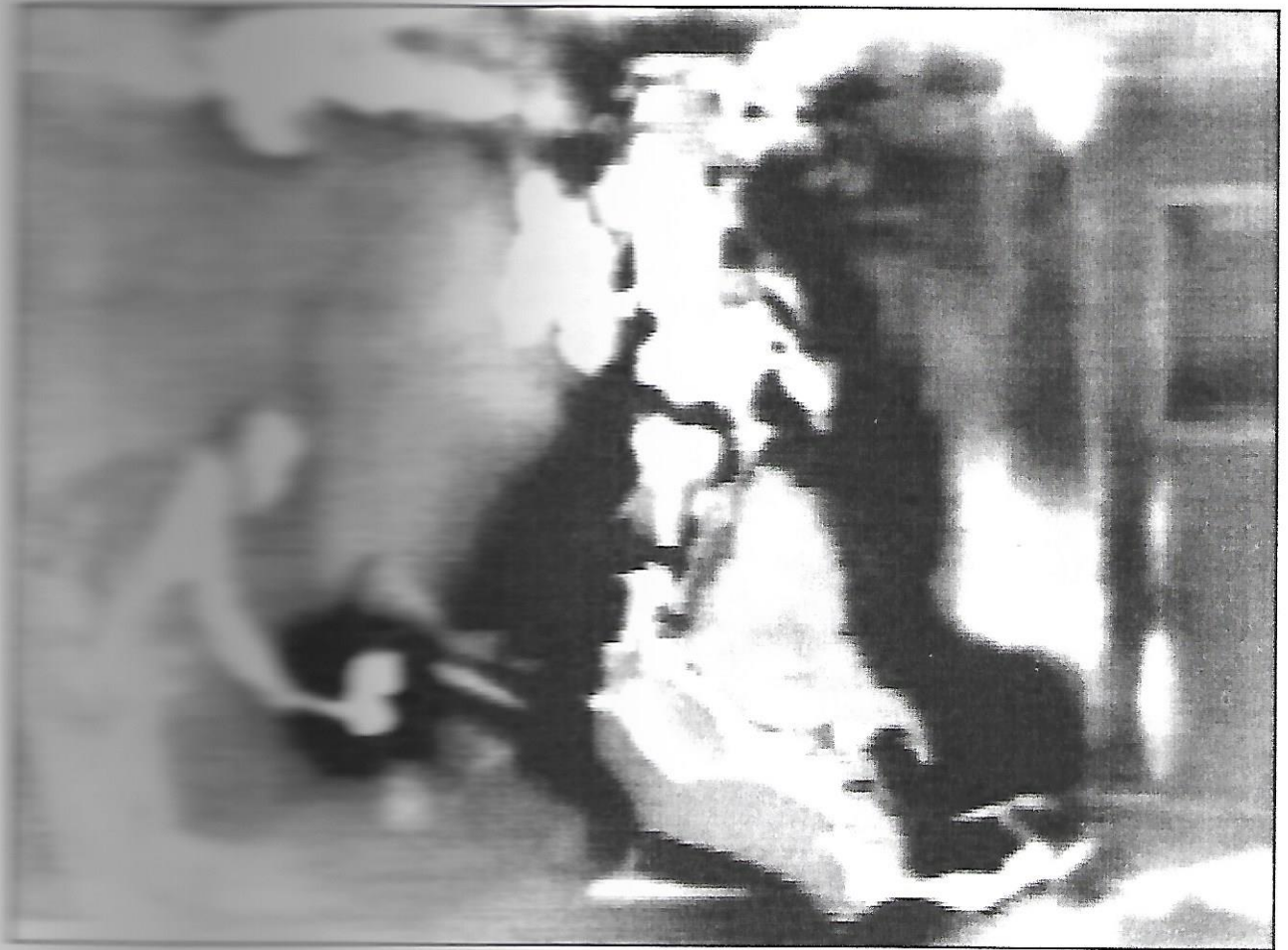
The average age of the firefighters in the department is 44 years. The average age of the officers (chief, assistant chief, two battalion chiefs, three captains and four lieutenants) is 49 years. The average length of service of all firefighters is 17 years. As the firefighters retire from the department, everything is in place to have others move up to take their place.

The equipment owned by the department (eight fire trucks, three advanced life support medical trucks, and three boats) is in good shape. However, as with any equipment, as the various vehicles need replacement they will be.

There are some areas that need to be updated including the communication system in order to comply with the new requirements of the 911 system when it becomes operational in the near future.

All in all the M&M V.F.D. is ready, willing and able to serve the people of Morgan County in the new millennium as it has for the past 78 years.

A Thermal Image View



A firefighter faces numerous hazards while attempting to extinguish a fire. Those hazards are compounded by no visibility in thick smoke. The thermal image camera provides a means for firefighters to see through the smoke. The camera utilizes state-of-the-art technology to project the image on the camera screen. The camera also contains an ultra high frequency transmitter which beams the image to an outside monitor for the incident commander to view and record. The image is a monochrome picture with the hottest areas represented with light or white shades while the cooler areas are represented by the darker shades. The camera is a valuable tool when it becomes necessary to search a home for victims. The camera also plays a role in the location to minimize water usage in fire extinguishment. This is one of the latest tools developed that the fire service is utilizing.

Forty-nine years – Where have they gone?

John K. Finley



I never knew that long ago that David Hensold, Dean Fox and I were voted into the fire department with the same night. Little did I realize that becoming a member of the M & M Fire Department, the change it would make in my life.

In 1952 the state board of education developed training criteria for firefighters. Carl Warren, one of the charter members of the M&M F D, said he would take the state firefighter instructor training. One of the members of the department would go with him. Being one of the younger members of the department, I was "volunteered" and for the next few months, Carl and I spent our weekends at the local college receiving instructor training for the fire service. After we received our instructor certification, we taught classes in central and southern Ohio. Our most difficult part of the experience was to run our fire department.

The change witnessed in the fire service over the past 49 years have been phenomenal. In 1952, the biggest engine the M&M F D had was a 500 gallon per minute pump. The last year the M&M received was a 2000 gallon per minute pump on it. In 1952 the only motor available for the fire service was a gasoline fueled engine. Today the diesel engine is the predominant engine being utilized. Engines now have automatic transmissions, foam systems and many of the latest fire service safety innovations which are necessitated due to the additional hazards of today's fires.

Through the years I have seen the ambulance service go from being served by the funeral home to private ambulance service in the early 70's but that didn't work out. Consequently, the M&M F D took over the ambulance service for Morgan County in 1972 with the help of the Chamber of Commerce and volunteer fire departments. Over the years, requirements for emergency medical services and as well as the demanding training requirements has made it extremely difficult to recruit volunteer (EMT's) and paramedics. Very few have or want to take the time for the required training. The same can be said of fire department personnel. New members must have a minimum of 70 hours of training and certification before they can respond to their fire calls.

Consequently, with all the required training for the fire service, either EMS or fire department divisions, volunteerism has diminished. Over the years, I have been asked what are the rewards of being in the fire service. Saving lives and property is what it is all about. To be a firefighter you must have the support of your family. Every time the siren sounds, the fire department's personnel lives are at risk. Over the years, many fire personnel lives have been lost due to the peril of the fire service. The one thing I witnessed when I first became a member of the fire department and in the same today in the fire service is the dedication and desire to help your neighbor regardless of the risk.

THE FIREMAN'S PRAYER



When I am called to duty, God
Wherever Flames may rage
Give me the strength to save some life
Whatever be its age
Help me embrace a little child
Before it is too late
Or save an older person from
The horror of that fate
Enable me to be alert and
Hear the weakest shout
And quickly and efficiently
To put the fire out
I want to fill my calling and
To give the best in me
To guard my every neighbor
And protect their property
And if according to your will
I have to lose my life
Please bless with your protecting hand
My children and my wife.