



Trustees—Richard W. Little
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Fire Chief—Mark Thomas

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE BEAVERCREEK TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Beaver Creek Township Fire Department has been serving the Beaver Creek community since its inception in 1942. Originally organized by John Scott with the help of the Knollwood Civic Association and its volunteer members, the department operated without public funding until 1945, when the first bond issue for fire services was passed. The department quickly grew with fire stations located in Knollwood and Alpha in 1945, New Germany in 1950 and Indian Riffle in 1958. Since then, most of these stations have been relocated, renovated or replaced as the community's needs have outgrown their original location and design.

The Board of Township Trustees have supported and directed the Fire Department since they agreed to the establishment of an organized department in mid-summer of 1946 and appointed Tom Ferguson as the first Township Fire Chief. When the City of Beaver Creek incorporated in 1980, the City and Township agreed that the Fire Department would continue to protect the Beaver Creek Township Fire District, comprised of both the incorporated City and unincorporated Township. They also agreed that the Fire Department would provide both fire protection and emergency medical services to the entire community, under the direction of the Township Trustees.

The Fire Department was originally created to help people extinguish fires in their homes or on their property. Soon the department was putting out fires for the community, as well as responding to other emergencies that occurred. By the mid-1950's the Department was responding to medical emergencies and transporting patients to hospitals. In 1960, the Department began to perform fire inspections and enforce the fire code. In the mid-1970's the Department trained and certified its first paramedics, taking emergency medical care to a previously unknown level of care. At the same time, women first began joining the Department and taking an active role in emergency responses. In 1978, the Department hired its first four paid, career firefighters, beginning the current era of a career Fire Department.

Our job continues to grow, reflecting growth in the community. In addition to answering more calls for service annually, we've also added responsibilities, like: responding to hazardous materials calls, training to handle emergencies dealing with weapons of mass destruction, dealing with environmental emergencies, including blizzards and tornadoes, performing technical rescues, as well as providing community education to school age children and senior citizens and providing community CPR classes and staffing a bike patrol and honor guard. Each of these disciplines takes a significant amount of training and dedication to get certification and maintain proficiency

Today, the Beavercreek Township Fire Department reflects its heritage in many ways. Our firefighters continue to devote their time, effort and energy to the community they've sworn to protect. Their hard work and dedication is a continuation of the volunteers that preceded them. We continue to receive support, including funding, from the entire community of Beavercreek-City and Township alike. All of our career firefighters either worked as volunteers or part-time employees on the Department prior to their full-time appointment, demonstrating their level of commitment to the community. Today, we have 41 full time employees and 37 part time employees who protect our community around the clock.

We look forward to continuing this tradition into the future with you. Thank you for your continued support.