

# ALEXANDRIA



## Fire Department

*“Impacting Lives, Empowering Future Leaders”*

# Annual Report 2013

[www.ci.alexandria.mn.us](http://www.ci.alexandria.mn.us)



# ALEXANDRIA FIRE DEPARTMENT

302 Fillmore Street \* Alexandria, MN 56308

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<http://www.ci.alexandria.mn.us>



2/19/14

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council,

I have started my 3<sup>rd</sup> and final term as Fire Chief for the Alexandria Fire Department. The fire department is at full manpower and is doing some really good things. You could not be prouder of these fine gentlemen that serve the city of Alexandria-they are spot on.

2013 saw 205 calls for the fire department, with an average of 25 out of 30 responding and all firefighters making the required percentages. AFD saved approximately \$ 2.1 million dollars in property this last year.

The Fire Chief's and Fire Marshal report is attached. If you have any questions, or concerns- please contact me.

Once again, thank you for your support and belief in the Alexandria Fire Department.

Regards

*Jeff Karrow*

Jeff Karrow, AFD Fire Chief # 301

**JEFF KARROW**  
Fire Chief

**BILL "SAME"THOENNES**  
First Asst. Chief

**TOM PARTINGTON**  
Second Asst. Chief

**DENNIS STARK**  
Fire Marshal

**PREVENTION & RESPONSE**

## Department Activities

The fire department responded to 219 calls for services in 2012, of those, 10 were non-page calls for total of 219.

Many training opportunities for the firefighters with 90% attending different classes at Fire Schools throughout the state. A total of approximately 3600 accumulated training hours for the department. AFD Explorers placed third at Gov's Fire Prevention Day at Minnesota State Fair.



### 2013 Alexandria Fire Department

Front Row (l-r) - Shaynen Schmidt, Chris Eddy, Ron Moore, Bill Thoennes, Jeff Karrow-Chief, Tom Partington, Joe Kuperus, Dennis Stark FM

2<sup>nd</sup> Row - Mark Erickson, Myke Pilgrim, Aaron Zollner, Jason Schmidt, Chris Johnson, QJ Warrey, Nick Koos

3<sup>rd</sup> Row - Jeff Rodel, Dan Hodgson, Mike Pfeffer, Scott Gronholz, Brian Armstrong, Craig Jackson, Mark Bergerson, Robb Solyntjes

4<sup>th</sup> Row - Jason Sinning(resigned), Kris Pierce, Shawn Olson, Dan Sieve, Pat Solyntjes, Dave Nelson, Joe Waldorf  
Not pictured: Josh Jacobson & Karl Seanger

## Alexandria Fire Department Personnel and Occupations

Pat Solyntjes	Firefighter	Cambridge Financial Planner
Bill "Same" Thoennes	1 <sup>st</sup> Asst. Chief	Alex Park Department
Jeff Karrow	Fire Chief	Karrow's Jewelry
Tom Partington	2 <sup>nd</sup> Asst. Chief	Polycraft Fire Equip.
Brian Armstrong	Firefighter	Alex Street Department
Jeff Rodel	Firefighter	Rodel Construction
Joe Waldorf	Firefighter	Brenton Engineering
Dave Nelson	Firefighter	Self-Employed
Scott Gronholz	Firefighter/Treas.	US Bank
Mike Pfeffer	Firefighter	Pfeffer Chiropractic Clinic
Dan Hodgson	Firefighter	Probuild
Dan Sieve	Firefighter	Realtor
Ron Moore	Captain	Douglas Machine
Chris Eddy	Captain	Custom Crown Craft
Jason Schmidt	Lieutenant	3M
Mark Bergerson	Sec. / EMS	Martinson Insurance
Chris Johnson	Lieutenant	Douglas County Hospital
Quentin Warrey	Chief Engineer	3M
Joe Kuperus	Captain	Northern Lights Electric
Myke Pilgrim	Firefighter	Colorful Seasons/UPS
Robb Solyntjes	Firefighter	Famous Footwear
Craig Jackson	Firefighter	Douglas Scientific
Aaron Zollner	Lieutenant	Geneva Capital
Shawn Olson	Firefighter	Schaeffer Mfg.
Mark Erickson	Firefighter	Pro-Tainer
Nick Koos	Firefighter	Widseth Smith & Nolting
Kris Pierce	Firefighter	Viking Coke
Shaynen Schmidt	Firefighter	Pro-Tainer/AAR
Joshua Jacobson	Firefighter	Paul Small Engine
Karl Seanger	Firefighter	Dakota Supply

## Department Activities (cont.)



### 2013 AFD Explorer Post #400 - 4<sup>th</sup> Place Minnesota Governors Fire Prevention Day at State Fair

Front row (l-r): Tom Partington (2<sup>nd</sup> Asst. Chief), Dennis Stark (Fire Marshal), Lt. Chris Johnson (Explorer Advisor), Jeff Karrow (Fire Chief)

Back row: Quentin Neinaber, Nick Partington, Kendon Koep, Jaelin Rodel, Riley Steidl, Logan Steidl, Mitch Roers, Max Jacobson Not Pictured: Aaron Steidl

## Great Opportunities!!



### 2013 AFD Open House



### 2013 Poster 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Poster Winner

## ALEXANDRIA FIRE DEPARTMENT INCIDENT REPORTS

CALLS BY LOCATION:	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
City of Alexandria	128	139	145	130	123	147	129
Alexandria Twp	31	15	17	19	16	10	16
Carlos Twp	3	2	4	1	6	8	6
Holmes City Twp	1	3	2	3	0	3	3
Hudson Twp	6	6	6	5	4	8	8
Ida Twp	1	1	2	2	2	2	0
LaGrand Twp	16	22	19	11	22	22	20
Lake Mary Twp	5	2	4	3	3	2	60
Mutual Aid	0	0	0	4	1	2	3
Others	3	0	1	0	2	0	0
Non-Page	10	10	12	18	18	10	9
<b>TOTAL CALLS</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>205</b>
<b>Twp TOTALS</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>59</b>

### Alexandria Fire Dept

#### Dollar Value Saved & Loss Analysis (Modified)

Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013}

Incident Type	Count	Total Values	Total Losses	Total Saved	Percent Lost	Percent Saved
111 Building fire	20	\$2,780,000	\$962,600	\$1,817,400	34.63%	65.37%
113 Cooking fire, confined to	2	\$77,000	\$1,700	\$75,300	2.21%	97.79%
118 Trash or rubbish fire,	1	\$0	\$500	\$-500	0.00%	0.00%
130 Mobile property (vehicle)	2	\$19,600	\$11,500	\$8,100	58.67%	41.33%
131 Passenger vehicle fire	3	\$20,000	\$19,500	\$500	97.50%	2.50%
134 Water vehicle fire	1	\$0	\$5,000	\$-5,000	0.00%	0.00%
138 Off-road vehicle or heavy	1	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$4,000	20.00%	80.00%
411 Gasoline or other	1	\$300	\$300	\$0	100.00%	0.00%
520 Water problem, Other	1	\$50,000	\$3,000	\$47,000	6.00%	94.00%
731 Sprinkler activation due to	1	\$250,000	\$40,000	\$210,000	16.00%	84.00%
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>\$3,201,900</b>	<b>\$1,045,100</b>	<b>\$2,156,800</b>		

**Total Percent Lost: 32.64%**

**Total Percent Saved: 67.36%**



**House Fire**



**AFD Firefighters working on vehicle accident**

**POPULATION SERVED BY THE  
ALEXANDRIA FIRE DEPARTEMENT**

<b>CITY OF ALEXANDRIA</b>	12,920(ALL)	<b>12,920</b>
<b>ALEXANDRIA TOWNSHIP</b>	2,687(ALL)	<b>2,687</b>
<b>CARLOS TOWNSHIP</b>	2,014(1/3)	<b>665</b>
<b>HUDSON TOWNSHIP</b>	872(1/3)	<b>288</b>
<b>HOLMES CITY TOWNSHIP</b>	795(3/4)	<b>596</b>
<b>IDA TOWNSHIP</b>	1,221(1/3)	<b>403</b>
<b>LAGRAND TOWNSHIP</b>	4,178(2/3)	<b>2757</b>
<b>LAKE MARY TOWNSHIP</b>	1,085(2/3)	<b>716</b>

**(2012 estimates)TOTAL POPULATION OF SERVED 21,032**

**\*\*\*AFD Fire District - Approximate 135 square miles**

**Alexandria Fire Dept**

**Monthly Incident Counts By Station (Modified)**

**Alarm Date Between {01/01/2013} And {12/31/2013}**

<b>Station #</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0.51%</b>
	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>99.48%</b>

<b>Total Runs by Month</b>						
<b>Jan 12</b>	<b>Feb 5</b>	<b>Mar 21</b>	<b>Apr 11</b>	<b>May 14</b>	<b>Jun 22</b>	
<b>Jul 17</b>	<b>Aug 30</b>	<b>Sep 16</b>	<b>Oct 19</b>	<b>Nov 17</b>	<b>Dec 12</b>	

**Grand Total Runs: 196**

**Average Turnout per Incident**

**Alarm Date Between 01/01/2013 And 12/31/2013**

**Total Number of Incidents 197    Total Number of Responding Personnel 4724**

**Average Turnout per Incident 25**



**Kitchen Cooking Fire**

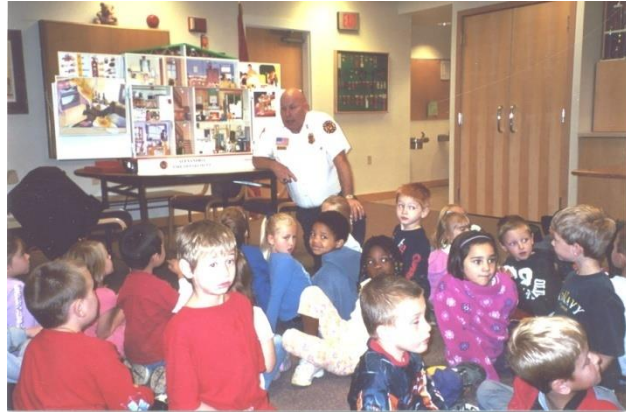




## Alexandria Fire Marshal 2013 Annual Report



2013 was another very busy year for the Alexandria Fire Department and the Fire Marshal's office. The fire department had a total of 205 calls (see attached detailed report). As Fire Marshal, there were numerous tasks to complete, including the following:



Fire Prevention/Public Education - This is a year around activity that involves everything from code enforcement, investigations, firefighter training, public relations and the media. Fire Prevention in October tends to be the busy time, with school fire drills, poster contests and classroom visits. There were 35 station tours, 18 different schools visits, safety escape house was used at all elementary schools (approx. 750 students), and Safety Day camp in May had approx. 470 5<sup>th</sup> grade students learn fire safety. About 1730 students (pre-school – 5<sup>th</sup> grade) participated in fire safety education. Also annual safety presentations at senior housing facilities and special requests were conducted.



### 2013 Open House at the Fire Station

Code Enforcement - approx. 102 inspections (mostly new construction), 30 plan reviews, MFIRS reports for 219 calls entered into database and submitted to State Fire Marshal, 10 non-page calls. Regular and special inspections conducted throughout the year. There are approximately 290 buildings in the city that have automatic fire sprinkler systems.

Investigations - assisted or followed up on approx. 17 incidents (mostly follow-up for fire officers after incident or call) Documentation for investigations includes photos and cause determination if possible.

Fire Chief/Department requests - complete special projects directed by fire chief/officers such as assist in department training, research resources, mailings, update rosters and documents.

Hydrant flows/records - about 57 fire hydrants were flowed to get information for commercial construction sites. This is used to determine required water fire flow for buildings for fire protection. Also many new private water service mains tested.

Public Relations - the image of the fire service of importance in the community. Through the media (TV, Radio and newspaper) information and education was provided throughout the year.

As the Emergency Management Director for the City of Alexandria and Deputy Director for Douglas County many hours were involved with preparedness planning, Federal & State Homeland Security grants, conducting exercises utilizing available resources. Since 9/11, there are numerous issues and regulations that are being addressed. Equipment and training were provided to the various response agencies.

Continued Education - Learning is a continuous process that requires one to stay up with what is happening in the world. Participation this past year included annual conference of Minnesota Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators-March, Sprinkler Inspections-SFM, Governor's Fire Prevention Day at Minnesota State Fair, Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association Conference-October, Governor's Council on Fire Prevention & Control Executive Committee

After 18 years as Fire Marshal, 35 in the fire service, each new day is a rewarding experience to work in this community and all the people to help provide and safer place to live, work and play.

Submitted  
Dennis Stark, Fire Marshal