

# NORTH OLMSTED FIRE DEPARTMENT



**2017  
ANNUAL REPORT**



## MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the North Olmsted Fire Department is to provide the citizens of our fine community with first-class fire, emergency medical, rescue and fire prevention services. Department members will continually commit to accomplish the mission through high standards of education, leadership, and professionalism, while maintaining a passionate and dedicated resolve to safeguard the health and safety of our personnel.

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# Prayer for Firefighters

**Merciful Father in heaven, look down in Your love upon all those who protect us and ours from the ravages of fire and flame. Grant them the courage and skills to carry out their duties well and safely. When they must go into the face of danger, be by their side in the smoke and flames. Watch over their families, ever reminding them that those who fight fire are also in Your loving care.**

Picture by Kelly Hertz/Yankton Press & Dakotan via Associated Press

# NORTH OLMSTED FIRE DEPARTMENT

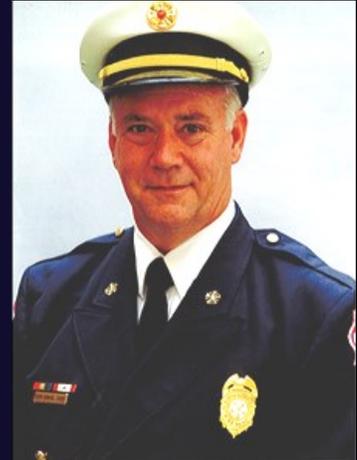
It is my privilege and honor, on behalf of the members of the North Olmsted Fire Department, to present the 2017 Annual Report. We take great pride in providing the professional fire, EMS, and rescue services to the residents and visitors of our fine community. On the following pages you will find information for the past year including department statistics, accomplishments, and an overall glimpse of the members who make up the North Olmsted Fire Department. I hope you find the information useful and worthwhile.

The nation's Fire Service is challenged by the always evolving and changing dynamics which affect the provision of fire, medical, and rescue services. The members of the department are committed to provide these first-class services through a dedication to continual learning, a passion for community service, and a commitment to professionalism. I am extremely proud of the success and accomplishments of our members and appreciate their hard work and tireless effort in order to provide the best possible emergency service for our community.

The success of the department is possible due to the outstanding support we receive from the City Administration. I would like to take this opportunity to extend our appreciation to Mayor Kevin Kennedy, Safety-Service Director Don Glauner, the City Directors, and to the members of the North Olmsted City Council who provide the backing and resources allowing us to meet the intent of our Mission Statement. We welcome feedback and encourage our residents to reach out to the North Olmsted Fire Department should you wish further information.



Edward M. Schepp. EFO, OFC, MSL  
Fire Chief



Chief Edward M. Schepp



# COMMAND STAFF



**Chief Edward M. Schepp**



**Lieutenant  
Matt O'Donnell**



**Lieutenant  
David Boatman**



**Lieutenant  
Matthew Peters**



**Captain  
Tim Gut**



**Lieutenant  
Adam Hudak**



**Lieutenant  
Daniel Coyle**



**Lieutenant  
James Weir**



**Captain  
Jim Dunwoodie**



**Captain  
Brian Shlapack**



# DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

## FIREFIIGHTERS

John Callahan, EMT-P  
Brian Dunnett, EMT-P  
Tim Fleshman, EMT-P  
Rich France, EMT-P  
Mike Fusco, EMT-P  
Bryan Gallagher, EMT-P  
Tim Gates, EMT-P  
Jeff Halsak, EMT-P  
Roger Hutkay, EMT-P  
Blake Ignasiak, EMT-P  
Shaun Kasza, EMT-P  
Shaun Kibler, EMT-P  
Todd Kirkpatrick, EMT-P  
Jim Knipper, EMT-P

Mike Kopycinski, EMT-P  
Tony Lane, EMT-P  
Dave Meadows, EMT-P  
Rich Mecklenburg, EMT-P  
Jim Penner, EMT-P  
Bob Pinkie, EMT-P  
Matt Radke, EMT-P  
Keith Rush, EMT-P  
Kevin Scholtz, EMT-P  
Frank Selig, EMT-P  
Dan Sparks, EMT-P  
Dave Stein, EMT-P  
Jeff Wilson, EMT-P  
Kevin Zywiec, EMT-P

## FIRE PREVENTION

Jerry Cifranic, EMT-P  
Mark Weston, EMT-P

## ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Pam Glauner

## SECRETARY

Linda Hall

## BUILDING MAINTENANCE

Juan Mendez



# PERSONNEL CHANGES

## RETIREMENT



Lieutenant Carl Schanz

## RESIGNATION



Firefighter/Paramedic  
Thomas Zimmerman

## PROMOTION



Lieutenant James Weir



## NEW HIRES



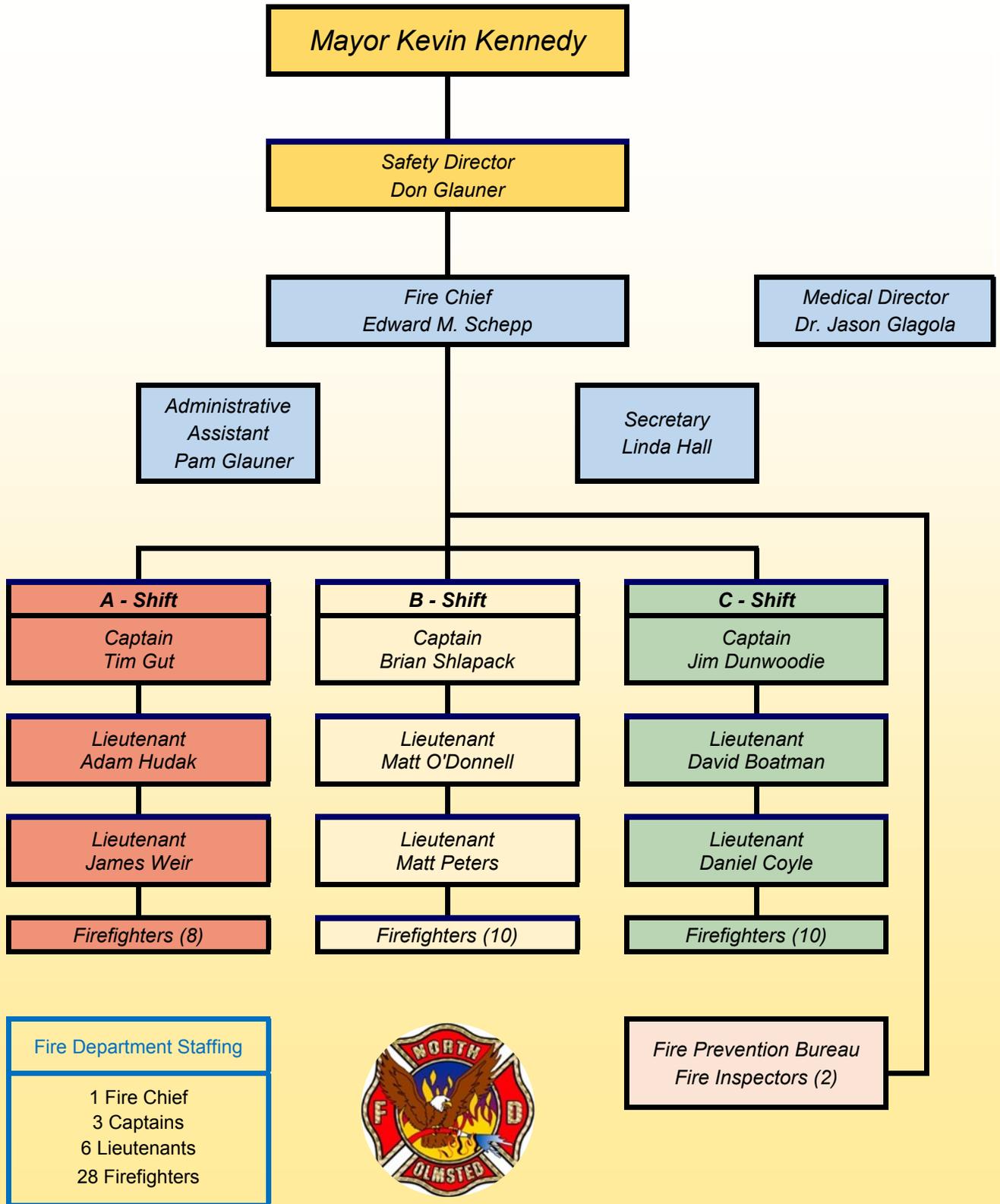
Firefighter/Paramedic  
Timothy Fleshman



Firefighter/Paramedic  
Kevin Scholtz

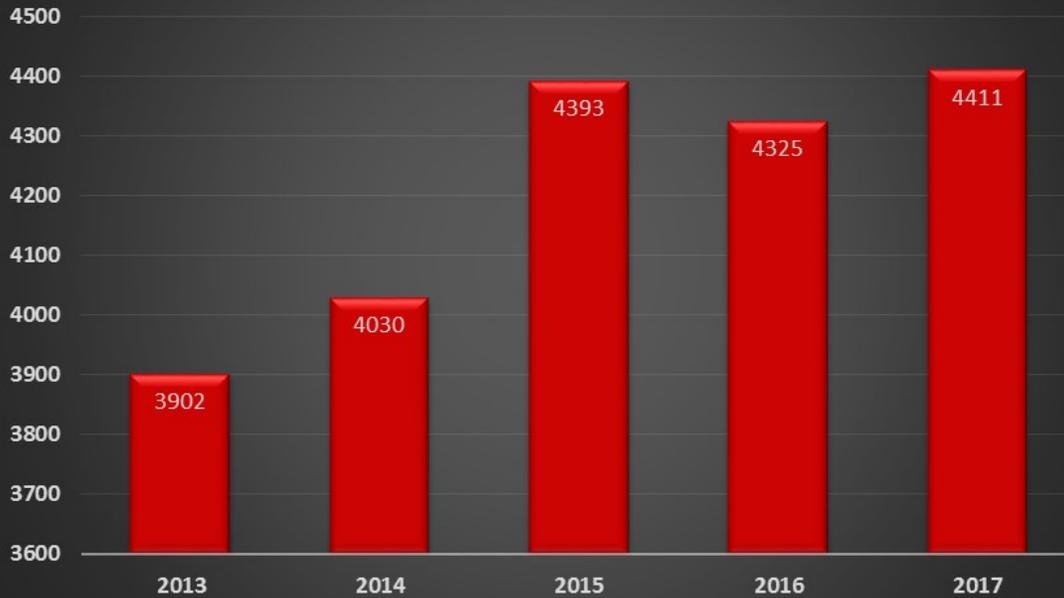
# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

(As of December 31, 2017)



# DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

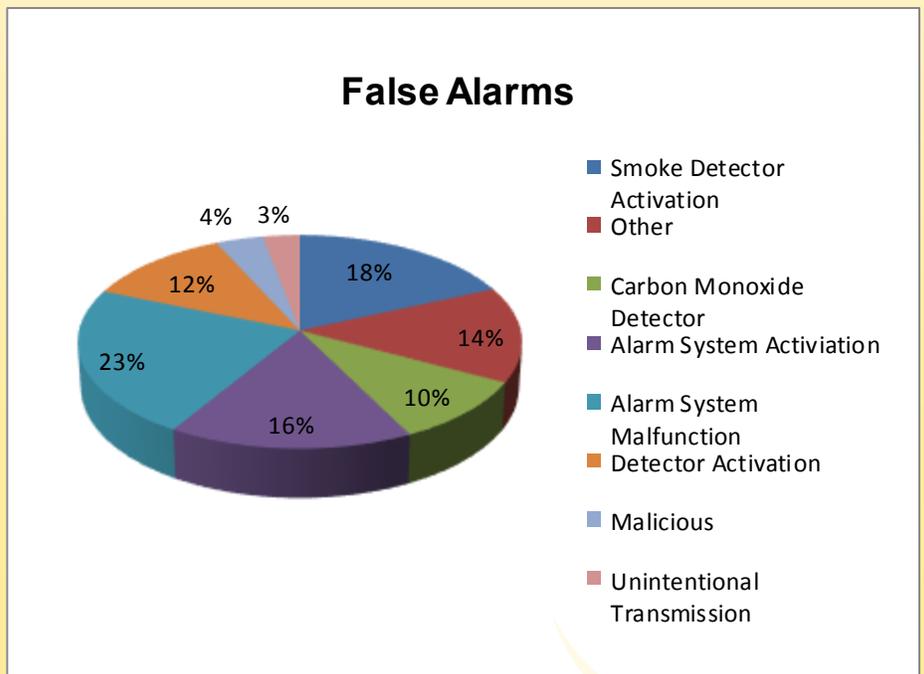
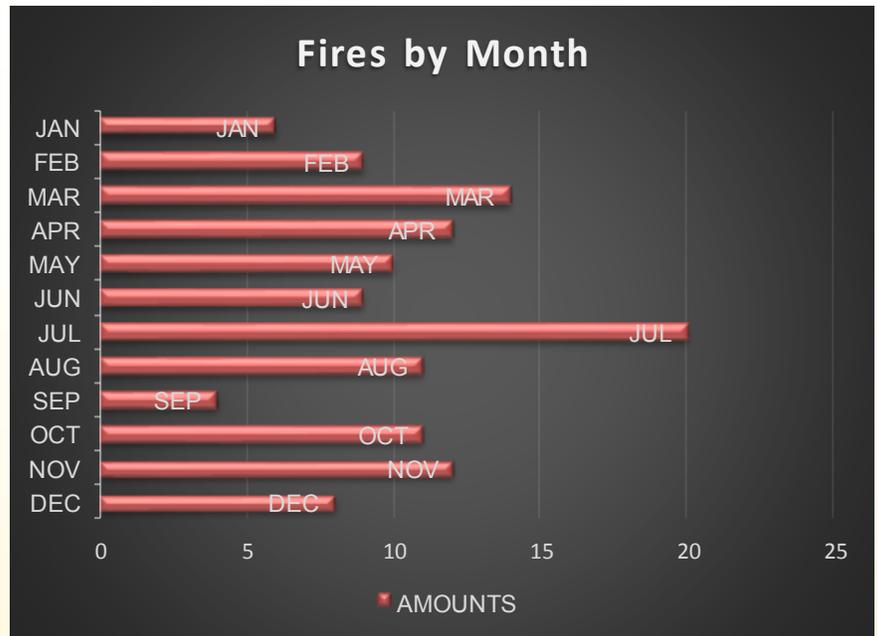
## Incident Count Trend



## 2017 Total Incidents 4411

Station #1 Response	2425
Station #2 Response	1347
Both Stations Response	580
Unable to Respond	45
Mutual Aid Requested	209
Mutual Aid Received	183
EMS	3730
EMS Transports	2898
Fire	126
False Alarms	210
Other	341
SWAT/Hazmat	4
Sick Leave	2561
Overtime	3610.5

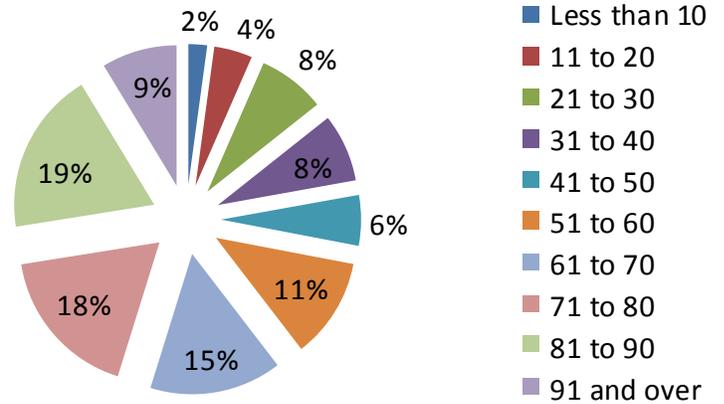




# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES



## EMS Calls by Age Range



EMS by Fire Unit	Total
Engine 1	46
Engine 2	12
Ladder 1	3
Squad 51	2112
Squad 52	1476
Squad 53	10
Truck 58	3
Other	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3665</b>

Runs by Category	Total
Medical	2766
Trauma	647
Behavioral	240
Narcan Administered	69

Run Type	Total
Emergency	3419
Non-Emergency	246

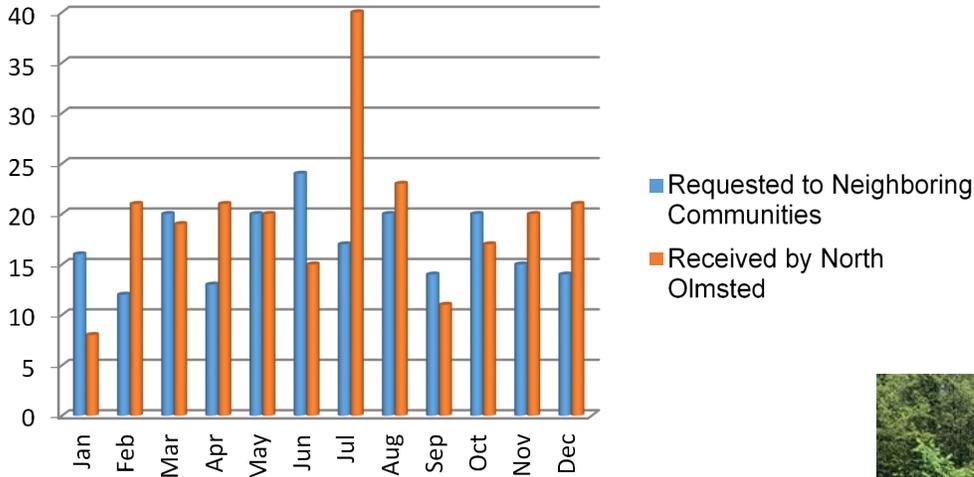
Runs by Service Level	3665
BLS	1994
ALS	1671

Run Disposition	Total
Transported	2813
Treated/No Transport	244
Deceased Prior to Arrival	32



# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

## Mutual Aid



## Mutual Aid Cities

Bay Village  
 Fairview Park  
 Lakewood  
 North Ridgeville  
 Olmsted Township  
 Olmsted Falls  
 Rocky River  
 Westlake

Receiving Hospitals	Total
Avon Richard E. Jacobs ED	30
Avon Urgent Care Center	3
Cleveland Clinic - Fairview	1454
Cleveland Clinic - Lakewood	8
Elyria Memorial	1
Metro	5
Southwest General	28
St. John Westshore	1291
UH Rainbow Babies & Children	4



Treatments Performed	Total
12 Lead EKG Performed	991
CPAP Application	17
CPR - Manual	33
CPR with LUCAS Initiated	28
Defibrillation Performed	26
IO Needle Insertion	32
Immobilization	182
Initiate IV	1457

# FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

## GOAL

*Protecting our residents, visitors, the business community, city employees and first responders from hazardous conditions that may occur by providing code enforcement, inspection, education, response planning and investigations.*



**Jerry Cifranic**  
Fire Safety Inspector



**Mark Weston**  
Fire Safety Inspector

The Fire Prevention Bureau oversees the inspection of the commercial life safety systems in the City of North Olmsted. Inspections include:

- ◆ Commercial Annual Fire Safety
- ◆ Fire Sprinkler Systems
- ◆ Fire Alarm Systems
- ◆ Restaurant Kitchen Hood Fire Suppression Systems
- ◆ Schools/Day Cares
- ◆ Elevators
- ◆ Multi-family Dwellings
- ◆ Group Homes
- ◆ Nursing Homes
- ◆ Hydrants

Other duties include:

- ◆ Reviewing plans for July 4th fireworks display and safety during the event
- ◆ After Prom set-up and safety
- ◆ Homecoming set-up and safety
- ◆ New/remodeling building construction review
- ◆ Investigation of hazard complaints
- ◆ Safety Education talks
- ◆ False alarm investigation to reduce frequency

A major goal in 2017 was streamlining the inspection process. Incorporating more technology has increased quality, quantity, and also enhanced the ability in tracking safety violations for follow-up inspections.

The department has also implemented a self-inspection process for qualifying low-risk commercial occupancies. This process has enabled the bureau to concentrate and spend more time on higher risk properties.

The North Olmsted Fire Department realized over 4,500 hours of individual and team fire training during 2017. This number is approximately 1,000 hours less than 2016. This year Physical Fitness was eliminated from under the category of Fire Training. In addition to our “in house” training many outside classes were attended by members.



**Captain Tim Gut**

External training topics included: The Jackson Township Fire Expo; Flawed Situational Awareness; Radiological Emergencies; The Ohio Tactical Officers Conference, Leadership on Fire, BGSU Pump Operations,



HIPPA Compliance, Fire Investigations Level II, and Fire Officer II. Furthermore, the North Olmsted Fire Department was honored and proud to host the Northeast Firefighter Wellness Seminar as well as The Traffic Incident Management Course.

The following graph is a small representation of the many topics and hours covered this year.



## GOAL

*To provide for the development of our personnel to the highest level of performance through safety and efficiency with the ultimate goal that all members realize their greatest potential with high standards, skills and integrity. We strive to develop and advance our methods confronted with continually changing technologies, standards, and principals to better meet the challenges of the community we serve.*



# TECHNICAL UNITS

## FIRE INVESTIGATION



**Capt. Dunwoodie**



**Capt. Shlapack**



**Lt. Schanz**



**Lt. Boatman**



**FF Rush**



**FF Kibler**

## HAZMAT



**Lt. Peters**



**FF Gates**



**FF Kasza**



**FF Mecklenburg**



**FF Selig**



**FF Zywiec**

## SWAT



**Lt. Hudak**



**FF Knipper**



**FF Kibler**



**SWIFTWATER RESCUE TEAM**



**Capt. Dunwoodie**



**Lt. Coyle**



**Lt. Weir**



**FF France**



**FF Gallagher**



**FF Gates**



**FF Halsak**



**FF Kasza**



**FF Knipper**



**FF Zywiec**



# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TRAINING

## GOAL

*To treat the City of North Olmsted's residents and visitors with first class emergency medical care; while extending professionalism and compassion to all.*



**Captain Brian Shlapack**



**Medical Director Jason Glagola, M.D.  
and EMS Instructor Tricia Martin**



The year 2017 represented the North Olmsted Fire Department's third full calendar year of our continued partnership with University Hospital. Continuing to serve as the Fire Department's Medical Director, Dr. Jason Glagola of St. John's Medical Center (SJMC) oversees the delivery of Emergency Medical Services in the City of North Olmsted.

In the year 2017, the North Olmsted Fire Department responded to 4,411 requests for service. From this number, 83% were EMS related, with a total of 3,665 requests for EMS service answered by the North Olmsted Division of EMS. These numbers contain a wide variety of medical and traumatic emergencies responded to by the North Olmsted Fire Department. Such emergencies include heart attacks, strokes, motor vehicle accidents, child births, seizures, and allergic reactions. While these are only a few of the many medical emergencies the North Olmsted Fire Department responds to, the highly trained paramedics of the North Olmsted Fire Department stand ready to respond and assist all in need.

The North Olmsted Fire Department proudly serves our community with two front line firefighter/paramedic staffed rescue squads, as well as, paramedic level staffed and equipped first responder fire engines. Our firefighter/paramedics dedication to delivering first class care to those in need, is a direct result of both a genuine desire to help and a professional commitment to high standards of continuing education. So as to maintain the finest levels of preparedness, each month, members of the North Olmsted Fire Department receive continuing education from the highly trained educators of University Hospitals. Vital topics such as cardiac, stroke, and traumatic emergencies are three of many subjects regularly covered. Additionally, Dr. Glagola meets bi-monthly with members of the North Olmsted Fire Department to conduct run reviews. The purpose of these regularly conducted run reviews is to assure all Fire Department personnel are educated with the best practices modern emergency medicine has to offer to those in need.

Paramedics of the North Olmsted Fire Department maintain the following medical certifications:

- ◆ Paramedic (State of Ohio)
- ◆ Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
- ◆ Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)
- ◆ Basic Life Support (BLS)
- ◆ International Trauma Life Support (ITLS)

# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TRAINING



Through our partnership with St. John's Medical Center of University Hospitals, a registered nurse rider program that was initiated in 2014 continues to succeed. In coordination with the Medical Center's Education Department, emergency room registered nurses continue to spend a day per nurse, riding on our rescue squad with our firefighter/paramedics. The purpose of this program is to continue to cultivate our shared environment of cooperation, ultimately resulting in the highest level of continuity of patient care possible. One of the many positive results of this special relationship is our "Stroke Patient Direct to Cat-Scan" initiative. Qualifying patients who present with stroke-like symptoms continue for the second consecutive year, to be directly transported to the Cat-Scan Department of SJMC. When one considers the human brain loses 2 million brain cells per minute without proper blood supply, the importance of this continued initiative as relates to improving patient outcomes, is clearly evident.



The North Olmsted Fire Department also provides CPR and Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) training to our community. Firefighter/Paramedics Rich Mecklenburg and David Stein proudly serve as our Department's lead CPR/AED instructors. All City buildings and schools, as well as many private businesses, are equipped with AEDs.

In 2017, the North Olmsted Fire Department proudly placed into service our third Lucas CPR device. The transcendent care these automated CPR devices provide, through proper utilization by the Firefighter/Paramedics of our Department, is truly saving lives.



In the spring of 2017, the North Olmsted Fire Department, in partnership with University Hospitals St. John Medical Center's Community Outreach Department and Great Northern Mall, held our second annual community Health Fair inside Great Northern Mall. Countless health and balance screenings, blood pressures, CPR question and answer, and other health assessments were conducted for the citizens of North Olmsted and visitors alike. Children in attendance participated in a 911 simulator exercise which allowed them to gain familiarity with the activation of this critical emergency services system.



# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TRAINING

North Olmsted's Rescue Squads and Fire Engines are dispatched by City 911 Emergency Medical Dispatchers. Dispatchers are trained to provide potentially lifesaving instructions to callers prior to arrival of the Fire Department. All Dispatchers complete 12 hours of continuing education per year, and serve as an indispensable link in our patient's chain of survival.

Operating in partnership with our Medical Control and the industry leading protocols of University Hospitals, St. John Medical Center, the North Olmsted Fire Department continues to offer our pre-hospital patients the greatest extension of emergency room medical care possible. EMS patients are receiving pre-hospital medical assistance that is redefining our region's standard of care. As we enter 2018, residents of North Olmsted and visitors alike can be assured, that should they require emergency assistance, they will receive the highest quality, most evidence based, and first class care available from their North Olmsted Fire Department.



# 2017 FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Lieutenant Dan Coyle was recognized by the North Olmsted VFW Post 7647 as the 2017 Firefighter of the Year. He is a 22 year veteran of the North Olmsted Fire Department. In addition to serving as a Lieutenant, Dan is also a Swiftwater Rescue Instructor, State of Ohio Emergency Medical Services Instructor, Tactical EMS Provider and Instructor, International Trauma Life Support Provider, and currently pursuing his EMS Science and Fire Science A.S. Throughout his career, Lt. Coyle has represented the North Olmsted Fire Department in numerous capacities including:

- ◆ Westshore Hazardous Materials and Technical Rescue Team
- ◆ West Shore Enforcement Bureau SWAT
- ◆ Ohio Region 2 Urban Search and Rescue Team
- ◆ NOFD Swiftwater Rescue Group
- ◆ WESHARE Committee Departmental Representative
- ◆ Cuyahoga County EMS Committee Tactical EMS Chair
- ◆ Certified Ambulance Privacy Officer

Lt. Coyle's dedication, continuing education, commitment, and leadership in the department made him an outstanding nominee for firefighter of the year. In addition, Lt. Coyle was selected as the VFW State of Ohio 2017 Firefighter of the Year to be awarded in January 2018 in Independence, Ohio.



Lt. Dan Coyle was awarded the 2017 Firefighter of the Year at the ceremony on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

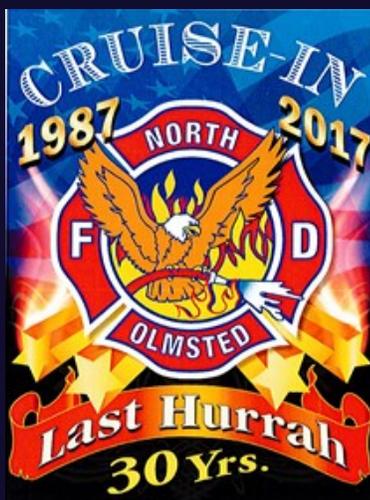


FF Jerry Cifranic was awarded the VFW State of Ohio 2016 Firefighter of the Year in Columbus, Ohio in January 2017.

## IAFF LOCAL 1267



FF Sparks, FF Radke, and Lt. Schanz



Throughout 2017, members of the North Olmsted Firefighters Local 1267 were involved in many service and outreach projects to make our community a better place for all:

- ◆ The North Olmsted Firefighters Local 1267 sponsored a "Pizza Night" for the residents of Victoria Plaza Apartments on February 14. Over the years Victoria Plaza has been very involved in helping the firefighters with "Coats for Kids", Fire Department training and allowing members of the Fire Department to use the stairwells for physical training. As a token of appreciation, the members of the union agreed to treat the residents for a special dinner.
- ◆ On April 6, "A" Shift personnel and Sparky the Dog paid a visit to Great Northern Mall to hand out plastic Easter eggs filled with goodies to about 100 children and visit with their parents to promote an upcoming Health Fair to be held in May. The event was assisted by Mall employees and enjoyed by all.
- ◆ On May 13, Lt. Carl Schanz, Firefighter Matt Radke and Firefighter Dan Sparks traveled to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to participate in the American Lung Association "Fight for Air Stair Climb". The event took place at the Huntington Bank Building in downtown Pittsburgh. The firefighter competition involved climbing the 23 flights of the building two times totaling 46 flights in full firefighting turnout gear including Scott Air Pack. Matt Radke placed 1st, Dan Sparks placed 3rd, and Carl Schanz came in 15th amongst all the firefighters who participated. North Olmsted Firefighters Local 1267 helped with donations to help benefit the American Lung Association.
- ◆ The members hosted their annual benefit car show on Wednesday, July 12, to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. This was the last hurrah for the car show which was founded and organized by Lt. Carl Schanz for the past 30 years. At least 500 cars, trucks, and specialty vehicles from all over northern Ohio arrived

for an outstanding evening at the Great Northern Corporate Center. Approximately 5,000 spectators and their families attended. Continued involvement from current and past firefighters, their families, and local businesses have helped make this annual car show a huge success.

- ◆ On August 10, members of "A" Shift took part in the North Olmsted Summer Recreation Camp's "Touch-a-Truck" at Maple Elementary School. Members of the Fire, Police and Service Departments, along with private companies spent a couple of hours with summer camp children. The Fire Department displayed Engine 1 and Squad 51 and explained the equipment and job related activities to about 100 children.
- ◆ A professional photo shoot took place at Fire Station #1 on August 11 for the Firefighters Community Credit Union Calendar's July page. The North Olmsted Firefighters were awarded the opportunity to be part of the calendar due to the years of their benefit car show and donations to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.
- ◆ On August 19, Engine 1 and Squad 51 participated in a "Safety Bash" with J.C. Penney's and Great Northern Mall. Members of "A" Shift showed equipment, handed out safety literature and provided information to the general public.
- ◆ Since 2002, the North Olmsted Firefighters have held a 9/11 Memorial Service in conjunction with the North Olmsted Police Department and North Olmsted VFW Post 7647. The ceremony honors the Firefighters, EMS Workers, Police Officers, and citizens who died in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and the soldiers who have died since.
- ◆ Firefighter Rich France has taken his dogs to local hospitals and nursing homes to visit with patients and residents. The dogs raise the spirits and help the patients and residents to overcome loneliness.



Lt. Schanz presenting the check to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.



FF Ignasiak at Touch-a-Truck



## IAFF LOCAL 1267



Captain Gut, FF Zywied, Lt. Schanz, Lt. Weir, and FF Ignasiak

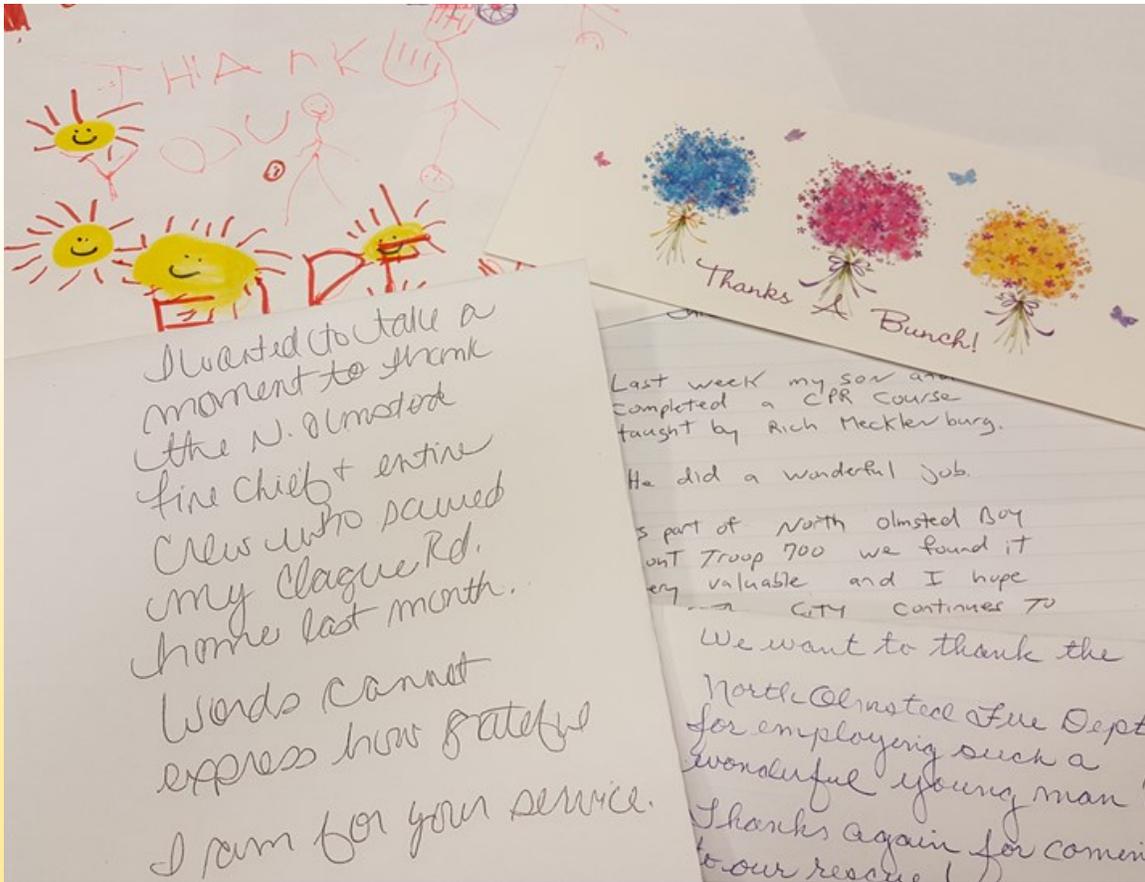


Lt. Coyle is on the left and Captain Dunwoodie is on the saw at Sea Base.



Lt. Weir lowers the flag at the 9/11 Memorial Service

- ◆ In December, “Coats for Kids” at the Fire Department collected and delivered over 60 coats and bags of hats and gloves for Cleveland area children. The North Olmsted Firefighters wish to thank the residents of Victoria Plaza Apartments for their help with Coats for Kids. The Firefighters have collected coats for over 11 years and delivered well over 650 coats to needy children.
- ◆ Captain Jim Dunwoodie and Lt. Dan Coyle are very involved with the Boy Scouts of America. Jim was a Scoutmaster for at least 10 years with his troop from Wellington, Ohio. He is now the Troop Committee Chair and performs Red Cross training in Wilderness First Aid. Dan has been the Troop Committee Chair for Troop 293 for the past 15 years and an adult leader prior to that. The Committee Chair oversees scouting operations within the troop. Jim's two sons and Dan's three sons have all attained the rank of Eagle Scout. Both Jim and Dan have organized and led crews to each of the National Scout Camps: Philmont in New Mexico, Northern Tier in Minnesota, and Sea Base in the Florida Keys. In November, Jim and Dan traveled to the Florida Keys to assist with the hurricane recovery at the Brinton Center and Big Munson Island which are part of Sea Base.
- ◆ “Bikes for Jobs” is an offshoot from a donation barrel at Friends Church. This program was developed and continues to be overseen by Fire Inspector Mark Weston. Bikes are received from Case Western, Baldwin Wallace, local police departments including North Olmsted, and several other sources. These bikes are repaired by individuals from church groups, youth organizations and those who have heard through word of mouth. Bikes for Jobs operates under the umbrella of the Redeemer Crisis Center, an inner city center providing services for those in need. The City of North Olmsted, Ohio City Bike Coop, Midwest Global, Rays MTB and others provide support in many ways. These bikes are game changers for people who use them as everyday transportation by expanding their range of employment opportunities.





**Fire Station 1**  
**24291 Lorain Road**  
**North Olmsted, OH 44070**

**Fire Station 2**  
**29592 Lorain Road**  
**North Olmsted, OH 44070**

**[www.north-olmsted.com](http://www.north-olmsted.com)**