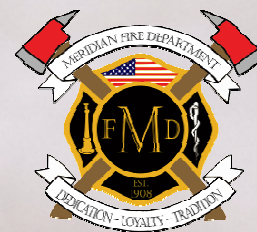


# 2014

## MERIDIAN FIRE DEPARTMENT



## ANNUAL REPORT



Cover Photo by Jim Shane

MERIDIAN  
IDAHO

# CHIEF'S MESSAGE



Welcome to the *Meridian Fire Department's 2014 Annual Report*. I am proud to say the successes we discovered over the past year all contribute to meeting the **Vision** of our Department, “**A premier organization recognized for providing a safe community through professionalism, innovative actions, and community involvement**”.

Our commitment to *Professionalism* was demonstrated throughout the year across all Divisions in the Department. In **Operations**, we continue to place a defined focus on comprehensive firefighter training.

Because each and every call is different, a diverse training program is required to meet the expectations of those we serve. In **Prevention**, we continue to support the safety of our community through a defined and cooperative inspection program. Additionally, our **Public Education** outreach has focused delivery and services based on the needs and risks identified within our community.

Innovative actions continue to be demonstrated through our commitment to collaboration. While maintaining pride in our Department, we also recognize that public safety is best achieved in a collaborative and cooperative manner with our partners. Henry Ford once said “Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.” From joint testing and hiring, joint Engineer and Officer Development programs, to standardizing the way we respond, our Department will continue its movement towards excellence and providing our citizens and community with the most effective and efficient service possible.

We look forward to the challenges and successes of 2015. Some of the highlights we will be working on include:

- A performance based budgeting process that correlates level of service to cost of service
- Development of a 2016-2018 Strategic Plan
- Initiating the process for the future build of Fire Station #6
- The implementation of a new county-wide Computer Aided Dispatch program
- A website dashboard feature that allows our community to view real-time performance
- Increased Public Education outreach with the hiring of an additional part-time Public Education employee
- Development of a comprehensive response plan, to include future station locations and potential partnership opportunities

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## THE MFD MISSION

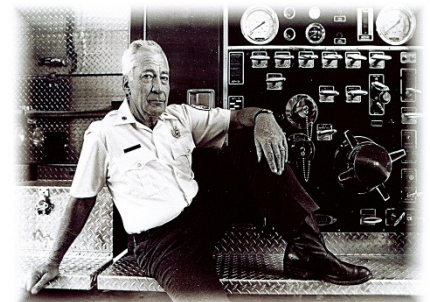
***To protect and enhance our community through professionalism and compassion.***

# HISTORY OF THE MERIDIAN FIRE DEPARTMENT...

In early 1908, the City of Meridian formed their first Fire Department when a group of volunteers successfully tested a newly purchased Champion double cylinder chemical fire extinguisher. With LeRoy Adams as the first Fire Chief the department started out fairly small, serving only 600 residents at the time. Jacob Eames, a local blacksmith followed Chief Adams as the second Meridian Fire Chief and in approximately 1924 Amos Whiteley, another local blacksmith and skilled mechanic took the job.

In 1911 a new fire bell was purchased for \$52.50. It weighed 550 pounds, was 36" tall and made from cast steel. This bell was rung direct from the central telephone station switchboard. A new fire truck was purchased that year as well. It was fully equipped with two 35 gallon chemical tanks, 100 feet of chemical hose, 1200 feet of fire hose, a siren whistle, the latest type flash light, new nozzles and gas masks for a total purchase price of \$1200.

As the City and Department continued to grow, Roger Welker took over the Fire Chief position in 1945. Chief Welker remained Chief until 1983, dedicating 38 years to our Department. In the early 1950's, during Welker's time as Chief, a partnership was formed with the Rural Fire Protection District to better serve and protect citizens in the City limits and the Rural area. A decision was made to jointly fund and to house all the fire equipment in one station located at the center of the district. This partnership proved to be very beneficial to the City and the Rural Fire District and continues today.



*Roger Welker  
Fire Chief 1945 to 1983*

Rescue One, a volunteer response team, was organized in 1976 to cover medical emergencies and did so for 18 years before these calls were handled by the expanding Fire Department.



*Kenny Bowers  
Fire Chief 1983 to 2005*

The first full-time employee, Ray "Skip" Voss, was hired in 1977 and served as the Fire Marshal. In late 1983, Kenny Bowers became Meridian Fire's fifth Fire Chief. Kenny served in this capacity part-time until 1992 when he moved into the position full-time. Under Chief Bowers' direction, Meridian Fire Built 3 new fire stations and equipped them with the necessary apparatus. He was instrumental in starting the Thermal Imaging Program, the Defibrillator Program and establishing Meridian Fire's first Fire Safety Center which opened in 2005.

Chief Anderson accepted the position of Fire Chief for the City of Meridian in April of 2005. Under his direction, Meridian Fire was successful in adding a paramedic engine company program to the department. He oversaw the completion of two new fire stations and a state of the art Training Tower. The department also acquired its first Aerial Ladder Truck.

Chief Anderson retired in April of 2010 and the Department's Deputy Chief of EMS, Mark Niemeyer, was promoted to Fire Chief. Chief Niemeyer has overseen the formation of the Emergency Medical Systems Joint Powers Agreement and also the Joint Municipal Fire Testing and Recruit Academy venture.

Today the department runs on a 9.3 million dollar budget. There are five stations, a training tower and a Fire Safety Center within the district, five first response engines and an aerial ladder truck. The Department employees a total of 72 employees and currently responds to over 5,500 calls per year.



*Station 1 Today*

## PLANNING, DEPUTY CHIEF CHRIS AMENN

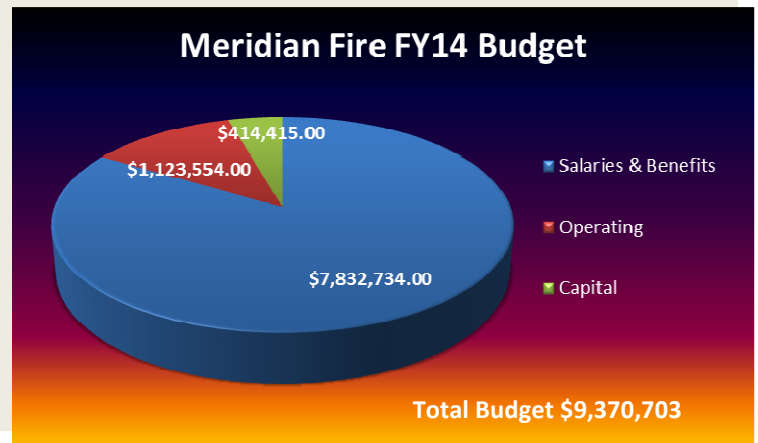
This year the Meridian Fire Department established a **Planning Division**. With a community growing as quickly as Meridian continues to, it is vital that we develop plans to support the vital functions of the department, as well as maintain the core competencies of our personnel.

Through a strategic planning process we identified the areas of concern and expectations of service from our citizens. The mission of the planning division is to turn those expectations into measurable goals and benchmarks, allowing the department to track our performance. We use this information to identify areas of needed improvement, and plan how we will maintain our current level of service as we grow.

## FY 14 FINANCIAL REPORT

The Meridian Fire Department protects a 56 square mile area consisting of City and Rural properties. Additionally, the Department provides automatic and mutual aid to five surrounding cities. The Department maintains 5 career fire stations, a fire safety center, fire training tower and has acquired the property for a 6th station. Meridian Fire employs 73 employees. The Department operated on a total annual budget of \$9,370,703.00 for fiscal year 2014.

The Meridian Fire Department's annual operating budget is a detailed public plan of the expected revenues and intended expenditures of the Department. The development and ultimate adoption of the budget requires considerable effort by the entire Fire Department's management team, the City's Finance Department, the Mayor, our City Council and the Fire District Rural Commissioners. We utilize long-range financial planning tools to help guide the budget process such as our Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), and our Department Strategic Plan. The budget fiscal year runs from October 1st to the following September 30th.



Capital purchases for FY14 included new Automated External Defibrillators (AED's) to support the HeartSafe Meridian CPR program, 2 new and 6 replacement cardiac monitors, one staff vehicle, and an enhanced station security card reader entry system. Also, \$50,000 was earmarked for new hand-held 2-way radios but Meridian Fire was able to reduce that cost to \$26,866 through funds secured through an Assistance to Firefighters regional grant.

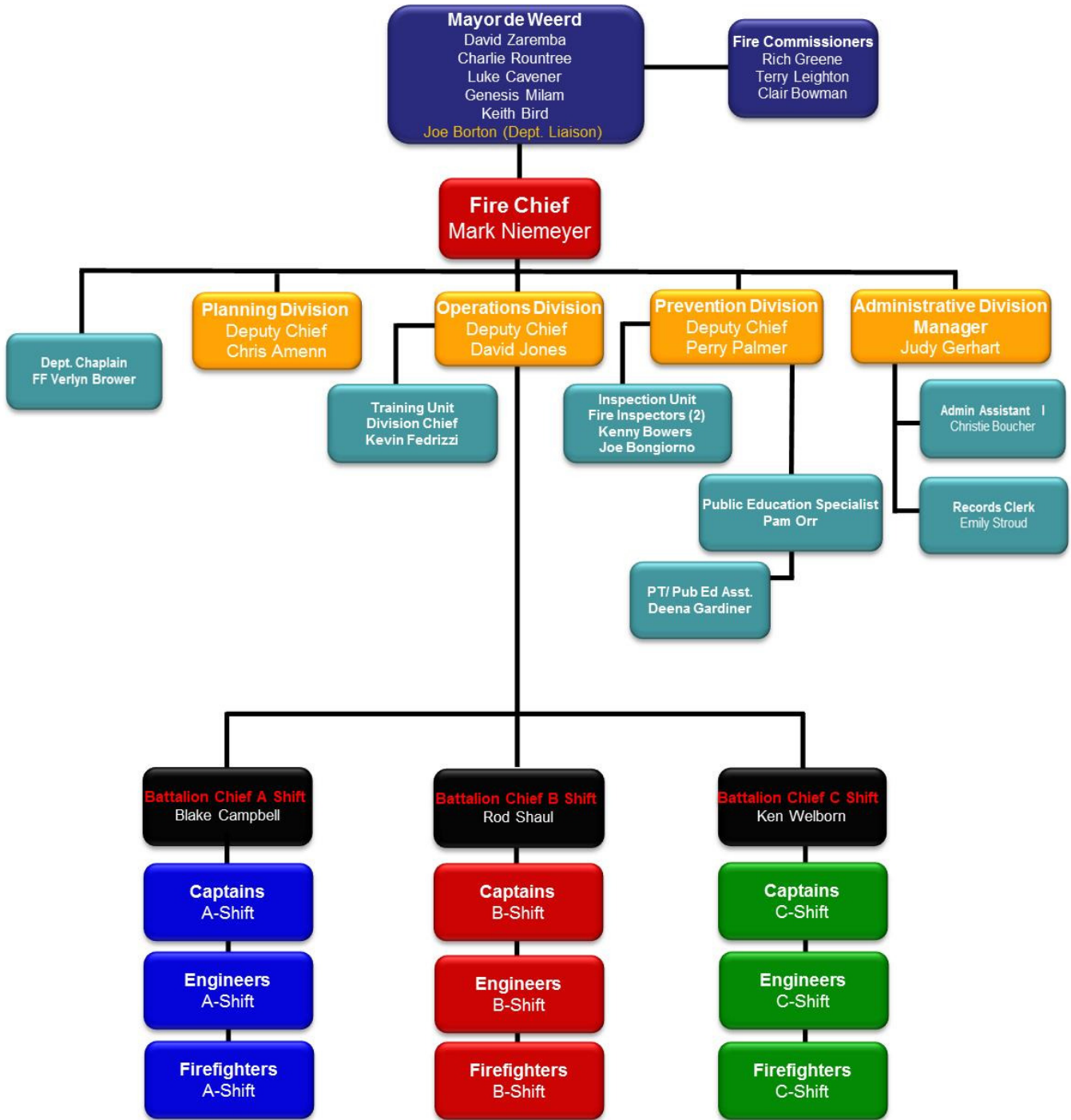
FY14 Donations	
Citizen Donations	\$ 170.00
Wal-Mart	\$ 500.00
Light My Fire, Inc.	\$ 6,760.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 7,430.00
FY14 Grants	
IAAP Car seat grant	\$ 10,479.00
Idaho Fire Chief's	\$ 1,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 11,479.00

The Meridian Fire Department remains committed to seeking additional cost savings and other revenue sources such as grants and donations. In addition to the AFG Radio Grant with Boise Fire, Meridian Fire received other direct grants in the amount of \$11,479.00 and donations in the amount of \$7,430.00.

# MERIDIAN FIRE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



## Organizational Chart



## OPERATIONS, DEPUTY CHIEF DAVID JONES

The **Operations Division** provides fire protection, rescue services, and medical first response to the citizens and visitors of Meridian. In 2014 we responded to 5600 calls for service, this is a 4% increase from 2013. We continue to experience a steady rise in calls for service that is consistent with the growth in our area and the trends we have experienced over the past decade.

The Operations Division is divided into three shifts and staffs four engine companies, a ladder company, and is overseen by a shift Battalion Chief. The firefighters work a 48 hour on duty and a 96 hour off duty shift schedule to provide 24 hour a day emergency response, 365 days a year. In addition to the time that our firefighters spend responding to emergency calls, they spend many additional hours enhancing the safety of our community by training, conducting fire safety classes and friendly firefighter visits at schools, performing car seat installations, installing smoke detectors, replacing smoke detector batteries and a variety of other activities.

The Operations Division also includes the Departments Training Unit. It is a priority of our department to ensure that our firefighters are properly trained and equipped to deal with the dangerous, unpredictable, and often unforgiving situations that they encounter on a regular basis. The Training Unit is overseen by the Division Chief of Training and utilizes two Field Training Officers on each shift to develop, coordinate, and deliver training to our crews.

For 2014 the Operations Division underwent a significant organizational restructuring. We concluded the two year evaluation period of our hybrid Division Chief/Battalion Chief pilot program. The subsequent evaluation of that program indicated that significant gaps existed and we elected to return to a more traditional Battalion Chief model to close those gaps and ensure that there was consistent communication at every level. Division Chiefs Blake Campbell, Rod Shaul, and Ken Welborn were reclassified as Battalion Chiefs and that position was included in our collective labor agreement with Meridian Firefighters Local 4627. The administrative responsibilities of the Division Chief program were equally distributed between the Operation Division, Prevention Division, and the newly created Planning Division.

### **Operational major accomplishments for 2014**

- Replaced all of our cardiac monitors with Zoll X-series monitors that are capable of transmitting a hospital quality 12 lead EKG to the Emergency Department
- Replaced 21 of our hand held two way radios through a regional grant with a radio that was specifically designed for the fire service
- Secured a regional grant to upgrade our existing self-contained breathing apparatus to a version that is compliant with the 2013 NFPA standards for respiratory protection



Photo by Jim Shane



# TRAINING, DIVISION CHIEF KEVIN FEDRIZZI

Building on the successes of 2013, the Training Division continued to seek out innovative and cost-saving opportunities. Cooperative efforts between local fire agencies continue to be the foundation for “best practices” training delivery in the valley. Working under the EMS/JPA we find ourselves using the same cooperative model to deliver consistent Emergency Medical Services training to all the agencies in Ada County. Again we have explored common ground to share training venues, equipment and resources. Many times this year, our crews have had the opportunity to train shoulder to shoulder with neighboring departments. Here is a chance to celebrate this year’s accomplishments.

## Training Committees

**Fire-** Always looking for new and innovative opportunities, 2014 saw the establishment of the MFD Training Committee. The main function of this 10-member committee is to identify the training needs within our organization and to develop curriculum based on current best practices to provide that training. The chosen committee is led by 3 shift Field Training Officers (FTO’s) and comprised of motivated individuals from every rank of Firefighter to the Division Chief of Training. This process provides important insight to the true training needs of the organization with respect to the national standards for training.

This committee assesses current training needs of the department from pertinent and vital input of information from many sources, including crew feedback, needs assessments, national standards, and industry trends identified through attendance at national fire training programs. Our committee then develops and delivers multi-company training to all crews during the fourth calendar week of every month. This training has included NFPA 1403 live fire training burns of donated structures, firefighter survival training, Back to Basics, and trending auto extrication techniques.

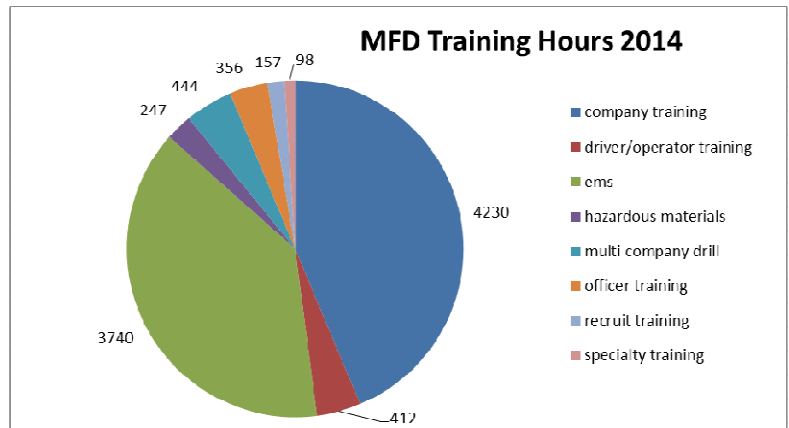
**EMS-** We established a similar committee on the EMS side of the house. After a recruitment process, we appointed 3 EMS-Field Training Officers to lead EMS training for our department. Operating under the JPA guidelines, these individuals are responsible for developing and delivering monthly CE/Block training to our department members. In addition, they identify training needs, and assist the crews on their respective shifts by serving as liaison point of contact for EMS-related questions or issues.

## Company Officer Development Program

In 2014, the Meridian Fire Department partnered with the Boise Fire Department to present the Company Officer Development Program to all Treasure Valley fire agencies. With this increase of combined resources, the program was expanded to eighteen 8-hour sessions over a three month period, for a total of 144 contact hours. Notable additions to the curriculum included: NFA- Incident Safety Officer certification, the S-125 Wildland Urban Interface certification, Blue Card Incident Management certification, as well as enhancements to the core curriculum for Fire Officer 1 and Fire Service Instructor 1. This course was designed to emulate the successful IAFC Officer Development National model. Twenty-five students from six local Fire and EMS agencies successfully completed the program, and of those who did, we received tremendous positive feedback as to the curriculum and instructors.

## Incident Management Training

All of Meridian Fire Department’s Officers are Certified Incident Commanders through the national Blue Card Incident Command Certification Program. The focus of this program is to provide a common communication platform for incident command on emergency scenes. This ensures that all fire agencies in the valley could converge on a single emergency scene and communicate together under a common language model, thereby organizing the scene to provide the quickest and most effective fire fighting tactics. These are what the industry calls NIMS type 4 & type 5 incidents, and they account for 98 percent of a department’s fire ground incident activity. In order to be certified in this Blue Card program, Meridian Fire Department Officers participate in an interactive fire scenario-



## TRAINING, CONTINUED



Wildland Fire Training 2014

based curriculum as the Incident Commander to manage all local, Type 4 and 5 hazard zones. In addition to the 50 hours of initial on-line training and 24 hours of initial IC certification, each MFD officer completes quarterly continuing education training to maintain their IC certification. The Meridian Fire Department is now a nationally recognized and certified Command Training Center for the Blue Card Program.

### **Combined Driver/Operator Course**

The 2014 year also saw a new level of commitment from the local fire departments to work and train together. The Treasure Valley combined Driver/Operator program was a joint effort of Meridian, Nampa, Caldwell and Star fire departments to share resources and produce a superior program. This program was a hybrid program combining on-line learning with efficient use of drill ground training opportunities. Each department contributed instructors, equipment

and resources to reduce the financial impact of running individual department programs. The students enjoyed the new opportunities in the hybrid learning environment as well as the chance to interact with personnel from neighboring departments.

### **Training Record Management System**

2014 rolled out the long awaited new Record Management System known as Target Solutions. This web based program is a welcome replacement for the antiquated system it replaced. One of the highlights of the system is that it gives the end user real-time tracking of their progress with training requirements. Additionally, each user has 24/7 access to all their training records, and current as well as future assignments for both EMS recertification and upcoming fire training. This allows the employee to manage their training credentials and certifications.

In addition to a Record Management System, Target Solutions streamlines training delivery as a Learning Management System providing an integrated platform for web-based educational courses and activities. This system has moved training that was once only delivered in a traditional classroom setting to computer-based training, thus reducing the cost of delivering continuing education curriculum.

Target Solutions was identified and recommended by the EMS-JPA committee. All the ADA County EMS providers now use this system and produce "shared" learning resources and programs through this state-of-the-art system as another cost savings to the departments.

### **Acquired Structure Live Fire Training**

Live Fire training is an invaluable venue to learn and teach firefighting skill sets in a real world setting. Thanks to the generosity of the public who donate these structures, our firefighters experience real life fire behavior in a somewhat controlled environment. We were fortunate to have a chance to conduct this training twice this year. Again, fire crews from the surrounding departments participated in the live fire training along with our Meridian fire crews, delivering several hundred hours of hands-on live fire training. Some of the training provided by this unique opportunity includes firefighter survival skills, coordinated initial fire attacks, advanced ventilation techniques, and incident command. This also was very well received and appreciated by all who participated.



Photo by Jeff Armstrong



## PREVENTION, DEPUTY CHIEF PERRY PALMER



The year 2014 brought some energizing change to Fire Prevention.

Through a Department restructure, Fire Prevention added a second Fire Inspector with no increase to the budget. Captain Joe Bongiorno transitioned from Operations to take on this role. With the tremendous growth in Meridian, an additional Inspector was needed to allow the Department to meet the service level expectations for life and safety inspections. Joe is a tremendous addition bringing a fresh perspective, new energy and skill to the division.

Joe has a proven record of going above and beyond in his efforts to promote public education and fire prevention. He attended numerous classes including the National Fire Academy where he became a Certified Fire Investigator.

This past year we researched and evaluated a new system for conducting Fire and Life Safety Inspections in an effort to be more efficient and responsive to our community. Our old process involved filling out paper forms in the field, scanning and re-entering into records management back at the office and then manual filing of the hard copy. This

Inspections by Personnel	
Crew	41
Fire Marshal	66
Inspector Bowers	564
Inspector Bongiorno	264
<b>2014 Total Inspections</b>	<b>935</b>

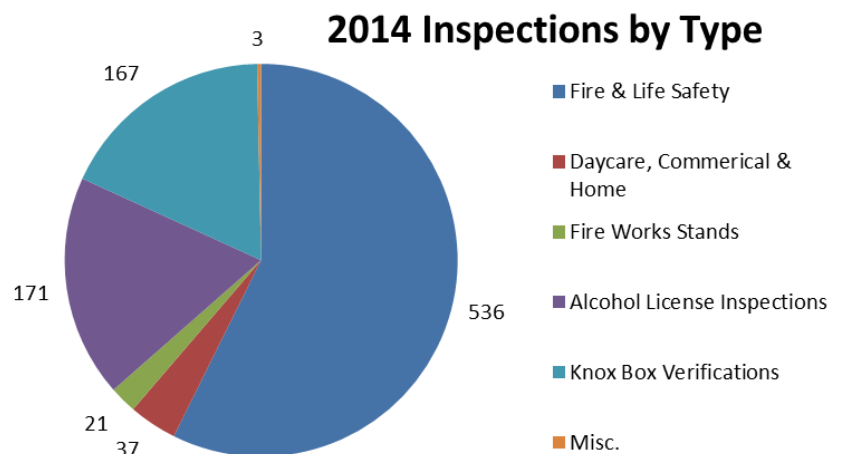
process was both time intensive and resulted in duplicated work. 2014 was spent determining the software and hardware needs for accurate inspection reporting. Starting in March 2015, using the new inspection software purchased, inspectors will be digitally recording inspections on iPad devices while in the field. The inspection report can then be emailed directly to the occupant onsite and immediately recorded into our records management system at City Hall. This will reduce scanning and filing and provide an immediate means to access any reports or inspections while onsite regarding past issues and/or corrections. This capability comes none too soon as we are expecting to see a doubling of inspection requests this coming year.

Currently within the Treasure Valley, Fire Departments do not inspect Fire Protection Systems. This work is done by private companies, however the Fire Department is still responsible to ensure it's completed. Without a process for reporting, this assurance is often hard to track. Fire Prevention is in the final stages of reviewing and evaluating third party solutions that monitor the inspections on fire protection reporting systems. It is critical that these solutions are able to ensure compliance with fire protection systems such as fire alarms, fire sprinklers and restaurant hood systems. Currently, we are only at 25% reporting compliance. Fire Departments across the nation are seeing 95% reporting compliance within 3 years of implementing a monitoring system. When chosen, this third party system will be utilized by several departments across the Treasure Valley.

The City of Meridian is still seeing significant growth with several new subdivisions under construction and planning phases for new ones. Fire Prevention is kept busy with attending pre-application meetings, plan reviews and field inspections of new construction occurring throughout the City as well as in the rural fire district. We appreciate the tremendous working relationship Fire Prevention has with the entire staff in the Planning and Building Department.

The Prevention Division continues to work very closely with other Fire Prevention Divisions in the Treasure Valley to collaborate our efforts in the fire codes that we use and more importantly, how we apply those codes. It has been a great partnership that we will continue to invest in and support.

2015 is going to be an exciting year of new challenges and accomplishment.



## **PUBLIC EDUCATION, PAM ORR**

*While it is a core mission of the Meridian Fire Department to respond to and mitigate incidents in our response area, it is also the Department's mission to reduce the number and severity of those incidents by proper code development and enforcement, effective and efficient response, and ongoing public education. It is through this continuous and comprehensive program of education that the department maintains a culture of safety in the community. This general program area of public education is vital to the success of the fire department mission.*

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*The most effective method of fire prevention is public education.  
Public Education is a vital part of how we best serve the community.*

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On a daily basis you'll find the members of the Meridian Fire Department out in the community conducting fire inspections, installing smoke alarms, assisting the community and educating the public about fire safety.

From school programs to the senior center, the Department is serious about doing all it can do to help the community to be a safer place to live, work, and raise a family. In 2014, the Department hosted open houses, a Public Safety Academy, clown and puppet shows, car seat inspection stations, school programs, a movie in the park night, media campaigns, and much more; the department is active in getting their safety messages out.

### **National Fire Prevention Week/Month**

A Week designed to inform residents about current fire safety issues and trends. Meridian participates each year by highlighting important fire safety information and education in protecting lives and property from fire for the entire month. Our Fire Prevention Month declared "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives; Test Yours Every Month". The message was taken to area schools and residents through skits, classroom visits, media, and an Open House which focused on the many ways residents could take precautions to keep themselves safe from the leading causes of fires, injuries and deaths.



2014 continued to be an effective year in getting our smoke alarm message out. Our **Project SAFE Program** had 139 calls for service; we replaced 761 batteries, and installed 288 alarms. Out of that the department provided 464 new batteries and 132 new alarms; the rest were provided by the homeowner. For those homes that have electrical inter-connected smoke alarms that are over the 10 year manufacture recommended replacement time frame, we spent a good portion of our efforts in assisting residents in updating and changing those alarms out. Smoke alarm education will continue to be one of our top priorities in the upcoming year.

### **Child Passenger Safety**

The Meridian Fire Department continued to be a leader in the community in their commitment to Child Passenger Seat Safety. Motor vehicle crashes remain the number one cause of injury and death for our nation's children and MFD certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians are on the front lines preventing such tragedies. We hosted a car seat check each month during the year at city fire stations. We also serve as a year-round resource for educating families who have questions regarding child passenger safety. In addition to our monthly events, we schedule checks in our stations for those parents expecting newborns before the next scheduled monthly event. Parents and other caregivers can become easily confused by the recommendations of the seat instructions or the vehicle owner's manual when trying to install a

## PUBLIC EDUCATION, CONTINUED

child passenger seat. Further, the different models and types of seats, different vehicles that have different configurations, the use of LATCH versus using the vehicle seat belts to secure the seat, and where the child seat can be installed in the vehicle can become a nightmare for these people who only want the best for their children. In 2014, the Meridian Fire Department inspected/installed a total of 314 child seats; doing our part to keep Meridian's littlest citizens safe.

We applied and were approved for a grant from the Office of Traffic and Highway Safety and the Idaho Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics that allowed us to purchase child passenger seats to provide to the community as needed.

PUBLIC EDUCATION FACTS 2014	
Fire Safety Classes	161
Fire Station Tours	95
Car Seats inspected	314
Juvenile Firesetters Screened	17
Safety/Informational Events	61
Ride Alongs	122
Smoke Alarm Assistance	139

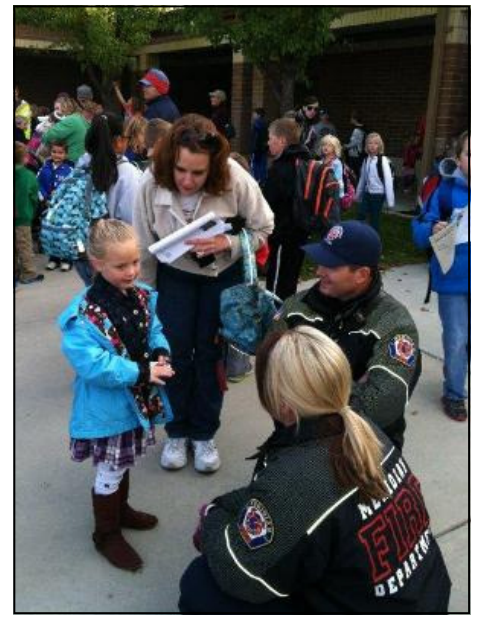


CPR Class for members of the City's Parks & Recreation Department



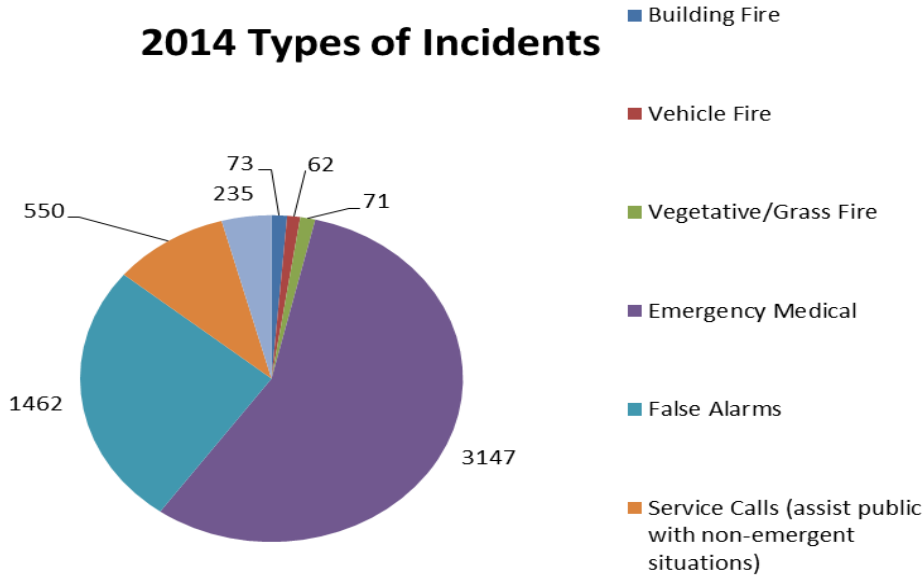
Sprinky & Sparky at the City's Trunk or Treat Event

## PUBLIC EDUCATION, CONTINUED



# MERIDIAN FIRE 2014 DEPARTMENT STATS

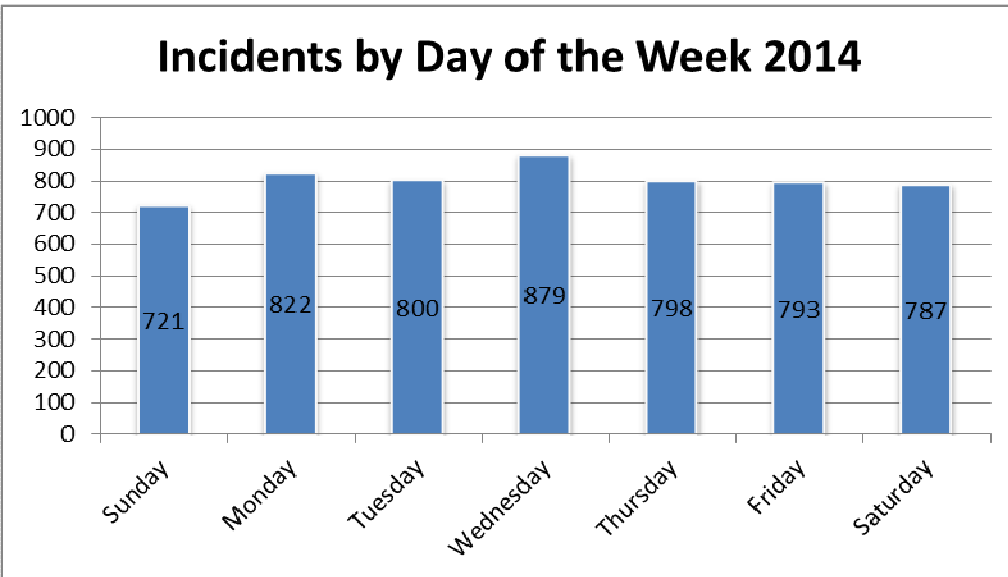
## 2014 Types of Incidents



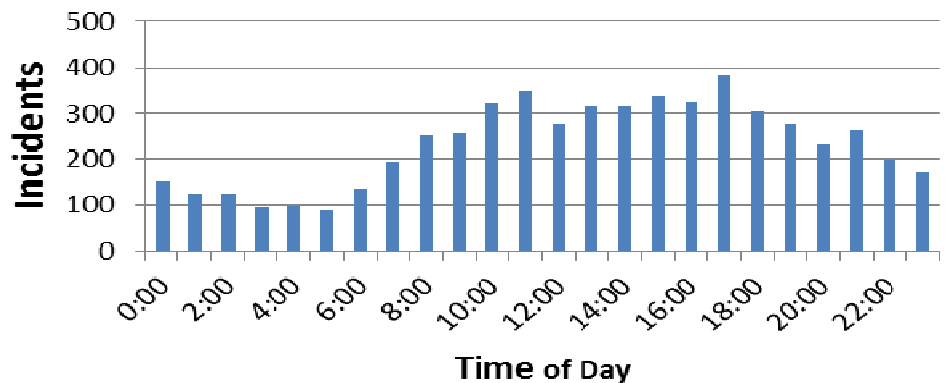
## 2014 Average City Response Times

Turnout Time	0:00:47
Travel Time	0:04:38
<b>Total Response Time</b>	<b>0:05:26</b>

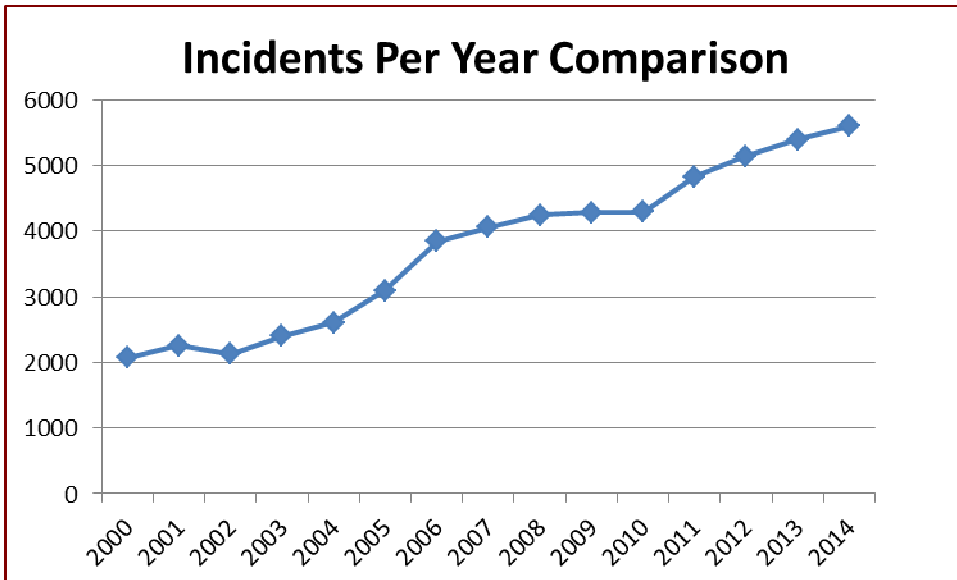
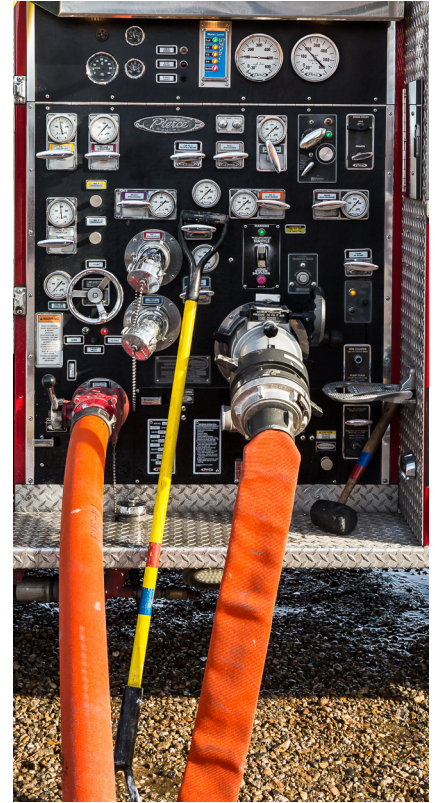
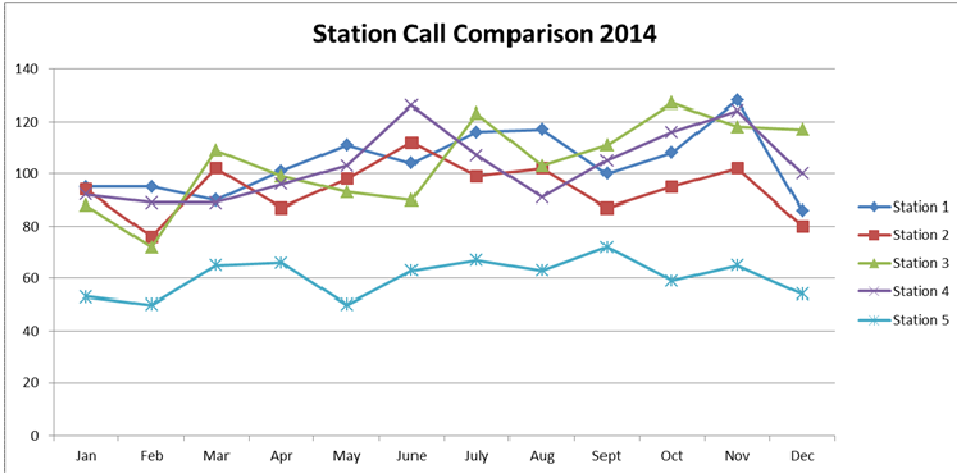
## Incidents by Day of the Week 2014



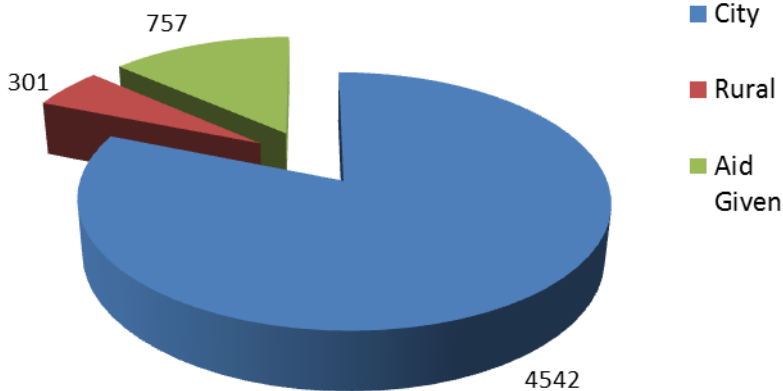
## Time of Day Analysis 2014



# MERIDIAN FIRE 2014 DEPARTMENT STATS, CONTINUED



## City, Rural & Mutual Aid Calls for 2014



Property Type	Count
Assembly	165
Educational	111
Healthcare	480
Residential	2840
Mercantile, Business	219
Industrial	19
Storage	10
Outside or Special Property	1017
Other Property	739
<b>Total</b>	<b>5600</b>

# MFD PERSONNEL GIVING BACK IN 2014

**LIGHT MY FIRE**— Light My Fire Dinner & Auction and the Light My Fire Golf Tournament, proceeds benefited the Boise and Meridian Fire Burnout funds and Public Education funds.

**CASINO NIGHT**—Casino Night held in February of 2014 raised money for the Meridian Food Bank, Optimist Club and the Burnout Fund.

**MDA FILL THE BOOT**—MDA Weekend, Fill the Boot was held during June 2014. Meridian Firefighters from Local Union 4627 and Meridian Firefighters Association members filled the intersections of Meridian for two days raising money for Muscular Dystrophy. Chief Niemeyer and Pam Orr also went to “jail” for the cause!



**TABLE ROCK CHALLENGE**—Table Rock Challenge had volunteers from Meridian Fire supporting the Treasure Valley Fire Prevention and Safety Co-op with proceeds benefitting fire prevention education efforts in the Treasure Valley.

**SALMON BBQ**—The Annual Salmon BBQ put on by the Meridian Firefighter’s Association raises funds for families who were victims of fire and to help with education and public safety.

**FOOD & TOY DRIVE**—Meridian Fire Stations collected food for the Meridian Food Bank and toys for the Marine’s Toys for Tots program throughout November and December. **All Meridian Fire Stations have become permanent food drop locations year round.**

**OPERATION WARM** — Meridian Firefighters from Local 4627 chose Meridian Elementary and worked with the school to deliver American made coats to some of the children there.



## DONATION TO MOUNTAIN HOME FIRE DEPT BURNOUT FUND —

Captain Joe Bongiorno, representing the Meridian Firefighter Local 4627 Benevolent Fund, presented a check for \$1,000.00 to the Mountain Home Fire Department.



**MUTUAL AID** —Meridian Fire’s Brush 34 & Brush 35 assist Boise Fire Dept and BLM contain a several hundred acre Brush/Grass fire near S. Cole Rd and E Vallejo.



**SCOTT FIREFIGHTER STAIRCLIMB** —Kudos to four Meridian Fire Department Firefighters that participated in the Scott Firefighter Stairclimb in 2014. All 4 finished the 69-story stair climb, which took place in Seattle and raised money to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.



**CABLEONE MOVIE NIGHT** – The Meridian Firefighter Local 4627 Benevolent Fund annually sponsors one of the CableOne movie nights at Settlers Park in July every year.



### Pride & Ownership

Station 5 personnel constructed a custom dining table for their Station in 2014



Meridian Fire Station #5

## MERIDIAN FIREFIGHTER LOCAL 4627 BENEVOLENT FUND

The Meridian Firefighter Local 4627 Benevolent Fund would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support this year! This last year we have written \$4200 in burn out checks to victims of fires. In addition we have supported many local charities and of course Public Education Specialist, Pam Orr and her public education programs. We helped the Mountain Home Fire Department with a donation to their burnout fund after they had a large and devastating fire this fall.



**Brandon Erickson**  
1977-2013

This year we created the Brandon Erickson Memorial Scholarship Fund in remembrance of Brandon and his time with us here at Meridian Fire. The scholarship fund will help those that are pursuing degrees in fire and/or EMS fields at local colleges. This summer we will be awarding our first two scholarships.

I would like to thank everyone for coming out again this year and supporting Cable One movie night. The blow up house we bought for the Department 3 years ago is a big hit. There was a line almost the whole night. I would also like to thank the others that came out and sat at the tables giving out literature and operating the 911 simulator.

Next I would like to thank Jerin Jones for running the Salmon BBQ this past year. The BBQ was a huge success. The Salmon BBQ is our only money funding for the year, other than local gifts and donations from others in the city. The fish (as always) was great and everyone had a good time. The BBQ could not have happened without all the support from Local 4627 and the various volunteers who showed up.

This last year the Benevolent Fund purchased \$2000 worth of carbon monoxide detectors after the tragic death we had here in Meridian. The carbon monoxide detectors are located on all the fire engines and are given out to those that the engine crews encounter that don't have one. We hope to purchase additional detectors as funds are available. Local 4627 is continuing our support of the smoke detector project as well. We are helping homeowners by giving them smoke detectors, or batteries as needed when we visit the homes or when we get phone calls to assist with changing batteries.

Thank you again to all of you that support the Meridian Firefighter Local 4627 Benevolent Fund.

*Captain Joe Bongiorno – Treasurer*

### 2015 Officers

President—*FF/Paramedic Jerin Jones*  
Vice President—*Captain Chris Verkerk*  
Vice President—*FF/Paramedic Zach Mason*  
Treasurer—*Captain Joe Bongiorno*  
Secretary—*Engineer Adam Johnston*

### August 1st 2014





# CONGRATULATIONS

## RETIREMENTS



Nick Corral and his wife Kathy

Captain Nick Corral retired after serving Meridian Fire for 21 years. His retirement ceremony was held at Station 1 on September 26th, 2014.

## RE-ASSIGNED



Chris Amenn was reassigned as the Deputy Chief of Planning



Captain Joe Bongiorno was reassigned as the Department's 2nd Fire Inspector

## 2014 PROMOTIONS



David Jones promoted to Deputy Chief of Operations



Luke Smillie promoted to Captain



Grant Hamilton promoted to Engineer

## 2014 NEW HIRES:



Bill Schuler, hired as full-time firefighter, (previous Part-Time On-Call Firefighter for MFD)



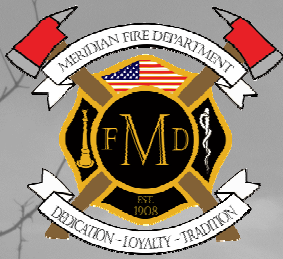
Kevin O'Donnell, Firefighter



Brad Warner, Firefighter/Medic



Warner & O'Donnell at the Recruit Academy Graduation



## **MERIDIAN FIRE GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

***Compassion – We will provide friendly and compassionate service to each other and the public we serve.***

***Professionalism – We will dedicate ourselves to be an educated workforce striving to meet the community's and our employees' changing needs.***

***Honesty – We will conduct ourselves in an honest manner and be transparent in our interactions.***

***Ownership – Ownership of our department will be expressed through tradition, loyalty, and dedication.***

***Trust – We will earn and maintain trust through integrity, our actions, and holding to commitments.***