

PRIDE ~ HONOR ~ COURAGE ~ INTEGRITY ~ SERVICE ~ TRADITION ~ RESPECT ~ ACCOUNTABILITY



Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company

2022 Annual Report

Proudly serving Whitemarsh Township and the Surrounding Communities since 1915

BHVFC – 2022 Annual Report

PRIDE ~ HONOR ~ COURAGE ~ INTEGRITY ~ SERVICE ~ TRADITION ~ RESPECT ~ ACCOUNTABILITY

The Officers and Members of the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company are honored to present a review of our Fire Company's service to Whitemarsh Township and the surrounding Communities in 2022. Our Volunteers are committed to the safety and security of our Community stakeholders twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week. Our Fire Company and our Volunteers could not continuously provide the first-class service our Community deserves without the unwavering support of our friends, our neighbors, and our Community.

As we begin 2023, we renew our campaign to bring you, Our Community, into our family. There is room for our family to grow, and we need you to seriously consider our plea for help! There is a role for everyone in our family; not everyone has to put on turnout gear and run into a burning building. The easiest way for you to consider joining our family is to stop by and say hello! Don't wait; it will likely be the best decision you have ever made.

As you will see in this annual report, Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company members conduct themselves in a manner consistent with our core values. We are honored to uphold the traditions of the Fire Service and are humbled by the faith our community has in us to serve you at the moment of your greatest need. We pledge to maintain our focus on ensuring that only the finest Fire & Rescue services are provided to fulfill our Community's needs.



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Mission & Vision

MISSION

The mission of the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company is to provide Fire and Rescue Services to Whitemarsh Township and surrounding communities in a safe, effective, efficient, and professional manner.

The Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company participates in Fire Prevention education programs and provides support to other local emergency service organizations.

Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company members will conduct themselves in such a manner to remain invested in our Community.



VISION

The vision of the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company is to maintain our commitment to provide professional Fire & Rescue Services to Whitemarsh Township and the surrounding communities, while evolving with the ever-changing physical and technological demands of the Fire Service in a humble, proud and transparent manner.

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Core Values

Pride

The opportunity to be part of and uphold the legacy of the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company and the Fire Service

Courage

Strength to be a Volunteer for our Community and face opposition head on in our daily operations and service to the Community

Honor

Adherence to what is right, honesty and respect in our actions and behaviors at all times in our service to the Community

Integrity

Being honest and possessing strong moral principles; doing what is right even when no one is looking

Service

Performance and Duty, regardless of day or night, and without question to our Community

Tradition

Upholding the legacy, beliefs and ideals of those that came before us who cleared the path for success

Respect

Accepting our Community, our Volunteers and our Staff for who they are, what we represent and the unique talents each has to offer

Accountability

Maintaining the high moral, ethical and operational standards and expectations of our Community and the Fire Service



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2022 Fire Company Operations and Administrative Officers

OPERATIONS OFFICERS

Fire Chief Chris Schwartz	24 Years of Service
Deputy Chief Renard Rose	23 Years of Service
Assistant Chief Tim Tygh	21 Years of Service
Assistant Chief Scott Yoder	27 Years of Service
Battalion Chief Joseph “Bucky” Swider	25 Years of Service
Captain Jamie Viall	19 Years of Service
Captain Shaun Maher	22 Years of Service
Lieutenant Pat Gaffney	9 Years of Service
Safety Officer Pat DiCicco	29 Years of Service
Chief Engineer Mike Gaffney	23 Years of Service
Fire Police Captain Scott Rotenbury	48 Years of Service

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

President Renard Rose	23 Years of Service
Vice President Joseph “Bucky” Swider	25 Years of Service
Secretary Semeion Hall	2 Years of Service
Treasurer Eli Anselm	3 Years of Service

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairman Shel Klein	31 Years of Service
Scott Yoder	27 Years of Service
Tim Tygh	21 Years of Service
Shaun Maher	22 Years of Service
Dave Cox	17 Years of Service
Pat DiCicco	29 Years of Service
Pat Gaffney	9 Years of Service

BHVFC is led by elected Officers on both the administrative and operations sides of the Fire Company.

Our Administrative officers have served the community for a combined 209 years. President Renard Rose has led our administrative leaders since 2014.

Our Operations officers have served the community for a combined 270 years. Fire Chief Chris Schwartz has led our operational leaders since 2008.

The leaders of our Fire Company are steadfastly committed to serving our Community centered on the Mission, Vision and Core Values of the Organization.

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SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES...

Firefighters, Fire Police Officers,
Fundraising, Rescue Technicians,
Junior Firefighters (14-17yoa),
Photographer, Administrative Members,
Community Events

The only decision.....Why not YOU!



**GET INVOLVED
SCAN HERE!**



barrenhill.com/volunteer

BARREN HILL FIRE CO.



**GET INVOLVED
SCAN HERE!**



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JOIN OUR FAMILY

Our doors are open.
There is room at our table.
The only thing missing is YOU!



**GET INVOLVED
SCAN HERE!**

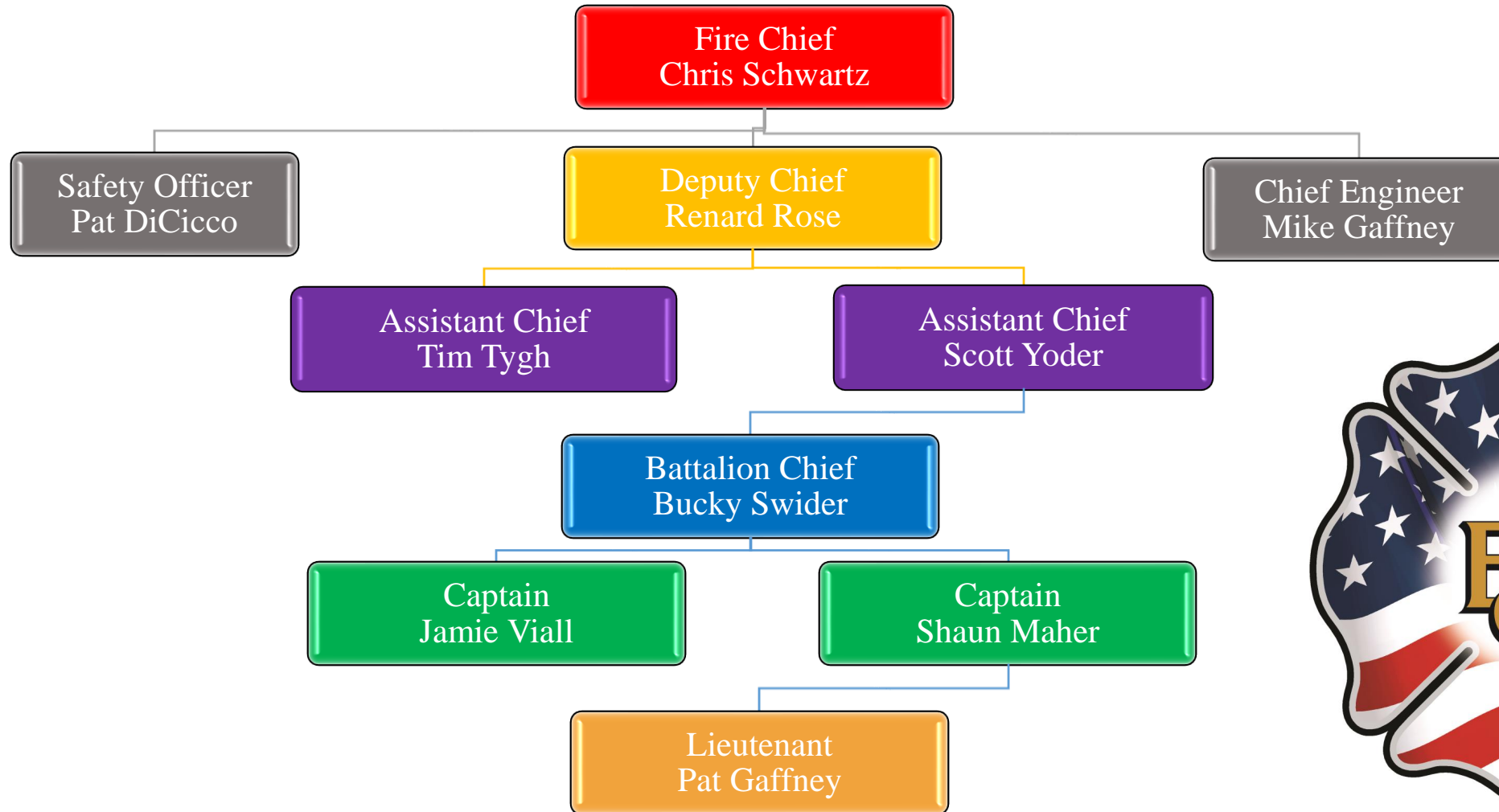


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Organizational Chart – 2022 Organizational Structure - Operations



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Organizational Chart – 2022 Organizational Structure - Administration

Administration

President Renard Rose

Vice President Bucky Swider

Secretary Semeion Hall

Treasurer Eli Anselm



Board of Trustees

Shel Klein – Chairman

Pat DiCicco

Scott Yoder

Jamie Viall

Shaun Maher

Pat Gaffney

Dave Cox

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2022 Run Statistics

2022 Run Statistics



Calls for Service	534
Midnight Calls	57
Weekly Training Exercises	47
Special Services	106
Fire Police Callouts	34
Fire Officer Investigations	20
Company Business Meetings	12
Board of Trustee Meetings	12

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2022 Calls for Service

Members are dispatched through the Montgomery County Emergency Dispatch Center in Eagleville, Pennsylvania. Both 10 digit and 911 calls are received into the Dispatch Center and the resources are then deployed.

Members are alerted to a call for service by various means. Digital paging, cellular telephone applications and the house siren alert our Volunteers who respond to the Firehouse.

Regardless of how the alert is received, members stop what they are doing to respond to our Community's emergency call for service.



2022

Five Hundred, Thirty-Four (534) Calls for Service

Average # of Attendees: 10.94 personnel per response

Estimated Total # of Calls for Service Hours: 5,840 Volunteer Hours

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2022 Calls for Service

This chart shows the 10-year comparison of calls for service at BHVFC. The significance of 2022's five hundred, and thirty-four (534) calls for service is that there were no significant storm events. In a typical year, significant storm events contribute to an increased call volume when one storm event produces in excess of ten responses in a short period of time. This type of increase was not experienced in 2022.



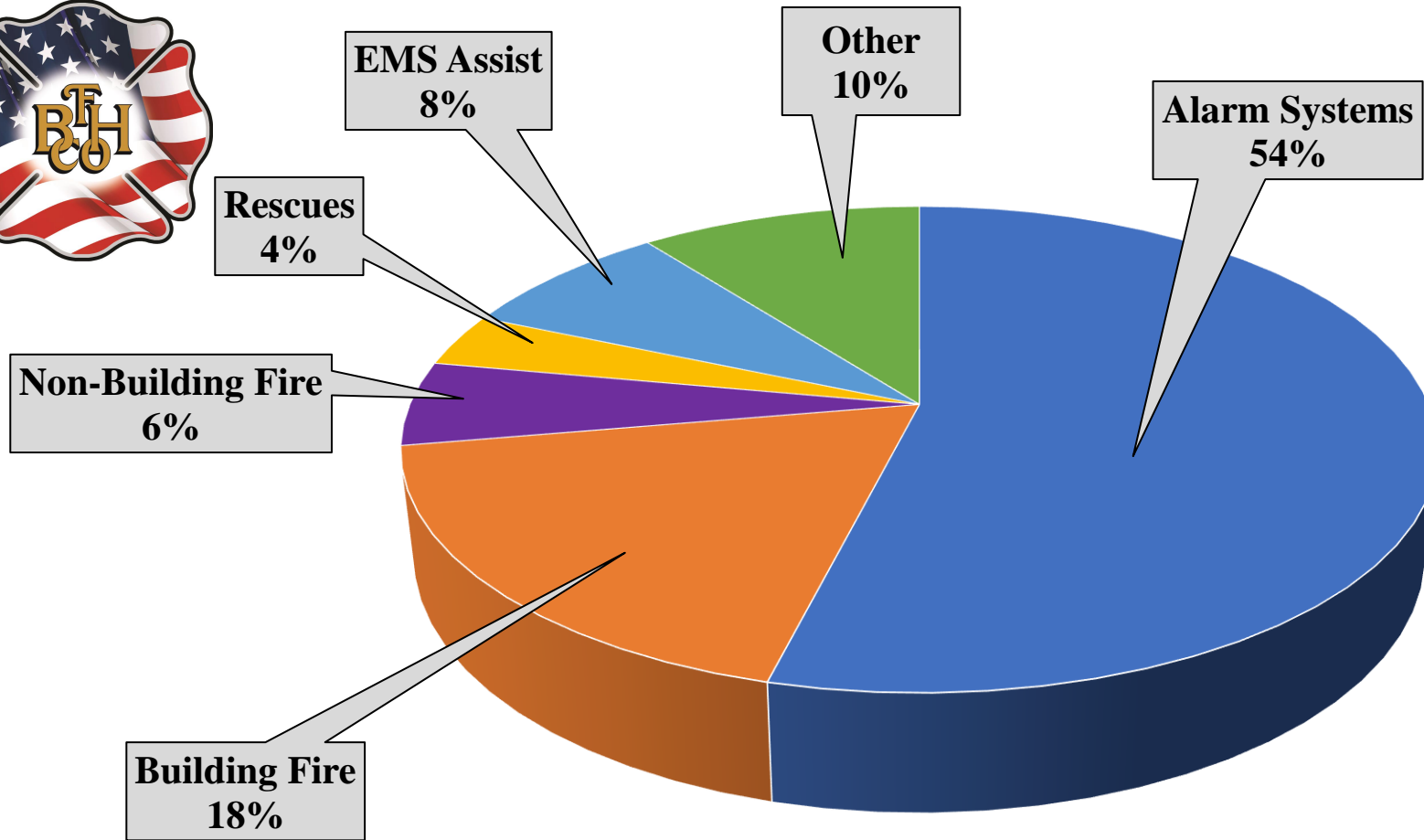
Calls for Service



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2022 Calls for Service – Call Types

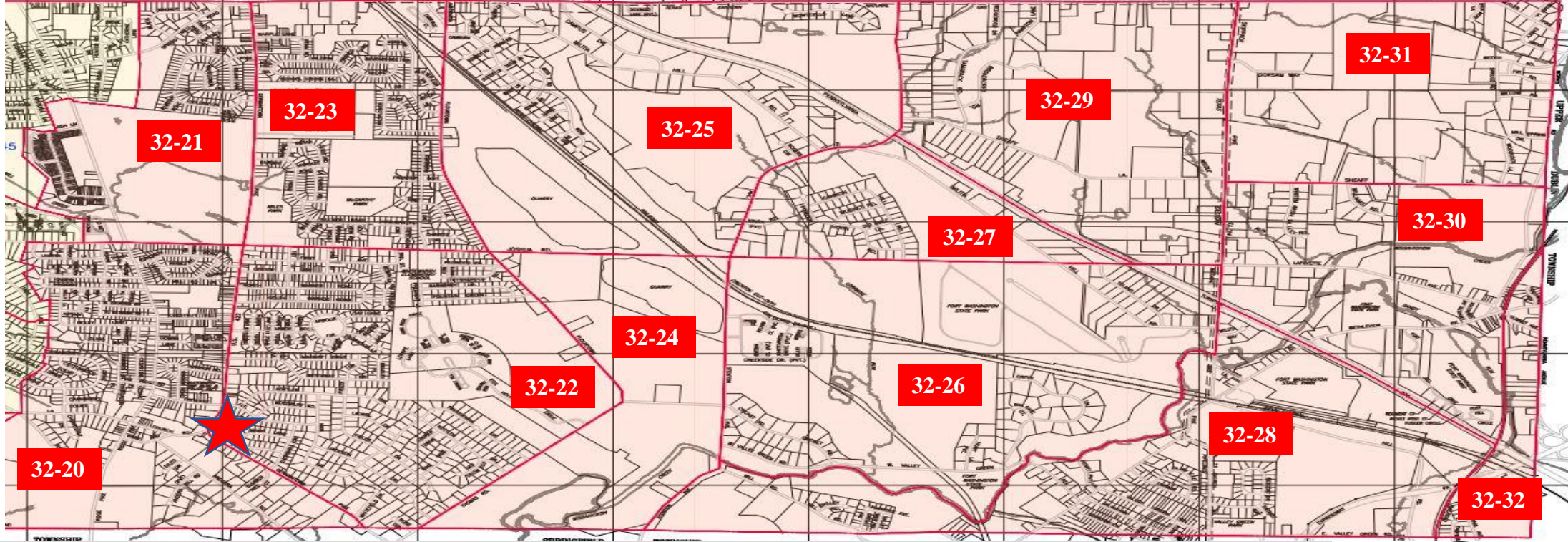
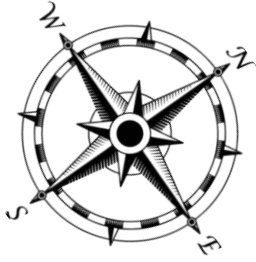


Calls for service are broken down into six (6) categories. Building Fires, Non-Building Fires, Rescues, EMS Assists, Alarm Systems, and all Others. Responses to alarm systems account for the highest percentage of responses.

Fire alarms may be activated for legitimate reasons such as smoke from burnt food or for non-legitimate reasons such as a system malfunction. Like most utility and mechanical systems in a residence or business, it is a good practice to have your alarm system serviced annually.

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Box System – Designated Response Areas



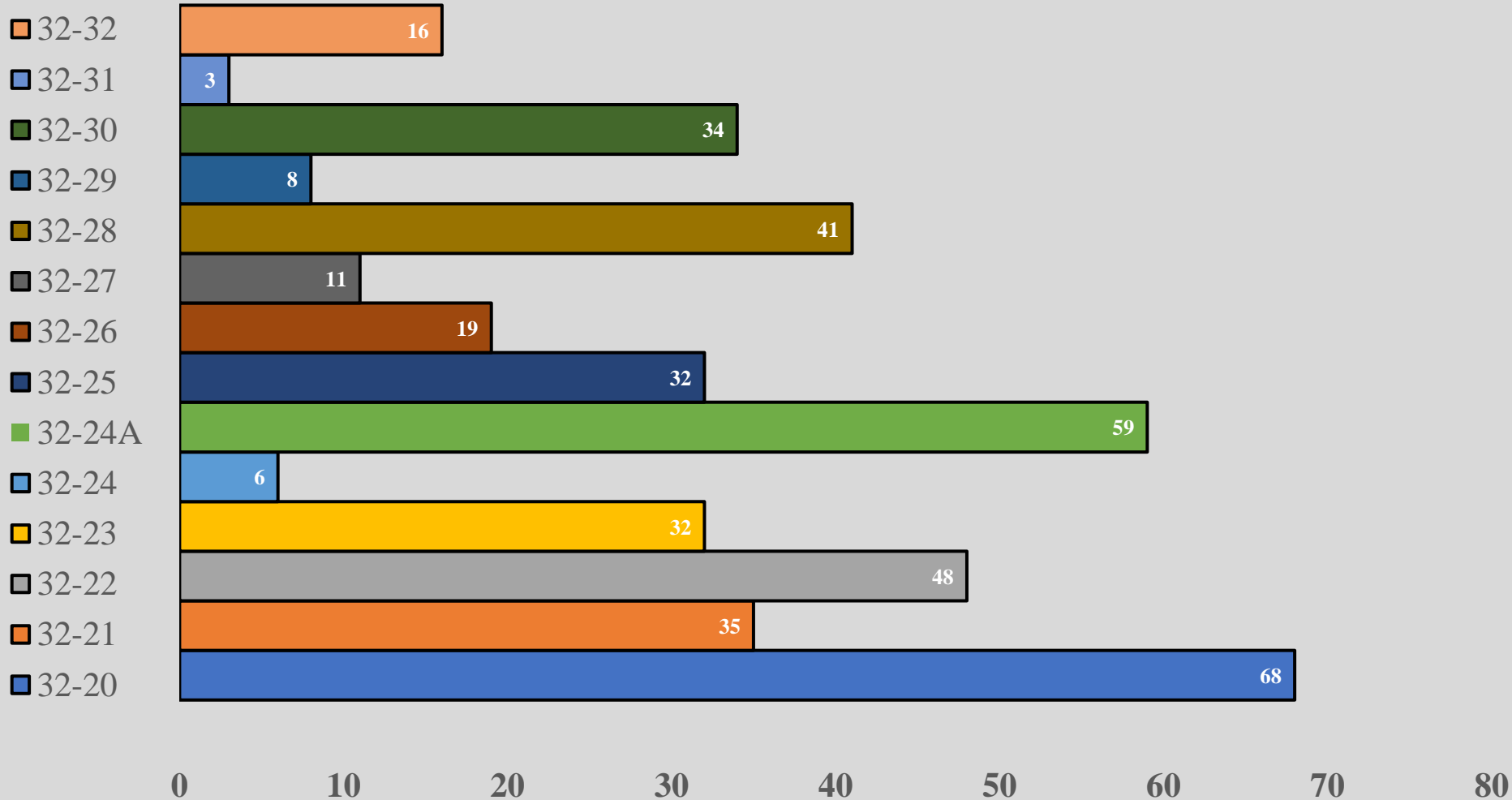
The Township is broken up into sections that are called “Boxes”. BHVFC’s response District contains thirteen (13) boxes. The purpose of the box system is to assure that the closest available resources are dispatched and utilized throughout the response District. Within each box, certain addresses are identified as “target hazards” and assigned the box number with an associated letter. (i.e. 32-20A) A target hazard is a location that requires special considerations for firefighting operations due to occupancy, hazardous materials, or other similar factors.



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2022 Calls for Service by Response Zone (Box #)



BHVFC's responses to specific boxes within Whitemarsh Township.

Note: Box 32-24a is identified on this chart due to the frequency of responses. Box 32-24A is a target hazard location due to the occupancy of the facility.

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2022 Calls for Service by Fire District

Mutual Aid

To ensure the proper number of firefighters respond to a call for service, the fire service relies on mutual aid assistance from nearby fire companies. BHVFC's response district regularly relies on mutual aid fire companies from Conshohocken Borough, Plymouth Township, Whitpain Township, Ambler Borough, Upper Dublin Township, and Springfield Township.

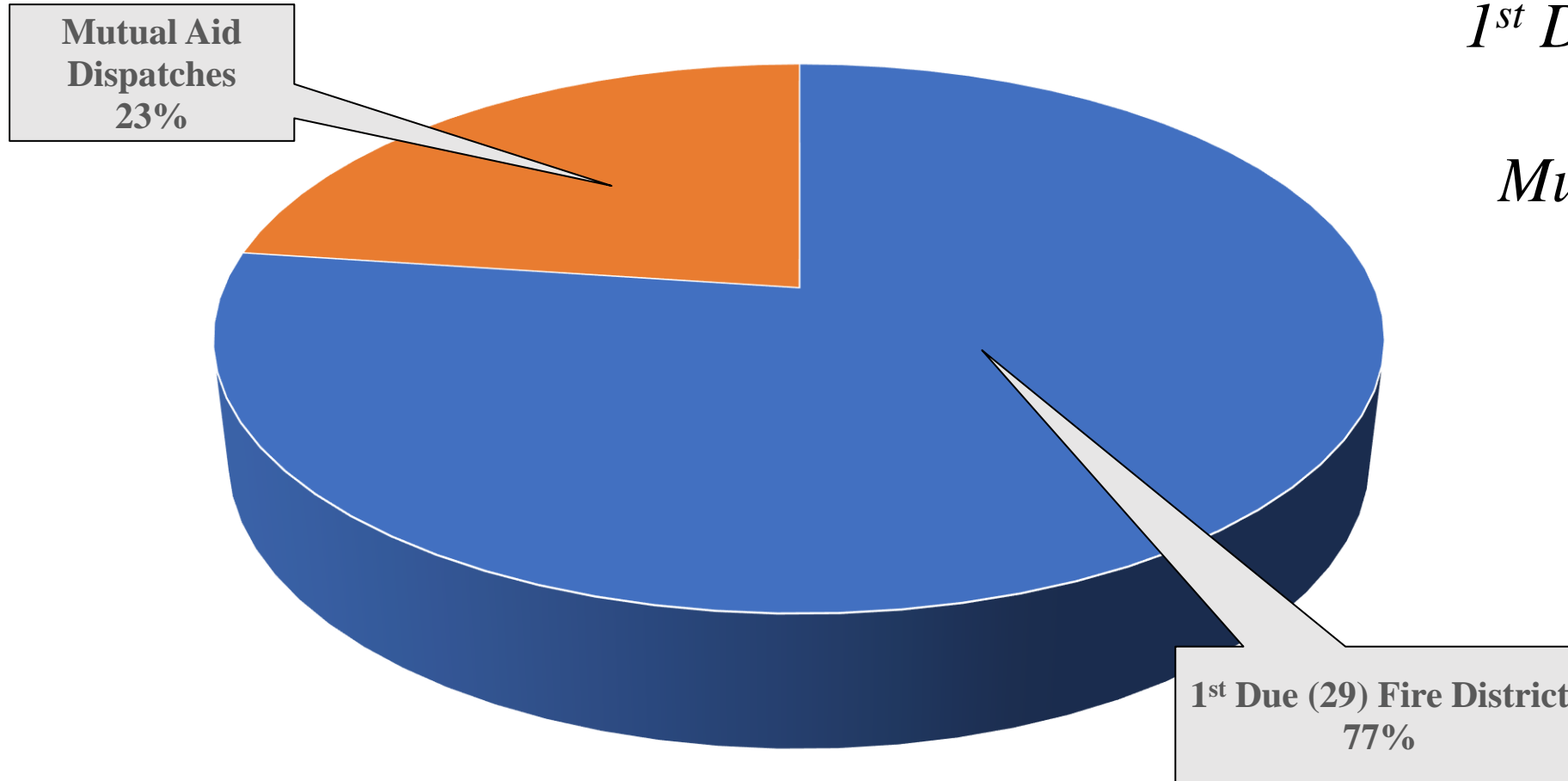
Mutual aid assistance may be requested by any agency, and BHVFC may be dispatched to assist anywhere. In addition to the companies listed above, BHVFC regularly provides mutual aid assistance to other municipalities such as East Norriton and Norristown.



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2022 Calls for Service by Fire District



1st Due (29) Fire District
vs.
Mutual Aid Responses



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2022 Calls for Service by Fire District

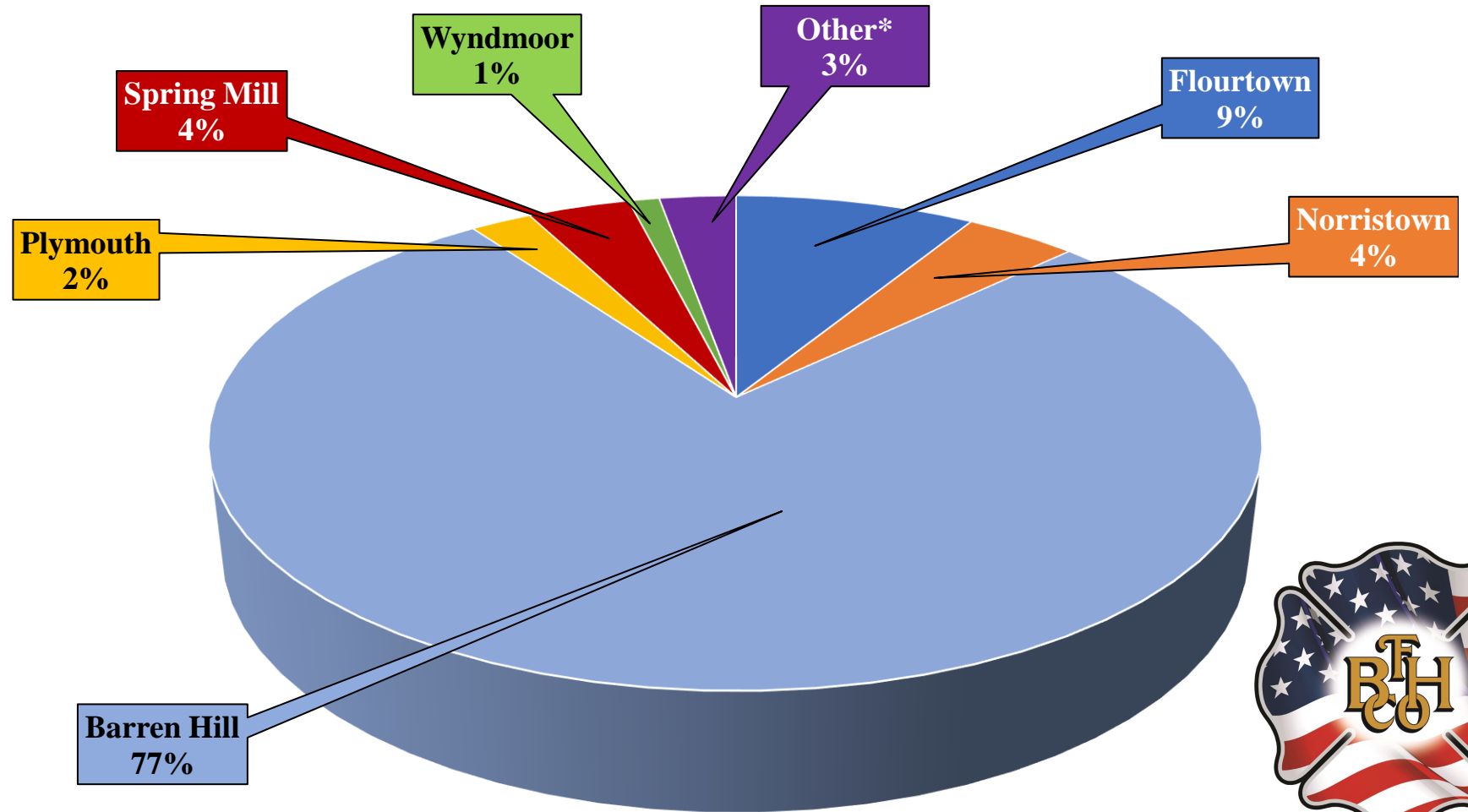
The Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company provides mutual aid responses to Fire Companies in many of our surrounding municipalities.

23% of responses (123 Calls for Service) in 2022 were in support of our Mutual Aid partners.

77% of responses in 2022 were in BHVFC's primary response district in Whitemarsh Township.

(A closer evaluation of response areas where BHVFC is the primary responder, including the panhandle of Springfield Township, increases BHVFC's response area to nearly 86% of responses.)

** "Other" includes the following Fire Companies: Glenside, Wissahickon, Centre Square, Conshohocken, Upper Merion, Norriton & Fort Washington*

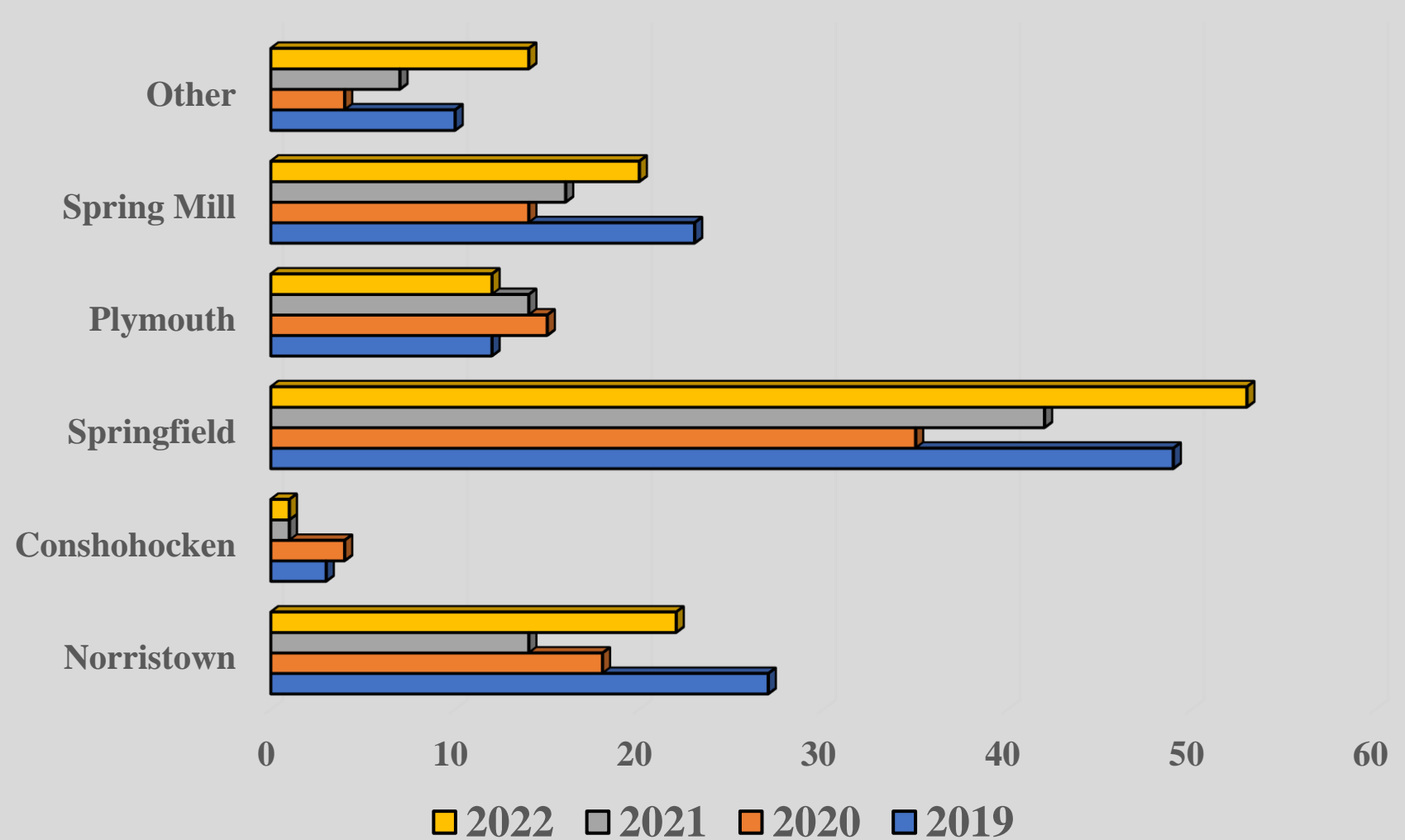


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2022 Calls for Service & Mutual Aid

4 Year Comparison Chart of Annual Mutual Aid Responses



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Weekly Training Exercises

Members meet each Monday night from 6:45 pm until approximately 9:45 pm to refine their skills in all aspects of Fire & Rescue services. Weekly training exercises are prepared by the Training Chief (Assistant Chief Scott Yoder) and are delivered by Operational line officers, other subject matter experts, or through outside educational institutions.

Training exercises are delivered annually via a mix of annual qualifications and standards, hands-on operations, and classroom lectures. Weekly training exercises help keep our Volunteers operationally ready and allow our members to train with each other, recognizing the strengths within our membership and building on our weaknesses.



2022

Forty-Seven (47) Weekly Training Exercises

Average # of Attendees: 21.53 Volunteers

Estimated Total # of Weekly Training Hours: 3,036 Volunteer Hours

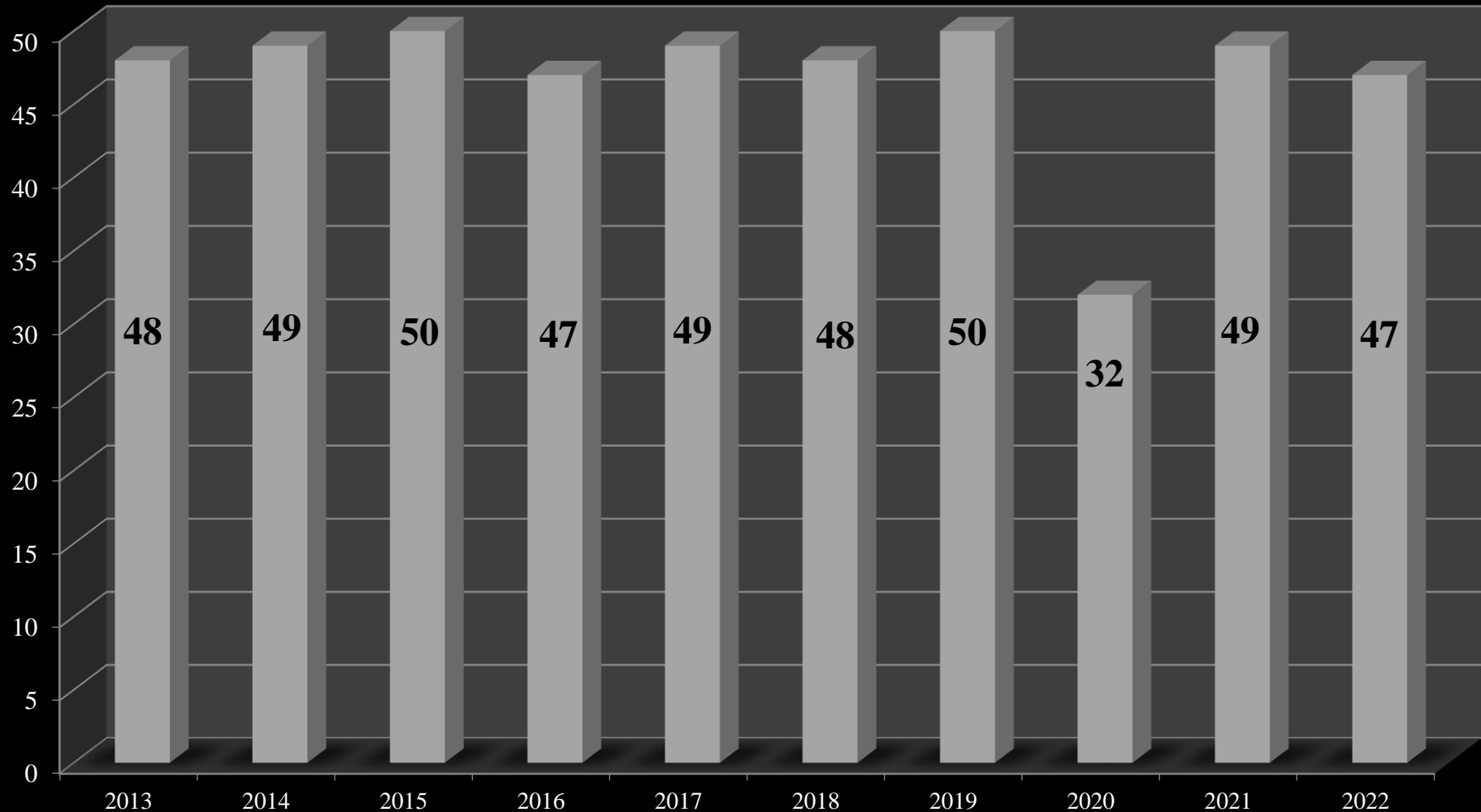
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Weekly Fire Company Training Exercises – 10 Year Chart



Weekly training exercises are held on Monday nights at the Firehouse. Each week, members gather to review skills, practice operations and learn the crafts of the fire service. During these exercises, our volunteers build a stronger more cohesive unit ready to serve our residents.

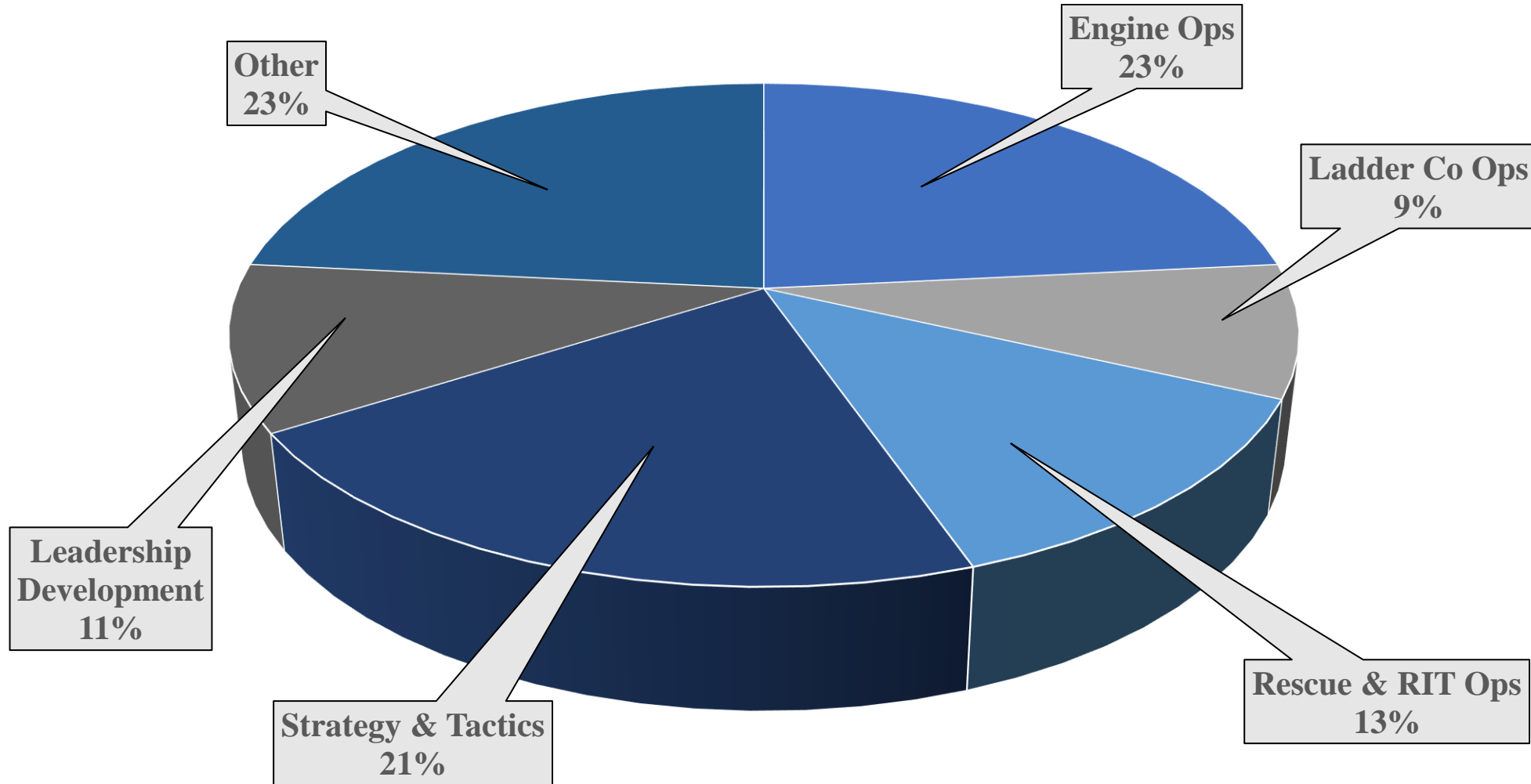


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Weekly Training Exercise – Training Topics

2022 training exercises were categorized into the six topics to the right. While the main training topics are displayed in the chart, the majority of training exercises include more than one discipline. (Ex. Engine & Ladder Co Training)



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Member Training



2022's training schedule focused on several key aspects of the fire service and prepared our volunteers, from the newest to our oldest, for tomorrow's challenges

First, members were encouraged to seek out and obtain National certifications. Sixteen (16) National certifications were achieved in 2022. All of these classes were more than forty (40) hours in length.



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Member Training

Second, classes were scheduled that focused on the future leaders of the Fire Company. These nine classes focused on strategy and tactics on a fireground, incident safety, and the responsibilities of being a Company Officer.



In 2022, ninety-four (94) certificates were obtained by our members for instructional classes of sixteen (16) hours or longer. In addition to the National Certifications and sixteen (16) hours classes, our volunteers submitted an additional two-hundred and forty-eight (248) training certificates for various two (2) to four (4) hour seminar courses.

The future is bright at the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company, and our future leaders are being prepared for tomorrow's challenges.



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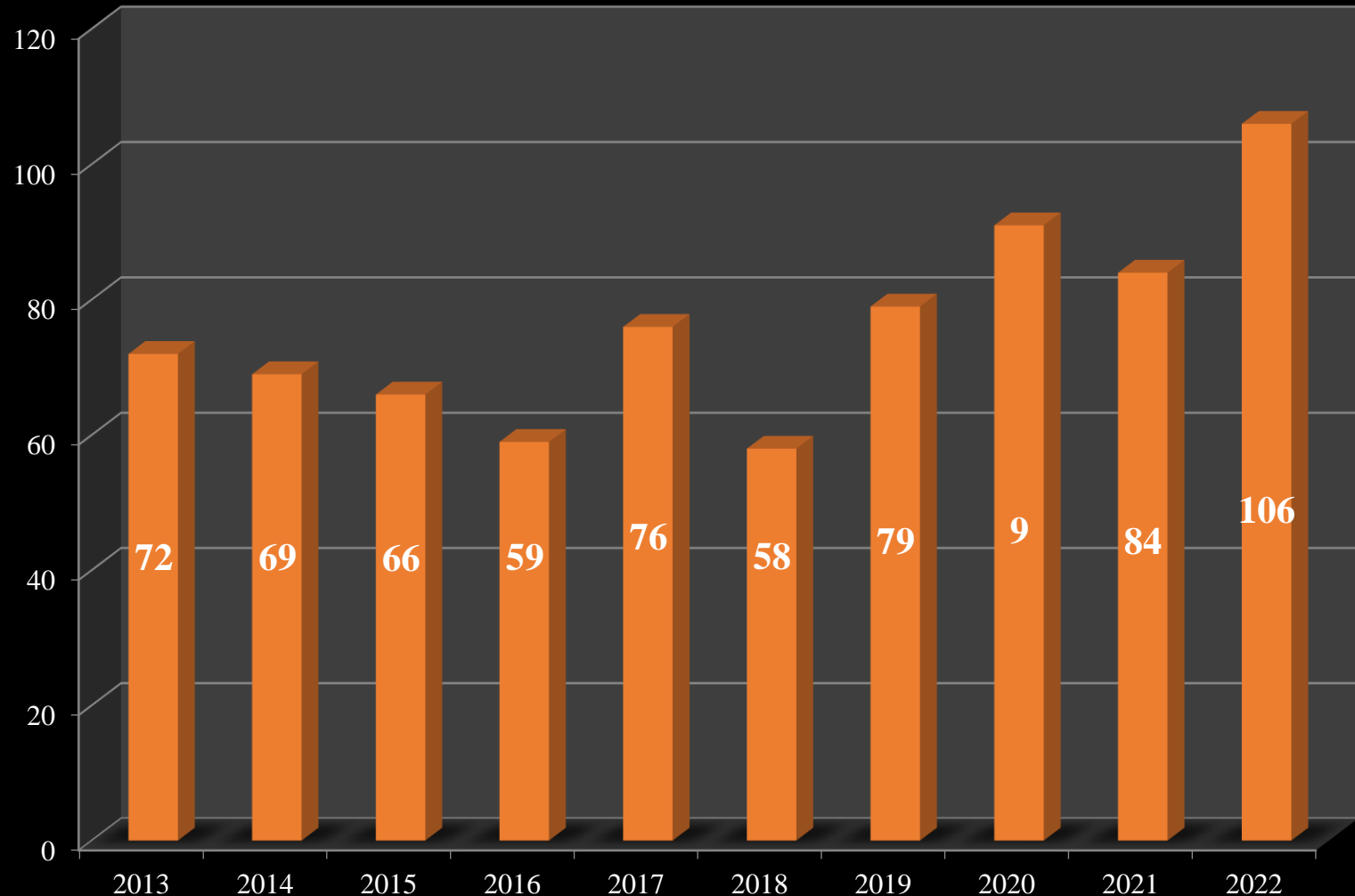
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Fire Company Special Services – 10 Year Chart



Special Services are events outside of training and calls for service where volunteers support fire prevention activities, station maintenance activities, and other community-type events.

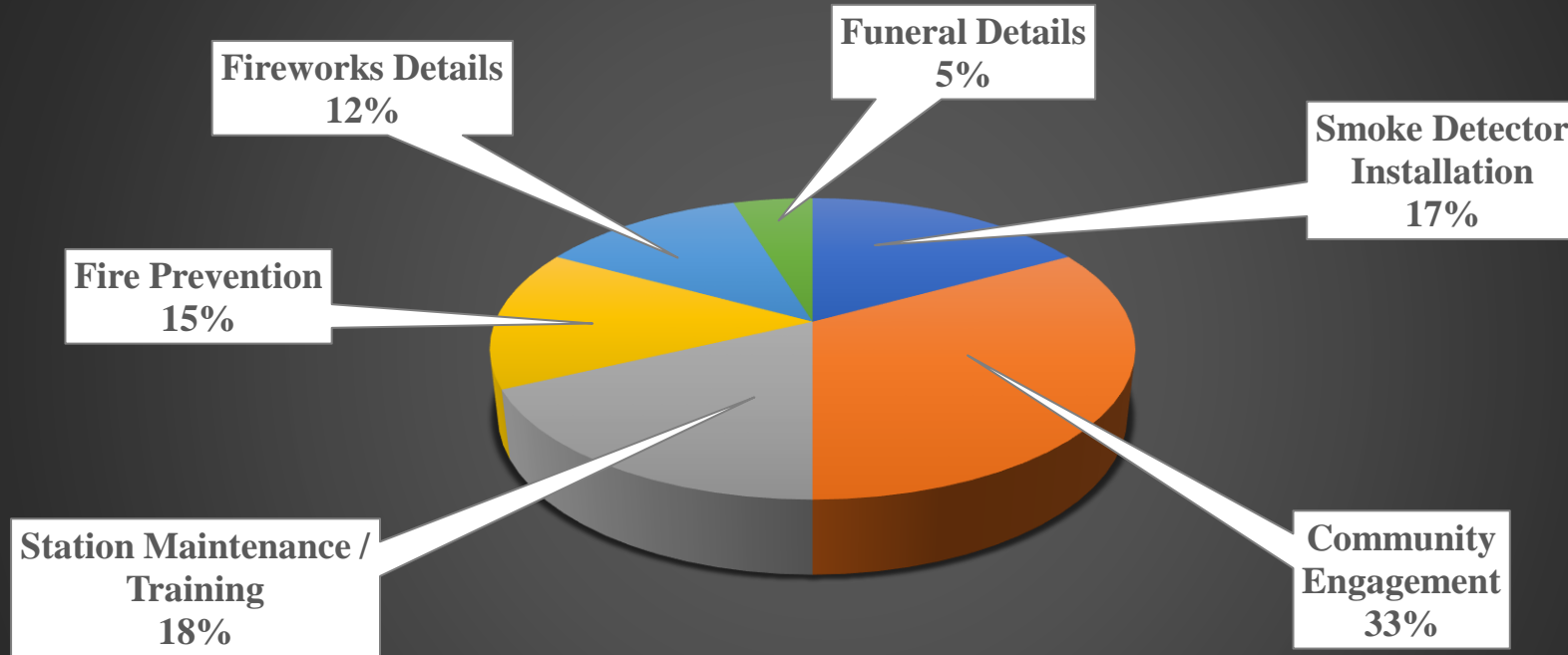
This chart shows the annual Fire Company Special Service events for the last 10 years.



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2022 Special Services



In 2022, our members participated in 106 Special Services representing 1,428 hours of service. Our special Services are broken down into six (6) categories:

Smoke Detector Installation – 17%
Community Engagement – 33%
Station Maint. / Training – 18%
Fireworks Details – 12%
Fire Prevention Activities – 15%
Funeral Details – 5%

2022

One Hundred, Six (106) Special Services

Average # of Attendees: 8.43 Volunteers per Special Service

Estimated Total # of Special Service Hours: 1,428 Volunteer Hours

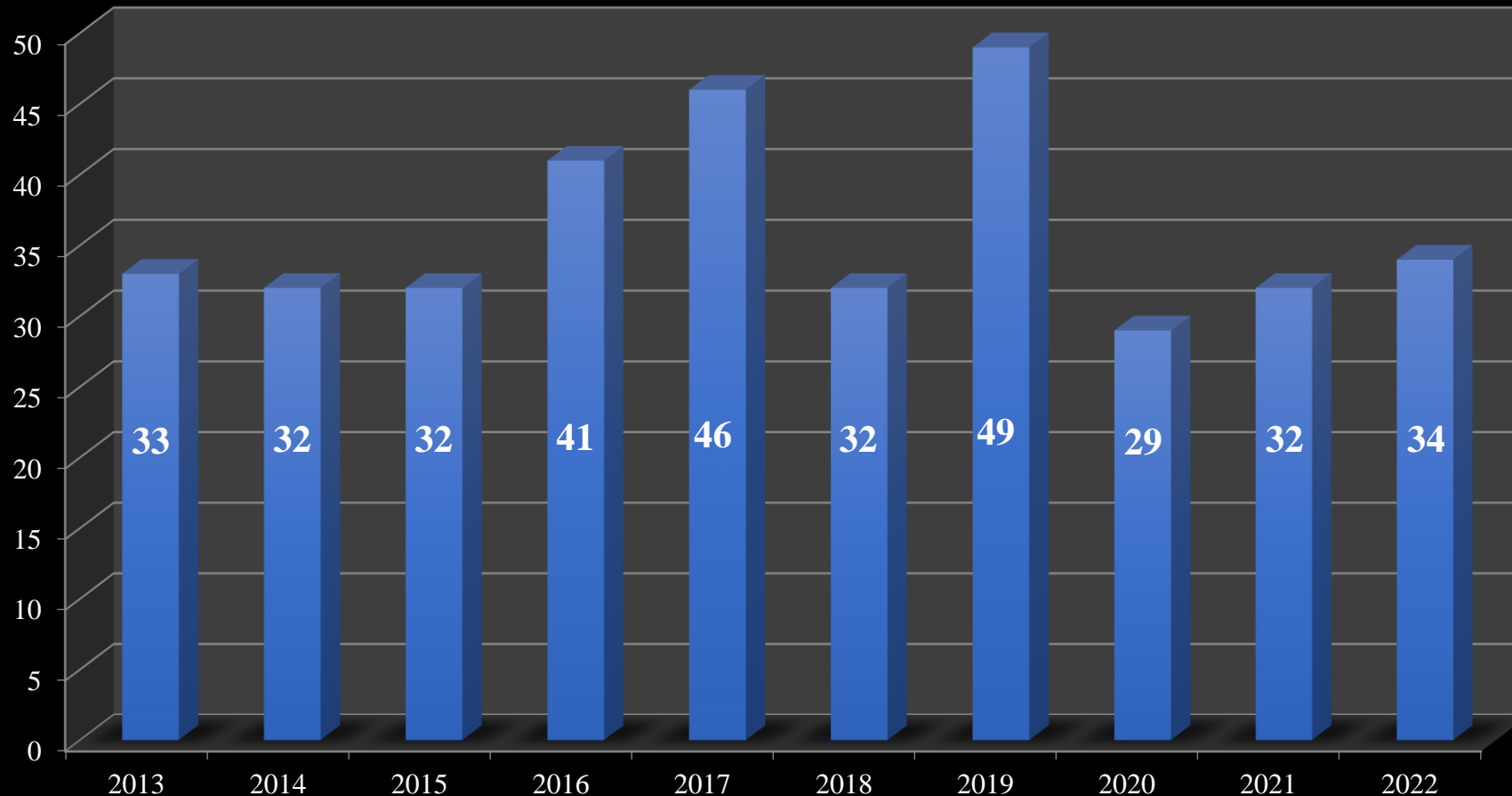


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Fire Police ONLY Call-Outs – 10 Year Chart

Fire Police Only Calls



Fire Police provide traffic and crowd control on emergency scenes or special events. BHVFC's Fire Police not only participate in local events but they also provide support to many of the area's Fire Police Units.

This chart shows the last ten years of "Fire Police ONLY Call-Outs" and represents those instances where the Fire Police either were specifically dispatched for traffic control with no fire company response or where a special event required traffic or crowd control.



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Operation 6abc Save-A-Life Smoke Detector Installation Program



**A WORKING
SMOKE
DETECTOR
SAVES LIVES!**



*The Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company
honorably participates in the Operation 6abc
Save-A-Life Smoke Detector Installation
program. In conjunction with the Township
Fire Marshal's Office, our career staff
installed nearly seventy-five (75) smoke
detectors in Whitemarsh Township
residences in 2022.*



*To have your smoke detectors evaluated,
please call our career staff at 610-825-2250
or the Township Fire Marshal's Office.*

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Volunteer Service to Whitemarsh Township and Surrounding Communities



<i>Calls for Service</i>	<i>5,840 hours</i>
<i>Weekly Training Exercises</i>	<i>3,036 hours</i>
<i>Special Services</i>	<i>1,428 hours</i>
<i>Fire Police Callouts</i>	<i>236 hours</i>
<i>Fire Officer Investigations</i>	<i>60 hours</i>
<i>Board of Trustees Meetings</i>	<i>330 hours</i>
<i>Monthly Company Meetings</i>	<i>926 hours</i>
TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS	11,856 hours (494 Days)

The total number of volunteer hours reflects estimates of the time that our Volunteers have given to support the administration and operations of the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company. These conservative estimations do not include the hundreds of hours of training outside of our weekly training exercises, time spent maintaining the actual firehouse, apparatus, and equipment, as well as Municipal and County Fire Service meetings.

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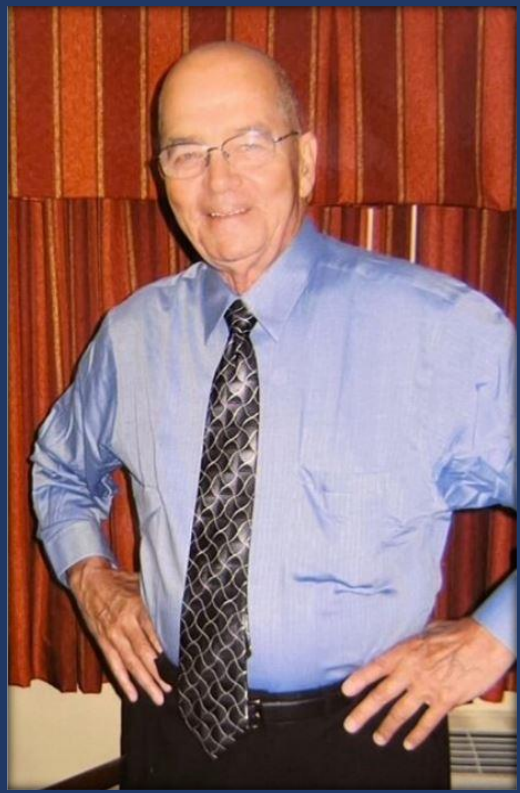
In Memoriam



In 2022, three (3) members of the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company passed away.

We are forever grateful for their dedicated service to the Community and to our Fire Company. Their service and sacrifice will not be forgotten!

May they rest in eternal peace!



Marshall L. Coursey

*November 5, 1930 – December 27, 2022
53 Year LIFE MEMBER*



Brad Price

*March 21, 1977 – October 1, 2022
14-Year Active Member of BHVFC*



Kate O'Donnell

*November 29, 1951 – September 15, 2022
42 Year Member of BHVFC*

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“Those who can, do. Those who can do more, Volunteer.” ~ Unknown



The alternative to a Volunteer Fire Company supplemented with career staff is a Paid Fire Department possibly supplemented by Volunteers. There is a distinct difference between the two. While minimal tax money is designated to support a Volunteer Fire Company supported by career staff, a Paid Fire Department would require a significant increase in tax money to support a Paid Fire Department.

*What can you do? Stop by and see us.
Check out www.barrenhill.com/volunteer.*

*We have a NEED for YOU! Our members are from all walks of life, from many different professions, and from all age brackets and neighborhoods.
Don't wait, stop by and see us today!*

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“Those who can, do. Those who can do more, Volunteer.” ~ Unknown

Interested in joining the fire company? Checkout www.barrenhill.com/volunteer



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“Those who can, do. Those who can do more, Volunteer.” ~ Unknown

Interested in joining the fire company? Make it a family affair!!



Father & Son



Mother & Daughter

Our Family has room for your Family!

Brother & Sister

Grandfather & Grandson



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BARREN HILL FIRE CO. **SAVE. PROTECT. VOLUNTEER.**

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Firefighters, Fire Police Officers,
Fundraising, Rescue Technicians,
Junior Firefighters (14-17yoa),
Photographer, Administrative Members,
Community Events



**GET INVOLVED
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JOIN OUR FAMILY

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The only thing missing
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The Officers and Members of the Barren Hill Volunteer Fire Company look forward to serving our neighbors and our Community of Whitemarsh Township.

We appreciate the continued support and look forward to a Happy, Healthy, and Fire Safe 2023!



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