



Browndale Fire Company No.1

Why we do this

Welcome Browndale Fire Company's first newsletter!

You may ask, why we do what we do this?

We've talked about this for some time and realized that those we serve know little about us. We have a pretty impressive website, unless you are seeking out specific information you would have little reason to be there.

We are doing our first newsletter. We will cover a fairly wide array of topics, with the goal of informing you about what we do, how we do it, what we need and how you can help.



We Are Volunteers!

Our staff is all volunteer at Station 43. We currently have about 30 active members, ranging from the newest Cadet, who entered at age 14 to our oldest member who is over 80.

Our volunteers are just like you. They go to work or school, have families and other responsibilities, belong to other organizations. The only difference at this point is that they decided to volunteer.

While some of our members are second and third generation members, others joined with no prior affiliation or connection to the fire service and are making a positive contribution to the organization and your community.

Many of our newer members have take advantage of the training that we provide free of charge. We offer a comprehensive "in-house" training program to all members, tailored to meet their busy schedules.



While we need suppression members (those who fight fires), we also need members who can support our operation administratively.

The fire company is a business. While we respond to emergencies, there are many behind-the-scene activities that have to be completed such as fund raising, station, apparatus, equipment maintenance and administrative duties. If you have no desire to ride fire trucks, there are plenty of ways you can volunteer at Browndale Fire Company!

Give us a call at 785-5300 or drop us an email at Command@NEP.net. We can provide you more information and give you a guided tour. **Don't delay. If you are looking for a rewarding experience, look no further.**

A Modern Station To Better Serve You!



Our former station often referred to as "the Hall" had outlived its usefulness. The days of catering events every weekend had passed. Heating costs were \$9,000 annually to heat a vacant hall with a one room fire apparatus bay.

Looking at all options, including adding on to the old station or a total renovation, we opted to construct a new station just up from the old fire house on the site of the ball field. Carefully, the station was situated to retain the use of the field as a community recreational area. Fortunately, after a year on the market, we were able to sell "the hall" to a private owner.

The "new" station has four bays, capable of housing several vehicles. An adequate training and meeting room, kitchen and eating area and a day room are located on the first floor.

The second floor serves as an office area and also has a ten bed bunk room, a locker and shower area and wellness area. Very nice, practical and planned with the future in mind, this station will serve us for generations to come.

With the exception of the bunk beds and the tables and chairs in the training room, all other furnishings were DONATED by the community, our own members or local businesses.

We are proud of our station. Our members spend many hours there always ready to answer your alarm!

Engine, Ladder, Car

We have three pieces of apparatus in service. We've been asked why do you have three?

The Engine



The engine is the most basic piece of fire apparatus developing a water supply using it's pump and the hose it carries.

The engine carries an on-board water supply, 500 gallons. The engine company also utilizes various size hose lines, sometimes from the outside of a structure, but most of the time we attempt to make an interior attack to allowing us to look for trapped occupants and find the seat of fire.

The Ladder



Four years ago, we purchased the ladder truck. While we had pondered the thought previously, our former station had one garage bay, not much bigger than a residential garage, preventing us from getting a ladder.

The ladder we purchased saw former action on Long Island and near Rochester, N.Y. We purchased it for less than \$10,000 and it has served us well!

Why the ladder? There are no "big" buildings in Browndale or Clinton Township.

The ladder company provides special services at a fire. The ladder crew is responsible for search and rescue. They also help the engine company by "opening up" the building, also know as ventilating, reducing heat and smoke inside the building.

The ladder company, as the name suggests, is responsible for laddering all sides of the building, insuring the firefighters inside have a secondary way out.

The ladder company assists with forcible entry. You'll notice that all these tasks are done *without hose or water*, but are an extremely important part of a coordinated fire attack. Until four years ago, this service was *not* available and often left to chance!

Our personnel have completed extensive training in ladder company operations and provide ladder company services to surrounding communities through mutual aid agreements.

The ladder truck does have a 75' elevating platform, designed for making rescues or operating as an elevated water stream. In reality the use of the elevating platform is a small part of ladder operations.

The Car



Affectionately know as the "buggy", the car serves as a vehicle for our command officer (person in charge) to operate out of.

The person in charge is known as the incident commander. He is responsible for coordinating the activities at the scene of an emergency.

The car provides a focal point for others who need to locate the incident command and provide a quiet, suitable environment from which to make sound decisions.

Visit our website at

www.43Fire.com