

EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Established in 1904

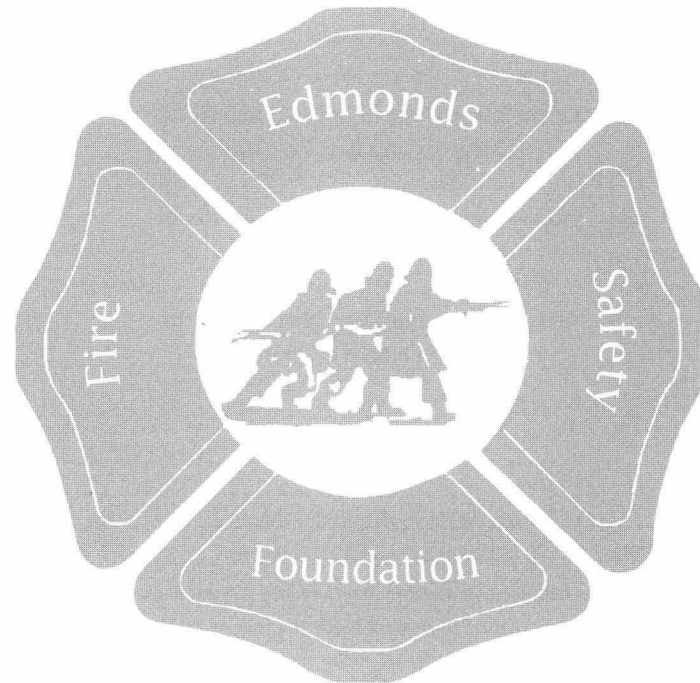


Celebrating 100 Years

EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Established in 1904

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EDMONDS FIRE SAFETY FOUNDATION

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FRONT COVER PHOTOS: *On the line in the early 1970s—Lieutenant Stan Olson, Monte Edmonds,
Ted Schilling, Skip Simmons, and Bill Angel.* STAN OLSON COLLECTION

UPPER LEFT INSERT: *The 1909 fire of the Jones Building on George Street (Main Street).* EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM (See details page 17–18)

LOWER LEFT INSERT: *Intersection of George Street (Main Street) and Fifth Avenue in 1912.* EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM (See picture page 25)

BACK COVER: *A 1925 REO Speedwagon six-cylinder fire truck, with a 350-gallon Hale power pump was purchased for \$3,425.*

The personnel of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department pictured are Dan Doty, P. E. Bacon,

G. G. Evensen, M. C. Engels, Sam Yost, Fire Chief A. B. Bently, and Roy Rynearson.

A part of the Hughest Memorial Methodist Church is seen in the background. EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

DEDICATION

*Dedicated to the citizens of Edmonds, Washington,
to Edmonds fire fighters past and present, and to the fire fighters' families.
The citizens and their fire department enjoy a rich heritage,
and it is our privilege to share it with you.*

EDMONDS FIRE SAFETY FOUNDATION

The Edmonds Fire Safety Foundation was founded in the autumn of 1996. The purpose of the foundation as stated in its Articles of Incorporation is: "This Corporation is organized for charitable, benevolent and eleemosynary, educational, social, cultural and scientific purposes, in support of the Edmonds Fire Department." The publication of *The Edmonds Fire Department, Established in 1904, Celebrating 100 Years*, by the foundation, a nonprofit corporation, is an educational service in the hope that it may enlarge the public's understanding of the history of Edmonds and the Edmonds Fire Department. The point of view expressed in the book does not necessarily represent that of the foundation. For information about how you may participate in the foundation's programs, please address inquiries to
Edmonds Fire Safety Foundation,
P. O. Box 157, Edmonds, WA 98020.

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Sequim Historical Museum—historical information on James N. Otto.

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Jack Cooper—photos and articles.

Craig Helgeland—information on antique fire engines and the REO Speedwagon.

Jack Weinz—album.

Michael Heryla—photos.

Paula Cain—drawings of an early hose cart and Model T fire engine.

Marlene Angel—photo album of Fire Captain Bill Angel.

Staff of the Lynnwood Fire Department.

Staff at SnoCom.

Edmonds City Clerk—Sandy Chase and staff for council and civil service minutes.

Dave Sittauer—vehicle maintenance.

Ray V. Cloud—Quotes from *Edmonds, The Gem of Puget Sound*.

City of Edmonds Water Department—Background information.

Mildred Engels—photos of M. C. “Matt” Engels.

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The following publications have given permission to use quoted material and photos:

The Beacon

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INTRODUCTION

The creation of Edmonds as we know it today is a diverse and interesting story. As in every history, it is people and their lives who shape their environment and leave their mark for future generations to discover.

Early members of the community in 1904 could be described as industrious, hearty, and willing to accept a quality of life that could not be measured in modern terms. They were happy or willing to accept the so-called Seasoned Citizens Contentment Code attributed to then President Theodore Roosevelt. It reads: "Do what you can with what you have where you are."

In early accounts the town was described as having six mills located on the waterfront, four making shingles and two that made either shingles or lumber. Their whistles blew promptly each workday morning at 5 A.M. and again at 6 A.M. while their smokestacks produced substantial amounts of smoke. The mills were periodically closed due to weather or economic conditions. In mid-May 1904 mills throughout the state were shut for an indefinite period due to the low return on shingles and lumber. The whistles blew at 6 o'clock heralding the closing.

Serving the townspeople at the time were three churches, one bank, one fine school house, two general stores, one drug store, three saloons, one hardware store, one harness making and shoe shop, one cigar factory, three real estate offices, one bakery, two butcher shops, and good hotels. The intersection of Fifth Avenue and George Street was busy with people and horses drawing buggies and wagons. A kerosene lamp and watering trough had been installed at the direction of the town council.

The Great Northern railroad passed through the western side of the town and provided good passenger and freight service by rail, south to Seattle, Portland and San Francisco; north to Everett, thence north or east. The city dock afforded a chance for fast steamers to convey passengers to the various places on the sound. The steamers were *Telegraph* or *City of Everett*.

It was this spirit and town that we discovered as we began our research in *The Edmonds Review* newspaper. The paper began publishing weekly in August 1904. Our first glimpse of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department came in the May 5, 1905 edition: "Chief Coons of Edmonds Fire Department with his well disciplined brigade gave a drill last Monday evening. The water squirted first rate."

At first we relied on Ray V. Cloud in his book, *EDMONDS: The Gem of Puget Sound* for the beginning of the department which was described as early in 1904. Continued research brought us to the hand-written Council Minutes for January 13, 1904. It was at this meeting of the council that the volunteer fire department became a part of city government.

Then, as today, residents and visitors alike take time to marvel at the beauty and many moods of Puget Sound and the majesty of the Olympic Mountain range. It is the sound and the mountains that have come to symbolize both the original and the modern City of Edmonds.

From an early day photo of city founder, George Brackett, taking time for a walk on the beach to the current day waterfront which offers opportunity for

recreation and relaxation, life and work in the City of Edmonds has changed dramatically.

To illustrate the growth and change in the Edmonds Fire Department, newspaper articles beginning in 1904 have been chosen to give an account of the fire department, city government, and community members.

As many photos as we were able to obtain were also collected and have been used to help illustrate the story. It is our hope that you will take a moment or two as you peruse the book to pause and to reflect on the people and events that have taken place over the past one hundred years.



In the 1970s a fire crew assists in a rescue at a construction site cave-in at the 100 block of Main Street in downtown Edmonds. STAN OLSON COLLECTION

FIRE CHIEFS OF THE EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT

NAME	DATE OF SERVICE
A. W. Mowat, Chief	1904
Owned a lumber mill EFD allowed up to 15 members	
J. V. Coons, Chief	1904
James N. Otto, Chief	1907
Owner of Edmonds Meat Market, councilman, and chamber president	
J. V. Coons, First Asst.	
Thomas Hall, Chief	1909
Carpenter, and mayor. EFD has ten members	
J. V. Coons, Asst.	
James N. Otto, Chief	1911
Appointed chief for the second time	
A. B. Bentley, Chief	1920
Retired/resigned after 14 years, nine as chief.	
Owner of Reliable Hardware.	
W. W. Womer, Asst.	
P.E. Bacon, Asst.	
M. C. (Matt) Engels, Chief	1929
Chief for 20 years. Manager Rainbow Mill, owner of Engels Fern Fuel Co., mayor, and president of the Edmonds Chamber.	
P. E. Bacon, Asst.	
Fern Rittenhouse, Asst.	
Carl Callahan, Asst.	
J. A. (Jimmy) Astell, Chief	1949
Last volunteer chief, Oil dealer.	
Claude Savage, Asst.	
Ernie Vollan, Asst.	
Howard "Howie" Clark, Asst.	
Dave Crow, Asst.	

NAME	DATE OF SERVICE
Jack Cooper, Chief	1965
First paid Chief. Started manning both stations with 24-hour coverage. Started medical aid car and paramedic service. Started central dispatching and later 911 service.	
Dave Crow, Vol. Asst.	
Ralph Klein, Pd. Asst. & Fire Marshal	
Jack Weinz, Asst.	
Gary McComas, Fire Marshal	
Jack Weinz, Chief	1979
One of four first hired full time fire fighters, first paid lieutenant, first paid fire fighter with over 25 years of service to EFD.	
Ron Schirman, Asst.	
Gary McComas, Fire Marshal	
Clarence Buzalsky, Chief	1991
Manager for the American boxing team at the 1992 Summer Olympic Games in Barcelona, Spain.	
Mike Springer, Asst.	
Gary McComas, Fire Marshal	
Mike Springer, Chief	1994
20-year member of EFD, first LEOFF II fire fighter.	
Tim Whitman, Asst.	
Gary McComas, Fire Marshal	
Ron Haworth, Chief	1998
Appointed as Interim Chief	
Kevin Taylor, Asst.	
John Westfall, Fire Marshal	
Thomas Tomberg, Chief	1999
Current chief. Brought paramedics into the department as fire fighters.	
Kevin Taylor, Asst.	
John, Westfall, Fire Marshal	

1904-1909

EDMONDS GETS A FIRE DEPARTMENT



FIRE CHIEFS, EQUIPMENT, AND FIRE STATIONS

FIRE CHIEFS:

- 1904 A. W. Mowat
- 1904 J. V. Coons
- 1907 James N. Otto
- 1909 Thomas Hall

EQUIPMENT:

- 1904 Fire bell
- A hose wagon or hose cart
- 1907 A hose cart, costing \$140

FIRE STATIONS:

- 1904 A wooden building was built behind City Hall, a hose wagon or hose cart was kept there.
- 1907 In April, a small building was built on Front Street for an additional hose cart for the protection of the water front.

1904-1909 MEMBERS OF THE EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Benson, R.
Blackhall, D.
Cahen, A.
Coons, J. V.
Darling, F. H.
Engel, L. C.
Hall, Thomas
Harrison, J. T.
Hoyt, M. O.
Khriel, Ernest
Larsen, P. J.
Lovegreen, J.
McIntyre, J. S.
Mowat, A. W.
Mowat, Kenneth
Otto, James
Otto, William H.
Perfield, Henry
Rowe, W.
Schumaker, Roy
Wilson, J. E.

EDMONDS . . . THE NAME was formerly spelled Edmunds, the place having been named for the senator of that name. It was settled something less than 25 years ago by George Brackett, Captain Hamlin and others when the present townsite was covered with a dense forest of fir, hemlock, cedar and spruce. The location was then particularly attractive on account of its timber, fine harbor and excellent townsite advantages. Mr. Brackett built a saw mill, then a wharf. The former commenced using up part of the forest while the wharf did an immense business in supplying wood to the *Washington, Henry Bailey, State of Washington, Mabel, Greyhound* and other steamers too numerous to mention. People slowly moved in, lots were cleared, streets opened and houses built. . . .

From *The Edmonds Review*, 1905

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL January 1904:

Chris Anderson, Mayor; L. P. Arp, Wm. Rowe, Edwin Ault, Council Members; Geo. M. Leyda, Clerk.

January 13, 1904— 8 P.M. The report from the Volunteer Fire Department was read and a motion was adopted and placed on file is as follows.

“To the City Council of Edmonds, Wash.: On Wednesday evening Jan. 13th at 8 P.M. a Volunteer Fire Department was called to order by Mr. Chris Anderson acting as chairman and A. Cahen as clerk.

“The following men volunteered their services: J. V. Coons, R. Benson, W. Rowe, J. Lovegreen, J. E. Wilson, M. O. Hoyt, and D. Blackhall. (J. N. Otto was listed as one of the original members by Ray. V. Cloud but did not appear in the council minutes.)

“The following officers were elected for a term of six months: A. Mowat, Chief; J. Coons, Captain; J. E. Wilson, 2nd Asst.; A. Cahen, Secretary.

“A motion was made and seconded that the department consist of 15 volunteers. Motion Carried.

“A committee consisting of the officers of the department was then appointed to make suitable by-laws. A motion was then made to adjourn.” A. Cahen, Sec.

May 4, 1904—A council motion: a committee of one to get a nozzle for the fire hose.

On motion Mr. Rowe was appointed as a committee of one to ask the Chief of the Fire Department to resign.

May 1904—A 60-foot pole for hose drying was installed at 5th and Bell. Cost—\$6 paid to J. B. Otto and \$3 paid to J. V. Coons.

July 1904—Captain Coons requested 15 belts, 15 wrenches and 15 axes; but he received a fire bell, a ladder and three axes.

August 1904—By-Laws of Volunteer Fire Department read and approved by the City Council.

Three more poles were added to the hose tower and a platform provided for the new fire bell.

September 1904—A fine was set for false alarms—\$3 or one day in jail or both. A fee of \$1 was paid to J. T. Harrison for repairs as the bell did not perform as specified. This remedied the problem?

October 1904—Purchased 20-foot ladder—\$16 plus 25 cents freight charge. J. V. Coons was Fire Chief.

FROM THE EDMONDS REVIEW NEWSPAPER

May 5, 1905—Chief Coons of Edmonds Fire Department with his well disciplined brigade gave a fire drill last Monday evening. The water squirted first rate.

June 23, 1905—FIRE

When fire broke out in the Lyle Stewart building last Monday a heavy southwest wind was blowing in off the Sound. Had the fire ever succeeded in getting a headway it is just possible that the city would have been swept from the map, at least nothing could have saved the north side. Everyone realized the danger and every man and boy in the city with any manhood or courage was lending every assistance to avert the impending catastrophe. During or after the fire some light fingered person or persons opened the register taken from J.B. Otto's place and cleared it of a number of trinkets and a handful of pennies, the gold, bills and silver having been removed before the register was taken out.

The Stewart building was damaged about \$200 mostly by water, but Fred Cann, who occupied the building as a saloon, escaped without any loss whatever, and as he said, “the fire did not even affect the palatable temperature of my Olympia beer.”

J.B. Otto, however, who occupies the adjoining building was not so fortunate, his building and stock being damaged by water to the extent of nearly \$100. The origin

of the fire is still a mystery. It started under the roof, but where or when no one has been able to discover.

August 11, 1905—The Firemen's Dance given last Saturday night was a success in every way. A big crowd, good music, good floor on which to dance, and everything was lovely. The financial results were satisfactory and now the lacking paraphernalia can be bought.

March 9, 1906—A SMALL BLAZE

The Sunday morning blaze in the Miller house on Walnut street, did about \$50.00 worth of damage. One of the neighbors had been requested to build a fire in an old heater. Doing as requested he left the house thinking the fire would manage itself. The ceiling caught fire from a red hot stove pipe and but for the efficient aid of our fire department the house would have been consumed. Quick work has left Mr. Miller still in possession of a house that in turn has sheltered the Schusters, the Gates, the Hacketts, the Kennedys, and the Millers.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller desire to express their thanks, not only to the members of the Edmonds Fire department, but to the neighbors all of whom helped to put out the fire.

May 11, 1906—Fires have caught in various parts of town; they are difficult to manage, and are unusually expensive. The town council decided to give \$2.50 for the team that would take the Fire Wagon to a fire first.

June 15, 1906—BURNING OF THE BALLINGER MILL

At midnight, June 8th. the Lake McAleer Lumber Co's. mill at the lake caught fire and within three hours the entire mill and a large lot of lumber was consumed. The loss is between ten and fifteen thousand dollars, partially covered by insurance.

The mill will be soon be replaced by a better and larger

one to meet the increased demand for lumber. The burning of the mill will not have a bad effect on the Sander road, as Ballinger's loss will be Sander's gain. Before the trolley line ran to Lake McAleer, supplies had to be hauled by way of Edmonds. Now machinery, etc., will reach the lake by way of Ballard and Bitter Lake.

January 25, 1907—FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS ELECTED

The hose cart, which was bought a few days ago will be shipped to town tomorrow and will cost \$140 laid down in Edmonds. It is up-to-date in all particulars. It is rumored that an oyster supper is to be given to the fire fighters soon.

At a meeting of the fire department held at the City Hall last night the following were elected to look after fire affairs during the year 1907: J. N. Otto—Chief, J. V. Coons—First Assistant, J. T. Harrison—Second Assistant, Ernest Khiel—Secretary, and J. E. Wilson—Treasurer.

February 1, 1907—AN OYSTER SUPPER TENDERED THE EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT BY ITS CHIEF

When James N. Otto made the suggestion that the next chief of the Edmonds fire Department should give the members an oyster supper he had no expectation whatever that he would be the one to stand treat, but he was. So last evening the following were invited: J. V. Coons, Henry Perfield, Roy Schumacker, E. Kuehl, J. T. Harrison, J. E. Wilson, W. H. Otto, J. S. McIntyre, Wm. Rowe, L. C. Engel, Thomas Hall, and F. H. Darling, and all did full justice to the occasion at Jim's home, when a supper was served that would have satisfied the most fastidious. Among other good things eastern oysters, sandwiches, salads, fruits, good coffee, and cigars were served. Mrs. Otto, the chef, deserves more than a word of praise. Card playing and story telling were incidental features of a pleasant evening. The next brother

offering oyster supper suggestions will doubtless be more careful.

March 29 1907—NEED MORE HYDRANTS

FIRE MONDAY NIGHT GIVES TIMELY WARNING OF DANGER

Many Shingle Bolts Might Have Been Saved Had There Been a Convenient Water Plug on Front Street; Will Build a New Fire Shed.

Those who took part in fighting the fire on Monday night were convinced of the immediate necessity for the placing of more hydrants at convenient points, so that it would always be possible to have two streams of water.

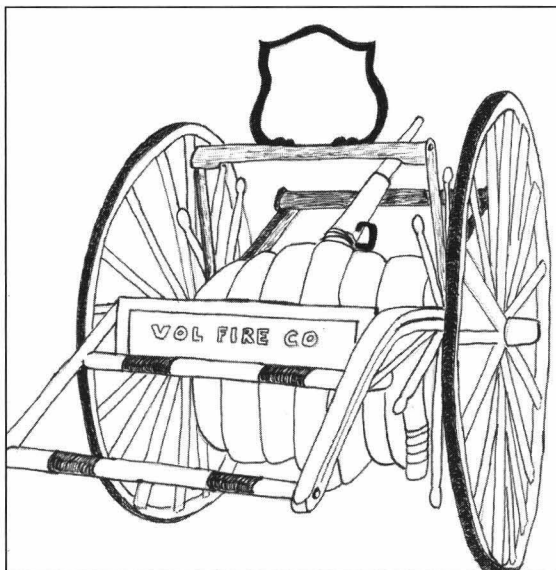
The blaze on Monday night, or rather early Tuesday morning, started in the shingle bolts on the bank above the Brady Mill just after the Owl train had passed and it is presumed a spark from the engine was the cause.

The blaze was first discovered by Marshal Harrison who was at the corner of George and Front streets. When the sounding of the fire alarm brought out sufficient help to get the first line of hose stretched from the corner of Bell and Second streets it was found to be too short to reach the fire, and it was necessary to get the second cart out and attach additional hose before the water could be turned on.

All of this caused the loss of valuable time and the destruction of much property that might have been saved had there been a water plug on Front and Bell streets. As it was over fifteen cords of shingle bolts were destroyed before the flames were checked.

The cost of having a convenient water supply may at any time be the means of saving property representing many times the original outlay.

Lumber has been ordered for a temporary fire shed which will be built on Front Street on the site occupied by the Stewart building before the fire two years ago. The fire fighting apparatus will then be divided up between the



Ink drawing of a hose cart as it could have been in 1907. PAULA CAIN, ARTIST

old and new sheds. This will be followed by the organization of a new fire company in order to avoid confusion when it is necessary to bring all the apparatus into use.

Ed. note: *Mentioned in this article was “second cart” meaning there were two hose carts by this time.*

April 26, 1907—The city has erected a small but neat building on Front Street for one of the hose carts, and now fires in the western part of town and on the water front can be more easily and quickly handled.

May 24, 1907—The boys were out last evening practicing with the hose and cart.

August 30, 1907—BATTLE WITH FLAMES

A. & C.’s Shingle Mill Dry Kiln Burned After Hard Fight. Band Boys in Handsome Uniforms Left Excursion

Steamer, Joined the Bucket Brigade and Assisted in Preventing Spread of Flames.

Twenty-five minutes past five last Sunday afternoon shrill whistles from the Allen and Carpenter shingle mill broke the usual quietude of the waterfront, and a moment later whistles from other mills joined in a general alarm. People who happened to be in the vicinity of the mill at the time saw that great shafts of fire were bursting from the west end of the dry kiln where it abuts upon the main mill. The fire signals quickly aroused the entire population and hundreds rushed to the scene, the flames having in a few minutes gained great headway.

Hoses from adjoining mills were quickly brought into play and in three minutes from the first alarm the town's regular volunteer fire department had arrived in full force, and the entire fighting apparatus was hastily brought into action. As the fire had made such progress before it was discovered it became evident that the kiln, with its contents of about a million shingles, could not be saved, so part of the water supply was directed toward saving if possible the mill proper and some two hundred cords of shingle bolts near the burning kiln.

At one time, on account of a stiff wind which was blowing toward the mill, the entire plant was in imminent danger of destruction, but fortunately at 5:40 the wind veered around and carried the flames and sparks in the opposite direction. Meanwhile the fire raged fiercely through the contents of the kiln. Notwithstanding that eight streams of water constantly poured on it, and when the north side of the kiln had been consumed the flames burst into the immense piles of bolts from below, where they became difficult to reach with water. A large force of men, however, went bravely to work amid the intense heat and smoke to make holes down through the bolts, in order that the water might come in direct contact with the fire. Many men and boys formed a bucket brigade and passed up water

from the bay for nearly two hours. These united efforts resulted in getting the flames under control, but not until the entire contents of the kiln were practically destroyed. At one time the danger to other properties seemed so great that messages ordering a fire engine from Everett and the Fire Boat Snoqualmie from Seattle were dispatched, but some delay occurring over the transportation of the engine, it was not started before the fire had been controlled. The orders were then countermanded. Even with a favorable change the wind made at a critical moment, the loss of property undoubtedly would have been much greater had not the townspeople generally gone to the rescue. Great credit is due to Fire Chief Otto and to every person who volunteered his assistance in subduing the flames. The day being Sunday nearly every man in town was wearing his best, but nice garments were not thought of. The women suggested a bucket brigade and were first to supply them. A force of men remained on the scene all night and kept water pouring on the smoldering embers. The loss to A. & C. Mill Company was variously estimated at from \$3,000 and higher, fully covered by insurance, which has been paid. A new dry kiln is to be built immediately. Shingle making was resumed Wednesday, which shows the enterprising spirit of this hustling concern.

August 30, 1907—SPARKS FROM THE FIRE

The handsome new uniforms of the band boys were conspicuous among the workers.

Fire Chief James N. Otto was efficient and faithful.

No accidents in the nature of personal injuries occurred among the hundreds of fire fighters. Because the mainline of hose was stretched across the G. N. tracks two passenger trains were held up for a brief time, after which the hose was placed under the rails.

The heavy shower of rain that fell in the early evening was most timely.

The women as usual did their part by serving hot coffee to the men.

The bolts and wood were placed too close to the mill.

Women first suggested a bucket brigade, bringing the pails and encouraging the toilers.

The city water system is excellent and has met all demands, though the supply became weakened during the fire.

The loss on the mill kiln was all promptly paid and everybody is happy.

The unselfish workers, though drenched and weary, looked good and brave to us.

Though terrible in their destructiveness the flames seen through the smoke made a grand picture. Victor Hanson, ten years old, proved himself a little hero by remaining steadfastly at his post in the bucket brigade for three straight hours.

We are informed that George Carey, among others, displayed much bravery by forcing himself into the most dangerous places on the fighting line.

That Jack Greathouse can fight fire as well as guide an auto car.

The Review gives praise to all who assisted.

August 30, 1907—The recent fire plainly shows the need of more and better facilities for guarding our mills and factories from destruction. Many persons have been heard to advocate the purchase of a powerful marine pump that would force water from the bay to the waterfront properties. In an interview Fire Chief Otto said that such a plan would

May 24, 1907—The Edmonds Review reports . . . Mrs. Ervay has purchased the first automobile owned in Edmonds. It is a Cadillac, costing about \$1,500. Others will doubtless follow, as the desire for this mode of travel is increasing. It is quite common now to see autos from Seattle on our streets, and nearly every day you hear praise of the fine county road between here and Richmond.

have his approval, and that if the mill owners would take some concerted action for securing better fire protection he felt sure the city would give them substantial aid. This subject should be brought up for discussion among all parties interested without delay.

December 13, 1907—NARROW ESCAPE FROM FIRE ON FRIDAY, THE 13TH

Miss Louise Jones, an employee at the Commercial Hotel, believed that she had some coal oil in a dish with which to start the office fire this morning, but the contents were gasoline and not kerosene. Instantly there was an explosion and blaze which was fierce. Charles Burch was close by and proved a hero.

Our readers remember that only a few days since Mr. Burch lost several of his fingers at one of the shingle mills, but he instantly grabbed Miss Jones as she was trying to get out of the door and by strenuous exertions succeeded in putting out the flames, which threatened to envelop her. A commercial traveler assisted by giving his overcoat.

Mr. Burch did everything at an instant's notice that a brave man should do to avert a terrible accident. The young lady is practically unhurt.

April 5, 1908—THE FOURTNER BUILDING BURNS FIRE EARLY FRIDAY MORNING DESTROYS THE GEORGE STREET PROPERTY

About 5:30 yesterday morning smoke was seen issuing from the front of the Fourtner building on lower George Street. Tom Dougherty, Chris Schrieber, and Ronald Brackett were the first persons to see the fire, and they immediately rushed out a hose cart and dashed to the scene. Their quick action undoubtedly saved much property from destruction, as through their efforts a stream of water was playing on the burning structure for several minutes before the city alarm and the mill whistles aroused the

people. About 5:45 the flames broke through the upper walls and badly scorched the adjoining building which is used as a rooming house and restaurant, but by this time the city fire boys with apparatus had arrived, and their faithful work kept the flames in check. The fire it is supposed, originated in Lee Aylings barber shop, on the ground floor, and people, who first saw the smoke and flames say that they rose so rapidly and in such a volume that it seemed an explosion of gas had occurred within.

Every effort was made to remove personal effects from both the burning buildings and the one adjoining, whose upper stories were occupied by roomers, many of whom were asleep when the fire was discovered.

T. T. Barbour the Great Northern agent occupied a room immediately over the barbershop and awoke to find his room dense with smoke and the floor so hot that he had no time to save his personal property. Most of his clothing and his valises were burned and he stated yesterday that he carried his wardrobe in his pocket.

Mrs. Ellen Fournier, owner of both buildings lost her family pictures and keepsakes as well as the furnishings in the burnt building were destroyed. Mrs. Fournier estimates her loss on both buildings at \$1100, only partly covered by insurance. She intends to rebuild at once and to have the business running as usual within thirty days.

Mr. Aylings loss will amount to \$275. The fixtures of his shop were all new and first class in every respect. He carried no insurance. Considering the early hour and the headway the fire had gained, the fire fighters are to be highly praised for their work and good judgment which combined to save near by homes. Conspicuous among the men who worked hard and placed themselves in dangerous positions and who were drenched with water were: Fred Wickman, Tom Dougherty, L. E. Stone, Roy Schumacher, Chief, J. N. Otto, and several others whose name the Review reporter did not know.

Mr. Klaber, another roomer, lost valuable articles of clothing but saved the contents of his trunk, although the latter was badly charred on the outside.

November 30, 1908—BIG BLAZE, BUT LITTLE DAMAGE.

Fire was discovered in the lard room at the rear of J. N. Otto's meat market about 8:30 this morning. The lard probably ignited and caused the fire. Fortunately it was quickly put out and little damage done.

January 16, 1909—FIRE DEPARTMENT ELECTS OFFICERS

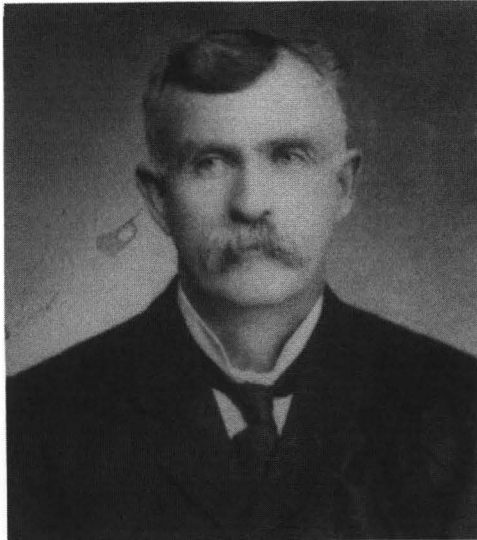
The fire department held its annual meeting last week in the city hall, and elected officers who were: Thomas Hall, Chief; J. V. Coons, Asst. Chief; Roy Schumacher, Secretary; Kenneth Mowat, Treasurer. The department consists of ten members who have done good work during the past year. The eight fires during 1908 were well handled and the boys given praise.

May 8, 1909—YOST LUMBER MILL BURNED LAST NIGHT—HEAVY LOSS AND NO INSURANCE— WILL REBUILD LARGER AND BETTER THAN EVER

Shortly before two o'clock this (Saturday) morning, the Yost Lumber Mill was completely destroyed by fire. The cause of the fire is not known and it is likely no one will ever know exactly how it started. Fifteen minutes before the whistles blew no fire was perceptible to telegraph operator Anderson, who then happened to look out of the window in that direction.

Marshal Otto and Harry Rogers drew the hose cart from its place, clear down to the mill, having it ready for use very soon after the alarm was given.

By 3 o'clock the entire mill and part of the lumber in the yard were consumed. All that remains of Edmonds'



Fire Chief Thomas Hall, 1909. EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

only lumber mill aside from the office and books, is a pile of ashes, a lot of ruined machinery, and scrap iron. The loss is from \$15,000 to \$20,000 with no insurance.

The mill had a capacity of 20,000 feet per day and employed about 15 men. Years ago, the dry kiln filled with shingles burned. There was no insurance on it. The night watchman barely escaped with his life.

It is too early to announce Mr. Yost's plans, but he will undoubtedly re-build better and larger than ever. The mill site is one of the best, the demand for lumber was never better and as the Yost Company from Sam up to "the old man" are all optimists and have the money. Edmonds may congratulate itself that the Yost & Sons mill Co. will soon be turning out 50,000 feet of lumber a day, along with more cornices, molding, and gutters.

June 19, 1909—A SMALL BLAZE

At about 4 P.M. last Saturday fire was discovered in

the residence of Dr. Sherrick on Front Street. The roof was soon ablaze, but was put out before much damage was done. It is believed to have been caught from a spark from a train.

July 10, 1909—SERIOUS CONFLAGRATION EDMONDS HAS FIRE WHICH DESTROYS WHOLE BLOCK INCLUDING NEW POST OFFICE—MERCHANTS SUSTAIN HEAVY LOSSES—INSURANCE LIGHT

At 2:30 A.M. Thursday, fire was discovered in the Mrs. Jennie E. Jones block, on George Street, and rapidly consumed her entire buildings. Although the fire department was promptly on the ground and did excellent work, it was soon seen that the entire row of new wooden buildings was doomed to quick destruction. It is believed that the fire started in the warehouse of the Patterson Hardware Company, from spontaneous combustion of oils used in the paint department. The building was vacated last week by the Hicklin Plumbing Company.

B. H. Davis' E-Z confectionery store was immediately filled with smoke and flame, and Mr. Davis who was sleeping in the rear, barely had time to get his money drawer and escape. The Patterson Hardware Store on the other side, separated by a wooden partition, was soon beyond hope of saving.

The Brackett & Roscoe Grocery Store had caught and was soon consumed. The post office was the last to catch fire and the light wooden structure burned like tinder, but efficient help saved its contents.

The stock of O. E. Williams' jewelry store in the post office was also saved, only a small lot of postal cards and tools being lost.

Brackett & Roscoe were heavy losers, having only \$1,000 insurance on stock in the main store, which was a total loss. Most of the stock in their warehouse was taken out of the street entrance and saved.



The standing wall of the Mrs. Jennie E. Jones Building on George Street (Main Street) after the major fire on July 8, 1909. Fire hose can be seen still connected to the fire hydrant. The businesses destroyed by the fire were: Steve Hicklin Plumbing Company, B. H. Davis' E-Z Confectionery Store, Patterson Hardware Company, Brackett & Roscoe Grocery Store, and the U. S. Post Office. This is the sight of the current Beeson Building. EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

On S. R. Patterson's \$9,000 stock he carried \$3,000 insurance. B. H. Davis had \$1,100 invested, on which he had \$500 insurance. He also lost his clothing, etc. Postmaster Street stated that the government did not lose over \$25, and that his loss in fixtures will reach about \$250.

Sherrod Bros'. large furniture store on the east side, and just across a narrow alley from where the fire started, was in such imminent danger of the flames that the entire stock was moved out and back with only a few dollars' damage. It was quickly decided to put the post office temporarily in Sherrod Bros'. store and by the early dawn Postmaster Street and daughters were arranging fixtures and mail ready to open at the regular hour.

The Patterson Hardware Company expect to resume business in a new cement building, which Dr. J. P. Sherrick

will immediately erect on the corner next to his drug store. Brackett & Roscoe have opened their grocery store in the building on Bell street, formerly occupied by the Edmonds Hardware Company, and will be ready for business in a few days. The firm's phone number is 4511.

With the most favorable weather conditions, the recent good rains and no wind, the strenuous work done by firemen and volunteers prevented the spread of fire to other buildings. How well they succeeded is shown by the thin board wall separating the Brackett & Roscoe wareroom, which was the last thing to burn, from the Evans studio on Fourth Street. The awning on the latter place was not even scorched, though the Evans fruit trees and vegetable garden in the rear were ruined by the intense heat. The young apples were baked on the trees. A tent and bedding in the

yard also burned. *The Review* expresses the popular sentiment in giving praise to the local fire department.

July 24, 1909—MILLINERY STOCK BURNED

Fire was discovered in the millinery store of Miss Wass in the Bassett building on George Street, about 8 o'clock last Saturday morning. The usual quick and efficient work of our fire department saved the building and adjoining ones from complete destruction. Miss Wass's stock of millinery was entirely destroyed by the flames and water. She was fully insured. The first floor front room was badly burned. Mr. Bassett's loss is covered by insurance.

July 31, 1909—FRIGHTENED BY FLAMES

Mrs. O. W. Schmidt had a very narrow escape from bad burns last Saturday afternoon. While starting a fire in the open fireplace in her home, her skirts caught fire and the flames rapidly spread to her arms. She fortunately was saved from any burns, while Dr. Schmidt, who put out the flames, burned his hands quite badly.

October 23, 1909—HOME BADLY BURNED

Boy Would Warm Bed with Electric Light

About 8:30 Wednesday evening Mr. Sager discovered the house of his neighbor, A.E. Somerton, on fire and gave the alarm. As the bell rope broke, a general alarm could not be given.

The firemen who reached the scene and other willing hands saved the frame of the house. Most of the contents were destroyed by fire and water. It is believed the fire started from a defective flue. The entire family was absent from home at the time the fire occurred.

One of the Somerton boys said that before leaving home for the show that evening he had placed an electric light globe in the bed to warm it while he was gone, and the thing caught the bedding and set the house on fire. Unfortunately there was no insurance, and the loss will fall heavily on the large family. They have the sympathy of many friends.

1910-1919

SHINGLE MILLS KEEP THE FIREMEN BUSY



FIRE CHIEFS, EQUIPMENT, AND FIRE STATIONS

FIRE CHIEFS:

1911 James N. Otto

EQUIPMENT:

1910 At the City Hall/Library—a hose cart
On Front Street—a second hose cart, plus
hose, nozzles, and ladders

FIRE STATIONS:

1914 Two wooden hose cart buildings, one at city
hall and the other on Front Street.

1910–1919 Members of the Edmonds Fire Department:

Bacon, P. E.	Oaks, Dick
Bently, A. B.	Otto, James N.
Bird, Ewing	Pence, George
Carlson, Harold	Proffitt, George
Dawson, W. A.	Rynearson, Roy
DeLand, Harry	Schumaker, Roy
Engels, M. C.	Shuster, George
Engel, L. C.	Smith, Edgar,
Evans, Bert	Stone, L. E.
Evensen, G. G.	Theroux, A.
Hall, Thomas	Wasser, Jess
Klossen, G. W.	Wilson, J. E.
Kingdon, Frank	Wilson, P.
Kuehl, E.	Winder, T. W.
Majestic, Henry	Womer, W. W.
Mowat, O. K.	

EDMONDS TRIBUNE-REVIEW NEWSPAPER

July 7, 1910—CHILD BURNED BY FIRECRACKER

The little five-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Johnson of Richmond Beach while playing with firecrackers on the afternoon of July 4th had the misfortune to have her clothing catch on fire, and before help could arrive to extinguish the flame, she became badly burned. An auto, owned by some Seattle ball player was quickly brought into requisition and the little sufferer was brought to this city from that place. Dr. W. H. Hall administered soothing lotions and bound up the wounds, which though very painful, were not very deep, and the child was soon asleep while being whisked to its home in Richmond in the big red auto.

July 21, 1910—JONES' COTTAGE BURNED

Fire last Saturday evening destroyed one of the Jones cottages in North Edmonds and only hard work of a volunteer bucket brigade saved another cottage but a few yards away. The cottage destroyed was known as the new Jones cottage and was valued at about \$500. Insurance to that amount was carried on the building. The house was unoccupied, Mrs. Jones having moved her effects all but a few books and a few pieces of furniture into the other cottage the day before.

During the evening Mrs. Jones went to the house to get some article from an up-stairs closet and while moving about the burner on the lamp she carried, having been insecurely screwed on, topped off. In the effort to grasp it the lamp became overturned and the escaping oil, catching fire, almost instantly filled the room with flames, Mrs. Jones having hard work to get down stairs without being scorched.

An alarm was promptly given but the flames were too far advanced for the chemical to do any good and there are no hydrants in that part of the town. All that could be done



The Fire Bell Tower as seen at the City Hall/Library in 1911.
EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

was to let the building burn down and work hard to prevent other buildings from catching fire. Sparks were carried a long distance and numerous householders manned garden hose and wet down the roofs of dwellings and outhouses while the blaze remained dangerous. Messrs. Geo. Cary, James Caspers, and others who fought to save the other Jones cottage are deserving of all sorts of praise. The roof was on fire in numerous spots when they got there, but a bucket brigade furnished the water, and though the heat was intense and their clothes on fire several times they stuck by their work until the danger was over.

The blaze attracted a large crowd and nearly broke up the dock meeting as well as temporarily scattering the attendance at the skating rink.

August 4, 1910—Forest fires have been raging in the environs of East Edmonds for the past few days and ranchers have been kept busy protecting their homes from the destructive element. Tuesday night many of the citizens

of Mountain View were kept up most of the night fighting the fire fiend, and it was only by the most strenuous efforts that the barn of Mr. Bawden and the dwelling of Will H. Taylor were saved. At the latter place a burning snag had to be felled, which was accomplished under great difficulties.

February 10, 1911—Fire early last Saturday morning pretty thoroughly gutted the White House lodging house at the corner of Bell and Front Street. The fire was evidently caused by a defective flue, breaking out in the ceiling between the first and second floors. The furniture of the 14 furnished rooms on the second floor was practically a total loss. The loss on the building is estimated at about \$1500 and was insured. The loss on the furniture was about \$1000, not insured. The property is owned by J. B. Otto and until the insurance is adjusted he will be unable to decide whether to rebuild or not.

March 3, 1911—City council session among bills paid the Fire Department, answering fire, \$16.50. J. N. Otto, who is the Chief of the fire department, brought in requests for several improvements. The ladders are getting in bad shape from lack of paint and should be attended to at once, while an electric fire alarm that could be operated by the operator at the telephone exchange was a vital necessity. Mr. Otto recited several cases where the delay caused by having to first phone to his house and wait for him to get dressed and over to the fire house to ring an alarm had resulted in much damage that could have been avoided had an electric alarm been in use.

Messrs. Garrett, Thornton and Robertson were appointed a committee of three to investigate the requests of the fire department and report at the next meeting.

March 24, 1911—**COUNCIL MEETING:** Councilman Mr. Garrett's report from the fire committee as to the

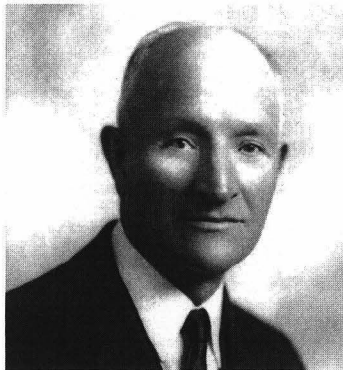
needs of the fire department provoked a discussion as to the cheapest way of complying with them lasted for over half an hour. The report found that the fire bell was out of commission, the fire ladders in bad shape and dangerous to use and the hose house in need of repair.

The report recommended that a committee be appointed with power to attend to making necessary repairs at once.

After changing its mind two or three times and listening to a learned discussion from the carpenters on the council as to the most economical way of rebuilding the hose house under the fire tower so it would look as pretty as possible, the recommendations of the committee were concurred in and the same committee instructed to go ahead with the necessary repairs.

At present some one has to climb to the top of the tower to windup the alarm and as this takes some nerve and more or less acrobatic and balancing ability it was suggested that the winding apparatus be installed on the ground, where specialized labor would not be required.

May 19, 1911—COUNCIL MEETING: A bill for \$10.00 for ten members of the fire department who made the run to the Wasser Mill to answer an alarm of fire was read and ordered paid.



James N. Otto, owner of Edmonds Meat Market, councilman and chamber president served as Edmonds fire chief in 1907 to 1908 and again in 1911 to 1920.

SEQUIM HISTORICAL MUSEUM

MAY 19, 1911—ABOUT TOWN

An alarm of fire early Tuesday evening called the fire department towards the water front. An incipient blaze had started at the Queen shingle mill but was extinguished by employees before the fire boys arrived. The department was very prompt in responding to the alarm.

JUNE 2, 1911—STACK SPITS TOO MANY SPARKS COUNCIL CONSIDERS COMPLAINTS AGAINST ONE OF THE SHINGLE MILLS

Mayor Hall brought up the matter of the dangerous condition of the stack of the A.B.C. shingle mill. It was claimed that great sparks were continually being thrown out of the stack and that surrounding property was in danger of being destroyed by fire at any time. The residence of Dr. Sherrick, it was stated, had been on fire on numerous occasions, once this week, and it was only by continual watching that destruction of the property had been averted.

Fire Chief Otto reported that when the wind was right he had seen sparks as big as one's hand carried as far as Second Street, fall on the sidewalk and bounce across the street before being extinguished. He wondered there had been no more fires than they had.

Mr. Schrieber was also scared about his property. He said that whenever he went away for a day or so he never expected to find his house when he returned and that it was a common occurrence for him to get up two or three times a night and throw water on the roof. He understood that when a mill used a Dutch oven no sparks were thrown and he heartily wished the mill in question would get one, even if it was a Irish oven, if it would only stop the throwing of those chunky sparks.

The Edmonds Review, listed the city budget for 1910 to include the fire department wages and team hire, \$200, and maintenance of equipment,, \$300.

Mr. Ault's company would at once attempt to find some way of preventing the throwing of sparks as complained of.

September 8, 1911—COUNCIL MEETING: City council ordered an apparatus so that the fire bell can be rang without doing an aerial stunt.

March 15, 1912—LAKE BALLINGER MILL BURNED LAST TUESDAY NIGHT

Fire which broke out at about 4:30 o'clock last Tuesday evening almost entirely destroyed the mills of the Chippewa Lumber Company at Lake Ballinger. As it was after the entire population of the little mill village had fought desperately for hours with meager fire fighting equipment at hand, assistance arrived from Seattle Fire Department and the flames were reduce to control after the main mill, part of the shingle mill and a freight car had been consumed. Several interurban freight cars were pulled to safety by employees of the railroad company. Every man, woman, and child in the village was engaged in the desperate attempt to check the flames, children and woman (sic) carrying water in any old vessel they could commandeer, even the coffee pots being brought into use. About 200,000 feet of lumber was destroyed. Interurban service was checked for some hours and one car was annulled for the rest of the day. The traction company sent men from Everett to help in saving the property and Chief Stetson of the Seattle Fire Department sent out an engine and hose cart to help.

The mill was operated as the Chippewa Lumber Company, the principal stockholders being H. Hetherington and J. S. Bennett of Seattle, the company being incorporated in 1910, and succeeding the Great Western Lumber Company in the operation of the plant. It is located upon ground owned by R. A. Ballinger. The loss is estimated at \$30,000 and it is reported that it will be rebuilt at once.

March 15, 1912—LAKE BALLINGER'S CALAMITY

It is with genuine sorrow and regret that Edmonds received the news of the destruction by fire of the lumber mill at Lake Ballinger on Tuesday evening. The mill had only recently resumed operations and was given employment to a considerable number of men. The Lake Ballinger mill has during the past five years had rather a hard run of luck and everyone was glad when the new company took over the plant from the Great Western Company which went to the bad. The Chippewa Lumber Company had the property on lease but was doing very well and we sincerely hope that a way will be found to speedily rebuild the mill.

June 28, 1912—MOWAT MILL DESTROYED BY FIRE

Edmonds has been exceptionally lucky in the case of fires and the burning of the Mowat shingle mill early last Saturday morning was the first blaze that has occurred for nearly a year. About 2 A.M. Saturday J. M. Sample, night watchman at the Mowat mill, discovered a slight fire near the roof and attempted to extinguish it with the mill hose. The blaze spread rapidly, however, and the watchman at the Swede mill gave the alarm. The fire boys responded promptly and were soon on the scene but owing to the fierceness of the flames were unable to do anything beyond saving the dry kiln, which was packed full of shingles. If there is anything that burns with greater rapidity than a shingle mill, unless it perhaps is a powder mill, we are not yet informed, and the boys are to be praised for even saving the kiln under the circumstances.

The burning of the mill at this time, even outside of the loss of \$5000 to \$7000, is exasperating, as the shingle market is in a splendid condition and Messrs. Mowat had planned for a big run this month. No time will be lost in rebuilding and it is expected that the mill will be ready for operation in less than thirty days. Hardly any of the



The intersection of George Street (Main Street) and Fifth Avenue, looking west in 1912. A caption in the local newspaper stated, "In front of the pole is Joe Theroux (a fireman), L.C. Engel (a fireman), Zetta Engel with an apron. Between the Engels is their daughter Eatbel Beason. Back of Eatbel is the shoemaker Ed Martenson."

EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

machinery, excepting the engine and boiler can be saved. There was an insurance of \$1200 on the plant.

March 7, 1913—Quite a little excitement was occasioned on Sunday last when the residence known as the Hale property, and occupied by Mr. Ward and family, located on

Main Street, between Sixth and Seventh was discovered to be on fire. The fire department was called out, but by the time the apparatus was on the ground the incipient blaze had been extinguished. From all that can be learned, a good fire had been started in a stove in an upper room, and the paper on the wall had become ignited before the blaze had

been discovered. A few pails of water soon put the blaze under control with slight damage to the house.

March 7, 1913—RESIDENCE BURNS

F. W. Brown, of near Esperance station, east of town, lost his residence by fire last Friday forenoon. The house was in flames when the fire was first discovered and nothing could save it. The household goods on the first floor were saved, but everything in the second story was destroyed. The loss was about \$2,000, partially covered by insurance. This property was formerly the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Warren, who have made their home in Edmonds since 1908.

May 16, 1913—RESIDENCE BURNS

Early Tuesday morning fire broke out in the residence of J. H. Elam formerly section foremen of the Great Northern Railroad. Mr. Elam arose about 5 o'clock and after building a fire in the stove went out to attend the chickens; shortly after, Mrs. Elam discovered the kitchen was ablaze and called to her husband, but he did not hear and proceeded to the chicken yard which was some little distance. Two men, who were passing, came to her relief but the only thing they succeeded in saving was the piano, and that was badly damaged. Mr. Elam attempted to save some of the household effects, but was badly burned in the face. The house and contents, including all the family wearing apparel, was a total loss. As soon as arrangements could be

made Mrs. Elam left for the home of her parents near Bellingham where she will remain for the present.

July 13, 1913—A BIG BLAZE

About three o'clock last Saturday fire was discovered in the dry kiln of the Wasser shingle mill. The alarm was immediately turned in and the fire company responded promptly but the fire had gained such headway that it was impossible to extinguish it, but it was confined to the dry kiln, thus saving the mill proper. At the time the fire was discovered there were twenty four trucks of shingles in the kiln, and only three of them were saved.

The loss is estimated to be \$3,500 with only \$800 insurance. The destruction of the kiln at this time is a financial blow to the management outside of the loss \$2700, as the shingle making season is in full blast and the market is exceptionally good. The kiln will be rebuilt immediately.

July 18, 1913—CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

The following bills were allowed: Jess Wasser, Ewing Bird, Bert Evans, P. J. Larsen, L. E. Stone, A. Theroux, Edgar Smith, Thos. Hall, J. N. Otto, \$4.50 each, L. C. Engel \$1.50, Harry DeLand \$3.00, services at fire, W. H. Otto, team, hose cart \$2.50, and L. E. Stone, drying hose, and etc. \$2.50.

August 15, 1913—CHEMICAL ENGINE IS PROPOSED

At a recent meeting of the Edmonds Fire Company, it was decided to start a movement having for its object the purchase of a chemical engine. The boys have in the treasurer's hands nearly one hundred dollars, and now the proposition to raise enough to make it \$300 is up to them, and the citizens of Edmonds. We feel safe in saying that the business men of Edmonds can be depended upon to do their part and do it well.

The Edmonds Review quoted three-round trips daily between Seattle, Edmonds and Everett on the steamers Telegraph or City of Everett with connections at Seattle to Tacoma, Olympia, Victoria, Vancouver, Port Townsend, Bellingham, Port Orchard, Port Angeles, Dungeness and Hoods Canal.

Also connecting with the Northern Pacific Railroad for Portland and all points east; at Everett with the Monte Cristo Railway for Monte Cristo; and with trolley lines for Snohomish; and the Steamer Hattie Hansen for Coupeville.

September 19, 1913—FIRE DISCOVERED IN DRY KILN

Yesterday about ten o'clock fire broke out in the dry kiln of the A. & C. shingle mill owned by Messrs. Allen and Carpenter, and but for the timely discovery and heroic work of the Edmonds fire laddies and many others, what would otherwise have proved a disastrous conflagration was avoided. At the time of the fire the kiln was filled with shingles to its utmost capacity; the most of which were saved with but little damage. Mr. Carpenter thinks the total damage will not exceed \$650, covered by insurance. The fire originated in the kiln.

June 5, 1914—COUNCIL: Edmonds City Council ordered that residents of South Third Street be granted permission to install fireplugs to suit their convenience, but some to be placed under direction of light & water committee.

June 12, 1914—Asbestos is one of the great surprises in the mineral kingdom. On account of its fine fibrous, flexible, incombustible character it is spun into yarn and woven into cloth for the clothing of firemen and foundry men who are exposed to heat that would burn ordinary clothing. It is extensively used for theater curtains and has saved many audiences from the horrors of conflagration. While the United States produces little raw asbestos it is the largest producer of objects manufactured from asbestos. Canada is the heaviest producer of raw asbestos, and more than half the worlds' supply is brought into the United States from Canada and manufactured into various commercial products.

April 2, 1915—ELECTS OFFICERS, PRESENTS RING

The annual meeting and election of officers of the Edmonds Fire Co., was held in the City Hall Tuesday evening. The following officers were elected for the

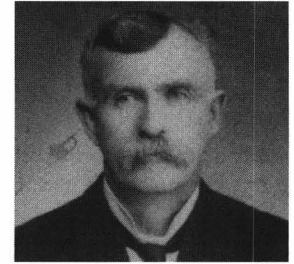
coming year: J. N. Otto, Chief; Tom Hall, First Assistant; L. E. Stone, Second Assistant; O. K. Mowat, Secretary; Bertrand Evans, Treasurer. The members are G. W. Klossen, J. A. Wasser, Julius Larsen, George Shuster, Harold Carlson, and W. A. Dawson.

The company while in session had the secretary for the benefit of the members present to state the financial condition of the company. He reported that they now have \$105 in the local bank. A notable feature of the meeting was the presentation to L. C. Engel, who will leave in a few days for Alberta, Canada, a solid gold ring in appreciation of eleven years continuous service. Tom Hall, the assistant chief of the department made the presentation speech. Mr. Engel will surely be missed by those who consider it their duty to volunteer their service to look out for the city's interest.

April 2, 1915—SMALL BLAZE ON WATER FRONT

Last Saturday the alarm of fire was sounded when it was discovered that the residence of Dr. J. D. Sherrick on the water front was on fire. The fire company was immediately on the ground, but owing to a stiff breeze which was blowing and the location of the fire, found it hard work to extinguish it. The fire at the time of the arrival of the fire company was in the attic and holes had to be cut in the gables before it could be reached. Dr. Sherrick had only a day or so previous moved out of the building which H. R. Stiers had rented and at the time of the fire was discovered was moving in. Damage to the building is several hundred dollars fully covered by insurance.

June 1915—COUNCIL MEETING: A. H. Cox and company installed equipment to make a complete curfew



*Tom Hall, first assistant,
later chief.*

and fire alarm to be operated from the independent telephone company office. The Council Minutes describe it to consist of two 110 volt, 60 cycle alternating current motors revolving at different speeds connecting to a common shaft, connected to a worm gear, and by means of levers and other attachments tension will be placed on a spring which when released will pull the clapper against the bell with considerable force—cost \$125.00.

July 2, 1915—EARLY FIRE PREVENTION-SPRINKLER SYSTEM!!

Councilman G. W. Klossen [also a member of fire department] has lessened the fire hazard of his property by erecting a roof sprinkling apparatus to his residence. In the future if Gus wants a shower all he has to do to press a button, and presto, the shower comes.

July 9, 1915—RESIDENCE BURNS OUTSIDE CITY

Last Wednesday morning the residence of W. D. Judy, situated east of town and just outside of the city limits was discovered to be on fire and before help could get there the house, which was one of the oldest in the town, burned completely up. The fire originated in the upstairs part and it is thought from a kerosene lamp which some one had been burning.

The family lost most of their wearing apparel and all the furniture and bedding on the second floor. The fire department which responded to the call did some excellent work in saving the residence of George Clark near the fire.

July 16, 1915—A.B.C. SHINGLE MILL BURNS

Last Sunday evening at about 9:30 the mill and dry kiln of the A.B.C. Shingle Co., at the foot of Edmonds Street was discovered to be a fire, and in spite of the heroic work of the firemen both kiln and mill were destroyed.

The A.B.C. Shingle Co. is composed of E. F. Ault and

Leander Benner whose losses amount to \$6,500 with \$2,750 insurance. Just what steps will be taken by the firm is only speculations but it is reasonably sure they will not rebuild.

August 27, 1915—HOME DESTROYED BY FIRE

The residence of E. G. Burkland of Meadowdale three miles north of this place was completely destroyed by fire last Thursday afternoon, together with all his household goods.

The total loss probably exceeded \$1500 with but little insurance. Besides losing his house and all his household goods, Mr. Burkland lost a rare collection of ores and ivory which he had collected while in Alaska, and for which he had been offered \$500.

October 15, 1915—FIRES CITY JAIL: NEARLY DIES

Last Wednesday night G. Meren, an Italian, which Marshal Otto had locked up in the City jail tried to gain his liberty by setting fire to the building. About 10 o'clock those living near the jail were attracted by screams and pleadings in broken English, and upon investigation found the building on fire and a badly scared and nearly suffocated Italian.

The fire company responded to the alarm, extinguished the flames and dragged the man out more dead than alive. Dr. Hall was called and after working with him succeeded in resuscitating him.

Meren had been in town for several days and had been posting what was thought to have been "Black Hand" signs at various places. The signs were crudely written in Italian and invariably had the hand drawn upon them.

The Edmonds Review carried an advertisement for John F. Jerread, Undertaker and Embalmer, stating "Country Patrons Given Personal Attention When Desired." His business was located in Everett.

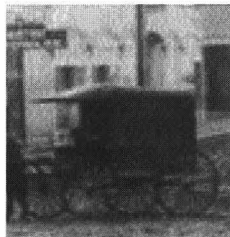
Late Thursday (yesterday) afternoon he had so far recovered from his experience of the night before as to be able to accompany deputy sheriff McElroy to Everett where he was placed in the Everett Hospital.

October 22, 1915—BURNS ARE FATAL

Giani Meren, the young Italian who set fire to the interior of the Edmonds jail last week, died from his burns in the Everett Hospital Saturday night. He was 26 years old and a miner by profession. The body is at the undertaking establishment of John F. Jerread. An attempt is being made to locate his relatives or friends.

February 18, 1916—THIRD STREET RESIDENCE BURNS

Last Saturday morning at 3 o'clock the residence of Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Parker on Third street was discovered to be on fire and in spite of the prompt work of the fire department before the flames were under control the house was almost totally ruined, all the upper story having been badly damaged by fire and the lower part damaged by both fire and water.



From the time the fire was discovered until the arrival of the fire company, the family with the help of neighbors succeeded in saving most of the household articles on the lower floor, though most of it was more or less injured. The fire originated up stairs, but just how is not known.

The loss on both furniture and house was partially covered by insurance. Until an adjustment can be had and another building be erected the Parkers will occupy the Rowe residence Third and Main streets.

June 16, 1916—FIRE DESTROYED FINE RESIDENCE

The residence on the property of William Yates, at

Maples, Richmond Beach was destroyed by fire on Saturday afternoon and considerable damage was done to the trees and shrubbery surrounding it.

The property was homesteaded by the owner more than thirty years ago and occupied by him until recently when it was leased to Mr. King. The home is located in Snohomish County and commanded a beautiful view of the sound and mountains.

June 16, 1916—STANDARD OIL COMPANY SUSTAINS HEAVY LOSS, MORE THAN \$50,000 LOSS BY FIRE

CLAUDE FARMER LOSES LIFE IN CONFLAGRATION. RECONSTRUCTION WORK HAS ALREADY BEGUN.

Claude Farmer of Edmonds lost his life and \$50,000 worth of property was destroyed when the dock of the Standard Oil Company at Richmond Beach was destroyed by fire Monday afternoon. Farmer, with Hi Crawford was filling drums with gasoline just north of the north approach to the dock when the drum upon which Crawford was working exploded. The burning gasoline fell upon Farmer's legs and set fire to his clothes.

Seeing the danger, Farmer and Crawford started to run toward the north end of the dock. Reaching nearly to the north end of the dock, both men jumped overboard. Two other men, who were working near by, succeeded in jumping overboard and clinging to piling until a small boat on shore was rushed to them. All the men working on the docks except Farmer succeeded in making their way safely to shore.

The fire was one of the most spectacular ever witnessed by local people. It started about 4:35 P.M. and is supposed to have originated by spontaneous combustion in a gasoline drum that was being filled on the dock. The burning gasoline spread rapidly about the dock and in a few moments it was beyond possible control. From the very first moment it was

admitted impossible to save any of the dock and all effort was made to save the big tanks and the warehouses.

The immense clouds of smoke from the burning dock were seen for miles around within the a few minutes after the first explosion. Residents of Edmonds saw them and the first auto was on the scene in less than fifteen minutes after. The business men turned out in force to lend any assistance possible and offers of help were received from Seattle and Everett.

July 7, 1916—REGULAR MEETING CITY COUNCIL:

It was ordered that the fire alarm system installed by A. H. Cox and Co., be accepted and paid for and the clerk was ordered to draw a warrant for \$125.00 to pay same.

October 6, 1916—SMALL BLAZE

A small blaze in an old shed in the rear of the R. S. Thompson building on Main street caused some little excitement about 3 o'clock Wednesday morning. The fire was discovered by Mrs. Chas. Ross who lives near, and who promptly gave the alarm. Damage done was slight.

December 22, 1916—FIRE DESTROYS VIENNA BAKERY

Fire at 4 o'clock Sunday morning destroyed the Vienna Bakery at this place together with all its contents, fixtures etc. Three months ago the Vienna Bakery was purchased by Harold S. Eagle and since that time has been operated by him. The loss to the fixtures and supplies is estimated at about, \$1,800, \$1,200 of which is covered by insurance.

Mr. Eagle had only recently laid in a supply of flour, Christmas candies and other goods to an amount of \$500, all of which was destroyed.

Just what Mr. Eagle will do in regard to re-opening the bakery has not been decided upon. The building is owned

by Dr. J. D. Sherrick and as he lives out of town it has not been learned whether it will be rebuilt.

January 26, 1917—FIRE LADDIES ARE BANQUETED BY THE FIRE CHIEF

Fire Chief J. N. Otto is not such a bad chief any how, is the way the local fire company have always spoken of their chief, but now they are willing to vow he is one of the best fellows, for last Friday evening he served to the entire company such a feast as is not witnessed every day.

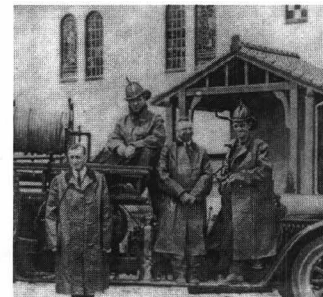
Jim played the role of the exceptional good fellow and invited them to his home on Fifth Street where an oyster supper was served. Besides oysters other good things to eat were plentiful and after the banquet the members smoked and played cards until some of the more thoughtful suggested that it was growing late and that it was a time that their host with his good wife who acted as hostess should have a wee bit of rest ere it was daylight. The guests departed wishing him many more years of useful service in the position he now fills.

May 4, 1917—FIRE DESTROYS DRY KILN

Thursday afternoon fire broke out in the dry kiln of the Carpenter Shingle Mill at the foot of the city dock, destroying one of the three kilns and badly damaging one of the others.

When the fire was discovered it had gained such headway that it was impossible to extinguish it until the kiln and its contents were practically destroyed, however by heroic efforts, the fire company supplemented by volunteers succeeded in preventing it from reaching the mill.

We have heard no estimate



of the loss by those who are in position to form an estimate, but in all probability it will be between \$3,000 and \$5,000.

April 11, 1919—FIRE DESTROYS A. & C. MILL

Thursday afternoon the A. & C. Shingle Mill owned and operated by F. M. Carpenter & Son was totally destroyed by fire.

At the time the fire broke out the mill was not in operation, but was fired by sparks from another mill also owned by the Carpenters. The loss to the owners is a total one as there was no insurance on the property.

November 7, 1919—SHINGLE MILL BURNS TO GROUND

The Heathman-Dodson Shingle Mill was completely destroyed by fire at 2 o'clock on Thursday morning. The

fire was first discovered by an employee of one of the other mills, who immediately gave an alarm, but it was too late to save the mill. There was no fire hose to be had, so the fire fighters were practically helpless. The damage will probably amount to from \$10,000 to \$15,000. There was no insurance on the property.

The company was just getting ready to start up and run twenty four hours a day for the rest of the winter, so this loss will considerably cripple the shingle industry of Edmonds for the time. It has not been heard whether or not the company will rebuild, but it is the general opinion that they will do so as soon as possible.

1920-1929

EDMOND'S FIRST FIRE ENGINE AND NEW EQUIPMENT



FIRE CHIEFS, EQUIPMENT, AND FIRE STATIONS

FIRE CHIEFS:

- 1920 A. B. Bently
1929 M. C. "Matt" Engles

EQUIPMENT:

- 1921 Ford truck/Chemical fire engine: A 1921 Ford Model T truck chassis was purchased from Yost Auto Company for \$670. It was equipped with a chemical extinguishing unit with tanks on a steel frame, roof ladder, extension ladder, small extinguishers, tools, and an extra chemical tank purchased from Seattle. The chemical unit was on a retired Seattle Fire Department horse-drawn chemical wagon and sold to Edmonds Fire Department in March 1921. The Seattle Fire Department horse-drawn chemical wagon was either Unit #1, an 1889 Champion; or Unit #2, an 1890 Holloway; or Unit #3, an 1891 Holloway. The total cost was \$1,070 plus \$100 for mounting the chemical unit onto the Ford chassis. A new paint job was donated. This engine was replaced in 1925 by a 1925 REO Speed Wagon fire engine, and the Ford chassis was given to the Edmonds Street Department.
- 1925 REO Speedwagon fire engine: A 1925 REO Speedwagon fire engine, with a 6-cylinder engine on a 1½-ton chassis, equipped with a Hale 350 gallon per minute pump, was purchased from A. G. Long Company of Portland, Oregon for \$3,425. It was painted red and came with Foamite portable fire extinguishers. It also came with 300 feet of

new fire hose; however, there was no water tank on the engine. When replaced in 1938, the REO engine was sold to Alderwood Community (later to become Snohomish County Fire District One) for \$300.

- 1929 The Edmonds Fire Department purchased a Lung Motor for first aid on July 12, 1929. The lung motor was a manually operated resuscitator for drowning victims and was manufactured by the Drager Company of Germany as early as 1914. It was replaced by an inhalator purchased for \$184 in 1939. The city received \$25 credit for the lung motor on the purchase of the inhalator.

FIRE STATIONS:

- 1924 The Yost Auto company was the fire station with the fire engine exiting onto Dayton Street. In September 1925, the Yost Auto Company stated that there would be a \$5.00 per month charge for storage of the fire truck.

1920–1929 MEMBERS OF THE EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Bacon, George | Oaks, Dick |
| Bacon, P. E. | Pence, George |
| Bentley, A. B. | Proffitt, George |
| Callahan, Carl | Rittenhouse, Fern |
| Doty, Dan | Rynewson, Roy |
| Engels, Matt | Wilson, P. |
| Evensen, G. G. | Winder, T. W. |
| Hansen, Walter | Womer, W. W. |
| Kingdon, Frank | Woodfield, Carrol |
| Majestic, Henry | Yost, Sam |
| Moore, Erick | |

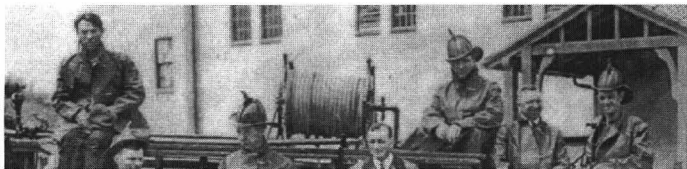
EDMONDS TRIBUNE-REVIEW NEWSPAPER

May 7, 1920—NEWCOMERS LOSE HOME BY FIRE

Mr. and Mrs. Howe, who just moved into the J. J. Greenleaf place in North Edmonds last week, had the misfortune to lose their house and all its contents by fire last Tuesday evening. The building and its contents were an entire loss and unfortunately no insurance was carried, which makes a calamity for the family. They formerly lived in Seattle and bought the property from J. J. Greenleaf and moved here only a few days since.

July 9, 1920—SCHOOL BUILDINGS ENDANGERED BY FIRE

Fire originating from either carelessness or design, has two times lately endangered the high school buildings in North Edmonds. Recently Supt. Wright discovered a burned out fire up next the wall of the High School building, and last week the Manual Training room was only saved from destruction by Mrs. Brackett, who put out a fire that had been built on the steps and had burned a place 18 inches in diameter on them. It is thought that the fires were built by some children or by some one with incendiary intent. These narrow escapes make it necessary for the authorities to forbid the children from playing on the grounds in vacation time. Another thing the school authorities wish the public to know is that there are no objections to the picking of roses and flowers on the ground provided they are CUT and not torn off the bushes. If cut there is no damage, but if torn off it destroys the bushes.



January 28, 1921—FIRE DESTROYS QUALITY SHINGLE CO. PLANT, ENTAILING LOSS OF \$20,000; \$5,000 INSURED; WAS COOPERATIVELY OWNED AND OPERATED AND HAD BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL; WILL BE REBUILT

Fire, originating in some unknown manner, last Wednesday night destroyed the shingle mill of the Quality Shingle Co., a co-operatively operated and owned plant commonly known as "The Big Swede." The loss will amount to approximately \$20,000 of which five thousand dollars is covered by insurance. The mill was entirely destroyed but the dry kiln, full of shingles, and the boiler, were saved.

According to Watchman Bradley, the fire originated on the extreme south side of the mill, near the beach, and when discovered had assumed such proportions that nothing could be done except save the dry kiln and boiler room. Hence all efforts of the firemen were directed at saving the many thousands of shingles in the kiln and it was only by the most heroic efforts that these were saved. On the northern end of the property, where the boilers were, it was terribly hot on account of the slight breeze from the south, but in spite of that the boilers were not damaged.

The mill was a five machine one, and had a capacity of about 150,000 shingles a day. It was owned and operated by a cooperative association.

March 25, 1921—EDMONDS TO HAVE UP-TO-DATE CHEMICAL ENGINE WITH FORD CHASSIS APPARATUS WILL GIVE US FIRE PROTECTION EQUAL TO LARGE CITIES AND LOWER INSURANCE RATES

Edmonds is to have an up-to-date chemical fire engine with all practical things necessary to give us the best type of fire protection. The chassis will be here in about a week, and the tank and remainder will be ready for delivery about the same time if nothing intervenes to prevent.

This happy conclusion has been brought about by the hard work of Fire Chief A.B. Bently, Councilman John G. Schmidt, Messrs. Russell Mowat, F.M. Carpenter and G.G. Evensen,—Bently, Mowat and Carpenter representing the Chamber of Commerce and the others the city council. The money to pay for the equipment was secured by personal solicitation and the subscription list is as follows: Yost Auto Co. \$100; Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department \$130; and there were many other \$50, \$25, \$10, and \$5 donations.

The chemical tank and equipment will be mounted on a Ford chassis, which has already been bought from the Yost Auto Co. for \$670, while the remainder of the outfit, which includes tanks mounted on a steel frame, roof ladder, extension ladder, 150 feet of hose, small extinguishers, tools, extra chemical tanks, etc, is to be purchased from the city of Seattle, where it has been in use until just recently as a horse drawn chemical engine. It has now been replaced by motor driven vehicles. For this reason it can be depended on to be up-to-date in every particular and practical apparatus for Edmonds for a long time to come. The town can be congratulated on being able to secure such an outfit at such a reasonable price, and certainly owes a debt of gratitude to the able committee which has brought the matter to such an end.

April 1, 1921—EDMONDS NEW CHEMICAL FIRE ENGINE GETS HERE THIS WEEK

The chemical engine recently purchased from the City of Seattle for Edmonds was brought out here this week by two members of the committee, A.B. Bently and John G. Schmidt and is being mounted on the Ford Chassis bought from the Yost Auto Company, at the Yost garage. The machine is complete in every particular except that the city took off the 100 feet of fire hose that was on it before delivery. As the matter now stands we probably

have the best fire equipment of any town in the county except Everett.

April 29, 1921—NEW FIRE TRUCK ALMOST READY FOR ACTION; OFFICERS NAMED FOR COMPANY

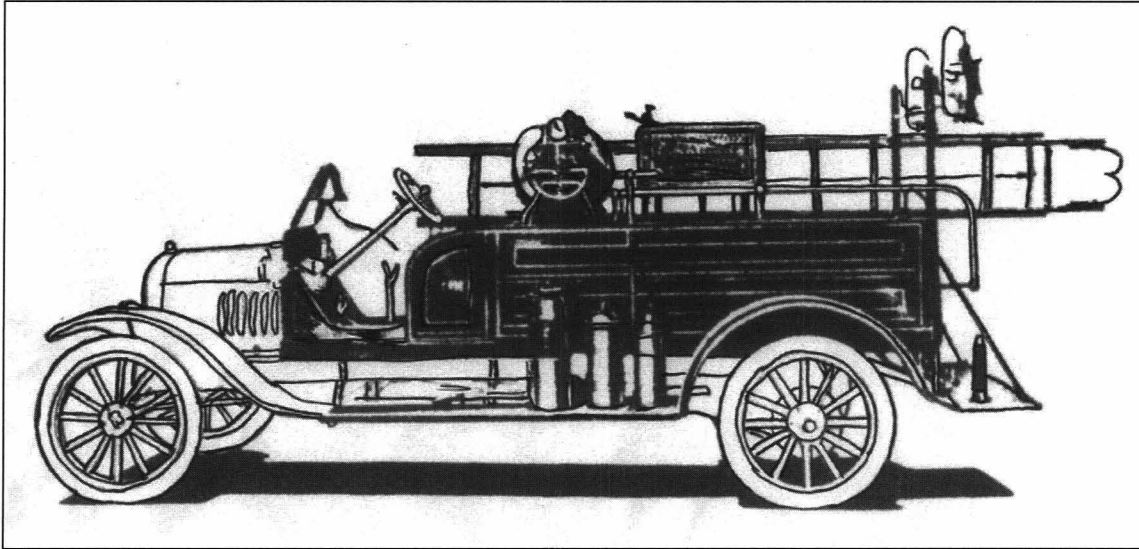
Edmonds new chemical fire engine is almost ready for action. The last finishing touches on the painting of the truck, which is being done by Mr. James Caspers, will be done this week. Mr. Caspers donated one days painting and Mr. A.B. Bently donated the paint.

Officers for the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department have been selected and are: A. B. Bently, Chief; W. W. Womer, First Assistant; Roy Rynearson, Second Assistant; Dick Oaks, Secretary; and M. C. Engels, Treasurer. The company will be composed of the foregoing officers and George Proffitt, G. G. Evensen, P. Wilson, T. W. Winder, and Henry Majestic. Just how they will be assigned their posts in time of fire has not been fully determined, but will be in a day or two. Getting the new fire engine and such a good crew ought to lower our insurance rates!

May 20, 1921—NEW FIRE ENGINE GIVEN FIRST REAL RUN TO A FIRE FRIDAY AFTERNOON OLD ROYAL HOTEL BUILDING SAVED BY PROMPT WORK OF EDMONDS VOLUNTEER FIREMEN

Edmonds new fire engine and apparatus was given its first real test Friday afternoon when an alarm was turned in from the Royal Hotel, at the foot of Main St. It was the work of but a few minutes to gather together the volunteer firemen, and soon the truck went tearing down the street with firemen all over it and the siren screeching away for a clear track. On arrival at the scene of the fire, it was seen to be in the roof or upper part of the building. W. W. Womer acted as nozzle man and soon had the water going. In a very few minutes they had it under control,

An ink drawing of a 1921 Ford Model T and chemical fire engine. PAULA CAIN, ARTIST



without the necessity of turning on the chemicals, water alone being used. The damage was confined to the second story, mostly around the roof, but water caused some damage on the first floor. Probably the total damage will run about three hundred dollars. It is sure that without prompt work on the part of the firemen the building would have certainly burned, and probably those near it, and perhaps the whole block west of it would have gone. Too much cannot be said in praise of the new engine and the firemen.

May 27, 1921—DON'T MONKEY WITH THE FIRE WAGON; SAY FIREMEN AFTER BOYSTAMPER WITH IT

An urgent invitation to the boys of the town not to monkey with the new fire engine or apparatus is cordially extended by Fire Chief A. B. Bently and rest of the crew. This edict was found necessary after the discovery recently that some one had tampered with parts of the apparatus

until it would not work properly. The firemen point out that there is no time at a fire to make adjustments and connect parts, and that the misplacing of a part or loosening of a bolt may mean the loss of some ones home or a business block. Boys don't touch the new fire engine—we don't need it often but when we do need it we need it bad!

May 27, 1921—FIREMAN'S BENEFIT DANCE ENJOYED, OVER \$86 NETTED FOR FIRE APPARATUS

The Fireman's Dance, given last Saturday night for the benefit of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department, and to be used in purchasing additional equipment for fighting fire, was enjoyed by a good crowd and netted \$86.60 for the fire fund. One hundred thirty two dollars was taken in, music cost \$36, printing \$4.50, and refreshments \$6.10.

Thanks are due to D. M. Yost for the free use of the Opera House, to the Washington Coast Utilities for free lighting and Mrs. Evensen for making punch. The

community owes its thanks to Chief A. B. Bently and his crew for giving their time and labor toward making the affair a success and in selling tickets. All the money realized goes for equipment to protect the town from fire.

**January 20, 1922: FIRE IS QUENCHED
BY PROMPT ACTION; FLAMES THREATEN HOME OF
H.C. SINCLAIRE ON MONDAY AFTERNOON**

At about 4:30 Monday afternoon the fire department was summoned to the home of H. C. Sinclair on Bell Street near the waterfront, where fire had broke out around the chimney. Fire Chief Bently was first on the scene and as soon as the fire truck arrived took a small Pyrene extinguisher to the roof with which the flames were extinguished.

The damage to the house was only slight but with the high wind prevailing at the time it would not have been long till the fire would have gotten beyond control. Mrs. Sinclair was quite ill at the time, and suffered considerably from the shock.

**January 27, 1922—FIRE DEPARTMENT
MAKES REPORT OF FINANCES**

The Edmonds Fire Department make the following report of funds collected and expenditures of same in the purchase of a fire truck and other equipment:

One Ford Truck = \$678.58, One siren horn = \$35, Labor and material for mounting body to truck = \$140.74, Fire wagon from city of Seattle = \$400, The Brinkley Co., Chemical hose and couplings = \$97, One pump can = \$12, Gorham Fire Apparatus Co. = \$57.20, and oil, gas, and one set skid chains = \$13.82. The total was \$1,434.34 plus firemen's hats \$30, blacksmith two wrenches \$5, and dance supplies \$10.60. Money subscribed and paid in plus money from the dance = \$1,371.86. Leaving a balance due to Yost Auto Co., to date, Feb. 1 of 1922, \$108.14.

**February 24, 1922—LOCAL FIRE BOYS
CALLED TO RICHMOND BEACH**

The beautiful residence directly across the street from the Richmond Beach School was totally destroyed by fire about 8:30 A.M. last Saturday.

The alarm was sent to both Edmonds and Seattle fire departments. The Edmonds engine was manned by Sam Yost, Roy Rynearson, Carroll Woodfield, and Dan Doty and arrived in time for the men to assist in saving a goodly share of the furniture, but the fire was beyond control.

The Seattle fire department sent out a chemical wagon which came from Fourth and Battery in fifteen minutes, the speedometer registering as high as 54 miles per hour. The fire caught from the fireplace and gained quite a start before aid arrived. The property belonged to Mr. Brainard.

**April 14, 1922—FIRE DESTROYS EDMONDS HOME
SUMMER HOME OF W. E. HUNT IS DESTROYED BY FIRE**

The beautiful summer cottage known as the Alpine Villa in North Edmonds, owned by W. E. Hunt was totally destroyed by fire Wednesday noon. The fire was evidently caused by the explosion of an oil stove and spread so rapidly that nothing could be saved. But little insurance was carried.

Mr. Hunt with his little daughter had been busy preparing the house for occupancy this spring, and had gone with the girl to Coomer's confectionery store adjoining the place to purchase some candy when, looking up, he saw flames bursting from the windows. The Edmonds fire department was immediately summoned and rushed to the scene, but nothing could be done to save the building or even any of the furniture.

The Edmonds Review, established August 5, 1904, was a weekly newspaper, with a subscription rate of \$1.50 per year ... in advance!

April 28, 1922—EARLY MORNING FIRE CALLS OUT DEPARTMENT

FIRE OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN DESTROYS LAUNCH

About 3:30 o'clock Wednesday morning the Edmonds Fire Department was called out to extinguish a fire in a launch belonging to Jas. Cook, which was in a shed on the beach near the Tyee Mill.

The watchman at the Tyee shingle mill was the first to discover the blaze and he immediately blew the whistle and turned in a fire alarm. The fire boys were soon on the scene and had the fire apparently extinguished. However, about twenty minutes after their return home, the firemen were again summoned and found that the fire had again sprung up from some place in the hold, where they had not before penetrated because it would necessitate chopping into the sides of the boat and damaging it considerably. This time a thorough job was made of it, but the launch was practically ruined.

No explanation can be given as to the cause of the fire. While the launch was only about 150 feet from the mill, the wind was blowing in an opposite direction and it could not have caught from sparks from the mill, unless the fire had been smoldering for a considerable length of time.

May 26, 1922—FIREMEN EXTINGUISH BLAZE LATE SATURDAY NIGHT

A fire in the upper story of the Standard garage called out the Edmonds fire department about 11:30 Saturday night. By prompt work the fire was kept confined to this part of the building and was extinguished without serious damage to the main floor except from the water. There was some loss, also, of tires and supplies stored in the upper part of the building.

It is thought that the fire originated from defective wiring, as Fire Chief Bently noticed insulation burning off the wiring in the lower room when he first reached the

scene. Insurance adjuster Curtis R. Harold was in Edmonds Monday evening adjusting the claim, having been notified by the local agent, J. E. Wilson, by wire.

June 30, 1922—DANGEROUS BLAZE IS QUICKLY EXTINGUISHED

Just before noon, last Friday, the Edmonds fire department was summoned by the Oakland Mill to extinguish a blaze which had started in the roof of the old Royal Hotel on Main Street near the waterfront. The blaze had evidently started from sparks from a mill or passing train, and was rapidly gaining headway in two places on the roof. The boys reached the scene and had water on the building in an incredibly short time and quenched what would have become a serious fire within a very few minutes.

July 7, 1922—KILN AND SHINGLES DESTROYED BY FIRE

RAINBOW SHINGLE COMPANY WILL REBUILD AT ONCE

At about 11:30 last Friday morning the fire department was summoned to combat a fire which had broken out in the dry kiln of the Rainbow Shingle Company on the waterfront, just south of Main Street. Through the combined efforts of the fire boys and the workers in the Rainbow and adjoining mills, the fire was confined to the kiln and some shingles were saved.

The kiln contained over a million shingles, many of them 24-inch Royals, states M. C. Engels, manager of the company, and the loss was estimated at about \$7,000, with \$4,000 of this covered by insurance. The company plans to rebuild at once and will be in operation at an early date. The exact cause of the fire is not known, but it is supposed that a heat pocket must have formed and, aided by spontaneous combustion, started the conflagration.

When the workers at the mill discovered smoke issuing through the roof they immediately turned on the sprinkler

system in the kiln and did everything possible to check the flames, but to no avail. When the fire department arrived three lines of hose were laid and with water kept constantly on the fire it was impossible to completely extinguish it till late in the afternoon. The flames were held back from both ends, holes were cut in the roof to permit them to get water on the fire, and finally the entire east wall was razed in an attempt to get at the heart of the fire.

It was not until the kiln and its contents were literally torn to pieces that the fire was conquered late in the afternoon. Adjustment has already been made by the four insurance companies carrying the risk, through their local agent, O. L. Miller, and the mill company has been paid \$3,947 in settlement. This will enable them to proceed immediately with the rebuilding of the kiln.

August 11, 1922—EDMONDS HAS NEW FIRE ALARM SIREN

A large fire siren has been installed on the top of the public library building, ordered recently by the city council, and installed for their approval.

The siren gives a clear, piercing tone and is a great improvement over the old bell, previously used. It is operated electrically from the switchboard at the telephone office. The siren is sounded every noon at twelve o'clock, standard time.

August 25, 1922—CHIMNEY FIRE CALLS OUT FIRE DEPARTMENT

Yesterday morning about 9:15 the Edmonds fire department answered a call to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Pasche on Second Street opposite the Co-Operative Feed Store.

Investigation proved it to be only a chimney fire, which was easily extinguished by the use of chemicals and no damage was done. However, those who saw the blaze said

that it looked serious. The house belongs to John Dumas, and neither the building nor the furniture was insured, with the exception of the piano.

August 25, 1922—FIRE LOSS IS PAID

A draft for \$3,947 was this week delivered to the Rainbow Shingle Company by local agent O. L. Miller, in settlement of \$4,000 fire insurance carried by the company on their dry kiln and contents recently destroyed by fire. Their new kiln of laminated wood construction and equipped with automatic sprinklers, is now entirely completed and already in use.

October 27, 1922—FIRE AT MILL CALLS OUT DEPARTMENT NIGHT BLAZE AT PROCTOR MILL IS VERY PROMPTLY EXTINGUISHED

About seven o'clock Sunday evening the city fire department responded to a call to extinguish a blaze at the Proctor Mill on the waterfront at the foot of Bell Street.

The blaze was small and was located in a stairway near the center of the mill structure. As the mill is not in operation, no theory as to the cause of the fire could be offered other than that it might have started from a discarded match or cigarette. Had the blaze not been discovered so soon, a serious conflagration might have resulted.

December 19, 1922—EDMONDS HOME IS DESTROYED BY FIRE



At about 9:30 last Friday night the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Bjornson in South Edmonds was totally destroyed by fire. The blaze was first discovered in the roof around the chimney. Attempts were made to check the fire with water

which it was necessary to carry from a spring some distance from the house, but it had gained such headway under the roof that it was of no avail.

The Edmonds Fire Department was notified and Fire Chief Bently drove the fire truck to South Edmonds, but as it was impossible to reach the fire from any hydrant and the flames had progressed too far for the chemical apparatus to be effective, nothing could be done. By the help of neighbors, most of the furniture in the lower rooms was saved. No fire insurance was carried.

March 16, 1923—LAUMEISTER HOME IS DESTROYED

The residence of J. L. Laumeister on Dayton Street, near Sixth, was practically destroyed by fire at about 8:30 last Friday night. The family had started for Seattle and seeing that there was a fire returned to find their home in flames.

The fire department extinguished the flames before the house was entirely destroyed, but the structure was gutted and the contents a total loss. It is thought the fire originated around the flue.

April 27, 1923—BOYS MAKE QUICK DASH TO FIRE SHORT WORK IS MADE OF FIRE AT LAUNDRY YESTERDAY

A fire of unknown origin under the floor at the northeast corner of Edmonds Laundry building yesterday afternoon brought out the local fire boys and gave them an opportunity to show their speed and efficiency.

The fire was detected about 3:30 by the hand-ironer who works almost directly over the spot where the blaze started. It was seen about the same time by men at the Oakland mill who blew the mill whistle at the same time that Mr. Ellis turned in the alarm to the telephone office and the siren was sounded. The fire department reached the scene in a surprisingly short time and under the direction of

Assistant Chief W. W. Womer made short work of the blaze which had been kept, well in check by Mr. Ellis and the laundry force with water buckets. The damage was slight.

June 15, 1923—FILM BURNS AT LOCAL THEATRE FIRE IS EXTINGUISHED WITHOUT SERIOUS DAMAGE RESULTING

About twenty minutes after the start of a free show at the Princess theatre last night, the film caught fire and the fire department was called to the scene to help extinguish the blaze which did no damage outside of the destruction of the reel of film and some slight damage to the wiring in the operator's room.

The show was being put on by E. S. Denslow in conjunction with a paint company and was in the nature of a scenic picture. Although the house was packed, the exit of the crowd was orderly and no one was injured.

The fire resulted when a badly worn film, the property of the paint company, became jammed in the machine and due to the intense heat of the light, caught afire. The burning film filled the entire operator's room with flame and burned the insulation off some of the wiring. This room is lined with asbestos and sheet iron and demonstrated its effectiveness in holding the fire which was entirely confined within its walls.

George Quinn, the operator, showed presence of mind in closing the ventilating openings and shutting off the electric switch before leaving the room. Some of his fingers were slightly burned. Only one reel of film was damaged, due to the fact that reels not in use are kept in fire-proof containers. Owing to the damage to the wiring it was necessary to postpone the show. However plans were already under way last night to make the necessary repairs and the regular show will take place tonight. The fire brought out the fact that the precaution taken by the theatre management for such an emergency were adequate and that



the theater is as safe from fire as possible to make it. No blame for the accident can be attached to either the theatre management, the operator, or the local firm under whose auspices the affair was given.

July 6, 1923—IN CASE OF FIRE

Those who are not members of the fire department are requested by Fire Chief A. B. Bently to keep off the fire truck and equipment when it is called out to a fire. In the past others have interfered with the work of the department by getting in the way of men who have regular places in the department.

August 10, 1923—FIRE DESTROYS EDMONDS BAKERY EARLY MORNING BLAZE IS CHECKED BY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the building on Main Street occupied by the Danish-American Bakery, at about three o'clock Monday morning. The fire was discovered by Richard Wooley, deliveryman for the bakery, who was asleep upstairs. The fire had gained such headway by the time he awoke that the stairway was impassable, and he made his way out by way of a front window and climbed down a telephone pole. While doing so, he called for help, and W. H. Wilson in the Beeson building across the street heard his cries and turned in the alarm.

Through the efficient work of the fire boys the flames were checked before the building had entirely burned down, and although the structure was a total loss, some of the contents were saved from utter ruins.

The building occupied by the Torrey Barber Shop, only about four feet from the bakery building, was burned

through in one place and the roof damaged somewhat, but aside from that, no other buildings were damaged. The \$1,000 of insurance carried on the building has been paid to Johnson Sherrick, the owner, and the insurance company will repair the other damaged building. The contents of the bakery building were also covered by insurance.

The heat of the flames melted the cable line of the Edmonds Independent Telephone Company in front of the building and 52 telephones were out of commission till about noon Monday, when repairs were completed. Mr. Sherrick had intended building a brick structure with a 30-foot front just east of the bakery, but is now undecided as to when the improvement will be made.

February 1, 1924—FLAMES DESTROY TANNERY BUILDING

At about eight o'clock Saturday night, fire totally destroyed the building used as a "wet room" for the Universal By-Products Company, on the waterfront. The building was the smaller of the two used by the company, but contained many valuable hides and materials. The total loss is estimated at \$50,000 only partially covered by insurance.

Watchmen of the company and the Union Oil company nearby were first to discover the fire, which had then gained such headway that it could not be checked. The fire department rushed to the scene and by heroic work was able to save the main factory building and the old bolt works, both close to the burning building.

The cause of the fire is not known, some holding the belief that it may have been of incendiary origin, connecting it with the four recent mysterious fires a Richmond Beach.

February 8, 1924—FIRE DESTROYS POULTRY HOUSE

A fire, evidently originating from an oil heater,

destroyed the poultry house and 250 chickens belonging to Charles Goodson, in South Edmonds, early Tuesday morning.

The fire was not discovered until the building was in flames, about 2:30 in the morning, when the fire department was called and efforts of the firemen saved the residence and other adjoining buildings. Some young pups were in the building and it is thought that one of these may have overturned the heater, starting the fire. Only a small amount of insurance was carried.

April 11, 1924—MOSS IS CAUSE OF TWO FIRES; DAMAGE SLIGHT

Dry moss on the roof in which sparks caused fire to start, resulted in two fire calls the past week. Sunday morning, just before 10 o'clock, an alarm was turned in from the L.W. Wilson house on Main Street, occupied by Mrs. Rittenhouse and her son, Fern. Fire had started in the moss on the north side of the house, but was extinguished with but little damage.

At 10:30 Monday morning the firemen answered an alarm from the H. A. Johansen home in North Edmonds.

Fire Chief A. B. Bently and Deputy W. W. Womer, who were first to arrive, extinguished the fire by removing the burning shingles. The fire had started in the identical manner as that of the previous day. Mr. Bently urges all owners of buildings to inspect them and remove all moss and other accumulation at this time as a precaution against fire.

April 18, 1924—FIRE VISITS EDMONDS TWICE DURING WEEK

Edmonds has been visited by the "fire demon" twice within a week and has suffered considerable as a result.

Friday evening April 11, at about 11 P.M., the W. H. Otto house on Third street, between Dayton and

Main, caught fire from faulty wiring and was damaged to the extent of \$1100, which was covered by insurance. The upstairs, in which some furniture was stored was practically destroyed, the wall paper in all the lower floor rooms being ruined. Prompt work by the fire department prevented further damage.

Again on Wednesday evening April 16, at 11 o'clock, the old Proctor Mill was completely destroyed by a blaze of unknown origin. No insurance being carried. The mill was recently bought in at the receiver's sale by E. Brady who had removed the machinery. Because of the headway gained by the fire before the arrival of the fire department, the mill was allowed to burn and the efforts of the department were used to protect adjoining property.

June 27, 1924—FIRE BOYS CHECK BLAZE PROMPTLY

A serious fire was narrowly averted Tuesday evening about 9:45 when the Edmonds volunteer fire department answered a call to the Mutual Mill on the Waterfront.

Fire had started in the roof of the dry kiln, presumably from a spark, and was blazing briskly when discovered. The firemen made the run and had water on the fire in an incredibly short time, extinguishing it before much damage was done. Robert Schiller, manager of the mill company, estimates the loss of about \$30, which was covered by insurance.



July 4, 1924—RESIDENCE FIRE IS QUICKLY EXTINGUISHED & ENTERTAINS FIREMEN

Fire discovered in the roof of the residence of Dr. O. W. Schmidt brought out the fire department Friday afternoon about 3:30. It was quickly extinguished by the use of chemicals without extensive damage resulting.

The fire was first discovered by Mrs. Williams, a

neighbor, who tuned in the alarm. It is thought to have started from an overheated chimney.

Dr. O. W. Schmidt entertained the Edmonds volunteer firemen at a chicken dinner at the Forget-me-not luncheonette Tuesday evening in appreciation of their good work in saving his residence from fire recently.

July 18, 1924—ASK FOR BETTER FIRE EQUIPMENT

Fire Chief Bently said in explanation of the matter that there has been dissatisfaction among the fire boys and others with the present equipment, in that it takes too long to reach a fire especially if necessary to climb a hill and that there is no pump on the truck to increase the water pressure or to use water from the Sound or a stream when the occasion requires. Mr. Bently stated that this feeling had existed for some time and it was finally decided to bring the matter before the council.

The equipment as suggested would consist of a heavier truck, with a 300-gallon pump, two chemical tanks and the other general items of equipment. Quotations on such an outfit ranged from \$4850 to about \$9000. The council took no action in the matter.

The request of the fire chief for a siren for use on his car and a gong at the Yost Auto Company's garage to summon the firemen was granted by the council.

September 12, 1924—FIRE STARTS IN ROYAL HOTEL BUILDING, MONDAY

The Royal Hotel on First and Main streets, again was the scene of a blaze Monday afternoon that looked at first as if the whole building was doomed to burn to the ground.

The fire, which originated in the roof was thought to have been started by a spark from one of the mills, and had gained considerable headway, but was soon under control through the quick and efficient work of the fire department.

The building, owned by Mrs. W. H. Conner, was being repainted and newly papered. The damage by fire and water was estimated at \$350, and is covered by insurance.

October 31, 1924—FIRE DAMAGES MUTUAL MILL

At about 12:30 Thursday morning fire was discovered in the upper floor of the Mutual Mill on the waterfront. An alarm was turned in and the fire department with the assistance of men from adjoining mills soon extinguished the flames which had gained considerable headway in the heavy wind which was blowing at the time. The loss was estimated by mill officials at from \$8,000 to \$10,000, consisting mostly of new belting and saws which had been recently installed. The loss was partially covered by insurance.

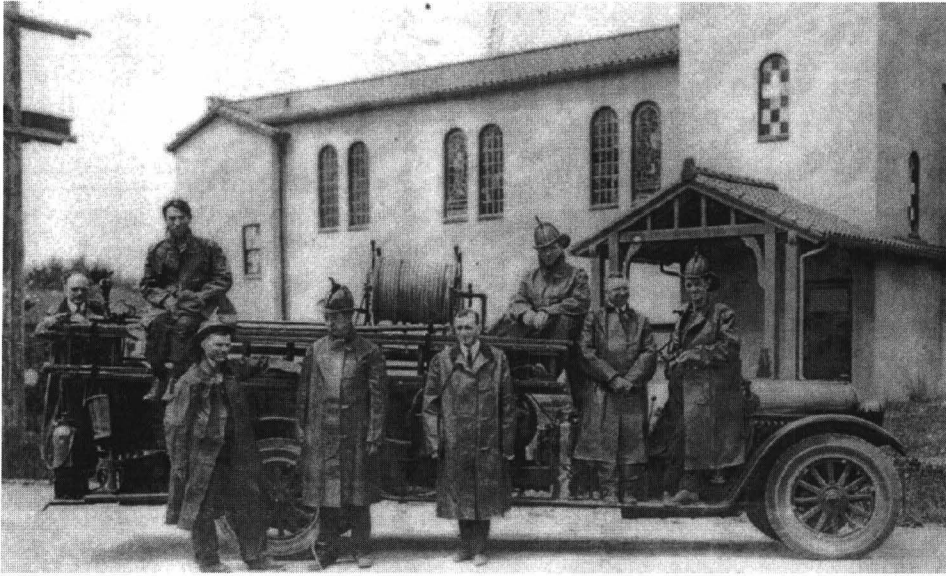
January 09, 1925—MRS. KERR TAKES OFFICE AS MAYOR

The meeting was opened by retiring Mayor M. C. Engels. Mrs. Alice U. Kerr took the oath of office and assumed her duties as the first woman mayor of the city of Edmonds.

A. B. Bently was reappointed as fire chief. At the request of Fire Chief Bently for permission to standardize the couplings on hose and hydrants, which may now be done by the state rating bureau at only a slight cost to the city, he was given authority to do so.

January 23, 1925—FIREMEN INITIATE NEW BANQUET ROOM EDMONDS FIREMEN HOLD ANNUAL DINNER IN WILSON'S BANQUET ROOM

Members of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department had the honor of being the first to patronize the new banquet room of Wilson's café, in the basement of the



A new 1925 REO Speedwagon six cylinder fire truck, with a 350 gallon Hale power pump was purchased for \$3,425. The personnel of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department are Assistant Chief W. W. Womer, Dan Doty, P. E. Bacon, G. G. Evensen, M. C. Engels, Sam Yost, Fire Chief A. B. Bently, and Roy Rymearson. A part of the Hughes Memorial Church is seen in the background.
EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Beeson building, when they held their annual dinner last evening. An oyster dinner was served.

Although all the interior finishing is not yet completed, it was far enough advanced to permit of its use last night.

**January 30, 1925—NEW FIRE TRUCK
TO BE CONSIDERED
CHANGE IS PROPOSED IN CONNECTION
WITH TRUCK FOR STREET WORK**

The desirability of purchasing a new truck has been brought to the attention of the committee of the city council.

It is proposed that the Ford truck now used by the fire department might be fitted with a body suitable for street work, and the fire fighting equipment transferred to a more powerful truck chassis. It is also urged that the fire truck be equipped with a pump, which would provide better

protection to parts of the city where the water pressure is not so strong, as well as for emergency use at the mills or outside the city.

The matter is expected to be brought up at the meeting of the city council, Tuesday evening.

**March 13, 1925—FIRE TRUCK LEVY
ELECTION CARRIES
EDMONDS CITIZENS VOTE THREE TO ONE
FOR EQUIPMENT**

By a vote of three to one, citizens of Edmonds on Saturday voted for a tax levy of \$3,700.00 for the purchase of a motor fire truck with attached motor-driven equipment.

The new truck will replace the present Ford truck from which the equipment will be transferred. The Ford truck will be used by the street department.

The vote in the first ward totaled 56 for and 12 against;

second ward 47 for and 15 against; third ward, 24 for and 16 against; making a total of 127 for the levy and 43 against.

March 20, 1925—CITY PURCHASES

REO FIRE TRUCK

REO TRUCK WITH HALE PUMP SELECTED BY CITY COUNCIL

With seven bids submitted for a fire truck with a power pump attached, the city council in session Tuesday evening awarded the contract to the A. G. Long Company, who are to furnish a six-cylinder REO truck equipped with a 350 gallon Hale pump. The purchase price is \$3425.00 and delivery is promised within 45 days.

The fire chief was instructed to purchase the extra accessories needed and for changing over the equipment from the Ford truck.

May 1, 1925—\$55,000 SHINGLE MILL

DESTROYED BY FIRE

OAKLAND MILL BURNS TO THE GROUND

ONLY \$21,000 INSURANCE CARRIED

Fire completely destroyed the five-machine plant of the Oakland Shingle Company here, at nine o'clock Wednesday night, and only through the heroic efforts of the Edmonds Fire Department was the dry kiln saved from the ravages of the flames.

When the alarm was first given fire was coming from the gables in both ends of the mill, and before the department arrived the structure was a mass of flames. Just where or how the fire started is not known.

George Baker, who was acting as night watchman in the absence of George Moore who was attending band rehearsal, and another man whose name is not known were quite severely burned about the hands and arms in an attempt to check the flames with the mill's two-inch hose, but their efforts were of little avail.

During the progress of the fire, Great Northern trains from both the north and south were halted until the flames subsided and the hose lines were uncoupled and put thru under the tracks.

When the conflagration was at its height the flames shot at least a hundred feet in the air and the sheet iron roofing was blown off by the draft like so many pieces of paper. People were attracted for miles around and literally hundreds were on the scene before the fire was under control.

The Oakland Shingle Company is a co-operative organization of eighteen men, with A. B. Haried, president and E. R. Scott, secretary-treasurer. The company was organized about four years ago.

The Mill was well build and fully equipped and was valued by insurance appraisers at \$55,000. Insurance totaling only \$21,000 was carried through J. E. Wilson, local insurance man, and the claim is already in the process of adjustment.

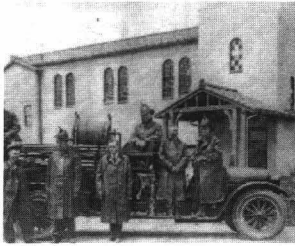
May 22, 1925—CITY PURCHASES NEW FIRE HOSE

Three hundred feet of Blue Diamond guaranteed fire hose was ordered by the city council in regular session Tuesday evening. The hose was declared to be necessary for use with the new pumper-truck which is expected to be delivered within the next few weeks.

May 25, 1925—OUR NEW FIRE-FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

An illustration shows the new Edmonds fire truck and the personnel of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department. They are Assistant Chief W. W. Womer, Dan Doty, P. E. Bacon, G. G. Evensen, M. C. Engels, Sam Yost, Fire Chief A. B. Bently, and Roy Rynearson.

The new truck is a REO 1½ ton chassis mounted with standard fire truck body and equipment including a



350 gallon Hale motor-driven pump, Foamite extinguishers, and 300 feet of new hose. It was being given underwriters' tests yesterday afternoon, before being recommended for acceptance by the city. A part of the Hughes Memorial church is seen in

the background. [See page 44]

May 25, 1925—FIRE DEPARTMENT ADOPTS NEW CONSTITUTION

At a meeting of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department at the city hall Wednesday a new constitution and by-laws were adopted and prepared for presentation to the city council for approval. The re-organization of the department is expected to be completed at another meeting. On Thursday evening of last week the department held a special meeting and supper in the banquet room of Wilson's Cafe.

July 3, 1925—FIRE AT DEPOT IS PROMPTLY PUT OUT

Sunday afternoon at about five o'clock the fire department was called out to extinguish a fire which had started under the floor of the Great Northern depot, near the entrance to the waiting room. A hole was chopped in the platform to get water to the fire which was promptly extinguished with but little damage. The cause of the fire is unknown.

July 17, 1925—FIREMEN ELECT NEW OFFICERS E. M. MOORE ELECTED PRESIDENT OF VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Under a new constitution and by-laws recently adopted and submitted to the city council for approval, the Edmonds

Volunteer Fire Department elected officers for the ensuing year on Wednesday evening of last week. The department will hold a business meeting on the second Wednesday evening of each month.

The officers elected were as follows: Chief, A. B. Bently; President, E. M. Moore; Secretary, W. W. Womer; Treasurer, P. E. Bacon; and Trustees, Geo. Pence, Dan Doty, and Frank Kingdon.

Ed. note: This could have been the start of the Edmonds Volunteer Firemen's Association. There had been elections of fire officers since the beginning in 1904; however, the "Association" had never been mentioned.

July 31, 1925—RAINBOW MILL IS DESTROYED BY FIRE ONLY \$6,000 INSURANCE ON LOSS OF \$15,000-DRY KILN SAVED

Shortly after noon Tuesday the three-machine mill of the Rainbow Shingle Company, on the waterfront just south of the ferry dock, was totally destroyed by fire.

The fire was not discovered until the structure was a mass of flames, and it required the fullest efforts of the fire department to save the dry kiln nearby and the ferry dock and waiting station toward which the wind blew the flames.

The loss was conservatively estimated by members of the firm at \$15,000 with only \$6,000 insurance. The mill had not been in operation since the Fourth, but it was expected that work would be resumed upon the return of M. C. Engels, secretary and manager, who is expected back next week from an automobile trip to Minnesota.

Adjustment of the insurance, and plans for the future have been delayed until Mr. Engels' return.

August 21, 1925—COUNCIL MEETING: A notice was read from the Yost Auto Company advising that beginning

with September, a storage charge of \$5.00 per month would be made for the fire truck. The matter was referred to a committee composed of C.W. Toles, Thos. Scanlon and Fire Chief A.B. Bently.

November 6, 1925—FIREMEN'S MASQUERADE IS JOYOUS HALLOWEEN EVENT

Throngs of gaily clad merry-makers danced to the strains of Raymond's orchestra at the Edmonds Opera House Saturday night when a Halloween masquerade ball was given by the members of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department.

By the hearty co-operation of all, the affair proved a thorough success, and the firemen were well pleased with the financial results. The funds secured will be used to purchase incidental items of equipment and to provide an emergency fund available in case of accident or special need.

November 20, 1925—FIRE DEPARTMENT CALLED TWICE IN SAME NIGHT

Although little damage resulted from either fire, the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department answered two calls Sunday night.

The first was at 9:15 when a blaze was discovered in the basement of the George Proffitt home at Fifth and Edmonds streets. The fire was promptly extinguished and but little damage was done. The flames of unknown origin, started in a pile of old shingles and kindling.

At about 2:30 Monday morning the department was called to the Anderson home on Second Street. Presumably from a smoldering cigarette the bedding in Loren Anderson's room had caught fire while he slept. Upon awakening, Loren heroically threw the burning bedding out the window, burning his hands somewhat in doing so, and left but little for the firemen to do when they arrived.

Thursday morning at about eight o'clock the fire department was called out a third time due to a chimney fire at the home of Mrs. Amanda Yost in South Edmonds. Although the chimney burned furiously for a time, no damage resulted.

November 20, 1925—EDMONDS FIREMEN ATTEND MEETING: TRI-COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT MEETING HELD AT EVERETT

Ten members of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department attended a banquet and program given under the direction of the Everett Fire Department at the Elks' home in Everett, Wednesday evening. More than 200 firemen were present, representing 20 towns and cities in Snohomish, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties.

The Edmonds men attending were: Chief A. B. Bently, W. W. Womer, Eric Moore, Dan Doty, Sam Yost, Walter Hanson, Ronald MacDonald, M.C.Engels, Carl Callahan, and George Pence.

December 11, 1925—COOPERAGE PLANT DESTROYED BY FIRE: EARLY MORNING BLAZE DESTROYS WASHINGTON COOPERAGE

Fire of unknown origin, destroyed the "green" mill of the Washington Cooperage plant at Point Wells, early Sunday morning, causing a property loss of \$50,000 and throwing some fifty men out of employment. The loss was practically all covered by insurance.

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department responded immediately, and to them goes the credit of saving the dry room and the warehouse of the barrel plant. Running their fire machine out on the narrow viaduct that connects the barrel factory with the G. N. spur, the Edmonds fire fighters put up a gallant stand and when their force was augmented by a battery of streams from the Standard plant, the fire was checked. Edmonds was on the job within a few minutes after

the flames were started. With Sam Yost at the wheel and Fern Rittenhouse and "Slim" McElroy on the wagon they established a new speed record between Edmonds and Point Wells.

Fern and Slim each manned a line and despite the fact that they were nearly scorched, stuck to their posts and saved the warehouse. According to eye witnesses the entire Edmonds team demonstrated how to fight fire.

The idea of running the fire-fighting trucks on the viaduct and pumping water from the slough was a brilliant idea. It saved thousands of dollars for the cooperage.

December 18, 1925—EDMONDS FIREMEN ENJOY GET TOGETHER DINNER

The members of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department with their wives and invited guests enjoyed a bounteous chicken dinner at the dining room of the Hughes Memorial Church, Wednesday evening. Eric Moore, president of the department, acted as toastmaster for an entertaining and instructive program.

February 5, 1926—FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTED WITH \$250

In appreciation of services rendered by the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department at the recent cooperage fire adjoining their huge distributing plant at Point Wells, the Standard Oil Company last Friday presented the department with a check for \$250.

Fire Chief Bently states that the money will be used to purchase additional fire hose for emergency use in the city and which will be available even when the fire truck is in service outside the city.

March 26, 1926—CAR CATCHES FIRE

J. W. Colley extinguished a fire which had started in the transmission of a large roadster, at



Third and Main streets yesterday noon. A lady, driving the car down Main Street, had applied the emergency brake causing the brake bands at the transmission to heat until the oil began to burn. She halted the car at Third street and called for help. The car was not seriously damaged.

June 11, 1926—EDMONDS FIREMEN CHECK BLAZE AT FARM HOME

Fire which originated in the basement of the F. H. Date home near Seattle Heights about 11:30 o'clock last Thursday night, was discovered in time to prevent a total loss of the building. A call for the Edmonds Fire Department was promptly responded to, and the fire extinguished by chemicals.

About \$400 worth of damage was done, which is covered by insurance.

June 18, 1926—BRUSH FIRE ALMOST REACHES LOCAL RESIDENCE

A brush and grass fire on the Lott place just east of the D. M. Yost home nearly caused the loss of the residence on the place about two o'clock Tuesday afternoon.

When the firemen arrived the flames had reached within but a few feet of the house and had even scorched the paint on the siding. Chemicals soon extinguished the flames.

June 18, 1926—PAINT FIRE HYDRANTS

The fire hydrants are now all neatly painted in yellow and black. The work was done by the fire department boys Wednesday evening, the paint being furnished by A. B. Bently, Fire Chief.

June 18, 1926—EDMONDS HOME IS DESTROYED BY FIRE; R. C. BRINKLEY HOME TOTAL LOSS AS RESULT OF CONFLAGRATION

Starting from an unknown cause, fire totally destroyed

the home of R. C. Brinkley in South Edmonds at about three o'clock Friday morning. There was no one at home at the time, but a brother residing close by, was awakened by the barking of a dog and discovered the house in flames.

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department was summoned but could do nothing as the fire had gained such headway and there was no water available.

The house and contents were a total loss, and were valued at nearly \$10,000.

July 9, 1926—COUNCIL PASSES FIRE ORDINANCE

An ordinance authorizing the city fire chief to inspect premises for fire hazards and prohibiting the starting of open fires without permission was passed by the city council in regular session.

July 30, 1926—GRASS FIRE BRING OUT LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire in the dry grass between the residences of Dr. O. W. Schmidt and John McGinnis was responsible for a call to the fire department just before noon, Monday.

Other grass fires are reported in the vicinity, probably the most extensive being in the vicinity of Holmes Corner. However, it was kept in check and no damage resulted.

On Wednesday evening, while at practice, the fire department set fire to a vacant lot of dry grass just north of the residence of Mrs. Clara Roscoe, on Third Street, and kept it under control until practically all the ground was burned over, thus eliminating a fire hazard.

August 6, 1926—OLD EDMONDS RESIDENCE IS DESTROYED BY FIRE

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department was called to its first local fire in some months last Saturday evening at 8:15 when an old, vacant house, on the corner of Fourth and

Bell Streets, burned to the ground. The house was a fire menace and the department did not attempt to save any of it. The fire lasted for about an hour and a half. The origin of the fire was not known.

During the fire a large crowd accumulated to watch what progress the flames were making. The firemen cleaned up the debris as much as possible before leaving. The house was one of the oldest in Edmonds and the owner is unknown.

August 6, 1926—FIRE DEPARTMENT HOLDS ELECTION OF OFFICERS

At a recent meeting of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department, held at the Maryland Tavern, officers were elected for the ensuing year.

The meeting was in the nature of a banquet, and members of the department speak highly of the splendid dinner served by Mr. Hartwig, both as to its fine quality and its more than ample quantity.

All the officers were reelected, with the exception that M. C. Engels will be the new secretary in place of W. W. Womer.

September 10, 1926—COUNCIL MEETING: Fire Chief A. B. Bently declared an unoccupied building opposite the Royal Hotel to be a fire menace and urged steps to effect its removal. The building is said to be the property of W. M. Reese of Seattle.

November 11, 1926—FIREMEN'S BALL DRAWS LARGEST ATTENDANCE

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department's second annual masquerade ball Saturday night was one of the largest dances ever given in Edmonds and was a decided success both socially and financially. The large number of dazzling and comic costumes added color and fun to the

occasion, and made the awarding of prizes a real problem for the judges.

The fire department is very grateful to all who helped to make our dance the grand success it was and take this occasion to thank all who helped us to make it such. Edmonds Volunteer Fire Dept. A.B. Bently, Chief & M. C. Engels, Secretary.

November 26, 1926—FIREMEN ANSWER FALSE ALARM

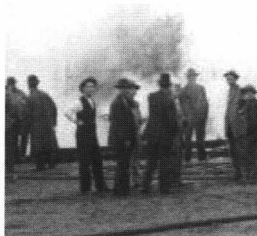
About three o'clock Wednesday afternoon the Edmonds volunteer Fire Department was summoned to the garage of Louis Valois, but when they arrived they found that there was no fire and that someone had turned in a false alarm.

April 1, 1927—UNSIGHTLY BUILDING IS DESTROYED BY FIRE

Fire of unknown origin shortly after midnight Monday night destroyed the vacant building on Main Street near the waterfront, opposite the Royal Hotel.

The building, owned by a Mr. Reese of Seattle, has been unoccupied for many years, and with windows and doors missing and walls covered with show bills, was very unsightly.

As the building was of no material value, the fire department allowed it to be entirely consumed by the flames, keeping watch to see that no adjoining buildings caught fire.



June 17, 1927—MIDNIGHT MILL BLAZE BRINGS OUT FIREMEN: FIRE IS EXTINGUISHED BY SPRINKLER SYSTEM BEFORE DEPARTMENT ARRIVES

Shortly after midnight Wednesday the Edmonds Fire

department responded to a call at the Quality Shingle mill where fire had broken out in the generating room.

The blaze which is thought was caused by a short circuit, was making good headway when the automatic sprinklers were set in action, extinguishing the flames before the department arrived. It will necessitate the mill being closed for repairs until the first of the week.

July 12, 1927—BUILD FOR SAFETY URGES FIRE CHIEF: PROPER TYPES OF BUILDINGS WILL DO MUCH TO REDUCE FIRE HAZARD

Chief A. B. Bently points out that one of the most effective ways to reduce the fire danger is to give such buildings as we erect the highest degree of incombustibility.

Chief Bently feels that preventing fires is just as important a part of the Fire Department's work as fighting fires, and along with the thousands of other associations of Fire Chiefs in its great "1927 is Fire Prevention Year" movement which it is hoped will acquaint the public with means for reducing the annual fire toll.

August 5, 1927—FIRE ENDANGERS EDMONDS HOME; FIRE DEPARTMENT IS CALLED OUT TO CONTROL GRASS BLAZE LAST NIGHT

In answer to an alarm sent in by Mrs. Martha Nielsen, the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department was called out just after six o'clock last evening to control a fire in the grass at Seventh Avenue and Bell Street.

The fire came within a few feet of Mrs. Nielsen's home, but upon the prompt response of the department it was placed under control, destroying only an old shed which was on the street nearby.

October 7, 1927—LOCAL FIREMEN ATTEND MEETING AT SNOHOMISH

Several members of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire

Department attended a meeting in Snohomish Saturday evening, in honor of the dedication of a new fire hall in that city.

There were about 150 visiting firemen present, coming from as far south as Kent and as far north as Blaine. Following the inspection of the new hall, a banquet and program was enjoyed.

Edmonds firemen attending the affair included Assistant Chief P. E. Bacon, Secretary Carl Callahan, Walter Hansen, Fern Rittenhouse, and C. Woodfield.

October 7, 1927—FALSE ALARM BRINGS FIREMEN OUT EARLY SPRINKLER SYSTEM DEFECT IS CAUSE OF ALARM EARLY SUNDAY MORNING

Only a few hours after they had returned from a firemen's meeting at Snohomish, members of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department were routed out of bed at about six o'clock Sunday morning in answer to an alarm sent in from the Quality Shingle Company's plant on the waterfront, opposite the Great Northern depot.

When the firemen arrived they found no fire. The sprinkler system in which air pressure is maintained to prevent the water from freezing in the pipes, had in some way allowed the pressure to diminish to such an extent that water flowed into the system and tripped the automatic fire bell. The night watchman immediately turned in the alarm.

November 11, 1927—LOCAL FIREMEN ATTEND MEETING AT RENTON

Several members of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department attended a get-together meeting at Renton, in honor of the installation of a new fire truck for that city. Those attending included Fern Rittenhouse, C. Woodfield, Walter Hansen, Ronald MacDonald, and Carl Callahan.

March 28, 1928—FIRE INSURANCE RATE REDUCED: EDMONDS FIRE PROTECTION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR REDUCTION IN RESIDENCE RATE

A reduction of the basic fire insurance rate for dwellings within a defined area comprising that receiving the full protection of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department, is announced this week by local agents.

Formerly 75 cents per hundred dollars of insurance, the same as the present rural rate, the basic rate within the prescribed area has now been reduced to 60 cents per hundred dollars of insurance.

April 13, 1928—EDMONDS HAS SERIOUS BLAZE: LOSS IS ESTIMATED ABOUT \$20,000; ONLY PARTIALLY INSURED

Loss estimated at approximately \$20,000 resulted from a fire in the business district of Edmonds early Wednesday morning, when the building owned by Henry Chandler and occupied by the Edmonds Club and The Edmonds Bakery was completely destroyed, and the portion of the W. H. Otto building occupied by Leyda's Electric shop and the Music Box was damaged beyond repair.

The fire started between four and four-thirty o'clock at the rear of the pool room, next to the alley, according to F. E. Young, proprietor of the bakery, who was working in the bakery at the time, but did not discover the blaze until the rear portion of the pool room was a mass of flames.

In the dry, frame structure, the fire spread rapidly and before the fire department arrived it was bursting through the front of the building. Soon the flames became so hot, that, together with the loose ends of live electric wires sizzling in the water, the firemen were forced to abandon the Main street side until the fire had passed its height.

Meanwhile the flames had licked across Main street and ignited the Princess Theater building, the Hoffer building, the Briggs building and the office of W. H. Dunbar.



In August 1922 a new fire siren was installed on the top of the public library building. It replaced the bell tower built in 1904.
EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Then the wind, which had seemed in the south, veered slightly to the eastward, driving the flames against the concrete wall of the Beeson building. The wooden stairway, the cornice and the roof caught fire, and the flames began eating into the attic and hallway of the building until it was necessary to carry one line of hose into the building through the front entrance and another over the roof before they could be checked.

At about five o'clock engine No. 21 from the Greenwood station of the Seattle Fire Department arrived and soon had another powerful stream of water on the blaze which was then subsiding.

The Edmonds Bakery was the heaviest loser, with practically \$5,000 worth of equipment and materials wiped out, and only \$2,500 insurance. The Princess Theatre building, on the north side of Main street, suffered probably \$1,000 damage, including the Heath Beauty and Barber shops located in the building.

Several of the firemen were burned by the intense heat, M. C. Engels and Carl Callahan suffering the most severe burns, although their injuries were not serious. Following their heroic efforts, the firemen were all treated to a hearty breakfast at Wilson's Cafe.

May 11, 1928—FIRE DEPARTMENT TAKES UP FIRST AID

Members of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department are equipping themselves for any emergency which may arise and for a wider scope of activity by informing themselves on first aid practices.

A series of lectures on first aid is being given the

firemen by Dr. H. H. Kretzler, one being at the firemen's meeting Wednesday evening. **Ed. note:** *Doctor Harry Kretzler could be seen on aid calls, usually first on the scene, at any time of the day or night, always with suit, tie, and a white shirt. Dr. Kretzler also gave health physicals and treated injured fire fighters in Edmonds into the 1970s, as noted by many firemen over the years.*

August 3, 1928—FIRE DESTROYS LOCAL HOME

The residence of G. L. Woolley in North Edmonds was burned to the ground Monday morning by a blaze which apparently started from the chimney.

In response to an alarm turned in at about 7:30, the Edmonds fire truck was taken to the scene and, pumping water from the Reece reservoir nearby, prevented spread of the flames to outbuildings. Although the building was totally destroyed, practically all the furniture was saved through the assistance of neighbors. The house was uninsured.

August 24, 1928—CAR IN FLAMES ON STREET WEDNESDAY

But for the prompt action of Fire Chief A. B. Bently, a blaze under the hood of a Studebaker touring car on Main Street in front of the Briggs building at about 8:30 Wednesday morning might have had more serious results.

The owner of the car, who just lost his home by fire in Port Angeles a few days ago, is now camping at Hanna Park, and had just entered Torrey's barber shop for a shave when the fire broke out.

The fire department was called, but in the meanwhile several started for the car with hand extinguishers. Chief Bently was the first to arrive and quickly quenched the flames.

The blaze had evidently started from insulation on the

wiring and was confined to the vicinity of the motor, with but little damage.

October 5, 1928—FIRE DESTROYS HOME HERE

Saturday afternoon at about 1:30 o'clock the residence of Mr. and Mrs. S.M. Jones, on Fifth Avenue at the south city limits, was discovered by neighbors to be in flames.

Mr. Jones had started a fire in the stove and gone outside the house only a few minutes before the fire was discovered. Mrs. Jones was at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Alex D. Stewart.

As the blaze had gained such headway the fire department was unable to save the building. Only a few pieces of furniture were saved by neighbors who were first upon the scene. Insurance in the amount of \$3,000 was carried with the Wilson Insurance Agency.

November 9, 1928—FIREMEN'S BALL WELL ATTENDED: RECORD CROWD ATTENDS ANNUAL EVENT AT OPERA HOUSE SATURDAY NIGHT

An attendance estimated at more than eight hundred people made the fourth annual masquerade ball of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department a decided success. The affair took place at the Edmonds Opera House, Saturday evening.

Members of the department have asked that the *Tribune-Review* express their appreciation of the patronage and the assistance given in many ways, all of which aided in the success of the event.

January 18, 1929—M. C. ENGELS IS FIRE CHIEF

M. C. Engels, Assistant Chief of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department for several years, was on

Transfer of the Edmonds Club pool room license from Geo. Blaser to Roy Johnston was approved by the council. The Edmonds Tribune-Review November 1929



M. C. Engels, was appointed Fire Chief in January 1929. He is shown here with his children.
COURTESY OF MILDRED ENGELS

Tuesday evening appointed by Mayor Fournier and approved by the city council as Fire Chief, to succeed A. B. Bentley who resigned the first of the year.

January 25, 1929—FIRE CHIEF IS HONORED: FIREMEN PRESENT A. B. BENTLY, RETIRING CHIEF, WITH VALUABLE WATCH

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department met at the Granada in North Edmonds Tuesday evening, when a farewell dinner was given for the outgoing chief, A. B. Bently, resigned, and also to welcome the newly appointed chief, M. C. Engels.

On this occasion Fire Chief Bently was presented with a beautiful gold watch and chain, with a gold knife attached, by the members of the department, as a token of appreciation of active service for the past fourteen years, nine of which he served as fire chief. In well chosen words, Hon. W. J. Hindley, in behalf of the department, made the presentation speech and it was some time before Mr. Bently recovered sufficiently from his surprise to respond.

The watch is a Hamilton make, nineteen jeweled Waltham movement, and is engraved on the back with a



A lung motor, owned by the Edmonds Fire Department in 1929, was at the disposal of the public at all times in case of drowning or other accidents.

EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT PHOTO

helmet and two trumpets, the fire chief emblem of the department. On the inside of the case is engraved the following inscription: "Presented to A. B. Bently by the Edmonds Fire Department, as a token of appreciation of 14 years active service, nine years as chief."

February 8, 1929—FIRE DESTROYS SHED AND FUEL

A fire believed to have been started by a small boy playing with matches, called the Edmonds Fire Department out Monday afternoon about three o'clock, over the slippery streets in an effort to save a woodshed at the Third Avenue home of J. W. Crow, of the Edmonds Hardware.

Mr. Crow's car, a Ford sedan, was beside the shed when the fire started but boys who were in the neighborhood at the time pushed it away before much damage was done. A ton of coal and some wood were totally consumed.

Evidence that a small boy started the fire was apparent in a small pile of burned matches found on the porch of the house and others scattered on the sidewalk.

May 10, 1929—SHOP BURNS AT ESPERANCE

George Hagemann's machine shop, near the Esperance schoolhouse, was completely destroyed by fire yesterday afternoon.

The fire, which was believed to have started from defective wiring, was discovered by Mr. Hagemann at about 1:30. A call for the Edmonds Fire Department was sent at once, but the fire had gained such headway, and no water being available, the building burned to the ground.

The family occupied living rooms in the rear of the shop, and were able to save only some clothing.

No insurance was carried, and the loss is estimated at \$15,000. Mr. Hagemann plans to rebuild soon. The fire department remained to protect the M. B. Sawyer residence close by, with chemicals.

July 12, 1929—CITY FIREMEN HOLD BANQUET AND ELECTION: GEORGE PENCE NAMED PRESIDENT; FIRST AID TEAM IS APPOINTED

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department held its annual banquet and election of officers Wednesday evening in the banquet room of the I.O.O.F. hall. Thirty guests partook of a sumptuous dinner at 6:30, which was served by the ladies of Crystal Rebekah Lodge.

Former members of the department present were, Ex-Fire Chief A. B. Bently, and Ronald MacDonald.

Election of officers resulted as follows: President, George Pence; secretary, Carroll Woodfield. Re-elected were treasurer, Carl Callahan and assistant chief, Pearl Bacon.

Carroll Woodfield, Carl Callahan, and Claude Savage were appointed by Chief M. C. Engels as a team to train for first aid and in the use of the lungmotor, which the department possesses, and which is at the disposal of the public at all times in case of drowning or other accidents.

**August 2, 1929—FIRE DESTROYS VACANT HOUSE:
GRASS FIRE, STARTED BY CHILD, SPREADS TO HOUSE
OWNED BY MR. AND MRS. BURGER**

The vacant dwelling on Bell Street between Ninth and Tenth Avenues, owned by Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Burger, is practically a total loss as the result of a fire which spread rapidly through the dry grass and set the house in flames before it could be checked, about three o'clock Wednesday afternoon.

The fire was said to have started when a small boy set fire to a toy airplane and sent it flying into the dry grass.

The first call that came to Assistant Fire Chief P. E. Bacon did not mention that a house was endangered but simply reported that there was a grass fire in the vicinity.

Mr. Bacon started for the scene immediately, and with Fern Rittenhouse took the truck along merely as a precaution measure. A general alarm was not turned in because of the frequency of grass fire calls where there is little or no danger of serious damage.

Upon arriving at the scene, however, they found the house in flames. To make matters worse the hydrant to which they attached the hose was found to be not connected to the water main, and it was necessary to run a hose line from the hydrant on Main Street below Ninth.

Considerable comment has been going the rounds following the fire, as to the manner of handling such situations. A rule had been made that a general alarm should not be turned in by the telephone operator unless so instructed by the chief or assistant, due to the probability of having the department called out for many fires of no consequence. The city pays a minimum of \$14 for each call. During the present dry weather, several grass fires have been extinguished, however, without a general alarm and no charge made against the city.

Due to the dissatisfaction expressed in this instance,

however, meetings were held by the fire department Wednesday night and yesterday morning, in which it was decided that during the present dry season the department should be called out for every fire reported, however trifling it might seem.

**August 9, 1929—WILL DEMONSTRATE
FIRE EXTINGUISHER**

A fire extinguisher demonstration is announced for next Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock, on Fifth Avenue opposite the Yost Auto Company's garage. The demonstration, by representatives of the company will show the effectiveness of "Zenith Fire Dust" in quickly extinguishing great volumes of fire and such difficult problems as gasoline fires.

The demonstration will be under the supervision of Fire Chief M. C. Engels. The product will be handled by the Reliable Hardware.

August 9, 1929—IN CASE OF FIRE

Fire Chief M. C. Engels has requested that the *Tribune Review* advise the people of Edmonds just what should be done, in case of fire, to aid the department in getting quickest possible action. The three things to do when you discover a fire are: 1. Call telephone operator. 2. Give location of fire as nearly as possible. 3. Give your own name.

With this information, the operator will call the fire chief and turn in the alarm.

While the present dry season continues, residents of Edmonds are asked to co-operate by reporting any grass or brush fires which may become dangerous.

Telephone users are requested to refrain from calling while the siren is sounding, unless an emergency exists.

September 6, 1929—FIRE DESTROYS LOCAL HOME

The small home of Roy Langdon just south of the city

limits between Third and Fourth Avenues was totally destroyed by fire shortly after six o'clock Tuesday morning.

Mr. Langdon had started the fire in the kitchen stove and was feeding his chickens when he heard his ten year old son call to him. Looking up, he discovered the house was in flames, and rushing to the front door he was just in time to see the lad jump out the back door with his bed clothes. Mr. Langdon had but time to grab an arm full of bedding as the flames drove him from the room.

Neighbors battled heroically with several lines of garden hose to prevent the flames from spreading to nearby buildings, some of which were only a few feet from the residence, prior to the arrival of the fire department.

At about 10:30 last Friday morning the department was called out on account of a fire around the motor of Zophar Howell's automobile. The blaze was extinguished with but slight damage to the car.

September 20, 1929—FIREMEN TO EQUIP AUXILIARY TRUCK

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department has secured an automobile chassis which they are preparing to equip as an auxiliary fire truck.

A truck body will be constructed to handle about 800 feet of fire hose, small chemical tanks, nozzles and other needed equipment, providing auxiliary equipment for use in case of a second fire while the large truck is in use or for extra service in case of a large fire.

The entire cost of the truck will be provided out of funds of the fire department, and proceeds of the forthcoming annual masquerade ball, October 26, will be applied on this equipment.

October 18, 1929—PREDICT BIG CROWD AT FIREMEN'S BALL

With ticket purchases running nearly 100 per cent in

North and South Edmonds, members of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department predict that they will have a record attendance at their fifth annual masquerade ball, October 26 at the Edmonds Opera House.

Funds raised by this event will be used to equip an auxiliary truck and to purchase other material needed by the department. Tickets may be purchased from any of the fire department members.

November 1, 1929—FIREMEN REALIZE FINE PROFIT AT DANCE

The fifth annual masquerade ball of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department came up to expectations last Saturday night, when it proved to be the biggest event of its kind in the history of the department.

"Bud" Jones was the winner of the Victor radio, and many other prizes were awarded for costumes and for the prize waltz.

A net profit of about \$475 was realized from the event, all of which will be used in the purchase of firefighting equipment.

Fire Chief M. C. Engels has asked that the *Tribune Review* extend the thanks of the firemen to the merchants who contributed prizes and to all who helped so willingly in making the event an unqualified success.

November 1, 1929—FIRE DAMAGES CHURCH AT RONALD SUNDAY

Fire broke out around the heating plant of the Ronald Methodist Episcopal Church building Sunday morning during the Sunday school hour.

The Edmonds Fire Department was summoned and made a record run to the scene and helped in extinguishing the blaze before serious damage was done.

Services were resumed after the smoke had been cleared from the building.

1930-1939

IN THE DIFFICULT THIRTIES THE FIRE FIGHTING CONTINUES



FIRE CHIEFS, EQUIPMENT, AND FIRE STATIONS

FIRE CHIEF:

1930 M. C. "Matt" Engels

EQUIPMENT:

1930 1923 Chevrolet hose fire engine: By January 17, 1930 the fire department had available as an auxiliary fire unit, a 1923 Chevrolet, with 400 feet of fire hose and fire extinguishers. This engine did not have a fire pump, but had a water tank. There were many discussions about the main fire engine (1925 REO) leaving the city limits for fire calls, and the fire chief and other firemen stated that there was always this second fire unit. This unit was used little, if at all, for fire fighting after 1952 when engine #2 was obtained. It was used for parades and social events. It was housed and stored at Yost garage, Stations 1 and 2, and the Edmonds Museum. The City of Edmonds sold it to an Edmonds citizen in 1984.

1938 1938 Ford fire engine: A 1938 Ford V/8 truck with a metal custom built body made by Tricoach Corporation of Seattle, Washington, was purchased for \$3,200. The engine had a Waterous 250 gallon per minute pump, 300 gallon water tank, 150 feet of 3/4 inch fire hose on a reel, space for 1,200 feet of 2 1/2 inch hose, space for 400 feet of 1 1/2 inch hose, and aluminum ladders. It was the only fire engine with a water tank between Everett and Richmond Beach for several years. This engine became Edmonds F.D. #1 and was housed at both

Yost garage and Edmonds Station 2 at Five Corners. It was in service and used until 1963 when Engine 5 was purchased. Engine 1 was used as a reserve engine as late as 1970. The unit was red in color. The nickname was "The Old Lady." It was purchased by retired E.F.D. fire fighter Ron Barton in 1984 for \$750 and later restored. In 2003 the fire engine was purchase by the Edmonds Fire Safety Foundation from donations received form the public, and given back to the Edmonds Fire Department. This fire engine can be seen at the "downtown" fire station.

FIRE STATIONS:

1934 The Yost Auto Company served as a fire station until 1962. The fire equipment was stored inside the building and exited the building onto Dayton Street.

1930-1939 MEMBERS OF THE EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Allen, Phil
Astell, Jimmy
Bacon, George
Bartlett, Ralph
Callahan, Carl
Castall, James
Deland, Harry
Doty, Dan
Eddy, Bill
Engels, Aubrey
Engels, Matt
Gray, Clint
Greenleaf, Carol

Hansen, Walt
Irby, E. C.
Kellogg, Bill
Little, Bill
McDonald, Ronald
Miller, Victor
Rittenhouse, Fern
Sanders, Robert
Savage, Claude
Smith, Grafton
Sorensen, Roy

EDMONDS TRIBUNE—REVIEW NEWSPAPER

January 17, 1930—FIREMEN ENTERTAINED WITH CHICKEN DINNER

Celebrating the completion of their booster tank and auxiliary truck, the members of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department entertained their wives and mothers with a chicken dinner Tuesday evening, in the basement of the Hughes Memorial Church. The ladies Aid of the M. E. Church prepared and served the dinner at six o'clock.

March 7, 1930—HOME OF M. P. MASSURER IS TOTAL LOSS AS RESULT OF BLAZE WEDNESDAY

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department responded to a call for fire Wednesday forenoon at ten o'clock, when the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Massurer of North Edmonds was discovered to be ablaze by nearby neighbors. There was no one at home when the alarm was sounded, as Mrs. Massurer was in Edmonds and Mr. Massurer is confined to the hospital with illness. The origin of the fire was not known. The house with its contents was a complete loss.

The fire department was handicapped in fighting the fire as there is no hydrant connection available and the booster pump auxiliary was insufficient to cope with the blaze. Mr. and Mrs. Massurer purchased the place about a year ago from Mr. Murphy.

March 21, 1930—SERIOUS BLAZE IS AVERTED FLAMES IN OFFICE OF E. B. HUBBARD ARE EXTINGUISHED WITHOUT DAMAGE

E. B. Hubbard was a happy man yesterday, and Don Phillips was the hero of the hour.

Just before three o'clock yesterday morning, Don arrived home from Seattle, driving up to his cleaning establishment in the Schneider building to unload

some furs which had been dry cleaned.

Across the street, in the rear room of the Central Building, he noticed a tiny blaze, and immediately called the fire department.

The blaze had started in a box of ashes in the rear room of Mr. Hubbard's Real Estate and Insurance office, but had spread no farther when the firemen arrived, broke open the door, dragged out the flaming box and wet down the floor.

Mr. Hubbard stated that at about three o'clock the previous afternoon he had dumped a small quantity of ashes in the center of the box, then a third full, and had been in the office for three hours afterward without noticing any sign of fire.

Had the fire gained headway, it is believed that it would have been impossible to save that building as well as the frame building adjoining it, occupied by the Bienz Confectionery and Horton's Studio.

March 28, 1930—300 CHICKS LOST IN ALDERWOOD BLAZE

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department made a quick run to Alderwood Manor Wednesday afternoon, shortly after four o'clock in response to an alarm for fire. A brooder house and 300 little chicks belonging to a chicken rancher living about one and one half miles east of Alderwood were destroyed by the blaze. About 1500 chicks were in the building when the fire broke out of which 1200 were saved from the flames.

May 9, 1930—FIRE DESTROYS RICHMOND INN EDMONDS FIREMEN HELP SAVE ADJOINING HOMES AT SATURDAY MORNING BLAZE

The Richmond Inn, opened only recently at Richmond Highlands, was completely destroyed by fire of unknown origin, starting about three o'clock Saturday morning.

The Edmonds Fire Department was summoned and with the aid of neighbors who formed a bucket brigade, the garage and adjoining residence of Wm. Miles and Dick Seaton were saved.

May 16, 1930—FIRE DESTROYS ROADHOUSE MCKENZIE'S INN BLAZE

McKenzie's Inn, located on the Everett Highway just North of the King County line, burned to the ground, about two o'clock Thursday morning. The blaze started on the outside of the building, presumably of incendiary origin, and spread under the floor before it was discovered.

The Edmonds Fire Department responded to a call but could be of no assistance for the flames had spread through the entire building before the firemen arrived.

May 16, 1930—INTERURBAN BUILDING BURNS RICHMOND HIGHLANDS BUSINESS STRUCTURE TOTALLY DESTROYED BY FLAMES

A second disastrous fire within two weeks visited Richmond Highlands shortly after midnight Tuesday when the Interurban building was reduced to ashes.

The Edmonds Fire Department responded to a call, and though unable to save any part of the blazing building, were effective in checking small blazes which occurred at the plant of the Richmond Highlands Lumber Company across the tracks, toward which the wind was blowing.

The "Good Cheer" welfare organization was started in the 1930s as a result of the depression and hard times financially. Fire Chief M. C. Engles was very active in this organization. Each member's family was requested to contribute one cent for each meal, or about 90 cents a month., Pledges to be made and paid in installments as funds were needed for welfare work in the community. Through the Good Cheer group, money was raised for burned-out victim's relief, with clothing, supplies and furnishings provided by people of the community.

May 30, 1930—FIRE REVEALS LIQUOR STILL TENANT ON VILLAGER PLACE FLEES AS FLAMES SPREAD IN HOUSE HE OCCUPIED

A man known as Mr. Terry hurriedly gathered together such belongings as he could snatch from the flames when the house he was renting caught fire, threw them into his automobile and fled to parts unknown, Monday forenoon, according to neighbors.

Cause of his sudden departure was revealed when those fighting the fire discovered a huge moonshine still and about a dozen barrels of material in the process of manufacture inside the house.

The Edmonds Fire Department was called but could do nothing to save the structure. Later in the day the barn, across the road, caught fire, and the department answered a second call, extinguishing the grass fire which started from the blaze.

The house in which the illicit distillery was operated was located on what is known as the Villager Place, south of Edmonds, on the hill beyond the I.O.O.F. cemetery. It is owned by T. W. Wheeler, district manager for the Ford Motor Company. The house was insured.

May 30, 1930—GARAGE BURNS IN NORTH EDMONDS

The Edmonds Fire Department was called out about 3:30 o'clock Saturday morning because of a fire in the garage and poultry house at the Finlay home in North Edmonds.

The fire was not discovered until the family was awakened by the explosion of the gasoline tank of the Packard car which was destroyed in the blaze. Adjoining buildings were protected, confining the loss to the one structure. The cause of the fire was unknown.

**July 25, 1930—FIRE DAMAGES OIL DOCK HERE
COMPANY RUSHES REPAIRS TO EDMONDS PIER
FOLLOWING DESTRUCTIVE BLAZE**

Damage to the Union Oil Company's dock at Edmonds was estimated at \$10,000 as the result of a fire which sprang up suddenly last Friday afternoon while a cargo of gasoline was being pumped from the tanker La Purisima to the company's storage tanks on the hill above the dock.

It is supposed that the fire started from a lighted match or cigarette carelessly tossed into oil which had been spilled onto the surface of the water between the tanker and the dock.

Flames leaped up suddenly, four of the crew jumped into the water to escape being burned, and it was due only to the bravery of other members of the crew that the huge ship was cut loose from the dock and as she pulled away, the flames on her stern extinguished without serious damage.

On the dock, however, facilities were inadequate to cope with the blaze and it roared on unchecked for nearly two hours, fed by barrels of oil and by oil and gasoline pouring from the ends of pipe lines connecting with the tanks above. At times the flame leaped more than a hundred feet in the air and the dense black smoke continually rolled up from the scene.

At the outbreak of the fire, shortly after three o'clock, the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department attempted to reach the dock. Driving off the planking below the old sharkskin factory, the fire truck mired in the soft gravel of the beach, and it was necessary to secure the aid of a wrecker before the truck could be pulled off the beach. The fire hose was stretched out, but it was of no use for the water supply on the dock was inadequate.

The fire boat *Alki* arrived from Seattle at about 4:30 o'clock and soon had the blaze under control. Monday morning a pile driver crew was at work repairing

the dock and it is hoped to have it in condition to accommodate a tanker due from California on Saturday of this week.

**July 29, 1930—FIRE DESTROYS
JOHN FUSSELL HOME**

Fire of unknown origin, starting in the kitchen at 2:30 Friday morning, completely demolished the home of John Fussell and family in spite of the prompt response of the Edmonds Fire Department.

The family had retired after returning from an outing on the beach and was all asleep when the fire started. The older children in a tent outside were awakened by the fire first and roused their parents. A call was sent to Edmonds immediately by Johannesens, who live next door, but the building was old and dry, therefore little was saved that was in the house except the baby's clothes and the radio. Some dishes and silver which had been left in the car upon the family's return from the beach, a stove and washing machine in a small building were also saved. The Fussells had bought the property of Pete Peterson and have lived here about two years. There was some insurance on both house and furniture.

Mr. Fussell has erected temporary quarters for the family and is planning to re-build in the near future.

August 1, 1930—FIREMEN ANSWER CALL TO FOY

Sunday afternoon about two o'clock the Edmonds Fire Department responded to a call from the vicinity of Foy. The Seattle department was also called, and although the local boys reached the scene first, the residence was then nearly burned to the ground.

The fire was at first reported to be near Ronald. The department would not have gone out, stated Fire Chief M. C. Engels, had it been known that it was so far from Edmonds.

August 8, 1930—FIRE DAMAGES EDMONDS RESIDENCE

The Edmonds fire department was called out at about three o'clock Tuesday morning by a blaze at the home of Wm. F. Chase in the north part of town, recently purchased by John Fussell.

The fire had gained such headway by the time it was discovered that most of the contents were destroyed and the house is practically a total loss.

The firemen soon checked the flames and prevented their spread to adjacent buildings. Only a small amount of insurance was carried.

September 12, 1930—ALDERWOOD HOME BURNS M. CRAGE RESIDENCE ON NORTH TRUNK ROAD BURNS TO GROUND WEDNESDAY

Believed the result of defective wiring near the roof, the residence of Mr. Crage, known as the Kuhn place, three-quarters of a mile north of Alderwood Manor on the North Trunk Road, burned to the ground Wednesday afternoon.

The Edmonds Fire Department responded to an appeal for help but could do nothing to save the building. Although the pump house also burned, the garage and poultry house were saved from the flames, a few articles of furniture were saved from the lower floor. The loss was partially covered by insurance. The Crage family came to Alderwood Manor only recently, moving to the place about ten weeks ago.

September 19, 1930—FIREMEN CALLED TO RONALD

The Edmonds Fire Department answered a call to Ronald, at about 7:30 Thursday morning, when a blaze started in a residence east of the interurban tracks opposite the Ronald Garage.

Neighbors formed a bucket brigade and extinguished

the blaze before the department arrived, however.

The fire started near an electric range and was apparently due to defective wiring. The damage was slight.

October 31, 1930—MANY ATTEND FIREMEN BALL

Department nets about \$225 from annual event Saturday Night.

January 2, 1931—FIREMEN CALLED TO HIGHWAY AUTO CAMP

The Edmonds fire Department answered a call at five o'clock Wednesday morning to the Wild Wood Auto Camp on the Everett highway, northeast of Edmonds.

The residence of the owner of the camp was a mass of flames when the department arrived and was a total loss. The firemen pumped water from the creek and prevented the fire from spreading to adjoining buildings.

Although there were motorists in the camp, the owner could not be located at the time of the fire, and the house was apparently unoccupied when the blaze started.

January 23, 1931—FIRE DAMAGES HOME AT BEACH

The Thomas Goldie home was almost completely destroyed by fire which originated in the upper story, yesterday morning. Smoke was seen to be coming from the roof at 7:00 o'clock but nothing serious was thought of it until an alarm was turned in a little after nine.

The Edmonds fire department responded and chemicals were sent from the Richmond Highlands Lumber Company and Standard Oil plant at Point Wells. Mr. Tucker dismissed his boys from high school and through the heroic efforts of a bucket brigade one wing of the house was saved. The contents of the first floor were carried out to safety but fire and water destroyed furnishing of the second floor.

Although the upper part of the house was badly

damaged, the Goldie family was able to move their furniture that was saved, back into the wing porting of the house that escaped the blaze.

March 20, 1931—EDMONDS HOUSE DAMAGED BY FIRE

The Edmonds fire Department was called out shortly after eleven o'clock Wednesday night by a fire in the vacant house on Second Avenue owned by Mrs. C. J. Anderson. Miss Jane Robertson, formerly of Edmonds, noticed the smoke while driving through, and turned in the alarm.

The blaze was soon under control, but it had spread so rapidly that damage to the extent of about \$1000 resulted. The house was insured. The fire originated in the attic, and is believed to have been caused by intruders.

April 3, 1931—NORTH EDMONDS HOME BURNS

An early morning blaze completely destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Grover in North Edmonds, Tuesday morning. The fire of unknown origin broke out about four o'clock, and although the Edmonds Fire Department responded, the house was almost burned down before their arrival.

The house, a five-room cottage, was formerly the James Derby property, and was purchased by the Grovers three years ago, and they have since made it their home.

Everything that the Grover's possessed, furniture, clothing, watchmaker's implements, were destroyed and the loss falls heavily upon them as they carried no insurance. Mrs. Grover and the children were visiting with relatives at Stanwood when the fire occurred.

April 3, 1931—TRUCK FIRE CALLS OUT DEPARTMENT

Upon reaching the Edmonds dock, bound for the

A lady passing Edmonds on the steamer City of Everett last week, was heard to remark that Edmonds truly had the finest location on the Sound, and that every time she saw it she was more and more impressed with the natural beauty and resources and as she said "here one can have the healthful country life in the very shadow of the metropolis of the Northwest, to where one can quickly and cheaply go for the theatre, art and noise."

From the November 28, 1908 edition of The Edmonds Review

Olympic Peninsula, at about 8:30 yesterday morning, the driver of a loaded truck found that the transmission had caught fire due to the friction of the brake.

While he made fruitless efforts to extinguish the blaze, the Edmonds Fire Department was called and soon had the fire out, with only slight damage to the truck.

April 24, 1931—FIREMEN ANSWER CALL TO ALDERWOOD

The three-room home of Mrs. Allen at Spruce Way and Pine Street, Alderwood Manor, was seriously damaged by fire Wednesday morning about ten o'clock.

The Edmonds fire department responded to a call and assisted in subduing the flames which had spread to brush nearby.

The blaze is said to have started around the chimney in the bedroom. Only the kitchen was saved from destruction. Mrs. Allen, who is an invalid, was removed to a neighbor's home and was uninjured by the experience.

May 22, 1931—FIRE DAMAGES ROYAL HOTEL DAMAGE IS ESTIMATED AT \$1,000 WHEN THE FLAMES SPREAD THROUGH ATTIC

Believed to have been caused by sparks from the Oakland Shingle Company's mill, flames started in the roof and spread through the attic of the Royal Hotel, at First Avenue and Main Street, about 2:30 Monday afternoon and,

including the damage by water, caused a loss estimated at nearly \$1,000.

Less than an hour before the fire department had answered a call to extinguish a blaze in the grass and refuse lumber across First Avenue from the hotel, and the truck was scarcely back in the garage when the second call was turned in. As the flames had spread so rapidly in the attic, use of water inside the building was necessary.

May 22, 1931—JOIN DEPARTMENT

Three new members were added to the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department this week: Harry DeLand, Aubrey Engels and Bill Kellogg.

August 21, 1931—TWO NEW MEMBERS IN FIRE DEPARTMENT

Two new members, Robert Sanderson and Grafton Smith, were received into the ranks of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department at its meeting Wednesday evening.



F. K. Rittenhouse has been named assistant chief succeeding Roy Rynearson who has resigned. Aubrey Engels was elected treasurer.

A first aid squad is being organized and will be under the direction of Dr. H. H. Kretzler. **Ed. note:** *This is the first mention of a first aid squad.*

September 18, 1931—ANYHOW FIREMEN NOW HAVE MORE EQUIPMENT

The Edmonds fire department is the richer by a five-gallon can and a short piece of small hose acquired last Saturday night.

While attending the highway celebration at Alderwood Manor, Fire Chief M. C. Engels left the fire truck unguarded for a few minutes, and upon returning met two young men walking away from it.

A slight trickling sound directed his attention to the can and hose through which gasoline was being drained from the tank. Mr. Engels simply poured the gasoline back and appropriated the accessories.

October 2, 1931—FIRE CHIEF WARNS AGAINST HAZARDS

In connection with the observance of Fire Prevention Week, next week, Fire Chief M. C. Engels asks the *Tribune-Review* to warn residents of the city and community against careless practices which frequently cause destructive fires.

Edmonds has had three times as many fires in 1931 as occurred last year, Mr. Engels says, though most of them were grass fires and some were caused by sparks from a mill smokestack. In the community outside the city, however, there have been only about half as many fires this year as last.

Mr. Engels states that electric wiring in the older houses should be inspected carefully and placed in proper condition, chimneys should be kept clean of soot and rubbish should not be allowed accumulate. He reports that Edmonds is improving in the matter of cleanliness and neatness.

October 9, 1931—FIRE DAMAGE TO BE REPAIRED WORK RUSHED ON REPAIRS TO REECE AND MOTHERSHEAD BUILDINGS

A new roof has been added to the Reece building on the northwest corner of Main Street and Fifth Avenue, and carpenters are busy repairing the Mothershead building adjoining so that it may be ready for re-occupancy within the next ten days, following a fire which damaged both structures early Saturday morning.

Lawrence Hubbard on his was home from a party in Seattle, shortly after one o'clock, noticed the smoke and turned in the alarm.

When the firemen reached the scene the interior of Horton's studio in the west end of the Mothershead building was a mass of flames and photograph films were burning like powder. Prompt action of the firemen, aided by the absence of wind, soon brought the conflagration under control, though at first it seemed to spectators that the buildings were doomed.

The fire spread rapidly through the attic to the shingle roof of the Reece building where it did considerable damage. Though the flames scarcely broke into the Bienz Confectionery, occupying the east end of the Mothershead building, it was necessary to drench the stock with water before the flames above the ceiling could be extinguished. The total damage resulting from the fire is estimated at slightly more than \$5,000, with most of the loss covered by insurance. The greatest loss above that covered by insurance was incurred by W. M. Horton, owner of the studio in which the fire originated.

E. B. Hubbard, Katherine Knowlton and R. G. Colvin, occupants of the Reece building, sustained only slight damage.

Mr. Hubbard is back in his office and Mr. Colvin is temporarily located with his watch repair business in the Schneider building.

November 20, 1931—ALDERWOOD DANCE FOR BENEFIT OF FIREMEN

For the benefit of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department, Robert Burns Lodge, F. & A.M., Alderwood Post, American Legion and the Civic Club of Alderwood

It was announced in the December 11, 1931 edition of the Tribune-Review that M. C. Engels was elected vice president of the Edmonds Chamber of Commerce. The paper also featured a coupon offer to any new subscriber to receive a trial six-month subscription for fifty cents, half off the regular price.

Manor are sponsoring a dance on Saturday evening, December 5, at the Masonic Temple in Alderwood.

This is a means the Alderwood organizations have taken to show their appreciation of the services rendered to that community by the local fire department, and they will appreciate a good attendance at their dance.

November 27, 1931—NORTH EDMONDS HOME DESTROYED BY FIRE

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Major Hinch, a short distance north of the city, was totally destroyed by fire about 4:30 last Friday morning.

Mrs. Hinch and her daughter, who were alone in the house, had only time to escape and were unable to save any of the furniture or clothing.

The Edmonds Fire Department was called, but the firemen were unable to reach the scene of the blaze with the truck because of the condition of the roadway. Fire Chief M. C. Engels believed that the fire started around the heating stove.

January 1, 1932—TWO FIRES HERE WITHIN WEEK THE KENNEDY AND DELANO HOMES ARE DAMAGED BY FLAMES

During the absence of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Kennedy last Thursday afternoon, fire broke out in their home in South Edmonds shortly before four o'clock. The fire was discovered by Mr. Bainbridge of Seattle, who chanced to call at the Kennedy home and sounded the alarm. The Edmonds fire department responded and soon had the fire under control. Damage was confined mostly to the living room and dining room. Apparently the fire originated from an electric light cord connected with the Christmas tree lights, as Mrs. Kennedy had turned it on shortly before leaving to deliver turkeys in Seattle. They were not aware of the fire until their return home late that night.

January 1, 1932—THIRD AVENUE HOME DAMAGED

The residence of Mr. and Mrs. Delano, on Third Avenue, near Edmonds Street, opposite the Edmonds Feed Store, was badly damaged by fire Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. Delano had gone to the bedroom to make up the bed and upon returning to the kitchen found the fire breaking through the ceiling from the attic.

The fire department responded immediately to the call but the flames spread so rapidly that the interior of the house and furnishings were practically ruined before the fire was under control.

The building, belonging to Frank England, formerly of Edmonds but now of Hershey, Nebr., was insured, but no insurance was carried on the furniture and household goods.

March 4, 1931—NARROWLY ESCAPES BEING TRAPPED BY BLAZE

Mrs. Frank H. Torrey came near being trapped by a blaze which started in their home on Third Avenue about eight o'clock Thursday morning.

Mr. Torrey had started the fire in the kitchen stove and left for his barber shop, with Mrs. Torrey still in bed.

Grafton Smith, a neighbor, saw the flames and turned in an alarm in time for the firemen to quench the blaze before any extensive damage was done.

The fire started as the result of an overheated stovepipe, Fire Chief M. C. Engels believes, and he said that had it not been discovered early Mrs. Torrey's life would have been endangered for the only door would have been blocked by flames.

March 4, 1931—FIRE TRUCK REPAINTED

The Edmonds fire truck now boasts a new coat of bright red paint, applied at the Yost Auto Company garage. It was done at the expense of the firemen, without cost to the city.

*Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Bacon entertained several of their friends Sunday with a radio party. The main feature of the program was the returns of the League ball game at New York. (Bacon was a volunteer fireman.)
From October 19, 1923 Edmonds Tribune-Review*

March 25, 1932—CARLSTEDT FIRE BELIEVED SET HARDWARE LOSS AND OPEN TRAPDOOR INDICATE SHOP WAS ENTERED BEFORE FIRE

When about \$50 worth of builders hardware was found missing and the trapdoor to the basement discovered open, G. A. Carlstedt has concluded that the fire which gutted the interior of his woodworking shop and stock room on Fifth Avenue at about midnight Saturday was set by a thief, either accidentally or intentionally.

The alarm was turned in by Claude Londerville, an employee of the Yost Auto Company who saw smoke rolling from the building. When the firemen arrived they found that the flames had spread through the interior of the building, but were able to extinguish the fire before the building itself was damaged to any great extent.

The blaze appeared to have started in the basement, Mr. Carlstedt said, and spread rapidly. The thief evidently entered through the basement, leaving the trapdoor open, and escaped with the hardware consisting mostly of building finish material.

Damage to the stock and equipment by fire is estimated at \$1400 and to the building \$600, all covered by insurance. Repairs will require about three weeks, Mr. Carlstedt said.

March 25, 1932—ROYAL HOTEL PRACTICALLY DESTROYED BY FLAMES

Many Edmonds people were on the street earlier than usual, Saturday morning, to witness a spectacular fire which damaged beyond repair the Royal Hotel at First and Main.

May 27, 1932—FIVE HUNDRED CHICKS LOST IN MIDNIGHT FIRE

Five hundred young chickens and 200 hens were lost in a blaze at 12:45 Monday morning when the poultry house belonging to H. I. Peck in South Edmonds was practically destroyed.

The Edmonds fire department arrived in time to save the end of the building nearest the residence.

May 27, 1932—ESCAPES FLAMES THRU WINDOW

Fire of unknown origin, Saturday night, destroyed one of the first homes constructed at Esperance some twenty years ago.

Mrs. Erickson, sister of Mr. Draper, owner, was alone in the house when the fire was discovered, but it had gained such headway she had to make her escape through a window.

The house and garage were a total loss, only partially covered by insurance.

July 1, 1932—IS INJURED WHEN GASOLINE EXPLODES

The Edmonds Fire Department responded to a call for fire at the W. W. Beebe home at Alderwood Manor shortly after noon, Friday.

Mrs. Beebe was in the act of cleaning clothing with gasoline in the kitchen which caused an explosion, setting fire to the interior of the house. Mrs. Beebe was slightly burned. The damage is partially covered by insurance.

July 8, 1932—FIREMEN TAKE GAME FROM CHAMBER NINE

The fire department boys proved their superiority over the Chamber of Commerce, so far as baseball goes, when they were victors with a score of 9 to 12 at the city park, Tuesday evening.

Another game with the "Candy Kids" is scheduled for this Friday evening, and next Tuesday the winners will take on the Legion in a seven-inning game.

September 9, 1932—TRUCK DAMAGED BY FIRE MONDAY

Flames damaged the body of a truck at the Edmonds Egg Company poultry farm, a mile and a half south of town, at about 6:10 Monday evening.

The Edmonds Fire Department responded to a call for help and were in time to extinguish the blaze before the truck was seriously damaged. It was standing in the open and no other damage resulted.

November 11, 1932—HOUSE IS DESTROYED BY LIGHTING STROKE

Scarcely an Edmonds resident but was awakened at about three o'clock Saturday morning by a tremendous clap of thunder when lightning struck and set fire to the home of Chet Smith near Maplewood.

The storms of Friday night were of unusual severity for this district as lightning flashed and rain fell in torrents. This was the first time a residence has been damaged by lightning here since pioneer days, it is said.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith and four children who escaped with only part of their clothing spent the balance of the night with friends in Edmonds. Through the Good Cheer a fund of \$31.60 was raised for their relief, with clothing, supplies and furnishings provided by people of the community.

November 25, 1932—FIRE DESTROYS OLD LANDMARK

FIREMEN BATTLE FOR HOUR

TO QUENCH FLAMES IN OLD LODGING HOUSE

Only the shell of the old unoccupied lodging house

building on the south of Main Street between Front and Second, was left standing Wednesday morning after a blaze starting at about 1:15 o'clock was battled by the Edmonds Fire Department for about an hour.

The alarm was turned in by Dr. Carl R. Wahlstrom who awoke to discover the interior of the building a mass of flames. Patrolman Martin Weinrick had passed the building on his way to the dock only a few minutes before, indicating that the fire had spread rapidly.

Power wires, burned in two by the flames, furnished spectacular fireworks when short-circuited by water on the sidewalk until one gigantic flash burned out fuses which shut off the street lights and left one of the lines of hose with a big gash spurting water.

The building, formerly owned by O. E. Christensen of Edmonds, was the property of the National Bank of Commerce, Seattle. It was one of the oldest landmarks in the city, among its former owners being Sam Fournier, father of Mayor Fournier.

November 25, 1932—FIRE ESCAPE INSTALLED

Four rope fire escapes were installed in the second story of the I.O.O.F. building on Tuesday by J. W. Crow.

February 10, 1933—HOUSE DAMAGED BY FLAMES

Serious damage was averted when the occupants of the house on Third North belonging to Glenn Townsend extinguished flames starting around the chimney at about 10:30 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Firemen were delayed in reaching the scene through an error in reporting the location, "opposite Kline's" being mistaken for "opposite Crymes."

When the department arrived, Mr. Sanders and his son-in-law had succeeded in extinguishing the fire with a loss estimated at between \$50 and \$100.



Thos. Hunt, who has charge of the property, notified W. H. Dunbar, through whom the insurance was carried, and repairs were under way the same day.

April 7, 1933—DRY KILN BLAZE CALLS OUT FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Edmonds Fire Department made a speedy run to the waterfront at about 5:30 Monday evening in answer to an alarm from the Oakland Shingle Company's mill where the north side of the dry kiln was on fire.

Mill employees were busy with a hose keeping the blaze in check until the firemen arrived and completed the job before any serious damage resulted.

The fire is believed to have been started by sparks from the smokestack. The department was called out again at about 6:30 Wednesday night by a chimney fire at the Olympic View Hotel which did no damage.

May 19, 1933—FIREMEN CALLED OUT SUNDAY AND MONDAY

Edmonds fire Department answered two calls this week.

The first was on Sunday morning to the Baptist church where it was thought the building was endangered by an overheated stove, but no damage resulted.

At about 7:40 Monday morning the firemen were called to the residence of Mrs. Anderson, the house on Bell between Second and Third owned by Mrs. Amanda Yost.

With garden hose and water buckets, neighbors had practically extinguished the flames when the department arrived. The blaze had started in the clothes closet from an unknown cause, and when the closet door was opened had spread quickly to the bedroom and kitchen.

Damage, confined principally to the wall paper and woodwork in the three rooms, was covered by insurance.

July 21, 1933—ASTELL TO HEAD FIRE DEPARTMENT

James Astell was elected president of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department at its annual meeting and banquet in the annex of the M. E. Church, Wednesday evening.

Other officers elected were Walter Hansen, secretary; George Bacon, treasurer; and Dan Doty and Eric Moore, trustees. M. C. Engels is fire chief.

The dinner was served by the Ladies Aid.

August 18, 1933—CAR AND TWO GARAGES BURN TUESDAY NIGHT

A Whippet sedan and two garages on the Arthur Bishop place, North Edmonds were destroyed by fire from an unknown cause at about 11:30 Tuesday night. A large quantity of wood, piled up against the garages, was also destroyed. A Chevrolet car was removed before it was reached by the flames.

The Edmonds Fire Department responded to the call but could do little to check the fire because of a shortage of water. In an attempt to pump water from an abandoned well, a connecting rod bearing on the motor was burned out and it was made necessary to tow the fire truck back to Edmonds.

October 6, 1933—FIRE AT OAKLAND MILL BRINGS OUT FIREMEN

Only slight damage resulted when fire broke out in the floor of the storage room at the Oakland Shingle Company's mill about midnight Tuesday.

The night watchman, discovering the fire, blew the mill whistle but did not turn in an alarm to the department. Carl Callahan, one of the mill owners and a member of the fire department, was the first to arrive on the scene and turned in the alarm.

The fire was smoldering under a truck of shingles just removed from the dry kiln and had gained but little headway when the belated firemen arrived.

January 26, 1934—EDMONDS FIRE LOSS IS NEGLIGIBLE SUM

Fire loss in Edmonds for the entire year of 1933 amounted to about 30 per cent per inhabitant, according to an estimate compiled this week by M. C. Engels, chief of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department.

During the year there were but 14 fires, five of which were chimney fires. While property with a total valuation of \$100,400 was exposed to the flames, total loss of buildings and contents amounted to but \$328, Mr. Engels' figures show.

"This is the smallest fire loss since the city has kept a record," stated Mr. Engels, "and the splendid showing is largely due to the improved method of fighting fires taught by the fire college conducted by Washington State Firemen's association."

April 13, 1934—BLAZING TRUCK ON EDMONDS STREETS

Edmonds people were thrilled by the sight of a truck-load of furniture blazing furiously, unknown to the driver, as he was hurrying down the main thoroughfare on his way to the ferry dock.

Henry Allen, Edmonds street superintendent was the hero of the day, for while he was getting gas at the Bacon

The Edmonds Tribune-Review, comments in November 1929 that Richmond Highlands motorists will have to pay two cents more for their gasoline which is being sold at 21 cents a gallon. Oil companies will refuse to sell to dealers which do not display a price sign.

Chevrolet company's pumps, he saw the blazing truck go by and, failing to draw the driver's attention, jumped in the city truck with his assistant, George Minish, and succeeded in heading off the flaming truck in front of the Crescent Laundry.

The fire department was called and a garden hose hurriedly connected and turned on the roaring flames which Henry had well under control by the time the firemen arrived.

The truck was driven by Sam Izan, a Seattle transfer man, and the household goods belonged to Mr. Latimer, also of Seattle, who was moving to a summer home across the Sound. Damage to the truck and goods was estimated at between \$200 and \$300, with no insurance on the cargo.

Cause of the fire remains a mystery. It appeared to start near the top of the load at the rear, so that a hot brake-band or the exhaust was not considered likely causes. It was suggested by spectators that a cigarette stub might have dropped into the bedding while the truck was being loaded and later burst into flames. The driver of the truck thought matches might have ignited due to friction while the truck was moving.

April 27, 1934—FIREMEN CALLED TO RICHMOND HIGHLANDS AS TRUCK BURNS

Edmonds firemen answered a call to Richmond Highlands Wednesday morning at 4:30 when a new Kenworth tank truck and garage of the Arrow Transportation company were destroyed by fire.

The blaze occurred when gasoline fumes exploded while workmen were cleaning the tank with steam. One man was burned slightly about the face and arms. Only the trailer was saved.

All the available hose was needed to reach from the nearest hydrant to the fire.

ALL SCHOOLS IN District 15 will begin at 9 o'clock Daylight Saving time. . . . pupils will attend the school nearest their homes providing that school maintains the proper grades. Alderwood Manor will have grades 1 to 8 inclusive; Esperance 1 to 6 inclusive; Edmonds Grade 1 to 7B and the high school 7A to post graduate inclusive. Children entering the first grade will be admitted if they will be six years of age before December 1, 1933.

From The Edmonds Tribune-Review, August 1933

June 15, 1934—RESIDENCE AND GARAGE BURN

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department answered two out-of-town calls Thursday, the first at 7:30 A.M., to the Dahlin residence near Cedar Valley, and at 11 o'clock to the E. A. Meyer home in North Edmonds where the garage was destroyed.

Although the Dahlin home was burned to the ground, the firemen were able to save nearby buildings.

June 22, 1934—BROODER HOUSE BURNS

A large brooder house on the Alderwood Demonstration Farm burned to the ground at about 3:30 Sunday morning, destroying several thousand young chickens of the Washington Breeders' Association. The Edmonds Fire Department responded to a call and assisted in preventing loss of the hotel building, only a few feet away.

July 13, 1934—LOCAL FIREMEN NAME OFFICERS JAMES ASTELL IS NEW PRESIDENT OF DEPARTMENT; BANQUET IS HELD

The Edmonds Fire Department held their annual election of officers and banquet Wednesday evening, at the American Legion hall. The chicken dinner was served by the ladies of the Legion Auxiliary.

Election of officers followed the banquet which resulted as follows: J. Astell, president; Fern Rittenhouse, assistant chief; Aubrey Engels, secretary; George Bacon, treasurer; Eric Moore, electrician; Trustees, Dan Doty, Grafton Smith and Aubrey Engels.

Fire Chief M. C. Engels is appointed by the city officials.

George Bacon and Aubrey Engels were appointed as delegates to attend the state convention to be held July 26, 27 and 28, at Vancouver, Washington.

August 17, 1934—FIRE RAZES HOME OF C. G. PIKE IN NORTH EDMONDS

The home of Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Pike on Olympic Avenue, North Edmonds, was totally destroyed by fire Wednesday evening at eight o'clock. The Edmonds fire department responded for help, but was unable to save a thing. The fire was beyond control when discovered by Mrs. Pike.

Mrs. Pike was out milking the cow and the children were at the home of their grandmother, Mrs. Rose McPherson. When Mrs. Pike entered the house the whole inside was aflame. They lost all their furniture, clothing, and more than 200 quarts of canned fruit. The origin of the fire was unknown.

August 31, 1934—CAR BURNS AFTER HIGHWAY CRASH EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONDS TO CALL WEDNESDAY EVENING

One car was almost completely destroyed by fire and another slightly damaged in a collision on the Seattle-Everett highway Wednesday night, Aubrey Engels, son of the Edmonds fire chief said yesterday. The Edmonds fire apparatus answered the call for help but was too late to save the burning vehicle from destruction.

The car that burned was turning across the highway when it was struck by the other automobile, Engels said. It was bowled into the ditch, where gasoline from a tank puncture soon bathed it in flames. Two persons received minor burns in the accident, Engels declared. The cars belonged to Patsy Harmon and Clarence Harris, both of Seattle.

August 31, 1934—HOLMES CORNER FIRE SAID TO BE OF INCENDIARY ORIGIN

Flames, evidently started deliberately in two separate places, last Friday night destroyed the house, water tower and chicken coop of Miss Sevilla D. Salyars, in Seattle Heights north of Homes Corner, with a loss estimated at \$5000.

The fire was touched off both in the house and chicken coop, M. C. Engels, Edmonds fire chief who answered the call, said. Both buildings burned completely. The fire company, with only the small amount of water in the truck tank available, was unable to do anything to halt the blaze.

Miss Salyars was away at the time the fire started, about 12:45 A.M. Mr. Engels said he understood the loss will be covered by insurance.

September 21, 1934—DISCOVER WORK OF FIREBUG HERE SECOND WOODSHED FIRE EXTINGUISHED AND FOUND TO HAVE BEEN SET

Fortunately discovered by Johnny Quinn, living next door, a blaze in the corner of Gus Nordman's woodshed on Second Avenue North was extinguished with a garden hose at 1:30 o'clock Wednesday morning.

When the fire appeared to have been of incendiary origin, City Marshal Chas. M. Larsen was summoned. His investigation disclosed that paper and kindling had been

carefully placed in one corner of the shed and covered with wood and bark before the fire was lighted.

On Monday night of last week the woodshed at the G. A. Sweet home was destroyed by fire of mysterious origin. It is believed now that it was the work of a firebug, the same one who made a similar but unsuccessful attempt on the Nordman woodshed.

Mr. Larsen asks residents of the community to be on the lookout for this firebug and to report immediately anything which may aid in his discovery and arrest.

Fire Chief M. C. Engels also inspected the premises and declared that the blaze was the work of a firebug. The material for the fire, he said, had been brought to the shed.

Mr. Engels asks that all residents make an effort to keep their premises clean of all inflammable materials, and to investigate promptly all evidences of fire at night.

November 9, 1934—HOME AT CEDAR VALLEY BURNS FRIDAY MORNING

The large home of Mrs. Shold at Cedar Valley burned to the ground early Friday morning. The cause of the blaze was not known as the fire was well advanced before it was discovered. Neighbors a block away were awakened by the smoke almost as soon as Mrs. Shold discovered the blaze.

The Edmonds fire department was summoned at about 2:30 but could do nothing to save the building or its contents as it was then enveloped in flames.

The house, one of the largest residences of Cedar Valley, was located near the bridge on the road between the interurban station and the Alderwood Manor pavement.

Edmonds firemen had extinguished a blaze in the same house about two years ago, it was recalled.

March 1, 1935—ALDERWOOD CHAMBER TO GIVE FIREMEN'S BENEFIT

Wednesday is the big night. Most everybody in Alderwood Manor is expected down to the special benefit performance at the Princess Theatre at Edmonds.

Sponsored by the Alderwood Chamber of Commerce to pay the community's debt to the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department, every dollar taken in above actual net cost of the films and tickets will go for this worthy cause.

The management of the Princess Theater is donating the theatre for the evening and contributing its overhead expenses in order to swell the benefit proceeds.

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department will be on hand to take a bow at the start of the stage show. They have answered calls at all times of day and night for years without question to help when fire has broken out in Alderwood homes. No pay has ever been asked although it is repeated hazard, inconvenience, and expense for them to do so. This is our one opportunity to repay them.

The feature film is "Baboona," Mr. and Mrs. Martin Johnson's triumph over the hitherto untouched jungles of darkest Africa.

March 8, 1935—THEATRE FILLED FOR FIREMEN'S BENEFIT

Alderwood Manor Chamber of Commerce made a name for the organization Wednesday night in the staging of a successful home talent performance in connection with the film program at the Princess Theatre, Edmonds, for the benefit of the Edmonds volunteer Fire Department.

The theatre was packed to capacity, approximately 450 people witnessing the special program for which Floyd Edwards was master of ceremonies. Approximately \$75 was netted for the fire department.

September 27, 1935—EDMONDS HOME IS DESTROYED BY FIRE

The home belonging to H. R. Beeson and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Harry M. Miller and family, was damaged beyond repair, about nine o'clock Monday night, when flames spread through the walls of the entire structure.

Although the Edmonds firemen prevented the flames from bursting out, the fire had such a start between the walls of the house that it spread and weakened the framework of the house before it could be extinguished.

A large number of volunteer workers carried a greater part of the furniture out of the house, but much was lost, including most of the family's clothing.

The Millers were away from home at the time, and the first to see the smoke was Mrs. C. E. Mitchell and the alarm was turned in by Miss Dorothy Crow, both neighbors. Cause of the fire was difficult to determine. Henry Vours, night patrolman, one of the first to reach the scene, said that he saw flames shooting up the wall back of the furnace in the basement. But Mr. Miller said that there had been no fire in the furnace for several days. Some were of the opinion that defective wiring or spontaneous combustion might have been responsible for the blaze.

Both the building and contents were partially covered by insurance. As soon as the Tommy Hicklin house at Fourth and Bell is ready for occupancy the Miller family will move into it.

November 8, 1935—FIRE DESTROYS MEADOWDALE BUILDING WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Fire that was supposed to have started by defective wiring in the packing house at Mrs. Mabel Wilsons' place on the Pennock Road in Upper Meadowdale, at midnight Wednesday, was kept from spreading by the combined efforts of the neighbors and Edmonds Fire Department.

The building in which the fire originated was between

two units of chicken coops, and the house was not far distant.

Appreciation is certainly due to the Fire Department for its prompt response and its splendid action.

The packing house was a complete loss, which amounted to several hundred dollars.

November 15, 1935—FIREMEN'S BALL SUCCESS HARRY BONINE WINS RADIO

The eleventh annual Firemen's Ball, at the Odd Fellow's Hall Saturday night, was one of the most successful affairs of its kind, providing a net return of about \$90 for the fire department.

The hall was well filled and the music and dancing were thoroughly enjoyed.

The Atwater Kent radio, offered as a prize, was won by Harry Bonine of Alderwood Manor.

Fire Chief M. C. Engels requests this paper to thank the I.O.O.F. Lodge for the donation of the hall, and the many people throughout the entire district whose generous patronage made the affair a success.

January 3, 1936—NORTH EDMONDS STUDIO IS DESTROYED BY FLAMES

The four room residence and art studio of Morris Graves in North Edmonds was completely destroyed by fire at about 7:30 Tuesday morning.

The Edmonds Fire Department answered a call but the flames were so far advanced by the time the firemen reached the scene they could do nothing more than protect nearby buildings.

Mr. Graves had entertained a group of friends during the evening, and all had left at an early hour that morning for Seattle.

The building and entire contents, including valuable relics and works of art, were a total loss.

January 10, 1936—FALL INTO WELL SPOILS SALE OF LOCAL PROPERTY

The former Leonard F. Dearborn home on Ninth Avenue will not be purchased by the contemplated new owner, it is reported, because of an injury to Thomas Haire, Seattle architect, who broke through decayed planks and fell into a dry well, a week ago Monday while making a survey of the property in planning contemplated improvements.

Services of the Edmonds Fire Department, and neighbors were required to extricate the architect. He was taken to the Swedish Hospital, Seattle, where he is now recovering from fractures of his nose, ankle and a vertebra.

June 12, 1936—DELEGATES NAMED TO FIREMEN'S CONVENTION

Willard Eddy and E. C. Irby were elected delegates, and George Bacon, alternate, to attend the Washington State Firemen's convention to be held in Tacoma next week, June 18, 19, and 20.

M. C. Engels will attend the Washington State Fire Chief's session on Wednesday, preceding the convention.

July 10, 1936—FIRE DESTROYS PIONEER HOME

With a spectacular blaze which lighted the sky so that it could be seen for miles around, the pioneer L. E. Holmes residence in North Edmonds was reduced to ashes at about 11 o'clock Monday night. When neighbors saw the fire the Edmonds Fire Department was summoned but the structure was a mass of flames before the firemen could reach it and no water was available.

The house was locked and no one was on the

The Edmonds Tribune-Review announced in August 1933 that Edmonds is ready to go out and meet the enemy headed by General Depression, for on a Monday evening representatives of the civic organizations of the city met at the city hall and organized the local unit for the President's Emergency Re-employment campaign.

premises at the time, so that by the time the blaze was discovered nothing could be saved. Valuable tools and furniture were destroyed by the fire. The loss was only partially covered by insurance. No other buildings were close enough to be endangered.

Fire Chief M. C. Engels said that the cause of the fire could not be determined, but believed it may have been caused from the electric wiring.

July 24, 1936—WILLARD EDDY HEADS FIREMEN

Willard Eddy was elected president of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department at the annual meeting of the organization at the I. O. O. F. hall, last Thursday evening.

Clint Gray was elected secretary; Phil Allen, treasurer; and E. C. Irby and Percy Bartlett, trustees. James Astell is a hold-over trustee.

The election was preceded by a dinner served by ladies of the Rebekah lodge.

M. C. Engels is fire chief, under appointment by the mayor and city council.

February 5, 1937—CITY IMPOSES NO RESTRAINT ON FIREMEN DEPARTMENT IS NOT EXCLUSIVE CITY PROPERTY, COUNCILMEN INSIST

The city council Tuesday night left Fire Chief M. C. Engels with a free hand in exercising his judgment as to whether or not the department shall answer calls from outside the city.

The issue was raised by G. G. Evensen, Manager of the Quality Shingle Company, in a letter to the council, a copy of which was published in the *Tribune-Review* two weeks ago. Mr. Evensen questioned the right of use of fire-fighting equipment outside the city and served notice on the council that should he suffer fire loss while the fire truck is outside the city he would hold the city responsible.

Mayor F. A. Fourtner explained that Mr. Evensen had approached him on the subject after the fire truck had made a run to Rubenak's resort on the Everett highway.

Although no action was taken in connection with the letter, councilmen were not averse to making personal comment.

Carl Callahan: "Underwriters have been told of the policy of aiding outside districts in case of fire and they heartily approve. Mr. Evensen has made this same protest about every year and his property has not yet been neglected."

James Astell: "The department has an auxiliary truck carrying sufficient hose to cover any fire in the business district in an emergency. A large part of the equipment on the main truck was bought independently of the city with funds provided largely by people of outside communities. This co-operative spirit between the fire department and such communities as Alderwood and Maplewood has done much to build up the fire fighting equipment and to foster friendly relations with these communities. And besides, I think the fire department has made about four trips to the Quality Mill during the last 60 days."

Mayor Fourtner concluded the discussion with the statement that he was satisfied with the present arrangement and that he would leave the fire chief free to act according to his best judgment, as in the past.

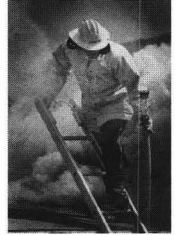
Ed. note: Councilman Carl Callahan was the Assistant Fire Chief and Councilman James Astell was also a very active member of the volunteers and would become the next Fire Chief in several years. Fire Chief M. C. Engels was also the President of the Edmonds Chamber of Commerce. These three volunteer firemen along with the other volunteer fire department members were all local businessmen and voters in Edmonds.

The Edmonds Tribune—Review, August 1934, L. C. Engel is unopposed for justice of the peace and Ray H. Doty is running for constable in Edmonds precinct.

February 5, 1937—FIREMEN AID IN QUENCHING BLAZE IN R. S. JONES BARN

When hay in the barn of R. S. Jones, south of Edmonds, caught fire from a dryer, Thursday forenoon, little damage was done.

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department was prompt to answer the call and assisted in extinguishing the flames before they got beyond control.



February 12, 1937—GRANGE APPRECIATES AND APPROVES FIRE DEPARTMENT

Whereas, the Edmonds Fire Department is supplying protection to rural homes as well as in the city:

Be it hereby resolved, That we, the members of Cedar Valley Grange No. 306, met in regular session February 6, 1937, go on record as approving this action.

Be it further resolved that we extend to the Edmonds Fire Department, Edmonds Progressive Club, and The Edmonds City Council our thanks and appreciation of this action, and offer our fullest cooperation.

Signed: K. W. McAnulty, M. E. Thrasher, and F. M. Rose, Resolutions Committee.

February 19, 1937—FIRE TRUCK CONTROVERSY STILL RAGES

CROWD HEARS ARGUMENT BETWEEN G. G. EVENSEN AND CITY COUNCIL

The fire truck controversy received another airing at the city council meeting Tuesday evening when G. G. Evensen appeared in person to press his contention that Edmonds fire-fighting equipment should not be used outside the city. He repeated his statement that he would hold the city responsible for any damage to his property by fire while the fire truck is elsewhere.

Councilman James Astell, as spokesman for Fire Chief

M. C. Engels who was called away by the illness of his mother, explained the position taken by the fire department. He called attention to the aid received from the outside communities and the equipment bought by the department with such funds at no expense to the city. In the event of a fire in Edmonds on a rare occasion when the pumper truck is out of the city, another truck with 400 feet of hose could be used, he said, and water pressure is adequate for protection of all parts of the city.

March 19, 1937—FIRE EATERS RESPOND TWICE OVER WEEK-END

Two fire calls were responded to by the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department this week-end. The first call came from Alderwood Manor Sunday morning about 7 o'clock. The fire there was already extinguished though when the department arrived.

Again Monday morning at 2 o'clock the fire laddies were called to put out a blaze in a vacant house on Walnut between Fifth and Sixth Avenues, formerly the F. H. Darling place. The house which was next to the home of Ed Yost, has been vacant for some time and it is believed that it was being fixed up for a meeting place for the local WPA workers. Cause of this fire was not determined.

July 16, 1937—E. C. IRBY IS PRESIDENT OF FIREMEN

E. C. Irby was elected president of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department at the annual meeting and banquet of the organization in the banquet room of the Grill, Wednesday evening. Mr. Irby succeeds W. W. Eddy, Jr.

All other officers were re-elected: Clinton Gray, secretary; Phil Allen, treasurer; and Carl Callahan, assistant chief.

M. C. Engels, fire chief, is appointed by the mayor.

The three trustees named were: George Bacon, Victor Miller and W. W. Eddy.

January 21, 1938—CITY NAMES TRUSTEES FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT STATE LAW FOLLOWED IN ORDINANCE PASSED BY COUNCIL TUESDAY NIGHT

A board of Trustees was named for the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department and other provisions of the 1935 state law complied with in an ordinance passed by the Edmonds city council Tuesday evening. The trustees will be James A. Astell, member of the department; F. A. Fourtner, mayor; Geo. M. Leyda, city clerk; Carl Callahan, councilman, and M. C. Engels, fire chief.

The state law which provides for a volunteer firemen's relief and compensation fund, limits membership in fire departments to 20 members for each 1,000 population. Edmonds has 15 firemen.

May 13, 1938—TO PROTECT EDMONDS FROM FIRE

Edmonds people will sleep more soundly after inspecting the new fire truck which the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department is parading around so proudly on practice nights.

The fire truck, recently completed and delivered to the city, is a 1938 Ford V-8 truck purchased from the Yost Auto Company, with an all metal custom built body made by the Tricoach Corporation, 703 Sixth North, Seattle.

The truck is equipped with a Waterous 250-gallon capacity pump. A booster tank on the truck carries 300 gallons of water and is equipped with 150 feet of 3/4 inch hose.

Space is provided for 1,200 feet of regulation 2 1/2 inch fire hose and 400 feet of 1 1/2 inch hose.

An innovation, at no small expense, is substitution of aluminum ladders for the old heavy type.

A serviceable cook stove is needed badly by a family now under care of Good Cheer, the local relief organization. From The Edmonds Tribune—Review, 1931

The equipment represents an investment of \$3,200.

This new equipment, said Geo. W. Yost, is twice as powerful as the old.

July 1, 1938—FIRE MENACES FIREWORKS STOCK HERE; PILES OF CRATES BACK OF STORE MAKE SPECTACULAR BLAZE

Edmonds almost had a premature display of fireworks Wednesday afternoon when a pile of crates against the back of the Safeway store blazed and crackled within 20 feet of a large stock of Fourth of July goods in a back room of the Diamond 10 Cent Store.

Whether Herbert Schwartz, manager of Safeway, or Paul Hofstetter of the 10 Cent Store was first to see the blaze and turn in the alarm is not known. But Mr. Hofstetter, with his fireworks in mind, was the first to get on the job with a garden hose and, shielding himself from the intense heat around the corner of the building, kept a stream of water on the leaping flames until the firemen arrived.

It is believed the fire started from an oil drum close by in which rubbish was burned. The damage was slight.

October 14, 1938—INSURANCE MAY AID FIRE DEPARTMENT

Residents living outside Edmonds may provide in their fire insurance for an amount to be paid the Edmonds volunteer Fire Department, in case the firemen are called to protect their homes, insurance agents of the district point out in a full page advertisement in this paper.

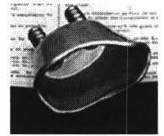
Insurance companies now make it possible for policyholders to add such amounts payable to the firemen at the same rate as their insurance. This, for \$50 coverage would amount to less than 50 cents a year, insurance men say.

March 24, 1939—CITY COUNCIL BUYS INHALATOR

Purchase of an inhalator was authorized by the

city council Tuesday night, upon recommendation of City Health Officer Dr. Harry H. Kretzler.

This device, replacing obsolete pulmotors, has been installed in many small cities throughout the state. Within 125 installations, these inhalators saved more than 250 lives in the state last year, it was said. They are so simple that any Boy Scout can operate them, there is no danger to the patient, and oxygen tanks can be refilled at small cost.



The cost of the equipment is \$184, with a \$25 credit for the old equipment.

April 21, 1939—LOSS HEAVY AT DRY KILN FIRE

Damage estimated from \$1500 to \$2000 resulted Wednesday afternoon when fire broke out in the middle of the dry kiln at the mill of the Quality Shingle Company on the waterfront opposite the Great Northern depot.

Called at 3:10 o'clock, the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department battled the stubborn fire until about 6 o'clock before it was extinguished.

The kiln was loaded with 900 squares of No. 1 shingles, said E. R. Scott, company manager, and most of them were damaged either by the fire or water. Not until the insurance adjuster comes today can the loss be determined definitely, Mr. Scott said.

The mill company asked this paper to express sincere thanks to the firemen and to others of the community who gave assistance in preventing a much greater loss.

May 5, 1939—FIRE PROTECTION STUDIED BY CITY

Threat of increased fire insurance rates in Edmonds in a letter from the Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau, due to use of fire-fighting equipment outside the city, brought forth a variety of suggestions at the council meeting Tuesday night.

Fire Chief M. C. Engels pointed out that only two or

three men accompany the truck to fires outside the city and that an auxiliary truck remains for protection in the city.

The prevailing opinion was that the immediate vicinity of Edmonds should, by all means, be protected, but perhaps added equipment should be available for that protection.

The council instructed the fire chief and City Clerk George M. Leyda to consult with the rating bureau and to make recommendations at the next meeting.

Later Mr. Engels suggested to this newspaper that an appeal be made to resident and property owners outside Edmonds with the idea of raising a fund for an auxiliary truck, equipped with a pump, 500 gallon tank and a quantity of small hose. The city would be willing to house the truck, he said, and the experienced Edmonds firemen would man it for any fire within running distance. Cost of such a truck he estimated at \$2,000. Those interested in such a proposal may communicate with Mr. Engels.

May 5, 1939—FIRE AGAIN IN MILL DRY KILN

For the second time in two weeks fire broke out in a dry kiln at the Quality Shingle Company's mill on the Edmonds waterfront about 10 o'clock Tuesdays morning.

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department battled

nearly two hours before the last spark was extinguished. The loss was mainly in shingles scorched, smoked and water damaged.

The net loss of the previous fire was slightly less than \$1000, E. R. Scott, manager of the mill, said, and he estimated that the second loss would be even less. No reason could be discovered for the blaze.

August 18, 1939—CLINT GRAY IS PRESIDENT

Those who completed the recent first aid course along with members of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department, were special guests at the annual firemen's banquet at the I.O.O.F. hall Wednesday evening. Dr. and Mrs. H. H. Kretzler were also guests.

The bounteous dinner was served by ladies of Crystal Rebekah Lodge.

Clinton Gray has been elected by the firemen as president of the organization for the coming year. Bill Little was elected secretary. Officers re-elected were Carroll Greenleaf, treasurer; Carl Callahan, assistant chief, and Willard Eddy, electrician.

M. C. Engels is fire chief by appointment of the mayor.

1940-1949

**HAS YOUR HOUSE
A NUMBER?**



FIRE CHIEFS, EQUIPMENT, AND FIRE STATIONS

FIRE CHIEFS:

- 1940 M. C. "Matt" Engels
1949 James A. "Jimmy" Astell

EQUIPMENT:

- 1940 Edmonds main fire engine was Engine #1, a 1938 Ford fire engine. There was a 1923 Chevrolet hose engine as an auxiliary fire unit.

FIRE STATIONS:

- 1944 The Yost Auto Company served as a fire station until 1962. The fire engines exited onto Dayton Street.

1940-1949 MEMBERS OF THE

EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT: Ewing, Sam
Allen, Phil Gray, Clint
Astell, Jimmy Greenleaf, Carrol
Bartlett, Ralph Hansen, Walt
Brown, Richard Little, Bud
Callahan, Carl Milholland, Luke
Crow, Dave Naughten, Steve
Doty, Dan Savage, Claude
Eddy, Bill Sorensen, Roy
Engels, Aubrey Vollan, Ernie
Engels, Matt Wiester, Harold

EDMONDS TRIBUNE-REVIEW NEWSPAPER

March 1, 1940—RICHMOND-RONALD FIRE TRUCK

The new equipment of King County District # 4 is now located at the Richmond Highlands Lumber Company's yard until the fire station is built.

The fire truck has a 400 gallon tank, 1000 feet of 2½ inch hose, 600 feet of 1½ inch hose, and 100 feet of 1 inch hose attached to the booster tank.

The first turn out of the volunteer fire crew was held Sunday with instruction in hose practice and drill. Judging by the number of men who turned out, the district will have a fine volunteer crew.

The fire siren and telephone are located at Ray Mau's Service Station at Richmond Highlands. In case of fire, call Richmond 333. The fire chief is Ray Mau and the captain is Pat Bookey.

May 10, 1940—VISIT FIREMEN

Five members of the fire department of Fire Protection District 4 visited the Edmonds Fire Department at rehearsal Wednesday evening. The delegation was headed by Fire Chief Ray Mau and Captain Pat Bookey.

August 30, 1940—FIRE DISTRICT VOTED DOWN

A decisive rejection of the proposed fire prevention district for Southwest Snohomish County was registered by the voters at three polling places Saturday. 191 voting for the district and 741 voting against its formation.

September 20, 1940—RESCUE CHILD FROM SOUND INHALATOR RUSHED TO AID IN RESUSCITATION OF THREE-YEAR-OLD

A three-year-old boy was rescued from drowning late Wednesday afternoon when Edmonds firemen were

summoned and rushed the city's inhalator to the home on the waterfront just north of the A. M. Yost and Sons Lumber Yard.

Barking of the child's dog attracted the attention of employees of Quality Shingle Company, who pulled the unconscious child from the water.

Dr. Harry H. Kretzler, who had charge of the resuscitation operations, said that the child's life hung by a thread and that undoubtedly the inhalator was responsible for his recovery.

It is believed the child fell into the water while throwing sticks for the dog to recover.

October 4, 1940—BLAZE IS EXTINGUISHED

Edmonds firemen were called out about 1 o'clock Sunday morning to extinguish a fire at the George Keys home on Heberlein Street.

Prompt response prevented damage from being more than slight. Cause of the blaze was unknown.

Particularly grateful, Mrs. Keys and her daughter expressed their appreciation of the quietness with which the firemen worked, since the husband and father was confined to his bed because of serious illness.

April 3, 1941—TWO CALLS KEEP LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSY

Edmonds firemen worked for four hours Sunday evening getting a brush fire under control in the south part of the city between Fourth and Fifth Avenues.

Early Monday evening the firemen were called out again by a chimney fire which did no damage at the Frank Deiner home on Bell Street.

April 10, 1941—HIGH SCHOOL SHOP DESTROYED BY FIRE; ARSON IS HINTED BY INVESTIGATION LAUNCHED BY STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Fire of unknown origin virtually destroyed the auto mechanics shop just east of the main Edmonds high school building about 11 o'clock Saturday night.

At the height of the fire, and with the brisk southerly wind, the Brackett home north of the building was threatened, and the garage actually was ablaze for a time.

Less than three weeks before a fire had started in the building but was extinguished by firemen before the flames had spread.

A. E. DeWolf, who lives across the street, who turned in the alarm, said the blaze appeared to start in the middle room of the three-room structure. By the time he had telephoned the alarm it had spread the entire length of the main building.

The panel truck owned jointly by the district and the students' association was a complete loss, as was another truck in the building which belonged to Eugene Wilcox.

With the flames leaping high into the air when the firemen arrived, efforts were concentrated on the west wing in which was housed one of the district's buses. A line was finally attached to the rear of the bus and with volunteers from among the hundreds of spectators the bus was hauled

THE VALUE OF having all Edmonds houses numbered, now that the city's street signs are up, was emphasized at the Chamber of Commerce meeting last Wednesday.

President M. C. Engels (also fire chief) has asked this paper to urge all Edmonds home owners to display their house numbers.

W. H. Dunbar will gladly inform you what your number should be, according to the city ordinance, and metal numbers can be obtained at small cost.

From The Edmonds Tribune-Review, January 23, 1941

from the building but not until it had been damaged to an estimated amount of \$1,000.

The state fire warden is making a thorough investigation of the fire in the belief that it may have been set deliberately, as a burglary was attempted at the Safeway store in Edmonds at the height of the conflagration.

The loss of \$2,500 to buildings and equipment, estimated by Supt. H. H. Hoffland was fully covered by insurance.

William Pierce, assistant janitor at the high school, was left as a watchman to guard the premises until the bus and tools which were saved could be removed the next morning.

April 17, 1941—CONFESSES TO SETTING BLAZE

Alvin Shepherd, 34, of Edmonds, who was arrested a week ago Saturday night in the act of burglarizing the Safeway store while flames were destroying the auto mechanics shop at the Edmonds high school, confessed last week to having set the fire.

He was brought from the county jail in Everett and showed officers just how he ignited material which he threw into the building through a broken window and hid until the flames gathered headway. Then he said he picked up his kit of tools and entered the Safeway store through a transom over the marquee.

But the fire, which he counted upon diverting attention

from the burglary, proved his undoing. Mrs. F. A. Fourtner, watching the blaze from her apartment window, saw the man climb from the roof to the marquee and notified the police. He was captured by Patrolman Henry Vaurs and Ted Westlund, head clerk at Safeway.

Shepherd was sentenced to 25 years at the state penitentiary on the charges of arson and several thefts to which he confessed.

September 11, 1941—HOME OF RICHARD CORBIN IS DESTROYED BY FLAMES

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Corbin on South Third Street burned to the ground on Saturday evening. The fire had gained such headway before it was discovered by neighbors that by the time the fire department arrived it was beyond control. The house and contents were a total loss.

Mr. and Mrs. Corbin were away for the evening.

October 16, 1941—FIRE EXTINGUISHED AT LOCAL CHURCH

Prompt discovery of flames back of the furnace in the basement of the Hughes Memorial Methodist church about 9:30 Sunday morning averted serious consequences.

The Rev. O. L. Tanquary, pastor of the church, who made the discovery, called the fire department.

By quick action of the firemen the flames were extinguished promptly, damage to the building being estimated at only \$50.

January 1, 1942—KEN CALDWELL HAS NARROW ESCAPE FROM BLAZING HOME

Awakened when his bedroom filled with smoke, Kenneth Caldwell, manager of the Richfield Service Station in Edmonds, was compelled to jump from a second-story door at his home on Bell Street to turn in a fire alarm about 11:30 last Friday night.

JULY 2, 1942—A total of 116 young men between the ages of 18 and 20 registered Tuesday at the Edmonds city hall, under the selective service law, Mrs. Cleve Little, in charge of the registration, reported yesterday morning.

From The Edmonds Tribune-Review, 1942

MILLS RESUME OPERATION . . . The two shingle mills of Edmonds, employing an average of 58 men, resumed operations Monday morning after a shut-down of about six weeks.

The shut-down had been necessary because of the depressed market. The recent bad weather in California, which state is the principal market for the mill, had much to do with the demand.

From The Edmonds Tribune-Review, April 17, 1941

He said he had been in bed about an hour when the fire, of unknown origin, awoke him. His wife and family were visiting in Yakima, at the time.

His loss in clothing and furniture was estimated at \$900, only partly covered by insurance. The house, owned by Mrs. Jessie Ryno, was partially covered by insurance. When flames sprang up again, the firemen were summoned about 6:15 the following morning.

January 8, 1942—CABIN CRUISER DAMAGED BY FIRE NEW YEAR'S DAY

Fire did considerable damage to the cabin cruiser belonging to Harry Freer on New Year's evening.

Mr. Freer made his home in the boat which was beached north of the Oakland mill.

The Fire Department was summoned shortly after 6 o'clock to extinguish the blaze which had destroyed practically all the contents of the boat, including Mr. Freer's personal belongings.

January 8, 1942—FIRE DAMAGES LOCAL CHURCH

Fire gutted the main auditorium of the Hughes Memorial Methodist church of Edmonds in the early morning hours of New Year's day, with damage estimated

at \$6,000. **Ed. note:** *Due to quality of film of this news article, the amount could be \$,8,000.*

The fire was first detected by Paul McClenahan as he was putting his car in his garage across the alley back of the church. He saw smoke coming from the building and rushed to the Yost Auto company garage, where the fire truck is kept, and gave the alarm.

Carl Callahan, assistant fire chief, said that he had passed the church only a few minutes earlier on his way home from a New Year's dance, and saw no sign of a fire.

Many Edmonds residents who were awakened by the fire siren returned to bed when they did not hear the truck siren nor see a blaze.

With three lines of hose on the building, the firemen kept the flames under control and only occasionally could fire be seen shooting through the roof.

But because the flames had burned through the ceiling and spread the entire length of the attic, the battle lasted for hours before the last spark was extinguished.

Although the ceiling was just about burned away and the roof in ruins, the valuable stained glass windows were only slightly damaged. The floors and much of the walls and partitions remained sound, although the furnishings and much of the plaster were damaged by water.

The fire is believed to have started in the walls next to the chimney. A New Year's Eve service was concluded at midnight, for which a hot fire had been built in the furnace because of the cold weather. Officers of Frank Freese Post, American Legion, promptly offered the free use of the Legion hall at Sixth and Dayton for use of the church while the damaged structure is being repaired.

The Rev. Oliver L. Tanquary, pastor of the church, said the kind offer had been accepted and that all services of the church are being carried on at that location.

May 28, 1942—FIREMEN TO BE TRAINED HERE

Special training for auxiliary firemen, auxiliary police, fire watchers and air raid wardens will be provided at the Legion Hall, Edmonds, next Monday and Tuesday evenings, beginning at 7 o'clock, according to word just received from the Washington State Defense Council by S. J. Perrine, Edmonds defense co-coordinator.

Working with M. C. Engels, Edmonds Fire Chief, a representative of the state defense organization will be here both evenings to supervise instruction to be given all emergency officials in this area.

November 5, 1942—EXTINGUISH FIRE AT WAR PLANT

The Edmonds fire department was called out last Wednesday evening shortly after 8 o'clock to extinguish a fire at the Pointer-Willamette Company on the waterfront.

The fire did little damage, only a tarpaulin and the insulation on the acetylene torch being destroyed.

December 10, 1942—TARPAULIN FIRE BRINGS OUT FIREMEN TUESDAY

The Edmonds Fire Department was called out at 11:30 on Tuesday night to extinguish a blaze at the Pointer-Willamette Company. A tarpaulin above one of the barges caught fire, but little damage was done.

March 18, 1943—FIREMEN CALLED OUT

When a fire department is called to a fire at a fire

*The Edmonds Tribune-Review, reported January 6, 1940—
EDMONDS BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL DIRECTORY
Local businesses owned and operated by members
of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department:
Electrician—W.W. "Bill" Eddy, Fifth & Main, call—Edmonds 393.
Electrician—Ewing Electric Service, Sam Ewing, call—Edmonds 542.*

insurance office, it's news. News was made late last Thursday afternoon at the E. B. Hubbard Insurance office. The alarm was caused by a chimney fire from an over-heated stove, and no damage resulted.

March 25, 1943—CIGARETTE STARTS FIRE

The Edmonds fire department was called out Wednesday just afternoon to extinguish a fire beneath the floor at the entrance to E. B. Hubbard's office.

The blaze was detected before it had gained headway and although difficult to reach, was extinguished with but little damage to the building.

Fire Chief M. C. Engels believed that it had started from a smoldering cigarette stub that had dropped down between the sidewalk and the building.

Smoke traveled under the floor of the entire building, coming out beyond the service men's clubroom near the Princess Theater. When firemen removed a board at that end of the building a large quantity of refuse paper was found stuffed behind it—a perfect set-up for a fire of similar origin.

May 27, 1943—BLAZE IN BEESON BUILDING IS QUICKLY EXTINGUISHED

The first fire ever to originate in the Beeson building was extinguished by Edmonds firemen about 9:30 last Friday morning in the apartment occupied by Mrs. Emma Meldrum.

When dense smoke was discovered issuing from the apartment into the hallway, Miss Janet Beeson turned in the fire alarm which brought a prompt response by the Volunteer Fire Department.

Only the small hose was needed to extinguish the flames which appeared to have originated in a cupboard. Only slight damage was done to furnishings and decorations.

SPENCER TRACY AND KATHARINE HEPBURN have the starring roles in "Without Love," which will open at the Princess Theater in Edmonds on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock and continue through Tuesday night.

From *The Edmonds Tribune-Review*, August 2, 1945

November 25, 1943—FIRE DESTROYS MAIN BLDG. AT HATCHERY

The main building of the Washington Breeders' Association plant at the Alderwood Manor Demonstration Farm was destroyed by fire early Tuesday morning at a loss estimated at about \$30,000, two thirds of which was covered by insurance.

Both the Community Fire Department from Seattle Heights and the Edmonds Fire Department responded to the call and were instrumental in saving the nearby residence, the poultry and brooder houses and other buildings.

Already plans are being made to rebuild, using the present concrete foundations which apparently were undamaged.

May 25, 1944—FIREMEN GET FIVE CALLS

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department was kept on the go over the week-end when they responded to five calls between Friday and Monday.

Shortly after noon on Friday, they were called to extinguish a fire in the back seat of a coupe parked in front of the Pantry Lunch on Main Street. The fire was quickly extinguished with little damage. They were called out again Saturday night when the former Oakland Mill, north of the ferry dock, was found to be ablaze. The flames attracted attention but damage was not considered serious, as the mill has been abandoned with only a few pieces of

machinery left in it. However, on Sunday morning about 7:30, the fire department was called back to the mill as the fire had sprung up again.

The cycle of three fires had ended, but not for long, for in the evening a new cycle began when the department was called to the home of I. L. Anderson on East Main Street to assist in putting out a fire that had started from a spark in his service truck on which he was working. A chimney fire at the Robert Warnock residence on Fourth Avenue brought out the fire truck on Monday evening. The latter two fires caused little damage.

July 20, 1944—BARLETT PRESIDENT OF FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department and Auxiliary Firemen and their wives gathered at the I.O.O.F. hall last Thursday evening for their annual chicken dinner and election of officers.

Officers elected for the ensuing year were: Ralph Bartlett, president; L. G. Milholland, Secretary; Dan Doty, treasurer; Carl Callahan, assistant fire chief; W.W. Eddy, electrician; trustees, Phil Allen, Aubrey Engels, and Roy Sorensen.

The department is working on a plan to put in operation an ambulance for Edmonds, a necessity for the city. When the plan is completed, the Red Cross Motor Corps will operate it. In the past cars driven by the members of the Corps have had to be used in emergency cases.

August 31, 1944—BRUSH FIRES ENDANGER HOMES IN EDMONDS

The Edmonds Fire Department was called out about 9:30 o'clock Tuesday morning when a brush fire sprang up along Maple Street just east of the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Telfer.

The flames were carried toward some out buildings to

the south by a brisk northerly breeze, and but for the prompt action of the firemen, several residences in the neighborhood would have been in danger.

December 14, 1944—FIRE HITS GIFT SHOP

Fire damaged the living quarters at the back of the Edmonds Gift & Book Shop, about 8 o'clock Wednesday morning, when it compelled the owner, Mrs. Rose Brooks and her two young children to flee into the frosty morning air clad only in their nightclothes.

The fire apparently started from an overheated stove while they slept and had gained considerable headway before they were awakened.

The Edmonds Fire Department battled nearly an hour before the elusive fire was entirely extinguished. Meanwhile, Mrs. Brooks and her children found refuge at the Pantry Lunch.

Damage to the stock of Christmas goods, occasioned by smoke and water, was not yet determined.

March 15, 1945—DOLL HOSPITAL STOCK DESTROYED BY FIRE

Fire destroyed practically the entire stock and other contents of Gertie's Doll Hospital on the north side of Main Street between Fourth and Firth Avenues about 7 o'clock last Saturday night.

Smoke was seen issuing from the gable of the building and the alarm was turned in by Mrs. Wm. Bentler who saw it from the Grill across the street, where she is employed.

The building, owned by Alex Kuzmoff, which also houses Clyde Brown's barbershop, was not so badly damaged, but Mrs. Carl Perrin's \$4,000 stock of dolls and doll parts was almost entirely ruined as the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department was obliged to drench the building with water before the obstinate fire could be extinguished.

It was believed that the fire started under the roof either in the sawdust insulation or electric wiring. Mrs. Perrin had left the shop only two hours before, and the barber was preparing to close when the fire was discovered.

Less than half the doll hospital loss was covered by insurance. A total of 1500 dolls were destroyed, as well as 200 doll wigs, oriental rugs and jewelry. Many doll repair orders were in the shop, some of them ready to be mailed.

The barber shop is already back in operation, and Mr. Kuzmoff is planning to repair the building as soon as possible so that the business may be re-established.

April 26, 1945—FIRE DAMAGES FERRY OFFICE

Office furnishing and equipment was destroyed when flames gutted the office building of the Black Ball Ferry lines at Edmonds at about 7 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Apparently starting from an oil stove, the fire had gained considerable headway before the Edmonds fire department was called. Smoke poured out, almost obscuring the structure at times. Dropping the suction hose into the Sound, the firemen soon had several streams of water on the building, but it was an hour and a half before the fire was entirely extinguished.

A ferry from Kingston came in and discharged passengers and automobiles while the fire was in progress.

Although the ticket office was in ruins, the waiting room and other parts of the building were damaged only slightly.

Firemen were called to the dock three weeks ago when a fire had started under the floor of the building but was extinguished before damage resulted.

May 24, 1945—GEO. MEYRING VICTIM OF FIRE

George Meyring 14, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Meyring, lost his life when flames swept their

home on Third Avenue near the Edmonds High School, just before midnight last Friday.

Mr. Meyring thought he was blinded when he was awakened by the gases from the fire, called to George, sleeping in another upstairs bedroom and, blocked by flames in the stairway, climbed down over the garage roof and hurried around the house to the window of the ground floor bedroom where their six year old daughter, Gretchen, was asleep. There, with the aid of Mrs. Cleve Little, a neighbor, he got the girl out unharmed, and she was taken to the Little home.

Mr. Meyring then climbed to the window of George's room, but the heat seared his face and drove him back. It was only when the firemen arrived and with the aid of a stream of water that the room could be entered and the lifeless boy was found on the floor between his bed and the window.

The fire which had spread over the entire lower floor of the well furnished house was quickly extinguished. While the furnishings there were mostly destroyed, the second floor was almost undamaged. Mr. Meyring, who retired about 11 o'clock, said he thought the fire might have started in the kitchen where he emptied his ash tray into the trash-burner before going to bed. Fire Chief M. C. Engels was of the opinion that it had originated around the stove in the living room.

The building was said to have been fully insured, but the contents were only partially covered by insurance.

George was well known to Edmonds people, having been a P. I. carrier for the past few years, and recently had been a familiar sight delivering his papers on horseback.

August 2, 1945—SUBURBAN AMBULANCE SERVICE IS PROVIDED

Announcement is made this week that a suburban ambulance service has been established by

Charles E. Kendrick & Son, of Richmond Highlands. They will serve the district from the north city limits of Seattle to Everett, also to Kingston and Port Ludlow.

A 1942 Dodge has been converted into an emergency ambulance and is equipped with two stretchers, a resuscitator, aspirator, inhalator and oxygen, splints and other first aid supplies.

August 23, 1945—CHILDREN SET GRASS FIRES

The Edmonds fire department was called on four occasions during the week to quell three grass fires and put out flames caused by a flooded oil stove.

On Wednesday, a brush fire was reported at Seventh and Bell and on Saturday, another grass fire was reported on Seventh and Dayton. On Monday, a lighted cigarette or match started a fire in the shrubs in front of the city hall.

That night at 11 o'clock the fire department was again called to the Winter residence on First Avenue North to put out flames from an oil stove. On all occasions the fires were small and slight damage was caused.

Regarding the fire situation, M. C. Engels fire chief, said, "Several of these fires were caused by children playing with matches. On one occasion, three different match boxes were found. There is too much danger of fires now due to the extreme dryness of the weather. There is no excuse for fires caused by children, and parents are requested to watch all small children so that similar fires may be avoided."

January 17, 1946—THREE ADDED TO FIRE DEPARTMENT

Three new members were accepted into the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department last Wednesday night, Fire Chief M. C. Engels reported.

The new firemen are Steve Naughten, Richard Brown

and David Crow, bringing the department up to its full strength of 15 men.

January 31, 1946—FIRE DESTROYS HOUSE TRAILER

Fire almost totally destroyed the house trailer and its contents belonging to James Seeber, located near the Great Northern depot, Sunday night about 9 o'clock.

The fire was well advanced before it was discovered and the firemen called. Fire Chief M. C. Engels said the loss was estimated at about \$400, including three radios and photographic film and equipment.

April 11, 1946—FIRE DESTROYS ROOF OF JOHN STANTON RESIDENCE

Fire practically destroyed the roof of the John Stanton house on the south side of Maple near Sixth Avenue late Tuesday afternoon.

The blaze, which originated in the small attic, was not discovered until it had a good start and it was beginning to break through the roof when the firemen arrived.

Fire Chief M. C. Engels said he believed the fire must have started from defective wiring for it was not near a chimney. The loss was estimated at about \$600.

January 2, 1947—FIRE DAMAGES NEW HOME HERE

The new home into which Mr. and Mrs. Charles Boundy were preparing to move, on Third Avenue North, just north of the Oscar Kline home, was damaged by fire at about 7:30 Sunday morning. The new fireplace had been in use the day before, and it is believed the heat had penetrated the concrete sufficiently to ignite the wooden forms which had not yet been removed from the base.

Floors, walls, and windows were damaged to an

LYNNWOOD IS NAMED ... "Lynnwood" was decided upon as the name for the community around the Edmonds-Alderwood-Highway 99 crossroads, at the meeting of the Central Commercial club Monday night, which was well attended by merchants of that district.

From The Edmonds Tribune-Review, January 31, 1946

amount estimated at more than \$2000, most of which was covered by insurance, said Fire Chief M. C. Engels.

Mr. Boundy is a retired Seattle printer. They have lived for the last two years in a cottage on the rear of the lot which eventually is to become a garage.

March 6, 1947—FIRE IN CATTAILS ENDANGERS GREAT NORTHERN DEPOT

Fire which spread rapidly through the cattails, on the flats between Dayton and Main Streets brought out the Edmonds Fire Department early last Thursday afternoon when the Great Northern depot and other buildings were threatened.

Hours of patrol duty were spent by the firemen to keep the flames from getting out of bounds.

June 19, 1947—FIRE DESTROYS SMALL HOUSE

A small house in South Edmonds, occupied by the Phillips family, was destroyed by fire about 9:30 Saturday night. The contents and most of their clothing were destroyed. The fire department arrived in time to save the barn which was about 15 feet from the house and in which two horses were stabled.

September 4, 1947—FIRE AT CITY DOCK

The City fire department with the aid of hose from a ferry boat at the dock, extinguished a stubborn fire at the

ferry company office on the dock about 10:30 Wednesday morning.

A ticket seller first noticed the smoke pouring up through the floor of the waiting room, and summoned help. It was necessary for the firemen to get into rowboats under the dock and do some chopping before the blaze could be reached and brought under control.

October 2, 1947—FIRE CHIEFS URGE PREVENTION MEASURES

Fire Chiefs M. C. Engels of Edmonds and Clarence Crary of Snohomish Fire Protection District 1 yesterday asked this paper to call attention to Fire Protection Week and the need for caution if fire losses are to be kept within reasonable bounds.

A practical observance of Fire Prevention Week, they suggest, will be to clean up the premises from basement to attic, to clean out dry grass and brush from the yard and vacant lot, inspect wiring, chimneys, stovepipe, furnaces and stoves, and make indicated repairs, and to be cautious in the use and storage of matches.

June 17, 1948—EXTINGUISH BLAZE AT PHILLIPS MOTOR COURT

The Edmonds volunteer Fire Department was called out just before 2 o'clock Tuesday morning to extinguish a blaze at the Phillips Motor Court.

The fire was caused by an oil-burning water heater in the laundry room at the southeast corner of the court east of Fourth Avenue.

An uncrated new electric heater and the two washing machines were saved by the first firemen to arrive. Flames were confined to the one room and the loss was not great.

The alarm was turned in by Bill Eddy who saw the smoke as he was passing.

July 22, 1948—FIRE CHIEF MAKES PLEA

With the hope of averting possible injuries, and also facilitating the work of the firemen, M. C. Engels, Edmonds Fire Chief, is hereby issuing an appeal to motorists to refrain from following the truck so closely.

When answering a fire call the way should be kept clear for the truck and firemen who are speeding to the scene. Many times in the past, work of the firemen has been hampered by too many interested spectators crowding in.

Fire Chief Engels earnestly requests the co-operation of the public in this matter.

November 25, 1948—SCHOOL GRANDSTAND IS RUINED BY FLAMES

FIRE SPREADS RAPIDLY;

LOSS FULLY COVERED BY INSURANCE

Only a charred shell remained of the grandstand at the Edmonds High School athletic field as the result of a fire which was discovered at about 2:45 Wednesday afternoon.

Those who saw it first said the fire started in the east end of the long structure, and by the time the alarm could be turned in it had spread along under the roof for its entire length.

Police Judge Ray H. Doty said that he answered the telephone at city hall to be told by Mrs. E. O. Kittleson, who lives at Seventh and Bell, on a knoll just east of the grandstand, that she saw smoke there and thought the stand might be afire. He told Police Chief Vic Holmquist who had no more than time to start for the playfield when the siren sounded.

The structure was a mass of flames almost immediately. The Edmonds firemen worked their way from the west end, with lines of hose on both sides of the grandstand but portions of the roof at the east end fell in before the flames were under control.

The Edmonds Tribune—Review, February 25, 1943—CLOSED DAY EACH WEEK—
Due to the shortage of merchandise because of rationing, Bienz Confectionary will
remain closed each Thursday, beginning Thursday, March 4!

Within only a few minutes, a truck from Fire Protection District No. 1, at Seattle Heights, arrived on the scene and had a line of hose on the blaze.

Tools and equipment stored under the west end of the grandstand were taken out undamaged by James McKeever, school grounds superintendent.

Houses south of the structure were endangered, and many garden hoses were in use protecting them. At the height of the fire large embers were carried south of Main Street.

E. B. Hubbard, who handles insurance on the school buildings, said that the grandstand was covered in the amount of \$23,000, and that he believed the entire loss would be covered.

School district cannery and athletic equipment, some hay and oil stored under the building was destroyed. Several minor explosions occurred during the fire and sent smoke billowing into the air.

From several sources came reports that two young boys were seen fleeing from the grandstand just before the fire was discovered.

January 6, 1949—JAMES ASTELL IS FIRE CHIEF

James Astell was named as Edmonds fire chief by Mayor Paul McGibbon, Tuesday evening, upon the resignation of M. C. Engels who has served in that capacity for the last 20 years. Mr. Astell, who is one of the pioneer members of the volunteer fire department, was the choice of the firemen for the post and was



James Astell

recommended by the safety committee of the council.

Mr. Engels was thanked for his years of faithful and efficient service to the city as fire chief. And he, in turn, thanked Mayor F. A. Fournier and the council for their co-operation, and said that every request for equipment or legislation for the firemen had been granted.

January 6, 1949—MAYOR LISTS COMMITTEES

Mayor McGibbon made the following committee appointments at the council meeting Tuesday evening: Street: McGinness, Savage, Maxwell. Water: Tucker, Engels, Waggoner. Safety: Maxwell, Engels, Waggoner, Vollan, with Police Chief Holmquist and Fire Chief Astell. Finance: McGinness, Maxwell, Vollan. City Treasurer: W. W. Womer. **Ed. note:** *Councilmen Claude Savage, Ernie Vollan, and Aubrey Engels are volunteer firemen. For many years before and after, members of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department served the city as council members.*

June 23, 1949—FIRE CHIEF URGES CO-OPERATION

When the fire siren sounds, don't rush to the phone out of curiosity, and don't jump into your car and try to beat the fire truck to the scene.

This is the advice of Fire Chief James Astell in the interest of efficient fire-fighting.

Mr. Astell pointed out that 20 phone calls, sometimes more, must be made at each fire alarm. Phone calls from mere curiosity, especially at night, make it impossible for the operators to get through the important calls promptly.

Likewise, motorists not officially going to a fire endanger firemen unnecessarily and hamper their work by blocking essential driveways.

June 30, 1949—LOCAL FIREMEN COMPLETE FIRE FIGHTING INSTRUCTION

Among the 41 volunteer firemen who have just

completed a three and one-half months' course in fire fighting, sponsored by the Central Puget Sound Firemen's Association, are Claude Savage, Phil H. Allen, and Carroll V. Greenleaf, members of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department.

August 18, 1949—MAX MEYRING HOME IS GUTTED BY FIRE

A flash fire originating in the shed next to the alley at about 1:20 Tuesday morning swept through the residence of the M. B. Meyring family on Main Street between Fifth and Sixth.

Mr. Meyring, a civil engineer, was at work on computations in his office in the front of the building when he heard the flames crackling and discovered the blaze. He awakened Mrs. Meyring and after they got their two sons, Bernard, 5, and Herbert 4, and four-month old daughter, Pat, safely out of the house, phoned in the alarm and began playing a stream from the garden hose on the fire.

Patrolman Hoken Wall saw the flames and turned in the alarm simultaneously. He had been at Fifth and Main only a few minutes before, and had gone to his headquarters in the city hall to obtain a paper for a deputy sheriff. When they emerged the shed was in flames. They both brought their car extinguishers into play on the blaze, to no avail.

Marvin Anderson, who rooms at the Myrtie Otto

home, only a few feet west of the Meyring home, quickly had his garden hose in action protecting the Otto garage.

The brisk southerly wind carried the flames along the roof of the Meyring utility room and into the windows of the kitchen and upstairs rooms and they swept so rapidly through the entire house that it was possible to save only a very few items.

Confusion in operation of the newly-installed automatic fire alarm switch momentarily delayed summoning of the fire department, but the firemen arrived quickly and beat down the flames to prevent them spreading to the Myrtie Otto home or to the Craft Venetian Blind Company plant across the alley to the south. Further spreading of the flames would have endangered the Masonic Temple and the *Tribune-Review* building.

Both the Seattle Heights and Alderwood Manor Truck companies of Fire Protection District No. 1 responded to the call, and the Seattle Heights company used their pumper in helping to clean up on the flames.

Volunteers removed most of the furniture from the Otto home when it was endangered, but returned it when the flames were under control.

The loss estimated at about \$4,000, was covered by insurance. The cause of the fire could not be determined.

Fire Chief James Astell was attending a fire association meeting at the time the fire was discovered, but was on the scene soon after.

The Meyrings once before lost their household goods when a truck burned while moving them from Quinault to Forks on the Olympic Peninsula four years ago. The same year in Edmonds the home of their parents burned, taking the life of his brother, George, 13.

Investigation after the fire revealed that contents of the utility room, built of gypsum board, were undamaged. These included a washing machine, vacuum cleaner, electric iron, and canned fruit. Some clothing upstairs in bags, also,

EDMONDS IS THE FASTEST growing city in Snohomish County, according to figures released this week by the Washington State Census Board.

The tabulation of city population in the state for 1940 and 1947 shows that Edmonds grew in that period from 1,285 to 1,920, an increase of 49 percent.

From *The Edmonds Tribune-Review*, October 30, 1947

was found practically undamaged. A valuable calculator and some records from his office also were saved.

September 22, 1949—FIRE PROTECTION IS HELD INADEQUATE

A serious shortage of fire hydrants within the city was pointed out by Councilmen Gordon Maxwell, chairman of the safety committee, at the Edmonds city council meeting at the city hall Tuesday evening.

A preliminary survey of the city, he said, disclosed that only 73 hydrants could be found, In four blocks there were no hydrants and in other places were houses too far away from the nearest hydrant to be reached by the less than 1200 feet of hose available.

The nearest hydrant to Eleventh and Main is at Ninth Avenue, he said. Other poorly protected spots are on

Seventh South and Seventh North and on First Avenue North. He recommended installation of 44 new fire hydrants as soon as possible. The report was referred by motion to the water committee with instructions to estimate the cost and possible means of financing such a project.

November 10, 1949—ERNIE VOLLAN IS PRESIDENT OF VOLUNTEER FIREMEN

Ernie Vollan is the new president of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department, having been elected at the recent annual meeting of the organization.

Roy Sorensen was elected secretary; Sam Ewing, treasurer; Claude Savage, assistant chief, and Phil Allen, captain.

James Astell, fire chief, is appointed by the mayor.

1950-1959

FIRE COVERAGE BROADENS WITH ANNEXATIONS

Manning's
BAKERY

Bud
Palmer

Ernie
Vollen

Aubrey
Engels

Phil
Allen

Roy
Sorensen

Claude Savage

Chief
Jim
Astell



Clint
Gray

Carrol
Greenleaf

Howie
Clark

Luke
Milholland

Sam
Ewing

Bill
Eddy

Dave
Crow

FIRE CHIEFS, EQUIPMENT, AND FIRE STATIONS

FIRE CHIEF:

1950 James A. "Jimmy" Astell

EQUIPMENT:

1950 Edmonds main fire engine was Engine #1, a 1938 Ford fire engine. There was a 1923 Chevrolet hose engine as an auxiliary fire unit.

1953 F.M.C. Ford fire engine: A 1953 Ford fire engine built by F.M.C., and had a 155 horse power V/8 motor on a 178 inch wheel base became Edmonds Engine #2. This fire engine had a 750 GPM pump, 750 gallon water tank, and a high pressure pump for two booster reel lines. The purchase price was \$11,450 from Nelson Equipment Company of Seattle. It was used until the 1980s. The unit was red in color. In 1956 this was Edmonds first two-way radio equipped fire engine. This engine being equipped with the high pressure pump for the booster reel hoses and had 200 feet of 3/4 inch hose on each reel. It was said by the guys, "it could peel off roofs or siding material from houses" with the 700 pounds of pressure. Many fires were extinguished with the low volume (water) and high pressure booster hoses. In the late 1960s this method (high pressure/low volume) of fire fighting was discontinued and the high pressure pump on this engine was removed. The engine also had 1200 feet of 2 1/2 inch and two 1 1/2 inch preconnected attack lines.

1959 1959 Roney Ford Fire Engine: A 1959 Ford from Roney Fire Equipment with a 750 GPM pump, 750 gallon water tank, and a high pressure pump for the two booster reel lines was purchased for \$17,559. It was called Engine #3 and used into the 1980s. The unit was red in color. In the late 1960s the high pressure pump on this engine was removed. The engine also had 1200 feet of 2 1/2 inch and two 1 1/2 inch preconnected attack lines.

FIRE STATIONS:

1950 The Yost Auto Company served as Edmonds only fire station until 1961 when Station #2 at Five Corners was built. The Yost Auto garage still served as the "downtown" fire station until 1962.

1950-1959 MEMBERS OF THE EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Allen, Phil	Gray, Clint
Astell, Jimmy	Greenleaf, Carrol
Bartlett, Ralph	Milholland, Luke
Blandin, Abe	Moore, Al
Brown, Richard	Olsen, Ernest
Cain, Chuck	Palmer, Charles
Clark, Howie	Savage, Claude
Crow, Dave	Slye, Dick
Curry, Ken	Sorensen, Ralph
Eddy, Bill	Sorensen, Robert
Engels, Aubrey	Sorensen, Roy
Ewing, Sam	Vollan, Ernie
Francis, Cecil	Weister, Harold

EDMONDS TRIBUNE-REVIEW

March 2, 1950—FIREMEN CALLED TO RAILROAD BLAZE

Edmonds firemen were called out at about 1:30 last Thursday morning to extinguish a fire in the Main Street crossing over the Great Northern sidetrack.

The planking had ignited from oil which leaked from the locomotive of a work train, and when the locomotive was moved to permit the firemen to reach the blaze, the engine itself was found to be afire.

May 11, 1950—TAVERN DAMAGED BY FIRE SUNDAY MORNING

A smoldering fire at the Up & Up Tavern which burst into flames at about 9:45 Sunday morning brought a prompt response from the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department.

Apparently starting from a short-circuit in the motor to the cooling equipment, the fire had eaten its way through the bar, burning a hole about three feet in diameter.

The firemen were obliged to break in the front door to get a stream of water on the blaze, and a gas helmet was required for one of the firemen because of the dense smoke.

Had the blaze not been discovered promptly it would have endangered the Edmonds Cleaners and the Edmonds Bakery on either side of the tavern.

A year or two ago an early morning fire was extinguished at the back of the tavern.

A gas helmet may have been a chemical mask or chemox mask. This was a breathing apparatus that filtered the air, however, there had to be breathable air within the smoke. These were replaced within a few years with self-contained air tanks and masks.

Sunday's loss from fire and smoke was estimated by E. B. Hubbard at \$3,500, fully covered by insurance.

August 3, 1950—FIRE CODE ADOPTED BY CITY COUNCIL

The Edmonds city council Tuesday evening passed a comprehensive fire code which is to be published in full in next week's issue of the *Tribune-Review*.

Modeled on a sample code approved by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, the code had been studied by councilmen for several weeks, during which time one change, at the request of Fire Chief James Astell, had been made to include "sparklers" in the list of prohibited fireworks.

Councilman Maxwell reported that the fire department has received a new resuscitator and that as soon as firemen have had an opportunity to be trained in its use, announcement will be made of its availability in emergencies.

November 30, 1950—FIRE DESTROYS LOCAL FAMILY'S BELONGINGS

Mr. and Mrs. L. O. Lohman and their four sons lost their household goods and clothing when their home, about a half mile south of Edmonds, was damaged by fire on Monday evening of last week at about 10 o'clock.

The family had been away for about 45 minutes and when they returned the house was ablaze and a neighbor already had turned in the alarm. The Edmonds firemen and neighbors helped extinguish the flames before the house became a total loss. The damage was partly covered by insurance.

The fire is believed to have started from a dish of paraffin which apparently boiled over on the stove while they were away.

The Lohman home, on the Edmonds highway, was

formerly the site of the Tucker Auto Rebuild and before that the J. A. Oliver service station. The family is now staying at the home of Mrs. C. A. Wiegand, nearby.

Mrs. Lohman has asked this paper to extend their sincere appreciation to the firemen and to all who assisted and who provided food and clothing so generously.

June 7, 1951—DON'S CAFÉ NOW OPEN FOLLOWING FIRE

Don's Café, located in the Phillips' building at Third Avenue and Edmonds Street, has been reopened for business following a fire on May 26, when an overheated French fryer ignited, said to be due to a faulty thermostat.

The Edmonds Fire Department responded to the call and damage was held to a minimum. Don Braggins, owner of the café, has given the place a new coat of paint.

May 8, 1952—FIREMEN HAMPERED BY LACK OF WATER

Several thousand dollars loss was suffered by the O. L. Kvernenes and J. Kallstrom families of North Edmonds, adjacent to Hummingbird Hill, when an early Tuesday morning fire destroyed two chicken houses, a barn, garage and rabbit hutch.

The flames of undetermined origin were believed to have started in the Kvernenes chicken house about 5 A.M. Mrs. Kvernenes was awakened by the fire, which had already been spotted by Edmonds night Marshal Fechter. He called both the Edmonds Fire Department and Fire Protection District No.1 from Seattle Heights.

The blaze was roaring out of control when the city truck arrived, but the volunteer firemen kept the flames from leaping to other nearby buildings. Efforts of the volunteers were hampered by lack of a fire hydrant, as the fire was outside the city limits. Garden hoses from neighboring homes were used in refilling water tanks on the trucks.

*APPEAL FOR NURSES—Because of the polio cases in Snohomish county, the Red Cross office in Everett has sent out an appeal for volunteer nurses from this area to report immediately. A nurse wishing to volunteer may call Mrs. W.W. Eddy, local Red Cross representative, at Edmonds 393.
From August 18, 1949 Edmonds Tribune—Review*

Thick black smoke swirled in billows from the blaze as the tar roofs and a few old tires fed the flames. Three barrels of old crankcase oil remained unburned near the edge of the fire. The spectacular clouds of smoke rolling upward attracted many early risers to the scene.

May 29, 1952—FIRE CONTROL SET-UP INSPECTION STAGED

Edmonds Refinery of Union Oil Company had its annual fire-control inspection last week by the company's fire protection engineer, G. H. Van Marter. Extinguishing equipment was set up, tested, and used on actual fires.

Routine fire drills are held on a smaller scale throughout the year, but the smoke seen last week was greater than usual. Mr. Van Marter presented a number of advanced problems to the crews, utilizing fog nozzles, chemical extinguishers and "foam powders," which latter compounds lay a blanket of fire-resisting froth over a burning oil surface when mixed with water in a foam "generator."

Dave Crow of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department attended the drills and photographed the tests with his eight millimeter movie camera.

June 19, 1952—BROWNIE'S CAFÉ TO HAVE OPEN HOUSE

Free is the big word used in the announcement this week of the grand opening of Brownie's Café, located just off Main Street on Fourth Avenue in Edmonds. Open house will be held this Sunday from 2 to 5 P.M. and Mr. and

Mrs. Don Brown, owners, say the treats are on them, with free coffee, ice cream and brownies being offered.

Two cooks with many years experience have been obtained to prepare meals, Hazel Slye will be the dinner cook and Vera Sibon will be the fry cook.

October 16, 1952—NEW FIRE TRUCK TO BE VOTED ON

“Happy birthday, you old codger,” is what Edmonds Volunteer firemen are saying to their ancient fire truck today. The outdated apparatus is 14 years, 10 months, 9 days old. It was purchased in January 1938.

Fire Chief Jim Astell said the present fire truck (38Ford) is completely inadequate to handle fire protection duties in Edmonds. That is why members of the local department are urging voters to approve a bond issue for the purchase of a new truck to appear on the ballot November 4. The bonds would raise \$11,450 to supplement \$3,800 already on hand. **Ed note:** *The vote for the new fire truck was approved.*

November 20, 1952—REPAIRS BEING MADE ON EDMONDS FIRE SIREN

Sharp-eared Edmonds residents have noticed a strange silence at 12 noon during the past week.

The punctual shrill of the siren at the Edmonds City Hall has been temporarily stilled for repairs. Its “time to eat” wail is expected to be returned soon.

December 24, 1952—ENGELS HONORED BY CITY OFFICIALS

Thirty-one years of service to the Edmonds fire Department were paid tribute to last Wednesday when retired fire chief Matt Engels was honored with a dinner at Parfitt’s Restaurant on Highway 99. Engels served 20 of those years as chief, retiring in 1947 when Jim Astell, the



Engine #1 was purchased new in January 1938. Engine #2 came in 1953.

EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

present department head, took over the duties. Engels was presented with a gold fire chief’s badge.

Twenty couples attended the dinner, including the following officials and their wives: E. E. Hopper, Port Commission chairman; Otto Sorensen, Postmaster; Herman Sater, Edmonds Chamber of Commerce president; Kenneth Dunsdon, American Legion Commander; Jim Astell, fire chief; G. Mason Hall, Edmonds High School principal; Claude Savage, assistant fire chief; Engels; Phil Allen, fire department captain; Roy Sorensen, fire department secretary; Thomas Tucker, councilman; Sproule McGinness, councilman; Don Tuson, councilman; Aubrey Engels, councilman; Ernie Vollan, councilman; Gordon Maxwell, councilman; Paul McGibbon, mayor; Alfred Holte, city attorney; Max Meyring, engineer, and Louis Busch.

January 8, 1953—COUNCIL STUDIES FIRE TRUCK BIDS AND OTHERS

With the opening of bids on Edmonds’ new fire truck heading the bill, the city council Tuesday evening tackled a heavy slate of business at the New Year’s first session. Six firms submitted bids on the new equipment.

The gasoline contract was won by Union Oil Company who bid 21cents a gallon on Union 76 gasoline.

January 22, 1953—DAMAGE TO HOME CAUSED BY BLAZE

Prompt action by neighbors and the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department confined fire damage to one bedroom in a Tuesday morning blaze at the home of Sgt. and Mrs. Jim Long, 528 Pine Street.

His wife, Ruth, and three children were in the house at the time of the fire, which started in the bedroom of one of the children. Sgt. Long is stationed with the Air force in Japan. No one was in the room at the time the fire started, about 7:15 A.M.

Neighbors Richard Slye and "Nick" Nicholson came to Mrs. Long's aid and had the flames partly controlled when firemen arrived. Damage to the bed covering, mattress, radio, curtain, walls, and ceiling was estimated at \$200, covered by insurance. Cause of the fire was believed to be the radio although no definite cause was established.

The Seattle Heights volunteer fire department also answered the call, but arrived after the fire was under control. The Longs live across the street from the south city limits, an area which is not included in any fire protection district.

April 2, 1953—CHIEF ASTELL URGES CLEANUP PROGRAM

Fires are easy to start and hard to stop this time of year, warns Edmonds Fire Chief James Astell. Astell suggests cleaning up yards, basements and attics to clear out fire danger spots.

April 2, 1953—ENGEL'S RADIO & TV NOW EDMONDS' PHILCO DEALER

Announcement is made this week of the appointment

of Engel's Radio and TV as authorized Philco dealer for this area. Aubrey Engels [*Edmonds volunteer fireman and city councilman*] owner said he would stock a full line of Philco television sets.

Engels has operated his shop for several years in Edmonds. Mr. and Mrs. Engels also carry records in their store on Main Street across from the post office.

July 30, 1953—FIREMEN EXTINGUISH FIRE AT PHILLIPS APARTMENTS

Fire reportedly to have been started by youngsters melting down color crayons badly damaged a storage space between two cabins last Thursday at the Philips Apartments, 303 N. Fourth, Edmonds.

Edmonds firemen answered the alarm at 6:35 P.M. and promptly extinguished the fire before it could spread. Damage mainly was restricted to clothing and suit cases stored in the space. Walls, windows, and doors also were burned. Inside the cabins, paint was blistered and there was some smoke damage.

July 30, 1953—GREENLEAF ELECTED FIREMAN PRESIDENT

Edmonds volunteer firemen named Carroll Greenleaf as their president for the coming year at the department's annual election last Wednesday.

Roy Sorensen was elected secretary and Clint Gray, treasurer. Trustees include Howard Clark, one year; Dave Crow, two years, and Ernie Vollan, three years. Chosen for captain of the crew was Phil Allen.

The chief, Jim Astell, is appointed by the mayor and not elected. Claude Savage is assistant chief.

September 17, 1953—REYNOLDS STUDIO HIT BY BLAZE

Fire struck the Helen Reynolds Photo Studio in



Edmonds Fire Department's 1953 Ford fire engine. CLINT GRAY COLLECTION

Edmonds late Tuesday night, but quick action by the Edmonds Fire and Police Departments, city council, and passerby confined damage to the rear portion of the building. City Policeman Homer Fechter turned in the alarm.

The fire apparently started outside the rear of the studio near oil drums from undetermined origin. Flames quickly burst through the outside wall and spread to the attic. While firemen extinguished the blaze, other volunteers rapidly emptied the building of equipment, furnishings, and photo supplies, preventing larger losses. Besides burning out the rear of the studio, some old negatives were lost to the flames. The city council had just adjourned and was at the Grill when the alarm sounded. Members were among the first on the scene.

January 28, 1954—STANDARD PLANT BLAZE CONFINED TO MAIN DOCK

Brilliant flames and billows of black smoke blossomed high in the sky just before midnight Friday as a spectacular fire swept the Standard Oil Company's pier near Richmond Beach. The petroleum fed fire lighted up the sky in an

awesome spectacle witnessed clearly by hundreds of persons in Edmonds and neighboring areas. It was nearly daylight before it was brought under full control.

The blaze started when a company tanker, the J. L. Hannah, sideswiped the 1,000-foot pier, severing oil lines. Sparks from the collision ignited the fire.

Some 400 50-gallon barrels of various petroleum products stacked on the pier exploded one at a time, sending tremendous bursts of flames high in the sky. From Edmonds, the explosions filled the skyline with what looked like mushrooming atomic clouds. Moments after the collision there was a curtain of flames visible for 20 miles.

Hundreds of Coast Guard men and employees of the oil company, along with volunteer fire departments from many Snohomish and King County points, including the Edmonds equipment, answered the call to battle the blaze. No volunteer trucks went into the plant itself. Many of the Edmonds firemen, some of whom are on the company's fire fighting teams, left their equipment outside and went in to help the fight against the flames. Equipment in the plant, such as Foamite and fog sprayers, are the most effective in fighting that type of fire, with manpower being the main need.

There were no injuries, despite the speed with which the flames raced along the docks and piling and spilled into Puget Sound. Many Coast Guard men and others stood waist deep in the icy waters for hours to control the fire beneath the pier and to protect men fighting it from above. An eight-man dock crew scampered for safety, chased by flames, after the tanker had severed ten feed lines on the pier.

A Foss tug pulled the ship out of danger. Other ships assisting were two 40-foot Coast Guard patrol boats equipped for fire fighting and another 64-foot Coast Guard craft. A Navy boat and two Foss tugs also helped.

A low tide and favorable wind kept the fire from



Department members in 1954 for the 50th anniversary of Edmonds Fire Department.

LEFT TO RIGHT, BOTTOM ROW—Clint Gray, Carrol Greenleaf, Howie Clark, Luke Milholland, Sam Ewing, Bill Eddy and Dave Crow.

TOP ROW—Bud Palmer, Ernie Vollen, Aubrey Engels, Phil Allen, Roy Sorensen, Claude Savage and Jim Astell. COURTESY OF THOMAS DOCKINS

seriously endangering the company's 2,000,000 barrels of fuel oil stored at the "tank farm." Flaming oil on the water drifted away from other installations and was extinguished as it drifted away from shore.

When the fire seemed licked, about 2 A.M. with 500 feet of pier still undamaged, fuel lines on the north section erupted with another brilliant display of flames and the battle was begun anew. Within seconds the remaining half of the pier was enveloped in fire as firemen and officials scampered for safety. Oil spilling from severed pipe lines, which had been shut off but still had some oil between the end and the shutoff point, again seemed to set the water ablaze and fire boats had difficulty getting within effective range.

Efficient fire-fighting techniques practiced month after month by employees of the plant and Coast Guard crews resulted in an orderly battle of the blaze and kept losses and

danger to a minimum. Damage, estimated at \$120,000 plus \$2,500 in products, was confined almost entirely to the pier itself. Business as usual is being carried on from the smaller pier. Company officials pointed out that the isolated location of the plant, practically eliminates any danger to the surrounding area.

March 11, 1954—BUILDING INSPECTION URGED IN EDMONDS BY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Inspections of all business houses and public buildings within the Edmonds city limits, a service that has been let ride during recent years, is the spring goal of the Edmonds Fire Department and building code committee.

Fire Chief Jim Astell said the inspection tours will cover such places as apartment houses, motels, hotels, business buildings and public meeting places.

According to the code committee, owners of such

property need not become alarmed that any drastic changes are in the offing. Purpose of the plan is to help point out faults that may be fire hazards and also weaknesses in construction. The committee prefers to have the owner present when the inspection is being made. Letters will be sent setting a time and date for the tour.

Property holders knowing of any defects that may have been neglected should take steps now, before the inspections, to remedy the faults.

April 1, 1954—FIRE CHIEF ASTELL REQUESTS FORBEARANCE OF CURIOUS

Curious citizens calling the telephone office to ask locations of fires when the siren sounds will be cut off, fire Chief Jim Astell stated this week. He said the calls are a nuisance and a hazard to efficient operation.

“In cooperation with the West Coast Telephone Company, operators are instructed not to give any information on fires, but to cut the call off immediately. It creates a bad situation in the office, hampers any other emergency calls, such as another fire, or others that may be quite important. The cooperation of all citizens in complying with the rules is asked.”

June 17, 1954—FIREMEN ANSWER TWO CALLS ON TUESDAY

Edmonds Volunteer firemen rolled out the equipment twice Tuesday to answer calls, but no damage was reported in either case.

At 9:50 A.M., firemen went to the Bookey residence, 856 Daley Street. A cooking pot had caught fire, according to Fire Chief James Astell.

At 7:55 P.M., a car fire evidently caused by a short in the wiring brought the department to the corner of Fifth and Main. The blaze was put out in short order.

July 22, 1954—FIREMEN ELECT CLARK PREXY

Edmonds volunteer firemen elected Howard Clark president of the department last Wednesday at the annual election of officers.

Roy Sorensen, secretary, and Clint Gray, treasurer, were named to office for another year. Members also re-elected Claude Savage assistant chief and Phil Allen captain.

Other officers named included Sam Ewing, three-year member on the board of trustees, and Luke Milholland, permanent position on the Washington State Firemen's Pension Committee. Dave Crow and Ernie Vollan are carry-overs on the board. Vollan is the group's correspondent.

All the officers are elected except the fire chief, who is appointed by the mayor. James Astell is fire chief.

November 18, 1954—TELEPHONE DIAL SYSTEM STARTS

Edmonds, 42 years of manual telephone service on the Edmonds exchange came to an end. The switchboard at the Edmonds telephone exchange lit up like a Christmas tree right on the stroke of midnight Saturday. The lights on the switchboard signaled the end of an era as a busy crew of West Coast Telephone Company technicians snipped off wires connected to the manual telephone system.

At the same instant the new Halls Lake exchange building, just east of Seattle Heights, went into action, and the impersonal hum of the dial tone replaced the familiar “Number please?”

January 6, 1955—FIREMEN ANSWER CALL AT L. C. RANDALLS

Edmonds firemen answered a call Tuesday night to the L. C. Randall home, 124 Homeland Drive.

Ernie Vollan reports a burned out motor caused lots

of smoke, but no damage. The alarm came in shortly after 10 o'clock.

January 27, 1955—FIRE DAMAGES GARAGE, CAR AND BOAT UNHARMED

Fire of undetermined origin slightly damaged an Edmonds garage Tuesday night, but left unscathed a car and boat housed there.

Firemen answered the call at the Glen Keys garage on Third Avenue about 8:30 P.M. and quickly put the blaze under control. No one was home at the time of the fire. Neighbors turned in the alarm.

March 31, 1955—NEW POLICE CHIEF ANNOUNCES REPLACEMENT OF PRESENT MEN

New Police Chief R. C. "Rube" Grimstad, has hired two new patrolmen, R. T. "Dick" Moran and D. L. "Doug" Crane. The officers and Chief Grimstad will take over their jobs on April 15.

May 12, 1955—FIREMEN ANSWER CALL IN WOODWAY PARK

Edmonds volunteer firemen helped put out a brush fire last Friday morning in Woodway Park at the Sidney Kerr home on the Algonquin Road.

Local firemen answered the call, even though the fire was outside the city limits and outside their jurisdiction. The Woodway Park area has no fire protection system. Edmonds equipment at times answers calls there strictly on a volunteer basis.

Fire Chief James Astell said a serious fire could happen in the unprotected district if nearby fire fighting equipment was tied up elsewhere and couldn't respond.

June 30, 1955—FIRE? NOPE—JUST PRACTICE

Clouds of smoke and flame billowing into the sky

had a number of Edmonds residents alarmed last Wednesday night, until it turned out to be a drill for the Edmonds fire department.

Fire Chief James Astell, said the department received permission to burn down an old frame house on 6 1/2 Street which the owner had planned to raze.

"It was the first real practice drill we've had since we got the new truck," the chief explained.

The heavy smoke was caused when a double shingled roof which had been papered over finally caught fire. However Chief Astell said he regarded the drill as a success, and his men had a good workout in combating actual fire conditions.

July 21, 1955—WOODWAY VOTERS OK FIRE DISTRICT

Voters of Woodway Park over-whelming approved formation of a fire protection district there in a special election Friday, according to David Whitcomb Jr., one of the three commissioners elected.

As soon as the results are certified to the county commissioners, the new Snohomish County Fire Protection District 13 will become official.

September 15, 1955—CITY BROWS UNFURROWED BY FIRE DISTRICT THREAT TO REFUSE AID

Mayor Gordon Maxwell of Edmonds said today the city isn't particularly worried about a threat by commissioners of Fire Protection District 1 to refuse any calls for aid from Edmonds unless the city signs a mutual protection contract with the district.

"We have had no occasion to call on the fire district for help since it was organized, nor have they called us," Mayor Maxwell said, "although on two occasions the fire district sent its truck to Edmonds to help fight fires without our calling them."

As for a dispute between the city and the fire district, Mayor Maxwell said he was unaware of any controversy.

“The fire district asked us to sign a contract, and after considerable study, we refused,” the mayor said. “The state law is very clear on the subject, saying that any fire department shall go to the aid of another fire department when it is called upon by the fire chief. We have that sort of verbal understanding with the Paine Air Force Base fire department and King county No. 4 (Richmond Beach), and we’ve always had it with the fire district.”

The mayor said the city has always enjoyed good relations with the fire district and is “a little confused” over the district’s insistence on a signed contract.

“No one from the fire district has ever appeared before the City Council with such a request,” the mayor said. “However Fire Chief James Astell did go to a fire commissioners’ meeting, and explained to them why we did not feel a written contract is necessary. We just don’t see why we should tie up on a contract which might have some kickback, when the state law on mutual aid is very clear.”

At Friday night’s meeting of the fire commissioners, they said they would instruct Fire Chief Carl Eisen to ignore any calls for aid from Edmonds unless the city signed the contract.

The fire commissioners also authorized, Dr. D. E. McArthur, chairman, to make arrangements for construction of an addition to Station 3 at Lake Serene to make space for a larger fire truck there. They also discussed possibility of locating a new station in the fire district, to serve the area now being proposed for annexation.

October 13, 1955—FAMILY OF 5 BARELY ESCAPES FIRE WHICH WIPES OUT ALL POSSESSIONS

About 2:30 Saturday morning Ken Perin was awakened in his home at 604 Fifth Avenue when his wife had a fit of



Fire fighting is back-breaking work. STAFF PHOTO

coughing and bumped him with her elbow. Or perhaps it was a pounding on his front door which roused him from a sound sleep.

At any rate, Mr. Perin came out of his sleep to realize he was smelling smoke—and then he was awake instantly.

“Wake up—Fire!” he shouted. He and his wife leaped from bed into a room filled with smoke, and flames licking under the door.

“We just barely had time to get our three children out of there,” Mr. Perin said later that morning. “It must not have been more than 30 seconds after I awoke before we had the kids out.”

With the stairway blocked by flames, Mr. and Mrs. Perin and their three youngsters, John, 10; Howard, 7; and Jimmy, 3; were out on the roof of their front porch. Just as John, the last jump from the porch, hit the ground, a window behind them exploded from the heat, and flames burst out of it.

Out in the middle of the street stood the Edmonds city police car. Stan Killam, a member of the local police reserve set up by Chief Grimstad, had just taken another

reserve policeman home and was coming down Fifth Avenue when he saw flames coming out of the back of the house. Mr. Killam stopped in mid-street and ran to the house, knocking on the door until he heard movement inside. Then he ran down the street and turned in the fire alarm.

“We heard the fire siren as we were jumping off the porch roof,” Mr. Perin relates.

Everything was lost. The Perins, barely escaping with their lives, had no time to take anything except the night clothes they were wearing. Mr. Perin estimated the loss of the contents at \$9,500.

Fire Chief James Astell said the house was a total loss, even though the walls and roof remained, but he had no estimate of its value. The fire chief said the fire probably started in the kitchen, either from defective wiring in the water heater or from the oil stove.



Steve Beck, local drive co-chairman for the United Good Neighbors, quickly went into action. Two member agencies of the UGN responded: the Red Cross supplying clothing, and the Edmonds Community Chest supplying groceries. The Rotary Club put the family up in a motel. Other offers of aid rolled in from the Parent-Teachers Association and American Legion.

November 17, 1955—COUNCIL OK'S FIRE PROTECTION FOR WOODWAY

Edmonds will furnish fire protection to Fire District 13 (Woodway Park) during the coming year for a \$100 monthly fee, under terms of a contract approved by City Council Tuesday night.

November 17, 1955—SPARK FROM SANDER BLAMED IN \$35,000 EHS SHOP FIRE

Reconstruction of a section of the Edmonds High

School arts and crafts wing which was burned out early Thursday morning will start soon, Supt. Harold Silvernail told the *Tribune-Review*.

The superintendent estimated the fire caused a total of about \$35,000 damage including \$20,000 damage to the building and from \$10,000 to \$15,000 in equipment. The loss was fully covered by insurance.

An investigation by the State Fire Marshal's office placed the blame for the fire on a spark from a sander which got into a sawdust bag, rather than spontaneous combustion as originally supposed, said Mr. Silvernail. The spark evidently smoldered in the sawdust all afternoon and evening, finally erupting during the night.

Edmonds Patrolman Doug Crain discovered the fire and promptly called the Edmonds Fire Department. Firemen were on the scene for more than two hours.

December 29, 1955—TALBOT PARK LAD RESCUED FROM MUD SLIDE BY EDMONDS VOLUNTEER FIREMEN

Mud and boys usually get along pretty well together, but not in the case of nine-year-old Bennett Rodgers of Talbot Park, who was trapped waist deep in mud for more than an hour Tuesday morning.

Young Bennett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Rodgers, was playing with an older brother and a neighbor boy near a collapsed mud bank at Brown's Bay Boathouse when he became mired down in the mud. The boys notified Mrs. Rodgers, who telephoned for aid and then ran to her son's rescue.

Edmonds Fire Chief James Astell and volunteer fireman Dave Crow, who were first to arrive on the scene, were able to extricate the boy after a long struggle against the oozing mud. Almost as fast as the men dug, the mud slid back into place around the boy's legs. Mr. Crow said they worked their way down to the youth's ankle, but the suction

was so great they had to dig farther to free his leg.

The firemen were assisted by Edmonds Police Chief R. C. Grimstad and Sheriff Bob Twitchell. Chief Grimstad put a rope around the boy's chest and held him up while firemen dug away the mud. When freed, the boy was taken to Edmonds and then to Providence Hospital in Everett for treatment for shock. He was unharmed.

February 6, 1956—FIRE DISTRICT 13 COMMISSIONERS TO MEET

Commissioners of Fire District 13 will meet at the home of David Whitcomb Jr. in Woodway Park. Any residents of the district are welcome to attend and take up any problems they may have.

Mr. Whitcomb announces that fire permits for the district are issued through the Edmonds city hall.

He also asks residents of Fire District 13 to remember that the telephone number to report a fire is GReenwood 1212, same as the Edmonds fire department.

February 23, 1956—COUNCIL OK'S PURCHASE OF POLICE RADIO

Edmonds City Council authorized Police Chief R. C. Grimstad to apply for matching funds from the county civil defense office for a complete two-frequency radio network for the city.

The four mobile units would be installed in the police car, both fire trucks, and one of the utility trucks. He said actual purchase of the base station and the extra mobile stations could await the city's need for such equipment.

The Council also authorized the city attorney to look into ordinances creating fire departments in other cities the size of Edmonds at the request of Fire Chief James Astell.

Chief Astell asked the council to consider adopting an up-to-date ordinance governing the fire department. He said the present ordinance provides for a fire chief and a

budget, but fails to take into account the many other functions of the fire department as it now exists.

March 1, 1956—NIGHT PATROLMAN SPOTS STORE FIRE

Alert action by Edmonds Patrolman Richard Moran prevented possible serious damage to Ken's Feed and Garden Store on Fifth Street when fire broke out in the back room early Saturday morning. Officer Moran was on routine patrol of the area when he noticed smoke in the building, and called the fire department.

A heat lamp, hung over a lot of day old chicks, had slipped to the floor and charred its way completely through the floor.

Damage was confined to the floor and the chicks, which died from the effects of smoke and water.

Sparks from the floor had fallen onto a pile of loose hay in the basement of the building, but firemen arrived and put it out before any damage could result.

May 10, 1956—FIRE CHIEF HAS HOT TIME

Edmonds Fire Chief Jim Astell didn't have to go far when the fire siren sent up a wail Sunday afternoon.

The fire was right on his own roof!

The chief was spending a pleasant afternoon burning brush in his back yard, when a freshening westerly breeze began peppering the roof of the Astell home with sparks, setting it afire.

Mrs. Astell turned in an alarm, and Edmonds firemen responded with their usual promptness. By the time they arrived, however, the Fire Chief already had things pretty well under control, with the damage confined to the roof itself. But the ribbing by the chief's fellow firemen was a little hard to control, and was still crackling merrily some days later.

June 7, 1956—FIREMAN HELPS FIGHT OWN FIRE

With their usual speed and efficiency, Edmonds volunteer firemen responded to a fire alarm at the Shopping Cart grocery Monday afternoon.

Ernie Vollan, part owner of the store and a fireman himself, hardly had put the phone down from calling in the alarm when the truck rolled up to his back door. Fireman Vollan then joined in putting out the fire.

The fire was mostly smoke, created when a large number of plastic berry boxes were stuffed into the incinerator. Damage was minor, as the fire department set up a blower to remove the smoke from the back room of the building.

Damage was confined to one wall of a house on the waterfront near the Northwest Fur Bleeders building when fire broke out in a wall furnace Friday afternoon. Overheating of the furnace was blamed for the fire.

June 14, 1956—NEW FIRE UNIT ABOUT READY FOR ACTIVATION

The new fire station at 231st St. and 88th W. should be going into operation within the next few weeks, commissioners of Fire Protection District 1 announced at their meeting Friday night.

Chief Eisen said training will start this week for a crew of 18 volunteer firemen now recruited for the station. The biggest need is for more men who will be available during the day, he said.

The new station will serve the Esperance area southeast of Edmonds. **Ed. note:** *This is the location of Edmonds Station 20.*

Fires are easy to start and hard to stop any time of year, warns Edmonds Fire Chief Jim Astell. Astell suggests cleaning up yards, basements and attics to clear out fire danger spots.

June 21, 1956—FIREMEN HAVE ROUNDABOUT RUN

Edmonds firemen had quite a run around the countryside last Thursday when an alarm was turned in from the Rev. Robert Cummings home “two houses south of the church.”

Knowing that he is vicar of St. Alban’s Episcopal Church, the Edmonds firemen barreled out Edmonds Way, and came to a halt two houses south of the church. The only commotion they could find, however, was from neighbors all excited to see the fire truck on hand, red lights blinking, and firemen ready for action.

After a little checking, the firemen learned that the Rev. Mr. Cummings lives two houses south of St. Matthews Lutheran Church, at 5 Corners, rather than his own church. They didn’t need to check any further to find that the call therefore wasn’t even in their jurisdiction, being outside the city limits. However, as long as they had the truck out anyway, they went on over, meanwhile notifying Fire Protection District 1.

Fortunately there was more smoke than fire, and the Edmonds department extinguished it quickly, so that all was well by the time Fire District trucks arrived from Alderwood Manor and Seattle Heights.

Firemen suggest it would be a good idea for residents of the area to make sure what number they should call to report a fire, and then be sure to give the exact street address, to avoid any delay in getting firemen to the scene, and possible loss of their home.

August 23, 1956—CITY FIRE TRUCK HAS RADIO COMMUNICATION

Installation of a new two-way radio in one of the Edmonds city fire trucks has been completed, making possible direct communications between the fire department and the police or sheriff’s offices or cars while out on a fire call.

The installation will enable firemen, through the Mountlake Terrace telephone hookup, to call ambulances, the water department, any law enforcement department, or their own or other fire departments directly from the scene of a fire.

Another radio is planned for the other fire truck soon.
Ed. note: This radio was installed in Engine #2, the 1953 Ford.

September 13, 1956—FIREMEN ATTEND SPECIAL SCHOOL

Chief James A. Astell, David W. Crow, Roy P. Sorensen, Robert B. Sorensen, Carroll V. Greenleaf, and Allyn L. Moore attended a two day oil fire control school in Tacoma Friday and Saturday. The specialized training is being offered for the first time in the Pacific Northwest to firemen from 592 communities in Washington and Oregon.

September 27, 1956—EDMONDS HIGH SCHOOLERS VOLUNTEER WORK ON FIRE HYDRANT CLEAN-UP

Thanks to some 75 Edmonds High School students, the diet of Asst. Supt. Fred Williams of the Edmonds city water department won't include grass next year.

The high school students several weeks ago decided to take on a civic project to better the community, part of a nationwide competition among high schools, and having heard a good deal about brush-obscurd fire hydrants, announced they would paint up the city's fireplugs and clean our the brush from around them.

September 27, 1956—HOT CAR COOLED OFF BY EDMONDS FIREMEN

Edmonds firemen doused a hot 1932 Ford at the corner of Fifth and Dayton Street Friday afternoon when it burst into flames in a gas station.

The car had run out of gas and had just been filled when it backfired and burst into flames. Service station attendants helped push it into the street, where firemen worked over it with fire extinguishers to put out the fire.

January 31, 1957—FIRE SIREN BLOWS, BUT RECORD UNBROKEN

Two alarms Sunday afternoon sent Edmonds firemen scurrying to the fire hall, but both proved to be false alarms.

A short circuit caused by a loose wire in the city hall relay system was blamed for the alarms.

Edmonds hasn't had a real fire since October 28th.

February 14, 1957—FIREMAN ON HAND FOR OWN ALARM

A member of the Edmonds Fire Department gave his fellow volunteers their first call since Oct. 28 about 8 o'clock Monday morning.

The call of the siren brought the local smoke eaters out for a quick run around the block to the Ewing Electric Co. office on Main Street—where they found an electrical fire!



It apparently was caused by cartons piled high enough in the warehouse that they touched an electric light bulb, which ignited them.

Thus Sam Ewing joins Ernie Vollan and James Astell in the ranks of firemen who have had fires at their own places and have had to call out the department for help.

The fire caused little damage except to the contents of two or three of the cartons.

February 21, 1957—SPECTACULAR N. EDMONDS FIRE RAZES LANDMARK, CUTS UTILITIES

A spectacular fire that leveled a North Edmonds

landmark Wednesday night knocked out power services to most of Edmonds and surrounding area from two and a half to six hours, and telephone service to 400 homes.

The fire completely destroyed the old Brookside Inn, on Olympic View Drive just north of 196th, which in recent years was the residence of the late Katherine Knowlton. Since her death the building had been abandoned.

The fire was first noticed by passersby about 6:45 P.M., and neighbors telephoned the alarm to both Edmonds and Fire District 1. Although the fire was outside the city, both Edmonds trucks were sent to the scene, one standing by as district firemen from the Alderwood and Seattle Heights stations fought the fire.

The old building burst into a roaring inferno shortly after the fire was first noticed, and flames melted power and telephone wires. Firemen and persons attracted to the scene were endangered by the snapping hot wires until the Public Utility District threw the switches at the Edmonds substation at 7:18 P.M., cutting all power off the burned wires, as well as to all Edmonds north of Dayton Street.

PUD crews worked until after midnight restoring power lines serving the North Edmonds and Seaview Heights areas.

Several transformers along Olympic View Drive caught fire, and some residents of the neighborhood reported ranges, television sets and other appliances shorted out by the damage to power lines.

Fire Chief Carl Eisen said cause of the fire was unknown, but said that it followed a pattern of incendiary fires which have occurred in unoccupied buildings recently.

The Edmonds Tribune-Review reported in September 1956:
Edmonds fire fighters took specialized training in oil fire control, at a two-day school being offered for the first time in Washington and Oregon.

February 28, 1957—BOYS ADMIT SETTING FIRE

Two 11-year-old boys playing with matches in an abandoned building (The Brookside Inn) on Olympic View Drive just north of 196th S.W., Wednesday of last week did a lot more than burn down the building.

They started a fire which cost public utilities an estimated \$2,500 in damage, brought everything to a halt in most of the Edmonds business and residential section when the power was off from two to four hours, put hundreds of telephones out of order for periods ranging from a few hours to several days, and ruined appliances, meter boxes and wiring circuits in several dozen homes.

The boys told Police Chief R. C. Grimstad they actually started the fire about 5 P.M. Wednesday, in insulation inside the building and left the building a half hour later, unable to extinguish the fire they had started, but afraid to report it.

February 28, 1957—BROOKSIDE INN FIRE ENDS STORY OF DREAMS NEVER QUITE FULFILLED

When the onetime Brookside Inn went up in a spectacular burst of flame last Wednesday night, it created far more of a stir than it ever did when it was operating.

The history of the building goes back 37 years. The grand opening was an open air pavilion for dances. It later became the Brookside Inn specializing in chicken and squab dinners.

The Inn never caught on particularly with Edmonds people—largely because Edmonds was a little town of less than a 1,000 population then, and local folks just weren't much for dining out. But it did enjoy a good weekend trade for a period of 3 to 4 years, mostly Seattle people who drove out Saturday evening or Sunday afternoons for a chicken dinner in the country.

March 7, 1957—CITY TO KEEP HYDRANT CHECK

Edmonds councilmen recently were told of a new plan for keeping records on all fire hydrants in the city, out of the city but on city water mains, or in the city in areas served by Alderwood Water District or Olympic View Water District.

The plan was developed by City Supervisor Donald Lawson after a hydrant at 196th S.W. and Olympic View Drive was found to have been turned off when fire destroyed the Brookside Inn. The hydrant had been installed shortly after Christmas, but had never been turned on.

Under the new plan, every hydrant will be numbered, and the city will keep a book showing the number and location of each hydrant.

The plan is designed to eliminate the possibility of any hydrant being turned off without the fire department knowing of it, or returned to service without the full knowledge of the fire department.

March 7, 1957—TOO MUCH WATER, FIREMEN CALLED

Edmonds fireman David Crow responded Tuesday to a call that involved too much water, rather than the lack of it.

An automatic washing machine in the home of Mrs. Lorin J. Mathews, 136 Sunset Avenue, wouldn't stop when it was full of water, and just kept pouring water out on the floor. Unable to stop the flood, Mrs. Mathews called the fire department, and Fireman Crow responded.

He not only managed to shutoff the flow of water right away, but stayed around to help clean up the water on the floor before leaving.

The fire department decided at its last meeting to consider any emergency condition involving property damage as a proper sphere for the department.

September 19, 1957—GRANDSTAND WORST FIRE HAZARD IN CITY, FIRE CHIEF DECLARES

The Edmonds High School grandstand and field house are the worst fire hazards in the city, Edmonds fire Chief James Astell told school directors Monday night.

He said his inspection of the grandstand showed it is stuffed full of old desks stored beneath it, along with paint and gasoline, and many evidences of small fires started by youngsters. The field house is used as a tool shop and also for storage, and has a furnace. Neither of the frame structures has any fire extinguisher, the chief said.

School Board President Levy Johnston said the board would be delighted to get full reports from the fire chiefs.

September 26, 1957—FIREMEN FIGHT BLAZE; SPECTACULAR DOWNTOWN FIRE CAUSES \$15,000 DAMAGE TO OLD BUILDING

Smoke fed by a tar paper roof billowed out over the Edmonds business section Monday afternoon as fire gutted a frame building on Fifth Avenue at the foot of Dayton. Firemen direct water into the building while a hose snakes across the street to another group of firemen concealed by gasoline service pumps.

A spectacular downtown fire shortly after noon Monday gutted an old frame building at Main and Dayton Streets, causing damage estimated by Fire Chief James Astell at approximately \$15,000.

The building which houses the Kurtz and Eckley welding shop and the Oak Lake Heating Manufacturing Company burst into a billowing cloud of smoke and flame within moments after the fire was first noticed.

Adding to the fire danger was its location between a service station on one side, and oxygen and acetylene tanks stored in the welding shop on the other side.

The building is owned by Mrs. A. B. Miller. Most of the \$15,000 damage was to stocks of the Oak Lake firm,

which was covered by insurance. Edmonds firemen were able to control the blaze before it could cause serious damage to the Kurtz and Eckley business next door.

Chief Astell said the fire started in a pile of rubbish outside the back of the building. He speculated it might have been started by a workman throwing a cigarette out a back window. The fire started just as the men were finishing lunch.

Firemen and volunteers from the crowd of spectators worked to move cars from the parking lot of the George Attebery service station next door before fire got to them, and to remove oxygen and acetylene tanks from the Kurtz and Eckley building before they exploded.

Erik Erickson, owner of Edmonds Lumber Co., also thanked the many people who helped save materials stacked along the wall of the burning building for him.

January 2, 1958—COUNCIL BOOSTS CITY BUDGET TO MEET ANNEXATION EXTRA NEED

The Edmonds City Council passed an emergency ordinance at a recessed meeting Dec. 23 to provide \$6,240 in additional funds for several departments. The extra funds were needed to pay for additional services provided to newly annexed areas—services not contemplated when the 1957 budget was adopted.

Mayor Gordon Maxwell was authorized to send a letter to Fire District 13 to open negotiations on a new contract between the city and the fire district.

The Edmonds fire department has been providing fire protection to Fire District 13, which includes Woodway Park and an area to the south of Woodway Park, for \$1,200 per year.

January 16, 1958—FIREMEN ATTEND TRAINING SCHOOL

Members of the Edmonds fire department this week

started attending semi-monthly sessions of a fire school conducted by the state vocational training department at the Richmond Highlands station of King County Fire District 4.

The school will consist of three hour sessions on the second and fourth Monday night each month until July. Chief James Astell said he expects every man in the department to participate. Several members of the department have attended similar schools in the past, but will attend this school, too.

February 20, 1958—WOODWAY BECOMES CITY BY 19 VOTES

By a margin of just 19 votes out of 183 ballots cast, the incorporation of the fourth class city of Woodway was approved in a special election held in the area Tuesday.

The vote was 99 to 80. The new city includes all the area south of Union Oil Company's property to the county line, and west of 108th W., except for the Standard Oil Co, refinery and dock. Estimated population of the area is 400.

February 27, 1958—SCOUT PROMPT, SO ARE FIREMEN

Martin VanOeveren, son of Mr. and Mrs. VanOeveren, 22811 100th W., lived up to his Boy Scout promise to be prepared, by turning in a fire alarm Sunday morning.

Martin was riding past the Westgate Shopping Center on his bicycle when he noticed smoke coming out of the Westgate Coffee shop. He ran into the drug store next door and called the Edmonds Fire Department. He had the fire number at his finger tips because he had learned it in Scouting.

Firemen responded promptly and put out the fire, caused by grease overheating on the stove, and Martin went home.

When his mother asked him if he had told anyone that he had turned in the alarm, she said Martin replied: “Of course but, I was just doing what any Scout would do.”

November 6, 1958—TAX LEVY REQUESTS GET COLD RECEPTION, FIRE TRUCK IS EXCEPTION

Anything that cost money got a fishy eye from south County voters in Tuesday’s voting—except the City of Edmonds’ proposal to put on a one-mill levy for a new fire truck.

The fire truck levy passed by a vote of 1,348 to 591.

November 13, 1958—COUNCIL SETS UP FIRE CONTRACT WITH WOODWAY: \$3,000 SUM INVOLVED

Edmonds City Council Tuesday night agreed to terms suggested by the Town of Woodway for a contract between the two cities, under which Edmonds will continue to provide fire protection to Woodway for the coming year.

Woodway will pay Edmonds three mills on its assessed valuation, less \$300 which Woodway will keep to maintain fire hydrants during the first year of its operation.

January 22, 1959—COUNCILMEN LEFT TALKING TO SELVES WHEN SIREN BLOWS DURING MEETING

Edmonds City Council abruptly lost a good part of its audience Tuesday evening, in an exodus that even involved one of the councilmen. Bids had been opened for a new fire truck, and about half of the fire department including Chief James Astell were poring over the bids trying to make up their minds which piece of equipment was the best for the money. The council was deliberating on various other matters pending a decision from the firemen.

Then the fire siren sounded. Coattails flapping, Councilman Roy Sorensen (*a fireman*) and all the assembled



The new 1959 Ford fire engine became Edmonds Fire Department Engine No. 3.
STAN OLSON COLLECTION

members of the fire department, together with a couple of newsmen, deserted the council to chase the fire.

The fire itself was an anticlimax, as many of them are, in no way matching the excitement that preceded it. The fire at 8104 212th S.W., consisted of a basement fireplace throwing a little smoke into the recreation room.

It was about an hour, however, before things got back to normal at city hall, and firemen were able to make the recommendation that resulted in purchase of a new fire engine for the city.

January 22, 1959—CITY BUYS NEW FIRE TRUCK

Acting on the recommendation of members of the fire department, council authorized Mayor Gordon Maxwell to enter into a contract for purchase of a new fire truck. Funds for the purchase were authorized last fall when voters approved a \$17,500 general obligation bond issue.

Fire Chief James Astell recommended acceptance of the low bid of Roney’s, Inc., at \$17,559. He said the apparatus offered by Roney met all the specifications set



A 24-hour dispatch system is manned by city hall crews during the day. Nights and weekends the job is divided between Sadie Christiansen, James Cole, Herman Roeper and Allan May.
EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

up by the city. The bidder agreed to make delivery in about 90 days.

January 22, 1959—FIRE HITS LOCAL HOME

Speedy action by the Edmonds Fire Department prevented the total destruction of the William W. Day home at Sixth and Main Street Monday afternoon. Damage was confined to the second story, even though smoke already was pouring out the roof before the fire was discovered.

Mr. Day had turned on the oil stove and waited too long before lighting the fire.

Firemen responded so quickly that hoses were being strung from nearby hydrants even before the siren had stopped sounding.

Edmonds fireman Cecil Francis dodged a cloud of smoke as he fought the fire. The fire severely damaged the second story of the old frame house. The fire started in a second story closet, apparently when flames from an overheated oil stove in the living room below broke through the chimney.

May 28, 1959—NO MORE RAIDS

SPECTACULAR FIRE DESTROYS EL RANCHO

SUNDAY MORNING

The long and checkered career of the El Rancho came

to a fiery end early Sunday morning in a blaze that demolished the 30-year-old frame structure and brought seven fire trucks to the scene.

Although the building at 220th and Highway 99 is in territory annexed to Edmonds May 12, the first alarm was turned in to Fire District 1.

Edmonds Police Sgt. Douglas Crain saw the flames and then called Edmonds fire department, after the fire district trucks were on the scene. Mountlake Terrace firemen also joined in fighting the spectacular blaze, one of the Terrace men, Richard Redford, receiving an injured shoulder when a hose unkinked and struck him. He returned to duty after treatment of his injuries by a physician.

The state fire marshal's office is investigating the cause of the blaze, which local firemen were unable to determine.

Edmonds firemen were called back to the scene again Monday morning at 7 when some smoldering embers blazed up again, but the second fire was quickly extinguished.

Estimates of damage varied. Edmonds Chief James Astell said he estimated the structure itself at \$25,000, but H. B. Nielsen of Seattle, owner of the property, placed the loss at \$200,000, presumably including its' furnishings.

The El Rancho had been the subject of periodic raids and closure ever since it opened back in the prohibition days of the 1920s.

More additions were built onto the original structure, a particularly big addition about 20 years ago, and all these little rooms and walls hampered firemen in combating the fire.

June 11, 1959—NEW FIRE TRUCK GOES INTO SERVICE

Edmonds fire Department took delivery of its newest fire truck, a 750 gallon-a-minute pumper and ran it through a series of tests at Echo Lake last week which

proved “entirely satisfactory” to Chief James Astell and his 20 man crew.

November 29, 1959—FIREMEN SLEEP EASIER

The 24 hour dispatch system in operation for the Edmonds police and fire department is working smoothly, according to Police Chief Grimstad.

The regular city hall crew acts as dispatchers during the day, and during the night and weekend hours the job is

divided between Sadie Christiansen, James Cole, Herman Roeper and Allan May.

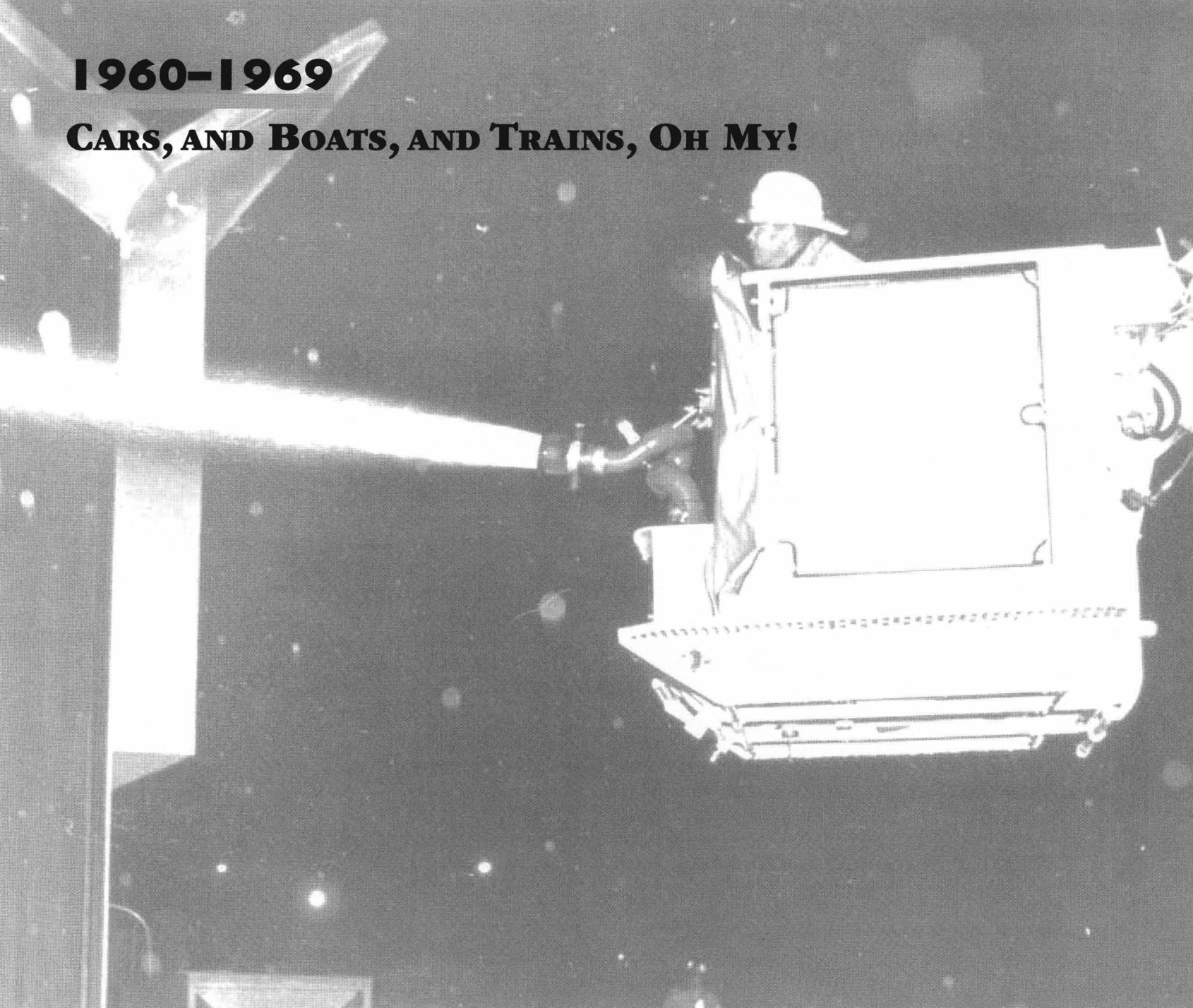
The system will make it possible for the fire phones to be removed from the homes of most of the firemen. These phones all rang at once when the fire number was called, and all the firemen answered. In many cases the calls were for information only, a fact the firemen understandably failed to appreciate in being roused out of bed at 3 A.M.



Group picture of drill night participants at Edmonds Junior High. JACK COOPER COLLECTION

1960-1969

CARS, AND BOATS, AND TRAINS, OH MY!



FIRE CHIEFS, EQUIPMENT, FIRE STATIONS, GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

FIRE CHIEFS:

1960 J. A. "Jimmy" Astell
1965 Jack Cooper

EQUIPMENT:

1960 Engine #1, a 1938 Ford
1960 Engine #2, a 1953 F.M.C. Ford.
1960 Engine #3, a 1959 Roney Ford Fire Engine.
1960 1923 Chevrolet hose engine.
1960 Rescue #4, a 1960 Ford Roney Rescue/First Aid Truck. A 1960 Ford 1-ton, V-8 motor, 5 speed manual transmission, first aid and rescue unit was purchased for \$6,095. This truck was equipped with first aid equipment and extra fire fighting equipment not carried on the engines. It was used until the early 1970s, when given to the street department. The unit was red in color.
1963 American LaFrance Ford Engine: A 1963 Ford American LaFrance fire engine with a 1250 GPM pump, 500 gallon water tank, and two booster reel lines was purchased for \$29,000 and was called Engine #5. It was used into the early 1990s and it was the last fire engine with a manual transmission. The unit was red. In the early 1970s it was repainted yellow and equipped with 3½ inch supply hose, and one of the hose reels was removed.

1964 The 1923 Chevrolet hose car was only used for fun.
1965 1965 Ford Ranch Station Wagon: A 1965 Ford station wagon was purchased and used as the fire chief's car. A few years later it was the first Edmonds Fire Department aid car/ambulance. The station wagon was white and used into the 1970s for the fire inspector and general business.
1966 Portable pump: In 1966, department members built a portable 200 GPM pump with a gas operated 4 cycle engine. It was equipped with two sections of 2½ inch hard suction and two 1½ inch pre-connected fire hoses with nozzles. All of this was mounted on two tires and could be pulled or carried on a vehicle to where it may be needed.
1969 Crown Snorkel Ladder Truck: Edmonds first ladder truck was a 1969 Crown with a Snorkel 65 foot aerial articulating arm with a basket. It came with 209 feet of ground ladders including the "one & only 45 foot 'Bangor' ladder with poles." It had a 1500 GPM pump, no water tank, and 3½ inch fire hose for supplying water. It was Edmonds first fire department vehicle to be painted yellow, and to have a diesel motor. It had a manual 5-speed transmission with an over drive gear. It was not very easy to shift gears. This was the first fire vehicle with covered seats behind the cab; no more riding the 'tail-board.' The purchase price was \$86,000. It was used until 2001.

FIRE STATIONS:

1960 The Yost Auto Company served as Edmonds only fire station until 1961 when Station #2 at Five Corners was built. The Yost Auto garage still served as the “downtown” fire station until 1962.

1961 The Five Corners fire station opened in 1961 and closed in 2003. It was located on Bowdoin Way west of Five Corners, at 8505 Bowdoin Way. This fire station was to be known as Station #2, later Station #6, and then Station #16. An explanation of the numbering system will follow later.

It was built by McDonald Construction Co. of Seattle at a cost of \$18,816 in 1961. This station had two engine bays, a meeting room, kitchen, and a bathroom with a shower. The building was a red brick structure. A station siren and radio antennas were mounted on the roof a few years later.

Engine #2 was first stationed here in October 1961. The 1923 Chevrolet hose wagon was also here. Firemen assigned to this station in October 1961 were Captain Clint Gray, Gary Stewart, Arthur Bourassa, Charles King, Harry Wagner, Arvid Olson, Ed Bartels, and Jerry Dawes.

By 1973 the station was remodeled by raising the rear area up one story to provide living quarters for 24 hour on-duty coverage. There were four “fold into the wall” beds. This station was the *only* Edmonds station to have a “fire pole.” In 1991 the brass pole was removed to make room for a much needed report office and expanded bedroom and locker room upstairs. The brass pole was the

last in use in south Snohomish County. The same brass pole now has a home in the entranceway of the new Fire Station 16, a memento of the old station, and in remembrance of the old tradition of sliding the pole to respond on a call.

A small metal building was added behind the station which was to be used for storage. It had an air compressor and cascade system for filling air bottles, and room to park an additional fire engine. Around 1980 the metal building was replaced by a wooden two-bay addition with a work station in a small upper loft. In 1995 the original two-bay fire station was determined to be unsafe due to the many cracks in the outside walls. Many of the worst cracks were from a 4.8 earthquake that struck the area in February 1995. In March 1995 the Station 16 crews were moved out of the brick building and into a 24-foot motor home for one month until the city was able to lease a used modular home [*one that the Bellevue Fire department had built for themselves and was used for a short time while they had a station built*]; it was moved next to the station in April 1995 and used until 2003 for living and business areas. A new Station #16 has been built at 8429 196th Street S.W.

1962 Civic Center or Station #1 from 1962 to 2000. The fire station was located at 250 5th Avenue N., with the bays facing Edmonds Street. It was built by Venne Beauchamp of Everett at a cost of \$322,322. This complex included not only the fire department, but also the police

department, city hall, and the library. This station was to be known as Edmonds' station #1, or "Headquarters," later Station #7, and then Station #17.

Engines #3 and #1 along with the rescue truck #4 were stationed here in November 1962, and Fire Chief Astell had his own office. There were four bays, a kitchen, sleeping area, a large restroom, several basement storage rooms, a fire siren on the roof, and a hose tower to hang wet fire hose. Firemen assigned to this station in 1962 were Jim Bentler, Abe Blandin, Don Burton, Chuck Cain, Howe Clark, Dave Crow Asst. Chief, Bill Eddy, Carroll Greenleaf, Dean Hughes, George Kopan, Luke Milholland, Al Moore, Charles Palmer, Dick Slye, Roy and Robert Sorensen, Roy Swanson, Doug Torell, and Ernie Vollan. In 1963 the new four paid fulltime firemen were stationed here. They were firemen and "Civic Center" janitors. In 1966 the bedroom or dorm had a 24-hour fireman and sometimes a "sleeper." By 1969 there were two small remodels done. One was adding a new and larger fire chief's office above the bays and off the old chief's office which was used by the secretary, and a radio room/Assistant Chief's office at the foot of the stairs in the bay area. Also a large storage room in the basement (without windows) became the Lieutenant's and Fire Inspector's office. Over the years this station would house many different pieces of fire equipment. The fire sirens at both fire stations were sounded day and night to alert

the fire fighters. However, when the stations were manned with personnel, the sound of the siren was so loud it was hard to hear the location of the alarm on the radio. Within a few years and after many complaints from neighbors, the stations sirens were silenced. However for several years the Civic Center's siren "sounded" 12 o'clock-noon, time for lunch for the downtown businesses.

GROUPS:

Changing of the Command:

1965

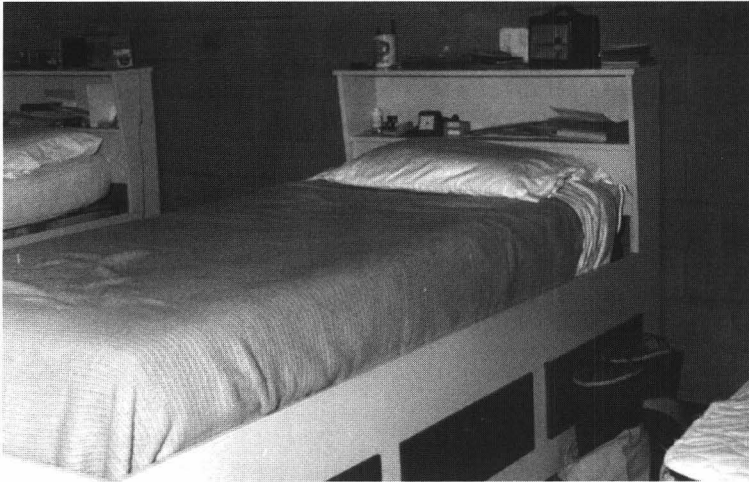
Jimmy Astell was the last volunteer fire chief and Jack Cooper was the first paid fire chief. Dave Crow was the volunteer assistance fire chief for both chiefs. Luke Milholland and Clint Gray were volunteer captains, while Ernie Vollan and Gary Stewart were volunteer lieutenants.

FIRE DEPARTMENT "SLEEPERS":

1965

In 1965 Edmonds Fire Department started the *sleeper program* at the Civic Center fire station. On duty during the day were several of the paid firemen plus the fire chief. However, in the evening and early morning hours only one paid man was on duty. This paid firemen acted as either the officer or the driver when volunteers arrived at the station for an emergency call. With the *sleeper program* from 10 P.M. until 6 A.M. one or two, (sometimes both) of the *sleepers* would make for a faster response.

The *sleeper program* required a man at least 18 years old who would be required to stay at the fire station five nights a week



The sleeper program ended in the early 1970s. EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

from 10 P.M. until 6 A.M. and be a volunteer fireman who could respond to emergencies. They were not paid a salary, but paid for the number of alarms to which they responded.

The first two *sleepers* were Dick Baldwin and Jeff Blodgett. Both Dick and Jeff entered the Army in February 1966, and applications were requested from interested men in the community.

Tim Whitman, Mike Egan, and Craig Reynolds became *sleepers*. Tim and Craig joined the Navy. Mike Egan was a *sleeper* from 1966 to 1969 while he was a student at the University of Washington, and Dick Baldwin was back as a *sleeper* in 1968 and 1969. Dick was employed at the local newspaper as a reporter/photographer. After four years in the Navy, Tim Whitman returned to the Edmonds Fire Department as a volunteer and within a couple years

became a full time fire fighter and retired 25 years later as Assistant Chief. Mike Egan became a police officer in California and later entered into security work for Chevron-Texaco. Craig Reynolds became a police officer for Lynnwood, WA.

Several of the fulltime firemen stated they enjoyed and looked forward to having Egan as a *sleeper* and on duty because he seemed to know where every street in Edmonds was located and “one would not get lost with Egan.”

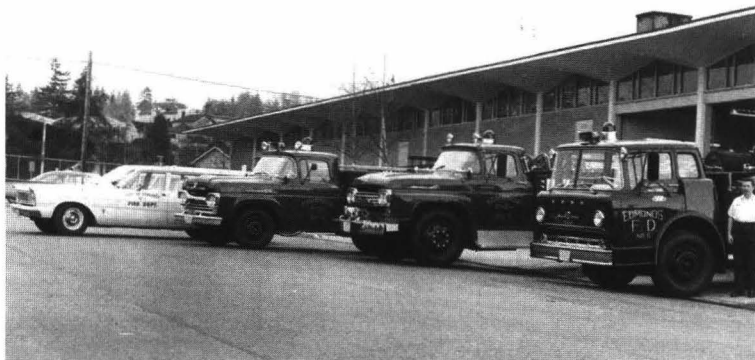
Having one or two of the *sleepers* on duty at the station along with the on duty full time fire fighter meant a faster response. For several years during this period, a department policy was to have a minimum of four firemen on a responding fire engine. However, by the time the fire engine was started and out side of the station, within two minutes of the alarm, there would be at least two or more volunteers arriving at the civic center fire station. The engine would be responding with two to three men inside and two to three on the tailboard.

The *sleeper program* ended in the early 1970s. From time to time a volunteer would spend a night or two at a manned station. The *sleeper program* worked well.

Edmonds Fire Department Explorer Scout Troop:

1967

In 1967 and for several years the Edmonds Fire Department sponsored Explorer Scout Post #356. This post was active for several years and had several leaders from the fire fighters. Some of the scouts were



Civic Center Fire Station 1. Located at 250 5th Avenue N, the complex included room for the police department, city hall and the library.

JACK COOPER COLLECTION

Mike Cooper, Jack Cooper Jr., David Cooper, Russ Powell, Barry O'Brien, Rick Harris, Tom Curcio, Mike Wyer, John Rochester, and John Leupold. Volunteer fire fighters Tim Whitman, Dick Ritter, and Jim Bentler were some of the advisors. The scouts drilled in fire fighting evolutions and medical first aid and rescue procedures. Many of these Explorer Scouts became fire fighters.

Local 1828, Edmonds Fire Fighters Union:

1969 In April 1969 seven Edmonds fulltime fire fighters joined the International Association of Fire Fighters, or the I. A. F. F. The first president was Al Jakobitz.

1960–1969 MEMBERS OF THE EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Allbery, Virgil	Jakobitz, Al
Astell, Jimmy	Johnson, Dave
Baldwin, Dick	Johnson, Marvin
Ballinger, Fred	Johnston, Tom
Barnard, Earl	King, Chuck
Bartels, Ed	Klein, Bud
Bentler, Jim	Kopan, George
Blandin, Abe	Krankota, Joseph
Blodgett, Jeffrey	Lindh, Nels "Okie"
Bourassa, Authur	Lovell, Gerald
Boyd, Bill	Matthews, George
Burton, Don	Mee, Dick
Cain, Chuck	Milholland, Luke
Clark, Howie	Moore, Al
Clark, Larry	Murdock, Stuart
Cooper, Jack	Olsen, Ernest
Cooper, Jack Jr.	Olson, Arvid
Crow, Dave	Olson, Stan
Dawes, Jerry	Palmer, Charles
De Volder, Ron	Reynolds, Crag
Eddy, Bill	Ritter, Dick
Edmonds, Monte	Scobby, Pete
Egan, Mike	Slye, Dick
Engel, Steve	Sorensen, Ralph
Ewing, Sam	Sorensen, Roy
Francis, Cecil	Stewart, Gary
Gayner, Henry	Strand, Dave
Gibbler, Steve	Swanson, Roy
Gray, Clint	Torell, Doug
Greenleaf, Carrol	Vollan, Ernie
Hatzenbuhler, Harold	Wagner, Harry
Hovde, Bob	Wallace, Ken
Hughes, Dean	Weinz, Jack
Huntley, Ed	Whitman, Tim
Iacuesa, John	

EDMONDS TRIBUNE-REVIEW

February 25, 1960—LOTS OF SMOKE, NOT MUCH FIRE

Fireman Ernie Vollan was first up the ladder in a successful attempt to put out a fire which broke out Thursday afternoon in the sawdust accumulator at the Edmonds Senior High School. Smoke billowed from the accumulator into a clear blue sunny sky as youngsters cheered on the firemen.

August 4, 1960—MINOR FIRE ALARMS KEEP FIREMEN BUSY

Firemen answered five fire calls during the past week, two of them the result of shorts in electrical equipment and the rest brush or grass fires.

A grass fire at Olympic and Edmonds Streets was extinguished at 1 P.M. Saturday. At 3:30 P.M. Sunday a dryer burst into flame at 2320 10th S.E. but was put out with little damage. At 6:25 P.M. that same day hay in Rex Strickland's barn on Hindley Lane caught fire. It, too, was extinguished with no great loss.

Monday a washing machine caught fire at 316 Seventh N., and Tuesday a brush fire flamed up at 1005 22nd S. Both were put out with little damage.

December 15, 1960—FIREMEN CALLED TO REVIVE BOY

Scott Kingdon, 11, was revived by oxygen administered by Edmonds firemen Monday evening before being taken to Children's Orthopedic Hospital for observation.

The Edmonds youth, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Kingdon, 1007 Bell St, was playfully wrestling with his dad when he suffered an apparent heart attack. The fire department resuscitator was rushed to the scene.

Scott was released from the hospital Monday.

Mrs. Kingdon told the *Tribune-Review* that the quick response by firemen was extremely important to the boy's condition, and expressed the parents' gratitude to the department.

December 22, 1960—STUBBORN FIRE DAMAGES HOUSE

It took two trips by the Edmonds fire department to extinguish a damaging second story fire at the home of Mrs. Donna Cedarholm at 125 Third Ave. S., last Thursday night.

The fire started in the wall of the second floor as a result of over heating of the wood furnace, which had been filled with small pieces of presto logs, creating intensive heat. The heat spread into the wall, igniting a blaze, and causing extensive damage to the interior of the house.

Fire Chief James Astell explained the second trip to the house was necessary because of the difficulty getting enough water to the fire with the least possible water damage to the house. The fire apparently was extinguished the first time, but erupted again a little while later, bringing firemen back to the scene.

The house is owned by Herman Sater. Mrs. Cedarholm and her three children escaped the house safely.

May 17, 1961—NEED FIREMEN AT FIVE CORNERS

Edmonds Fire Chief James Astell is seeking volunteer firemen for the new station at Five Corners.

Men living in the Five Corners area who are interested in serving with that station force should call Chief Astell or leave their names with the city clerk.

July 27, 1961—WRONG-WAY SHERIFF DEPUTY, NON-STOP FIREMAN COLLIDE

It doesn't pay to break traffic laws—even if you're a

police officer or a fireman. Sgt. Floyd Poage, Snohomish County Sheriff's deputy, and Edmonds fireman Luke Milholland found this out the hard way Tuesday night.

The deputy was driving west on Main Street on his way to the Edmonds police station when he heard the fire siren blowing.

Deciding to help if he could, the deputy took a short cut by turning south (left) on Fifth Avenue. Fifth, however, from Dayton to Main is a one way street for northbound traffic. The deputy forgot to turn on either his siren or his red light.

Fireman Milholland also heard the siren, and went tearing east on Dayton Street, heading for the fire station.

At the intersection of Dayton and Fifth, he boomed through the stop sign, not expecting a car to come out of the one-way section to his left. And he forgot to turn on the blue light on the front of his car which signifies a fireman answering an emergency.

The result of all this was a mighty clash of fenders in the middle of the intersection, resulting in about \$350 damage to the sheriff's car, and a similar amount to Mr. Milholland's.

And the fire? It was a false alarm.

August 3, 1961—BLOW TORCH STARTS FIRE

Edmonds firemen were clambering around the roof of a one-story house, at 125 Third, Ave. N., which caught fire shortly after noon Friday. Fred Martin was using a blow torch to remove old paint prior to repainting the structure. Occupant of the house was Patrick Doyle, who was not home at the time of the fire. Fire Chief James Astell estimated damage to the residence at \$2,500.

December 12, 1961—FIRE CAUSES \$10,000 LOSS

Firemen on the roof of the J. C. White residence at 307 Casper Street managed to keep fire from spreading



A fully involved house fire, as a fireman keeps it under control. STAN OLSON COLLECTION

into the living and dining rooms of the home, but the quick blaze caused a total loss estimated by White at \$10,000 before it was subdued. The fire started at 1 P.M. Friday when a furnace backfired in the basement, sending flames leaping up the chimney and quickly setting the roof ablaze. The fire destroyed a number of personal belongings, one closet, a kitchen wall, two walls of the utility room, and melted the front of the oil furnace.

January 4, 1962—FIRE DESTROYS LOCAL RESIDENCE

Smoke and flames driven by a wind of near gale intensity billowed out of the Howard Wright house at 370 17th Pl. S. Thursday afternoon, as workers from the nearby Five Corners Tradewell store helped Edmonds firemen man the hoses. Mrs. Wright ran to the store to call in the alarm after the fire had already put her telephone out of commission. Firemen believe the blaze started from a faulty electrical outlet in the living room. Fanned by the

high wind, the fire totally destroyed the house and all the family's belongings except for several pairs of shoes and a few items of furniture.

June 7, 1962—FIRE CAUSES HEAVY DAMAGE

Edmonds firemen ran to get a hose on a fire which caused extensive damage to the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Evans at 1018 Maple St. Thursday afternoon, as smoke poured out of basement windows. The fire started in the basement from an undetermined cause, and had made considerable headway before it was discovered by Mrs. Evans. Mr. Evans said smoke and water damage hit all their furniture, some clothing, and appliances were destroyed by the fire. The loss was covered by insurance.

July 5, 1962—FIREMAN HURT IN WATER FIGHT

A slip on wet grass during the annual water fight between the Edmonds, District 1 and Mountlake Terrace fire departments Monday night resulted in an ambulance ride for Larry Gustafson.

Gustafson, the nozzle man for the Alderwood team, was moving backwards when he fell and lost his hold on the hose. The whiplash action of the hose caused him to be hit in the face and head by both the stream of water and the nozzle itself. Mr. Gustafson was taken to a clinic in Bothell by Beck's ambulance. Witnesses stated he was in a state of shock, but apparently escaped injuries.

November 8, 1962—CITY OFFICES MOVED INTO NEW CENTER

Edmonds city offices were in business more or less as usual today, after making the move to the new civic center Tuesday. City workers were still sorting out boxes and getting acclimated to their new surroundings Wednesday.

Fire Chief James Astell also now has his own office in the new building.

Presently the fire department is staffed with volunteers, as it always has been. They receive \$2 per fire call. These men, serving both the downtown and Five Corners stations, are Edward Bartels, James Bentler, Albert Blandin, A. P. Bourassa, D. W. Burton, C. W. Cain, H. J. Clark, Dave Crow, J. P. Dawes, William Eddy, Sam Ewing, J. C. Francis, Clinton Gray, Carroll Greenleaf, D. V. Hughes, Bob Hovde, C. W. King, George Kopan, Luke Milholland, Allyn Moore, Arvid Olson, Charles H. Palmer, Richard Slye, Roy Sorensen, Robert Sorensen, Gary Stewart, Roy Swanson, D.R. Torell, Ernie Vollan, and H. B. Wagner.

December 13, 1962—THIS FIRE DRILL WAS FOR REAL

Edmonds Junior High School students lined the sidewalk along Sixth Avenue Monday as they watched local firemen combat a blaze which broke out in the upper floor of the building at 12:25 P.M. The school's 900 students, including those in the cafeteria, were promptly evacuated from the building and, not until the fire sirens heralded the arrival of the trucks did most of the student realize this time the fire drill was in earnest.

Fire Chief Astell said the fire started in an air vent in the wall of Room 41, on the fourth floor where some empty boxes had been stored.

When the alarm went off, startled school officials at first didn't know where the fire was. But it was spotted by

The Tribune-Review reported in the early 1950s for Edmonds to extend a Warm Welcome to its new neighbors in Mountlake Terrace and delivered free copies of its newspaper to every home in the new project. The newcomers to the district are mostly young people and war veterans with families. Plans call for 300 homes to be built. The 200 new houses completed have been priced at \$4999, while some larger homes with basements have been priced at \$6500.

several nearby teachers, who grabbed fire extinguishers and started spraying the flames as Edmonds Firemen were on their way.

How the fire started is still to be determined. Thanks to the sprinkler system installed in the school last year, the fire never had a chance. Damage to the building was minor, as the sprinklers quickly doused the flames both in the classroom and in the attic above.

January 3, 1963—MAN HELD FOR ARSON AFTER HOUSE FIRE

A two-hour search for a supposedly armed arsonist ended in the bedroom of Walter L. Foard, 42, early Sunday morning, where police found the man hiding, still with his muddy shoes on.

Foard, 21635 117th Pl S.W., admitted to police officers setting fire to the house at 21638 117th. Pl. S.W. Edmonds. The house was a moved in structure and no one was in it at the time of the fire. Firemen were hampered by the fact that the house was up in the air on supports for the basement.

Fire Chief Jim Astell indicated the interior of the structure was demolished.

Firemen were first called to the scene of the fire shortly after midnight Saturday on Union Oil hill. At this time, they knew nothing of the intentional setting of the fire, until volunteer fireman Bob Hovde heard someone in the woods behind him yell, "Let it burn!"

The fireman immediately called on the police car in the area for assistance. Reserve officer Roy McClure began slowly driving through the area when he heard the same authoritative voice shout: "Hold it right there. That's far enough. Turn around and go back!"

Officer McClure did as he was told, but within minutes several police cars were on the spot combing the bushes.

Officials in Everett have indicated they will ask for a sanity hearing for Foard and then commitment.



The 1960 Ford rescue truck and gear. EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

January 10, 1963—SLYE MAY QUIT COUNCIL POST AS FULL TIME FIREMEN ARE HIRED

The city is hiring its first full time paid fireman, with the first scheduled to go on duty Feb. 1.

One of the four men picked by Fire Chief Jim Astell from 10 certified by the civil service commission is Richard Slye, a member of the City Council as well as a longtime city volunteer fireman.

Mr. Slye has been on the council 2½ years, and was elected in the spring of 1962 to a new four-year term.

Mr. Slye told the *Tribune-Review* he is still pondering whether to resign from the council or accept the fireman position. State law forbids a city councilman to be on the city payroll.

The other three selected by the fire chief are Luke Milholland, who has been on the local volunteer

department for 20 years; Jack Weinz, and John Iacuesa.

The full time men will spend their time maintaining fire equipment, making fire inspections, and doing custodial work at the civic center. The budget sets a monthly salary of \$406 for the first six months probationary period, rising to \$498 for 20 years service, which includes past service in the fire department.

January 17, 1963—COLD SNAP LEADS TO FIRES

Last week's cold snap contributed to several fires and one accident in Edmonds.

Firemen hustled out twice Friday, in the morning for an overheated stove at the Bob McClenahan residence, 539 Third Ave. S., and late in the afternoon to the home of Mrs. Elbert O. Patton, 1113 A. Street, where the second floor of the house burst into flame when she plugged in a wall heater.

Firemen were called again to Robin Hood Lanes at 9:28 A.M. Saturday when a smoldering mattress burst into flame, resulting largely in smoke damage.

February 14, 1963—NOW THE FIRES COME IN

It isn't often that Edmonds firemen have their fires brought to them, but such was the case Saturday evening.

The fire pulled into the Edmonds Great Northern Railway station just about 7 P.M., and three fire trucks were there ready and waiting for it.

Firemen got the alarm at 6:42 P.M. when a special passenger train radioed to the Edmonds station after leaving Everett that a fire was smoldering in one of the coaches. The station promptly called the fire department, with the result that when the 20 car train pulled in, firemen were waiting.

The engineer neatly spotted the burning car next to a fire truck, and the firemen went to work.

The damage was estimated at less than \$100. The

cause was theorized that sparks from a brake shoe got into the flooring beneath the women's rest room of one of the coaches, probably as the train was coming into Everett.

Approximately 1,400 persons were on the special train for a Heart Fund benefit.

April 4, 1963—NEIGHBOR SAVES DROWNING BOY

A four-year-old boy who fell into a neighbor's fish pond Saturday owes his life to a school teacher who used mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, after regular artificial respiration was failing to revive him.

The little boy, Jefferey Tiessen, fell into a 38-inch deep pond at the home of Mrs. Irving Lloyd, 1631 Laurel St., where he was visiting with his mother, Mrs. Clarence Tiessen of Everett, while playing along the edge of the pool with his three-year-old brother.

Mrs. Tiessen found the boy floating in the pool face down, and started giving him artificial respiration as soon as he was taken out, while Mrs. Lloyd called Edmonds firemen.

The mother called for help when she saw a neighbor, James Brooks, in his yard nearby.

Mr. Brooks, who had never tried mouth-to-mouth resuscitation before but said he had read about it, took over, and by the time firemen arrived, the boy was beginning to respond to the treatment. Firemen continued to work over the boy until he was revived by oxygen equipment, then taken to Everett Hospital for a checkup.

December 12, 1963—EDITORIAL A VETERAN FIREMAN RETIRES

The retirement of W. W. "Bill" Eddy is as good a time as any to remark again on the wonderful role these volunteer firemen have played in our communities.

Bill Eddy has been an Edmonds fireman for 32 years, so his retirement is well deserved. But



W. W. "Bill" Eddy

there are others on the local fire department roster who also have been answering the alarms before some of today's householders were born. Not that all the firemen are tottering around tripping over their whiskers, by any means—there are men in their twenties as well as the veterans, too. But being a fireman becomes almost a career in itself.

Once a week, winter and summer, rain or shine, they get together for an evening of practice, going over again and again the procedures they'll use when the real thing happens, casing the major buildings where fire danger exists or could cause a potential hazard, adapting latest fire fighting techniques to their quiet but never ending concern for the community's safety.

January 23, 1964—FIREMAN HURT DURING STORM

An Edmonds fireman was injured during a hectic Sunday afternoon but considers himself lucky it wasn't worse.

Charles King, 1142 Pine St., sustained a sprained ankle when firemen were answering a call to Rosary Heights, on Woodway Park Road, about 5 P.M. The fire was caused when a tree came down during the strong gale, bringing live power wires down with it.

"I was riding on the back of the truck, and next thing I knew I was laying on the ground, on top of a hot wire," Mr. King said. "I suppose the wire snapped just as we were passing it, and the end of it knocked me off the truck—and out."

Fireman King jumped back to his feet after being momentarily unconscious, before his fellow firemen were aware what had happened.

March 26, 1964—PIONEER HOME DAMAGED BY FIRE

The oldest house in the University Colony, north of Edmonds, was extensively damaged by fire which broke out

EDMONDS BEGINS TO GROW. Annexation of 40 acres known as the Kellogg Plat to the city of Edmonds, with 75 percent of the property owners agreeing. This is the third area to be annexed to the city in recent months: first being Hanna Park, next the 12-block Yost's First Addition. . . .

From Tribune-Review, 1950

Saturday noon. The residence at 18520 Sound View Pl. was occupied by the Dean Soule family, who had just left that morning for a vacation trip to Oregon. They had called in a furnace repairman the day before, delaying the start of their trip until he finished. Cause of the blaze was uncertain. The house was built in 1918 by W. E. Forkner, and since 1940 has been owned by Newman H. Clark.

May 7, 1964—FIREMEN TO DEMONSTRATE HANDLING OF HOSE

The Edmonds fire department will give a demonstration of a hose handling evaluation Wednesday at 7:30 P.M. at Sixth and Glen Streets. Firemen invite all families to view this and become more informed about their fire department.

The evaluation is one that is used at many fires, and shows the team work that is necessary in fire fighting. The competition will be between Edmonds Fire Stations 1 and 2, with time, proper procedure and efficiency being the main factors in determining the winner. The participating firemen are graduates of the Washington State Fire School.

September 3, 1964—FIREMEN GET STUCK MORE WAYS THAN ONE

Edmonds firemen had a hard time getting into a fire that lit up the sky about 4:45 A.M. Tuesday—and an even harder time getting out.

An unidentified neighbor turned in the alarm when he saw flames shooting from a structure at 1306 Ninth Ave. N. When firemen arrived, they found the fire was shooting out of an old wooden shed, completely surrounded by roof-high blackberry vines.

Firemen had to lay ladders across the vines to get a hose on the fire, and in the darkness they had a prickly time of it.

Once the fire was extinguished, they found the truck had bogged down in the mud, and they finally had to call a wrecker to pull it free.

The fire presumably started from berry pickers who had dropped a cigarette into the mass of vines.

October 8, 1964—TRAIN HITS ASPHALT TANK— ASPHALT LOAD EXPLODES OUT

A tank truck load of hot asphalt was sprayed all over parked cars and everything else within range of the Great Northern Railway crossing at the foot of Main Street in Edmonds when it was hit by a southbound freight train early Wednesday morning. No one was injured.

The accident occurred about 6:00 A.M. during a dense fog. The rear end tank rig, one of two being hauled by a truck driven by Bill Edwards for Gasoline Tank Service Co. was parked on the railroad tracks when the train hit. The

driver had missed the ferry to Kingston. Instead of pulling the trailer rig clear of the tracks, he left the vehicle parked on the tracks and went to inquire about the next ferry.

When the train hit, the impact sheared off the end of the tank, sending the hot asphalt spraying oil over an area as far as 100 feet south from the crossing.

The collision sent the tarry substance flying over the front of the diesel freight engine, but luckily for the crew the heavy plate glass windows were not broken. However, after the train came to an emergency stop, it was a half hour before it could be moved, as the crew had to cut the asphalt from the windows.

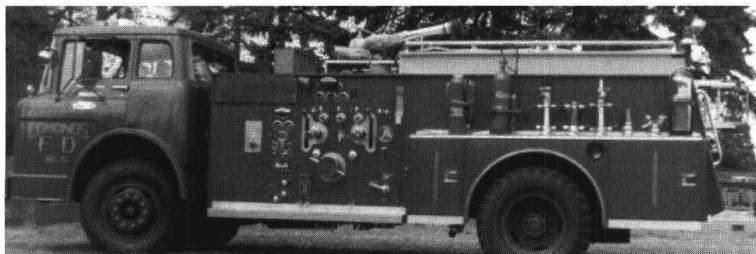
Edmonds firemen were called to the scene; the first thought being that the tanker might have contained gasoline. There was nothing the firemen could do. The sticky asphalt quickly “set up” leaving a solid new black coating over the crossing, adjoining pavement and four cars (parked in a “No Parking area”).

October 19, 1964—EDMONDSTO ADD 2 FULLTIME JOBS, A FIRE CHIEF AND A CITY ENGINEER

According to City Supervisor Don Lawson, the increased population in Edmonds deems it necessary to have a full-time engineer and fire chief.

Edmonds City Supervisor Don Lawson said, “The volunteer fire department and volunteer fire chief have done very well in the past, but the time has come to expand the department.” A full time chief is needed for planning and administration and to analyze the city’s insurance rating and recommend where it can be reduced.

Qualifications for the chief are that he be a high school graduate and have three years in fire department supervision. The starting salary is set between \$600 and \$700. Mr. Lawson added that the new fire chief would have to be a “businessman, a technical man, and a leader of the fire department.”



A 1963 Ford American LaFrance fire engine. It was the last fire engine with a manual transmission and was repainted yellow in the early 1970s.

STAN OLSON COLLECTION

January 7, 1965—NORTH END FIRE PROTECTION NOW IS CITY'S

As of Jan. 1, people in the north end area annexed to Edmonds about a year ago should call PRespect 8-1212 for fire calls, the city officially taking over fire protection for the area as of that date.

"The coverage that we have is adequate at this time because of the nature of the volunteer fire department," Lawson stated, explaining that between 30 and 40 volunteers supplement the four full time firemen.

March 11, 1965—JACK COOPER APPOINTED FIRE CHIEF

Jack F. Cooper of Puyallup is the new fire chief of the city of Edmonds, effective April 1. Mayor Gordon Maxwell announced his appointment Tuesday night at a meeting in the mayor's office.

Cooper, 34, served on the Sunnyside, Washington Fire Department from 1951 to 1960, and was assistant fire chief there at the end of his service.

Since 1960 Cooper has served as a fire prevention field underwriter for the Northwest Mutual Insurance Co., and is a volunteer member of the Puyallup Fire Department.

April 7, 1965—EDMONDS TUGBOAT CAPTAIN DIES, DECKHAND AND TWO EDMONDS FIREMEN WERE HOSPITALIZED

An Edmonds tugboat captain died of asphyxiation Friday afternoon while checking the bilge of a gravel barge.

A deckhand with him was hospitalized in serious condition.

Two rescue workers were also hospitalized.

Robert Quinn, owner of the barge, found the tug boat



Jack Cooper

captain and a deckhand unconscious while checking the airtight bilge of a gravel barge at the Tri-City Sand and Gravel Co. on the Edmonds waterfront Friday afternoon about 2:15 P.M. They were looking for leaks in the hull.

Quinn said he became worried when they had been below about 20 minutes. Quinn started to go in after the two men as soon as he discovered them, but was driven back by the lack of oxygen. They were below for about 30 minutes before rescuers could remove them.

Heroic action by rescuers from the fire department averted a double tragedy when they plunged into the bilge without oxygen masks to remove the two men. The masks and tanks were too bulky to fit through the narrow opening. It is feared that the deck hand would have died if he had been removed several minutes later. The deck hand is recovering at Swedish Hospital in Seattle.

Two rescuers, firemen Gary Stewart and Jack Weinz, were hospitalized overnight.

Fire Chief Jack Cooper said that there was no poison gas found in the bilge. He thought it was a lack of oxygen that caused the death.

November 4, 1965—FIRE DESTROYS HOME OF EDMONDS FAMILY

Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the Douglas Henkel residence, 16827 76th Ave. W., yesterday afternoon just before 1:30.

Chief Cooper said that the house was very old and was being remodeled. He said the old log construction within the walls made the blaze harder to contain after the head start it had.

The chief added that a door had been left open from the upstairs enabling the fire to spread throughout the lower level of the house.

An Edmonds postal carrier, Bob Huntoon, 450 23rd Ave. S., saw smoke coming from the house



The Five Corners fire station opened in 1961 and closed in 2003. It was located on Bowdoin Way west of Five Corners. This station was first known as Station 2, later Station 6, and then Station 16. EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

and rushed in to be sure that none of the Henkel's three children were inside. The family dog was the only one inside and Huntoon let him out.

Mrs. Henkel told Chief Cooper that she had been in the house just moments before the fire was called in, but had left to pick her children up from school.

January 12, 1966—DEATH WAS SO CLOSE

Death swept by and nearly took the lives of four young Seattle persons just before 5 o'clock Sunday evening when the light airplane in which they were riding crash-landed east of the Edmonds Methodist Church at 828 Caspers Street. The plane, on loan from Jack Stratton of the Martha Lake Airport, was piloted by Harold A. Tompkins, 23, with three passengers. The plane was reported to have developed engine trouble at about 800 feet. Circling the field, the pilot apparently attempted a dead stick landing in the vacant lot east of the church. No one was injured seriously.

February 2, 1966—EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT SEEKS TWO "SLEEPERS"

Applications are being accepted by the Edmonds Fire Department for two single men who would like to work for the department as "sleepers."

Excellent sleeping accommodations are afforded the two men to spend the night in the Edmonds Civic Center.

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, and are required to be on duty five nights a week from 10 P.M. to 6 A.M.

"Sleepers" are not paid a set salary, but rather on the number of alarms to which they respond, explained Fire Chief Jack Cooper.

Applications may be obtained from the Fire Department.

The two present "sleepers" Dick Baldwin and Jeff Blodgett, are both entering the Army Friday. Dick will be remembered by many in the area as the one who did such an excellent job as Sports Editor of the *Edmonds Tribune-Review*.

March 2, 1966—EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT TO SEEK ASSISTANT CHIEF

The City of Edmonds will hold a civil service examination for an Assistant Fire Chief for the fire department. The examination will be restricted to fulltime and volunteer members of the Edmonds Fire Department. Applicants must be between the ages of 30 and 45. The starting salary is \$600.

April 27, 1966—NEW EQUIPMENT

Chief Cooper shows off a new pump to cover the Edmonds port district. The portable pump, a 200-gallon-per-minute capacity rig, is kept at the fire station and was built by local firemen in case of a fire at the waterfront. It uses a 2½ inch hard suction hose to obtain water from a

supply and is run by an auxiliary gasoline engine. It carries two pre-connected 1½ inch fire hoses with nozzles. The portable unit can be pulled behind a vehicle or placed on a vehicle and transported to where it is needed.

June 2, 1966—30 FIREMEN TO RECEIVE CERTIFICATES

Chief Jack Cooper of the Edmonds Fire Department announces Fire Service Training Certificates will be presented to 30 who have recently completed the state basic fire training course.

The certificates will be awarded to Abe Blandin, Ed Bartels, Fred Ballinger, Jim Bentler, Don Burton, Chuck Cain, Howard Clark, Jack Cooper, Cecil Francis, Clint Gray, Carrol Greenleaf, Harold Hatzenbuhler, Bob Hovde, Alan Jakobitz, Ralph "Bud" Klein, George Kopan, Nels Lindh, Luke Milholland, Al Moore, Stuart Murdock, Arvid Olson, Stan Olsen, Ralph Sorenson, Roy Sorenson, Gary Stewart, Dick Slye, Roy Swanson, Ernie Vollan, Harry Wagner, and Jack Weinz. Ceremonies will be held at 7:30 P.M. at the Tuson's Restaurant.

WATER, WATER, EVERYWHERE—Council Okays New Supply . . . The Edmonds City Council Tuesday night passed an ordinance authorizing Mayor Gordon Maxwell to sign a contract with the Alderwood Water District, assuring Edmonds of an almost unlimited supply of water in the years to come. Maxwell hailed to passage of the ordinance as "Something I wanted and worked on for 20 years." . . .

Construction has begun on the Cable Television head-in for this area according to a letter received by Mayor Maxwell. . . . A progress report from the builder now sets October as the completion date for the system.

From *Tribune-Review*, April 20, 1966

August 31, 1966—\$5,000 FIRE IN EDMONDS NUNS SCHOOL

A fire which started in the basement kitchen area of the Rosary Heights Dominican Sisters school for nuns caused an estimated \$5,000 in damages to the main building there Thursday evening.

The Edmonds Fire Department received an alarm on the fire at 6:27 P.M. The building is at 23120 114th West in Woodway Park. Two pumper trucks and a rescue truck were sent to the scene.

Chief Cooper said the fire was located in the kitchen area of the basement. Someone had been preparing a meal and had set a number of plastic serving trays on top of an electric range. One of burners was accidentally turned on, starting the fire.

The nuns had used a fire extinguisher, and then evacuated the building, calling the firemen. The fire was controlled within 5 minutes after firemen arrived and major fire damage was confined to the kitchen. There was extensive smoke damage throughout the building.

March 15, 1967—POLICEMAN AND FIREMAN OF THE YEAR

Edmonds' outstanding Policeman and Fireman were honored last week by the Edmonds Jaycees at the club's annual awards banquet. Police Lieutenant Les Neuert, a detective with 13 years service, was cited for his outstanding work with juveniles, and Volunteer Fire Lieutenant Gary Stewart, a first aid instructor and very active in the fire service, received the awards.

June 7, 1967—FIRE DAMAGES BLOUGH HOME

An estimated \$2,500 damage resulted from a fire Thursday afternoon at the George Blough residence, 23823 113th Pl. W.

Fire Chief Jack Cooper said the cause of the fire is



Edmonds first ladder truck was a 1969 Crown with a snorkel 65 foot aerial articulating arm with a basket. This was the first fire vehicle with covered seats behind the cab; no more riding the "tail-board." STAFF PHOTO

undetermined, but heavy smoke damage resulted in most of the building. The major part of the fire damage was confined to the garage and storage area.

June 7, 1967—CLARK NAMED TOP FIREMAN

Howard Clark was presented the first annual "Fireman of the Year" award when the Edmonds Fire Department held its annual firemen's banquet Saturday night.

Clark, who was a volunteer assistant chief with the department, was presented with a large trophy, designated the Matt Engels trophy in recognition of Engels' many years of service to the city and the fire department.

Clark moved to Edmonds in October of 1950 and joined the department. He was captain for several years and in 1955-56 served as president of the Volunteer Firemen's Association.

Attorney Chet Bennett, an honorary member of the department, was speaker for the evening and was honored by the firemen for work he did in forming the association.

April 3, 1968—ADDITIONS TO FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFF ANNOUNCED

Two new firemen and a secretary have been added to Edmonds Fire Department staff, according to Fire Chief Jack Cooper, who is also observing his third year with the department this week.

The new men now bring to nine the number of full time staff members with the department. The new firemen are Richard Mee, 28 and Earl Barnard, 25.

The new secretary is Joanne Highlander of Edmonds. She is also studying secretarial work at Edmonds Community College.

Cooper also announced that Jack Weinz has been advanced to the position of Lieutenant with the department.

July 17, 1968—EDMONDS FIREMEN CAPTURE TROPHY

Victorious in capturing the trophy for winning the water ball fight competition during the Fourth of July celebration at the city park was the team from the Edmonds Fire Department. Edmonds has won the trophy 7 out of the 10 years the event has been held and this year gained permanent possession of the trophy. Team members were Captain Luke Milholland, Lt. Jack Weinz, and Chuck Cain, volunteer fireman who headed the team.

September 18, 1968—FORMER CHIEF, MAYOR MATT ENGELS DIES

Mathis Casper "Matt" Engels, 88, former fire chief and mayor of the City of Edmonds died Saturday at the Arden Nursing Home.

He was a resident of Edmonds for nearly 50 years, coming here in 1919. He managed the Rainbow Shingle Company in Edmonds from 1919 until 1925 when it was destroyed by fire.



Matt Engels

He established Engels Fuel Company in 1926 and operated it until it was sold to Sater-Ridenour in 1945. He was part owner of Reliable Hardware in Edmonds until his retirement.

He served as mayor of Edmonds from 1922 to 1924. He was a member of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department from 1919 to 1950 and served as fire chief for 25 years.

October 16, 1968—VETERAN FIREMAN SERVES MANY YEARS IN EDMONDS

One of the 'old timers' around the Edmonds fire Department is Lewis "Luke" Milholland who first joined the department as a volunteer nearly 30 years ago.

Now a captain with the volunteers and a fireman with the full-time crew, Luke has seen many changes in both the department and the city during his years here.

When he first joined the department as a volunteer in 1942, there were 12 to 15 firemen serving Edmonds. At that time Luke said they covered only the area between Casper and Pine and between the waterfront and 9th Ave. That was the city limits area in those days and it included only about one square mile.

Today (1968) the department includes 35 volunteers and nine paid full-time men and covers the sprawling six square mile area that the city has grown to encompass.

Not being of the right age himself to serve in the war, Luke joined the fire department when many of the men were being drafted. He had always been interested in firefighting and that was the beginning of what has become a full-time career.

January 1 1969—FIRE DESTROYS ROBERT DELONG HOME

The Robert DeLong home, valued at more than \$40,000 was gutted by fire shortly before noon Friday. A

highly combustible mixture used to install a carpet was ignited by a pilot light of a furnace, according to Edmonds firemen. The blaze destroyed most of the basement and upper floor of the house at 18903 Olympic View Drive. Icy roads slowed fire trucks on the way to the fire.

January 8, 1969—SNOW STORM, COLD WEATHER KEEP CITY BUSY

Snow, ice and cold temperatures combined to make the holidays miserable for most residents and contributed to a more than busy time for the City of Edmonds departments.

The Edmonds Fire Department was kept busy with both answering regular alarms and assisting with problems caused by broken water systems. The department spent over four hours each at two major house fires and a total of about eight hours aiding a store, the hospital and two schools when water pipes burst.

Fire Chief Cooper said the department was called to Edmonds Elementary School twice when problems developed in the fire sprinkler system. Pipes in the system broke on both the second floor and in the attic, sending hundreds of gallons of water down through the building to the basement.

An outside sprinkler head burst over the marquee at the Westgate Thriftway store, Cooper said the department assisted in cleaning up after several thousand gallons of water which poured down.

A pipe also burst in the music building of Edmonds Junior High School and firemen shut off the system and again aided in getting all the water out of the building.

At the house fire just east of Highway 99, it wasn't long until the firemen, fire hose, two of the fire engines, and the burned house were all covered with icicles. Several of the firemen fell on the ice and frozen snow, however, there were no injuries.



A fire at Wally's Auto Painting in 1967, Lt. Gary Stewart, Ed Huntley and Stan Olson are on the fire hose. STAN OLSON COLLECTION

April 23, 1969—SEVEN EDMONDS FIREMEN NOW UNION MEMBERS

The paid full-time firemen from the Edmonds Fire Department last week joined a union, the International Association of Fire Fighters.

They are members of local No. 1828 and are affiliated with the Washington State Council of Fire Fighters as well as the international group.

The union has been officially recognized by the City of Edmonds and the local firemen become the first in South County to become union members.

August 3, 1969—STATE AWARDS FIRE RATING TO EDMONDS

The City of Edmonds was awarded a new fire rating last week by the Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau.

The announcement, moves Edmonds from a class six to a class five city.

Several factors that were instrumental in lowering the rating, including the purchase of a new articulating arm aerial platform truck, an increase in the number of paid firemen, improved water system, and an overall fire protection program to keep up with the growth of the area.

October 8, 1969—FIRE ESSAY CONTEST WON BY GIRL, 10

In conjunction with Fire Prevention Week, the fire department sponsored a fire-prevention contest for all sixth grade students attending schools within the city of Edmonds.

The students were given an English assignment to write an essay on the theme, "How my family and I may help the fire departments and ourselves prevent fires."

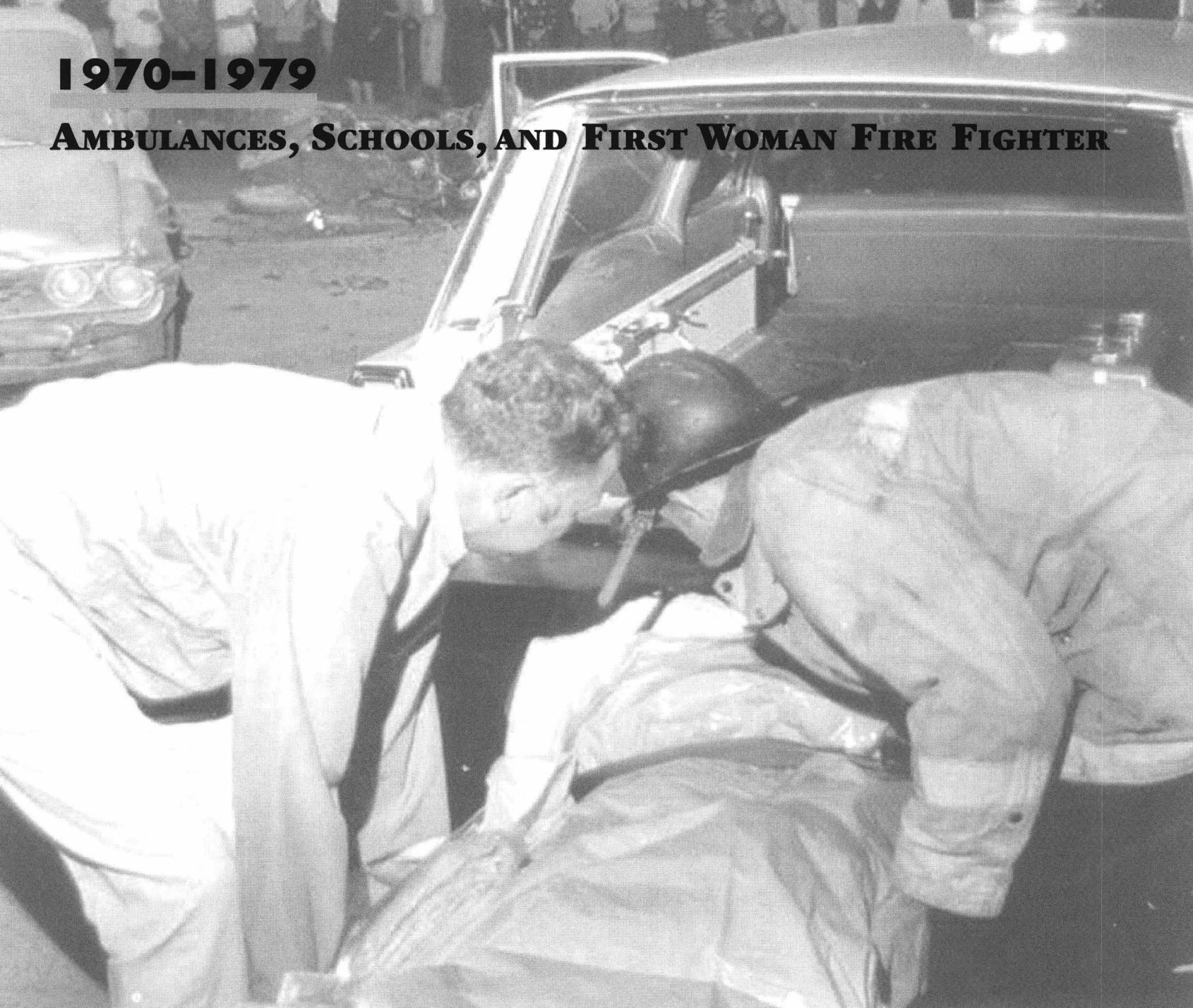
Madeleine Brady, 10 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Brady, 1011 Brookmere Drive, in Edmonds, was selected the winner. Madeleine attends the Holy Rosary School.

Prizes for her winning essay included a \$25 US Savings Bond, a free meal with the firemen at the station, and being chauffeured to and from school in a fire truck.

Laurie Dossler, of Westgate and Pam Showman, of Olympic both received an honorable mention for their essays.

1970-1979

AMBULANCES, SCHOOLS, AND FIRST WOMAN FIRE FIGHTER



FIRE CHIEFS, EQUIPMENT, AND FIRE STATIONS GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

FIRE CHIEFS:

1970 Jack Cooper
1979 Jack Weinz

EQUIPMENT:

1970 Edmonds fire engines were Engine #63, a 1959 Roney Ford; Engine #65, a LaFrance Ford; Engine #67, a 1938 Ford; and Truck or Snorkel #68. The Aid Car was #61 and there were staff vehicles.

1972 A 1972 Crown Fire Engine with a 1500 GPM pump and a 500 gallon water tank was purchased for \$68,000. It was used into late 1990. This was Edmonds' first fire engine with an automatic transmission, yellow in color, covered seats behind the cab and no tailboard riding, with 3½ inch hose.

1972 A 1972 G.M.C. van was Edmonds Fire Department's second aid car. This replaced the 1965 Ford Ranch Wagon which was used for more than 2 years as an aid car/ ambulance. This G.M.C. van was placed into service in late September 1972 and purchased for \$8,064. With the medical equipment, it cost over \$12,000. This was the first time that there was room enough in the back of the unit for the fireman to move around without being on his knees. The new aid car had an extended roof. This GMC aid car was involved in an accident on December 30, 1973, while responding to an auto accident. It was hit by another car which failed to stop at a stop

light. It then ended up wrapped around a utility pole. The aid car had to be replaced. Two of the three Edmonds fire fighters who were in the unit at the time of the accident, had to retire from the fire service due to their injuries.

1976

Pierce Dodge "Mini" Pumper and Attack Engine. A 1976 Dodge 4x4 with a gas V-8 motor, a manual transmission, a 250 GPM pump, and 200 gallon water tank was purchased. Due to the steep grade of the road into the Shell Valley development off Bowdoin Way, the developer contributed \$10,000 of the \$25,000 cost of the engine and it was yellow in color. It was in service over 10 years and for a while was the first out fire engine from Edmonds Station #2 with a crew of two. Its nickname was "The Tonka Toy."

FIRE STATIONS:

1970

The Five Corners fire station or Station #2 had two fire engines. A small metal building was built behind the brick station that would be used for other equipment. There was a dorm room addition or sleeping area built as a second story to the brick station. A "brass pole" was installed from the second story sleeping area onto the engine room floor. This was to make for a faster response. However, its use was limited and there were a few injuries. In 1976, the "mini pumper" or Engine 66 would be housed in the small metal building.

The Civic Center fire station or Station #1 had one engine, the Snorkel truck, and

the aid car. There were several remodeling projects completed at the station.

GROUPS:
1975

Home Fire Inspection Program: The Edmonds Fire Department started a home fire safety inspection program in the first week of January, 1975. The home inspections are being offered to all residents on a voluntary basis. The five inspectors are Tom Johnston (a former Edmonds fire fighter), Jeanett Crew, Jack Crockett, Donna Gorman, and Linda Parker. The program was a Federal grant of \$58,000 for its first year of operation. The City of Edmonds supplied \$5,000. An older Ford pickup was bought from civil defense for the inspectors.

It was reported in September that the home inspecting team had re-inspected 590 homes and found 55 percent of the hazards had been corrected. Hopefully the team could inspect all the homes in Edmonds by the end of the year (1975). A five year program would be ideal stated Johnston; however such a program would cost approximately \$500,000.

In November 1975 Chief Cooper, Assistant Chief Klein, and the Mayor's Administrative Assistant Ron Whaley attended the National Fire Prevention and Control Administration and outlined the home inspection program. Unfortunately, the program was not renewed. The many home inspections done by this group reduced the fire hazards and even the number of house fires.



Home inspectors began work the first week of January 1975. LEFT TO RIGHT—Tom Johnston, Linda Parker, Jeanett Crew, Donna Gorman, and Jack Crockett. STAN OLSON COLLECTION

During fire prevention week, the home inspectors along with fire fighters, “Smokey Bear” and “Sparkie” visited the elementary schools with a puppet show dealing with fire prevention. This was fun for the fire department members as well as the audience. Several of the team went on to other fire departments and other businesses serving in fire prevention.



1970-1979 MEMBERS OF THE EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Allison, Steve	Hiatt, Chuck
Angel, Bill	Hovde, Bob
Baldwin, Dick	Hovick, Jim
Bartels, Ed	Huntley, Ed
Barnard, Earl	Jakobitz, Al
Barton, Ron	Johnson, Dave
Bentler, Jim	Johnson, Einer
Blandin, Abe	Johnson, Ole
Burns, Bob	Johnston, Tom
Cain, Chuck	Jones, Mike
Caspers, Jim	Justin, Al
Cleven, Doug	Kagey, Dale
Cooper, Dave	Klein, Bud
Cooper, Jack	Larson, Ken
Cooper, Jack Jr.	Lindh, Nels
Cooper, Jim	Lloyd, Jerry
Crosby, Mike	Lovell, Gerald
Crow, Dave	Luce, Terry
Dahl, Dave	Lyons, Ray
DeVolder, Ron	McComas, Gary
Downing, John	McCorchuk, Roy
Edmonds, Monte	McCrary, Randy
Ehtee, Gerry	McEwen, Jeff
Engel, Stephen	McEwen, Larry
Ewing, Sam	Milholland, Luke
Fields, Brent	Moore, Al
Francis, Cecil (Red)	Murdock, Dave
Gaydos, Ken	Murdock, Stu
Gluth, Bill	Oftedahl, Dennis
Gray, Clint	O'Brien, Barry
Greenleaf, Carroll	Olsen, Stan
Hartman, Mark	Petrella, Marc
Hatzenbuhler, Harold	Pomeroy, Gordon
Hepler, Pat	Powell, Russ
Heryla, Mike	Radford, Larry

Reading, Brad
Redford, Don
Rentas, Darren
Rice, Bryon
Richardson, Chuck
Ritter, Dick
Ritter, Monte
Rolston, Bob
Ruis, Brad
Schilling, Ted
Schmitt, Bob
Schoonmaker, Guy
Scobby, Pete
Silhan, Jess
Simmons, Skip
Slye, Dick
Sorenson, Ralph
Sorenson, Roy
Springer, Mike

Stead, Lesley
Stewart, Gary
Strand, Dave
Sutton, Dave
Swanson, Roy
Taylor, Kevin
Tharp, John
Traylor, Dave
Tysco, Tom
Vander Sys, Tom
Ernie Vollan
Wallace, Lloyd
Wallace, Ken
Warren, Dean
Weinz, Jack
Whitman, Tim
Wright, Tim
Wyer, Mike
Young, Jim



A 1972 Crown—the first Edmonds fire engine with an automatic transmission.

STAN OLSON COLLECTION

EDMONDS TRIBUNE—REVIEW

February 4, 1970—PRIVATE AMBULANCE PLAN SEEN AS SOLUTION

Establishing a private ambulance service for South County is apparently the best solution to the problem of adequate service, according to police, fire, and hospital officials who have been meeting on the matter.

Local fire departments have been transporting accident victims and others needing an ambulance since Shepard Ambulance closed its South County service recently. Officials have held three meetings in an attempt to find a solution for the problem.

The problem developed after Shepard Ambulance Co. of Seattle recently closed its service in South County. Owner Lee Cox said the operation was running some \$1,500 in the red each month. Now the only local ambulance is Hub City, but officials said that service is not adequate.

The cost of operating one ambulance is at least \$53,000 and two would be needed for this area.

Cox said that Shepard could move back to this area if it got \$1,000 a month and suggested that the Lynnwood Police could be the dispatching agency.

Xon Baker of Everett Ambulance Service said they could open a station in South County for a \$2,000 a month subsidy from the cities.

All the fire departments are using both money and manpower to meet the current ambulance crisis. In Edmonds aid calls are up 25 percent since Shepard left the area.

March 4, 1970—CITY SEEKS AMBULANCE PROBLEM SOLUTION

Councilman Jim Haines said the situation is becoming acute. Police Chief R. C. Grimstad agreed that the situation is critical and that something must be done.

Fire Department aid cars from the cities and fire districts have been handling much of the ambulance work since Shepard Ambulance closed its South County service.

April 3, 1970—OFFICER SAVES WOMAN FROM BURNING HOME

Quick action by an Edmonds Police officer is credited with saving an Edmonds woman from a blaze which broke out in her home early Monday morning.

The incident was at 2:24 A.M. at the home of Virginia Luke, 9013 188th S.W., Edmonds, where fire did an estimated \$25,000 damage.

Mrs. Luke had gone back in to search for her dog, a blind poodle, and Officer Tom Hasner spotted her collapsed on the floor. He went eight feet into the burning building in heavy smoke and dragged her outside where she was quickly revived.

Fire Chief Cooper commended Hasner's action in saving Mrs. Luke and said he acted above and beyond the call of duty.

The cause of the fire was still under investigation. Major damage was done to the living room, entry way and a portion of an attic. Heavy smoke damage was also done to the rest of the house.

The fire was under control within 10 minutes after the fire department arrival. Two pumpers and the salvage-rescue truck responded along with 35 men.

February 10, 1971—FIRE KILLS EDMONDS MAN, DESTROYS HOME

An Edmonds man lost his life in a fire which destroyed his \$40,000 home early last Wednesday morning.

The victim was identified as William McQueen, 42, of 19207 80th Pl W. Edmonds. Death was caused by asphyxiation from smoke inhalation.

Firemen were called to the scene at 3:24 A.M. The fire

was believed to have started in the back bedroom and had burned for about 3 hours before it was reported. Firemen first were called with a report of heavy smoke in the area and a short time later were notified by neighbors that flames were coming out the roof and windows of the home.

The fire started from accidental means. The fire department sent two engine companies and 21 firemen to the scene. They were mopping up until about 7 A.M. that morning.

Firemen controlled the spread of the flames within about five minutes after they arrived. Only a recreation room and a garage on the east side of the 3 bedroom frame house were not gutted by the fire. The rest of the family was away at the time on a trip.

April 21, 1971—THREE ESCAPE FIRE IN EDMONDS

Three people narrowly escaped with their lives when a fire destroyed their Edmonds home early Monday morning. The blaze was at 3:40 A.M. at the Herbert Gogert home at 528 Dayton Street in downtown Edmonds.

Mrs. Gogert suffered first degree burns and a cut over her eye, and was taken to Stevens Hospital for treatment. Three firemen, Al Moore, Jack Weinz, and Ken Wallace received minor injuries while fighting the fire.

The estimated damage was \$18,000 to the building and \$7,000 to the contents. The home was about 90 percent destroyed. The fire department responded with 21 men, two pumpers, and the new Snorkel truck.

May 5, 1971—MAJOR FIRE HITS LOCAL RESTAURANT

The Fog Cutter West restaurant in Edmonds will be closed for repairs for up to four weeks following a major fire which hit the building early last Wednesday morning.

Damage from the fire could run as high as \$100,000, according to Edmonds Fire Chief Cooper. The major

damage was in the kitchen area, but the entire restaurant suffered heavy smoke damage.

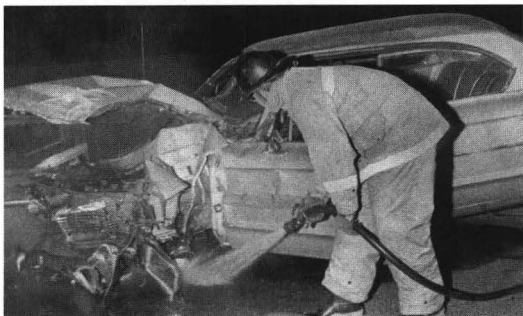
The restaurant at 301 Main Street was opened several months ago as the Fog Cutter West was formerly Tuson's Restaurant. The fire department responded with 25 men, two pumpers, and the Snorkel truck.

One fireman, Jim Bentler, received burns on the back of his neck, but he was treated and went to work.

The fire was discovered at 4:05 A.M. by Edmonds Police. The fire apparently started in a waste container located under a metal drain board next to the sink in the kitchen.

November 23, 1971—MAIN STREET CRASH—

An Edmonds fireman hoses down gasoline spilled from the front of a damaged car at about 12:30 this morning after it left Main Street at about 86th Avenue W., severed a utility pole, ripped out 27 feet of guardrail and damaged four small ornamental trees. The driver, Steve M. Anderson, 22, 8920 240th St. S.W., and a passenger, Walter R. Lloyd, 18, 18903 Olympic View Drive, were taken by ambulance to Stevens Memorial Hospital with minor injuries. Police said the car failed to negotiate a curve and crossed over the center line and westbound lanes of Main Street.



An Edmonds fireman hoses down gasoline spilled from the front of a damaged car. The driver and a passenger were injured and hospitalized. STAN OLSON COLLECTION

December 15, 1971—EDMONDS COUNCIL APPROVES 1972 BUDGET

The fire department is getting eight new firemen under the Emergency Employment Act. Chief Cooper said the addition of 6 men to his department will be a step in the right direction. Two will replace current firemen Al Jakobitz and Luke Milholland who are on disability leave and will be retiring.

With the new men, Edmonds will be able to keep three men on duty at the main fire station and also have someone at the Five Corners station at least part of the time. This will bring the staffing of the department to 15 fulltime firemen.

January 12, 1972—FIRST SERIOUS BLAZE CAUSES \$40,000 LOSS

Edmonds had its first serious fire of the New Year early Saturday morning when a blaze did some \$40,000 damage to the residence of Dr. Cameron Stewart, 8344 Olympic View Drive.

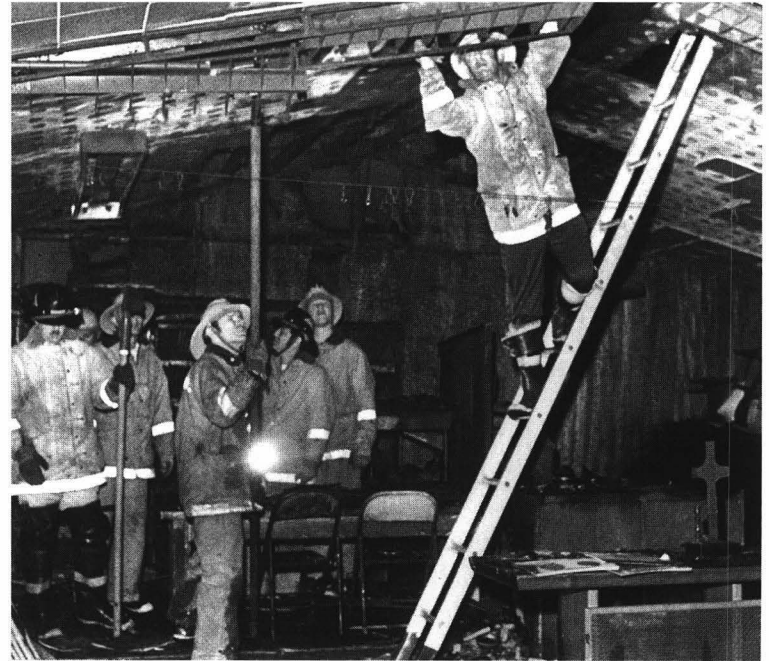
The call which came in at 5:54 A.M. sent fire units from both Edmonds and Lynnwood departments to the scene. The fire was under control in about 20 minutes but two Edmonds firefighters suffered minor injuries and had to be treated at the hospital. Robert Burns suffered from smoke inhalation and Richard Ritter received torn rib cartilage.

The blaze is believed to have started in a storage area where trash, paint, and other items had been kept.

Repairs had not begun when three juveniles admitted setting fire to Dr. Stewart's house which did about \$200 damage. This fire occurred Monday afternoon March 13, 1972.

January 12, 1972—WESTGATE FIRE INVESTIGATED

A fire broke out Sunday morning at the Westgate School and the alarm came at 11:51 A.M. Some windows



Fireman at work investigating the cause of a fire at St. Matthew Lutheran School at Five Corners. STAN OLSON COLLECTION

were broken and there was extensive smoke damage as the fire burned in one of the rooms.

February 23, 1972—FIREMEN INVESTIGATE CAUSE OF ST. MATTHEW SCHOOL FIRE

The cause of a blaze which did some \$15,000 damage to the St. Matthew Lutheran School at Five Corners early Tuesday morning is still under investigation.

The fire was discovered at 4:49 A.M. The fire started in a large classroom in the east end of the building.

March 8, 1972—RESCUE EFFORTS PROVES FUTILE, EVERETT MAN DIES IN CAVE-IN

Despite the efforts of many rescue personnel, a

29 year-old Everett man died last Wednesday when he was caught in a cave-in at the Highway 104 construction site at the foot of Main Street in downtown Edmonds.

The subject had fallen into a 10 foot deep hole. It was estimated perhaps five or ten minutes passed before the accident was discovered.

Emergency crews arrived on the scene at 9:31 A.M. and the subject was removed from the caved-in hole with the use of a back hoe and many rescuers hand digging at 10:11 A.M. The subject had been buried up to his shoulders. There were many problems because the ground was mushy and there was lots of water. He was transported to the Hospital, but was pronounced dead on arrival. His father was the foreman on the job.

April 26, 1972—\$2,500 FIRE HITS MEYRING CENTER

The loss was set at about \$2,500 in an electrical fire at the Meyring Sports Center, 502 Main Street, Edmonds, early Sunday.

The alarm was turned in by telephone workmen who noticed the fire at 8:10 A.M. The fire started in a fluorescent light fixture near the store entrance.

The residents of apartments on the second story of the building were evacuated but there were no injuries. Twenty-six firemen, two fire engines, and the snorkel truck responded. The building is owned by Dewey Leyda.

June 7, 1972—FIRES CAUSE \$45,000 LOSS

Two house fires in Edmonds over the recent Memorial Day weekend resulted in losses totaling \$45,000. The Farrens residence at 8726 202nd S.W. received some \$30,000 loss in a fire at 11:30 Sunday morning. When firemen arrived the living room and basement were in flames and the entire house was filled with smoke.

On Monday at 4:41 P.M. the other fire was at the Brock home at 840 Hindley Lane and the loss from

the fire and smoke was \$15,000. The owner had been burning some large bags of paper in the basement fireplace and apparently some of the paper had floated up the chimney igniting the roof.

June 7, 1972—BENTLER FIREMAN OF YEAR, CROW, GREENLEAF HONORED

Jim Bentler, the retiring president of the Edmonds Firefighters Association, received the Fireman of the Year award when the group held its annual awards dinner Saturday night at the Edmonds Yacht Club.

Bentler served in the Coast Guard during World War II and has worked as a linotype operator at the Seattle Times for 26 years.

Dave Crow, who owns Crow Hardware and Marine in Edmonds, was awarded a life membership in the fire fighters association for his many years of service and continued assistance to the department. He joined the department in January 1946.

Rev. David Strand became the first chaplain of the Edmonds Fire Department.

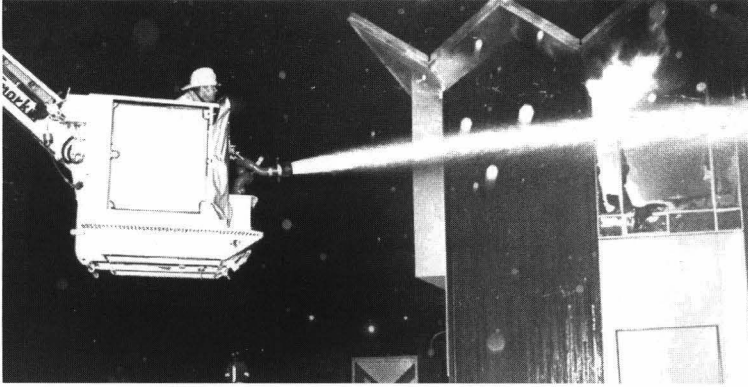
Carroll Greenleaf received a special plaque for 34 years of service.

September 13, 1972—EDMONDS F.D. GETS A NEW EMERGENCY AID VEHICLE

By the end of September, the Edmonds Fire Department's new bright yellow GMC van, with an extended roof, will be in service on aid calls.

Klein said the cost of the aid car will be about \$12,000. The aid car will replace the converted 1965 Ford station wagon they have been using.

Klein said they are now in the process of organizing an EMT training course for Edmonds Firemen and others from South County departments. This includes a 150-hour training course taught by Seattle aid car people.



October 30, 1972—SPECTACULAR FIRE DESTROYS ELKS CLUB IN LYNNWOOD. Mutual Aid—Firemen cite the snorkel from the Edmonds Fire Department which pumped 1,000 gallons per minute for five minutes, as a key weapon helping them control the fire in 20 minutes.

COURTESY OF WESTERN SUN

November 1, 1972—LYNNWOOD ELKS FIRE

At 2:38 A.M. Saturday morning the Lynnwood Elks Lodge building at 204th S.W. and Highway 99 was fully engulfed in fire.

Flames shot high into the air illuminating the night for several blocks as firemen from Lynnwood, Edmonds, and Snohomish County Fire District 1 battled the blaze. The two story structure was heavily damaged but there was no one inside and no serious injuries.

Two firemen suffered slight injuries, one receiving a sprain and the other a minor burn.

The spectacular early morning fire did some \$300,000 in damage.

November 8, 1972—EDMONDS MAN IS INJURED IN BOAT HARBOR EXPLOSION

A 26 year-old Edmonds man is still in serious condition, but has been taken off the critical list after being injured in a spectacular explosion November 1 at the Port of Edmonds boat harbor.

The explosion occurred as Richard Nelson was

working on a ladder using a cutting torch to remove part of a sign on the launching dock now owned by the Port of Edmonds when sparks dropped onto a fuel gas tank which had been sitting on the dock.

The tank exploded, sending a ball of flame up in the air and causing an explosion, which was heard as far away as 76th Ave. West. The bottom of the ladder melted, dumping Nelson into the flames below. He jumped into the water by the dock after his clothing caught fire. He was assisted out of the water.

Firemen were able to extinguish the fire quickly on the dock itself. Nelson had burns on 56 percent of his body.

November 29, 1972—FIREMEN PROTESTING DEPARTMENT CUTBACKS

The mayor's 1973 budget proposes cutting back the number of fire fighters and giving back to each household a \$28 tax cut. Some of the new firemen who were hired recently under the Emergency Employment Act would be eliminated.

Members of Local 1828 are circulating a petition to keep the current employee level of the fire department among residents of the city and the business community.

Earl Barnard, president of Local 1828, pointed out that cities with population and economic status similar to Edmonds have more firemen.

December 6, 1972—EDMONDS COUNCIL RESTORES STAFF CUTS

Purposed personnel cuts in the City of Edmonds fire and police departments were restored by city council members.

Chet Bennett of Edmonds, a former city councilman and attorney, spoke as a friend of the fire department by reviewing the fire department needs and asked the council to approve keeping all eight EEA people in the department.

Bennett presented the council a petition with 700 signatures of citizens who said they wanted the present high level of the department retained.

March 7, 1973—NO WATER: EDMONDS HOME BURNS

An early morning fire completely destroyed a home in the North Edmonds area and the fire chief says there was no adequate water supply in the area to fight the blaze.

Men and equipment from three departments responded to the alarm at 2:02 A.M. Friday morning, but the home at 15631 75th Place W. was a \$25,000 loss.

Edmonds Fire Department sent 3 pumper trucks, Lynnwood one pumper, and District 1 sent a tanker and a pumper, but there was still not enough water.

The house was fully involved in flames upon arrival, and there was only a 2½ inch standpipe on a 2½ inch water main. The nearest fire hydrant was one mile away and four rigs were used to shuttle water to the scene. The last fire engine returned to the station at 9 A.M. after spending 7 hours on the scene.



Early morning fire completely destroys Edmonds home due to lack of water supply. Attempts to save the structure proved futile; notice the limp, waterless hoses. STAN OLSON COLLECTION



The Monogram Lumber Co. fire was visible from several miles away.

STAN OLSON COLLECTION

May 23, 1973—FIRE AT MONOGRAM LUMBER

The fire, which broke out at about 2:30 Sunday afternoon sent smoke and flames into the air, visible from several miles away.

Lt. Jack Weinz, who is acting fire chief this week, said the cause is

still being investigated and may have started from suspicious origin.

There was no loss set on the fire because the buildings at 24225 Highway 99 were in the process of being demolished. Monogram Lumber had moved to a new location.

Some 30 firemen were at the scene and Edmonds fire stations were manned by other South County fire departments.

June 20, 1973—FIRE CAUSED \$20,000 LOSS AT APARTMENT

Fire did \$20,000 estimated damage to the Chalet Royal apartments at 20832 76th Ave. W. Edmonds last Wednesday.

The fire apparently started from a candle near a stereo in the living room. There was extensive damage to one unit and the contents were a total loss. The two occupants received minor burns in the fire.

June 21, 1973—RESCUERS RACE AGAINST TIME TO FREE THE BURIED BOY (*The Everett Herald*)

More than 100 rescuers joined in frantically successful

efforts to uncover 14-year-old Kevin Long after he sank from sight atop a 30-ft. gravel heap in Edmonds yesterday. Passersby and road crews joined police and fire officials from Edmonds, Lynnwood and Mountlake Terrace in a race against time. The rescue began at about 3:30 P.M. and ended two-and-a-half hours later when the youth was taken to Stevens Memorial Hospital, Edmonds. Nine rescuers also were sucked under the gravel trap during the rescue effort. Both the youth and rescuers were reported in satisfactory condition this morning. The boy was submerged for nearly an hour-and-a-half before rescuers uncovered his hand and managed to bring oxygen to the still conscious youth. The boy said later he felt the ordeal lasted "about 20 minutes."

August 29, 1973—MAJOR APARTMENT FIRE: FIREMEN TREATED

A major fire late last Wednesday night caused an estimated \$110,000 damage to the Kamvilla Apartments located at 7714 196th. S.W., Edmonds.

The alarm came in at 9:07 P.M. When the first fire units arrived on the scene, one apartment unit on the third floor was fully involved in flames and the blaze was extending to another unit across the hall. The cause of the fire was believed to have been something left on the kitchen stove.

Four engine companies, two rescue units, and Edmonds Snorkel along with 30 firemen were on the scene. Two units of the 40 unit apartment were extensively damaged by fire and areas had smoke and water damage.

Three Edmonds firemen, Dick Ritter, Tom Johnston, and Ken Thomas, were treated at Stevens Hospital for smoke inhalation.



January 7, 1974—EDMONDS AID CAR DAMAGED IN ACCIDENT

Edmonds Fire Department is back to using the 1965 Ford Station Wagon as an aid car following an accident about 1:00 P.M. December 30, 1973, involving the new aid car, two cars, and a utility pole. The accident occurred as the aid car was responding to an accident with its emergency lights on at the intersection of 76th Ave. W. and 220th S.W.

A vehicle failed to stop for a flashing red signal at 76th and pulled into the path of the aid car. The car hit a parked car, and the aid car hit a utility pole. There were injuries in both the moving car and the Edmonds Aid Car.

Lt. Harold Hatzenbuhler, fire fighters Einer Johnson and Russ Powell received injuries and were later transported to the hospital. The firemen even though injured rendered aid to the injured parties in the other vehicle who were transported to the hospital. Two ambulances and additional fire fighters were sent to assist. Arrangements are being made to lease an aid car until a new vehicle can be obtained.



June 28, 1974—DOGGIE FIRST AID

Edmonds firemen gave oxygen to a Samoyed dog overcome by smoke during a house fire shortly before midnight last night at 22009 100th Avenue W. The dog survived but nine cats lost their lives in the fire which caused \$15,000 damage to the structure and \$10,000 to the contents of the split

level home. A fireman, Skip Simmons, 23, was hospitalized at Stevens Hospital for possible smoke inhalation and was expected to be released today. Cause of the fire is under investigation. The owner, John Miller, was not at home at the time the fire broke out. **Ed. note:** *Seen in the picture are Chaplain Ken Gaydos and unidentified fireman.*

August 10, 1974—PHOTOGRAPHER PULLS STRICKEN FIRE FIGHTER FROM BUILDING
(Western Sun Edition)

Edmonds—Smoke and or dangerous chlorine fumes overcame three firemen at an apartment complex in Edmonds yesterday where a sauna was gutted by fire.

Captain Larry Farrar, a volunteer with Snohomish County Fire District 1, George Imes, a regular fireman with the district, and Jim Hovick, an Edmonds fire fighter, were taken to Stevens Memorial Hospital after being stricken. All were admitted and were reported in satisfactory condition.

Imes was rescued from inside the sauna by Seattle Times photographer Jerry Gay. The fireman had fallen to the floor from the effects of the gas and Gay dragged him into the fresh air where he was treated.

Farrar was on the roof when a massive dose of smoke and flames broke through sending him down the ladder. Hovick was also apparently stricken while on the roof and the Edmonds fire fighter was later seen sitting with his head between his knees on the bumper of a fire truck.

The flames gutted two saunas and a restroom inside one cabana next to the swimming pool at the Northwood apartments, 22929 Edmonds Way.

November 20, 1974—LADY FIRE FIGHTER IS DETERMINED, STRONG, ABLE AND—A LADY

Lesley Stead is the only woman volunteer fire fighter with the Edmonds Fire Department. She is a 1973 graduate of Edmonds High School, working on her E.M.T. class, has been interested in the fire department, and her first desire was to ride in the aid car.

She thinks she's strong enough to do the job. "I have 3 brothers," she said. "And with 3 brothers, I have to be strong!" Her duties are the same as the other 35 active volunteers and the 17 full-time fire fighters. They include handling 50 foot sections of hose, which weigh between

85 and 100 pounds, and they wear as much as 140 pounds of protective clothing and a mask. They have to be able to drag hoses, climb ladders, swing an axe, and move equipment—all hot, heavy, and dirty work.

December 6, 1974—"HOT" GREENBACKS SURVIVE BLAZE IN EDMONDS
(Western Sun Edition)

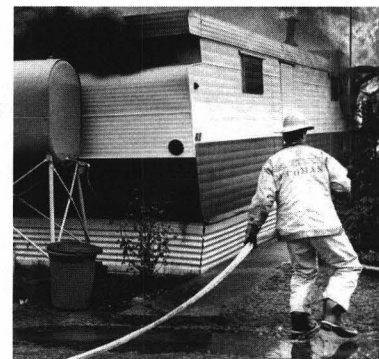
EDMONDS—Zela Mathis lost her mobile home to fire yesterday, but her "greenbacks" were saved.

The 74-year-old woman noted her furnace smoking yesterday around 11:30 A.M. and rushed for the door. Before she exited, the furnace and mobile home exploded in flames.

Although the interior of the mobile home was destroyed and her purse also consumed, Edmonds firemen found identifiable remains of \$60.00 in her purse. Searching further they discovered another \$150.00 hidden inside a brown envelope.

Mrs. Mathis lost all of her belongings, but she said she was glad to be alive and happy her pet poodle dog also escaped.

She said she has been invited several times to live with her daughter and "now I guess I will. I liked living alone, though," she commented.



December 12, 1974—MINKS GO HUNGRY TONIGHT: WELL, THAT'S THE BRAKES
(Western Sun Edition)

Edmonds—Dr. Delbert Johnson got a yard full of frozen fish yesterday because the brakes failed on a 20-ton truck.

Donald Ray Kasl spent the afternoon upside down.

Kasl's Northwest Fur-Breeder's Co-op truck lost braking pressure around 3:10 P.M. on the steep hill where Puget Drive enters central Edmonds.

Kasl was hauling 24,000 pounds of mink food, (frozen fish blocks) and the truck gained speed quickly. At the crosswalk, his truck barely missed two school buses loaded with children.



The curve at the bottom of the hill was too tight. The truck skidded into trees lining Johnson's front yard and turned over. The cargo trailer broke apart and frozen fish blocks were strewn so violently that one broke through a window in Johnson's boat storage room.

The cab collapsed and the engine moved, trapping Kasl's right leg against the dashboard, breaking the bone. Otherwise he was okay, conscious, upside down and able to tell the first witness on the scene, "to get me out of this *xxx#wxx#x* thing."

Stumbling over piles of fish blocks, firemen quickly came to Kasl's rescue. They found the going slow. Edmonds fire fighters brought air and gasoline powered cutting tools.

Jack Weinz, Battalion Chief for Edmonds Fire Department, worked carefully to free the man's leg, wary of any fuel that leaked and worried about further injury. A physician checked Kasl often, noting that his inverted position should not hurt him, but saying shock was a danger. Weinz found a hacksaw to be the best tool. Kasl's leg was freed at 4:15 P.M., one hour after the accident.

Realizing Kasl was okay, Dr. Johnson surveyed his yard full of fish and joked, "I'm going to have 10,000 cats around here." Damage to the truck was estimated at \$7,000, the fish loss was set at \$1,440, and Johnson suffered \$500 injury to his yard.

April 2, 1975—FIREMEN USE NEW AID CALL METHOD

Edmonds firemen used a new aid call technique in an effort to save the life of an Edmonds man Sunday night.

A 74-year-old man showing no vital signs was revived after cardio-pulmonary resuscitation was administered.

The patient had to be removed from an upper unit at the Breakwater Condominiums at 300 2nd Ave. N., so Lieutenant Einer Johnson called in the 65 foot Snorkel truck and raised the basket to the unit's floor level and removed the patient. The revived patient was transported to Stevens Hospital, where he died two hours later while undergoing surgery.

October 29, 1975—RESTAURANT DAMAGED BY FIRE

The Henri De Navaree Riviera Restaurant at Sunset Ave. and Main St. Edmonds suffered approximately \$15,000 damage from a fire, October 26.

The Edmonds Fire Department got a call from passersby that smoke was coming from the building at 12:15 P.M. Two engine companies and a truck company were needed to put out the blaze, which started in the kitchen.

The kitchen area suffered extensive fire damage and the rest of the building received smoke damage. The cause is unknown.

March 24, 1976—FIRE, POLICE GROUPS ATTACK EDMONDS SYSTEM

Amid a bitter atmosphere of charges and counter charges, policemen and firemen for the city of Edmonds are challenging the city's system of merit pay increases.

According to IAFF local President, Bill Angel, the city has not acted in good faith in its recent negotiation with fire fighters. Specifically, Angel said the city has ignored recommendations from a state fact finding committee that

suggested the city essentially sack its merit pay system. In the Edmonds system, employees are given or denied raises according to their boss's evaluations of how they have done their jobs.

Angel said the firemen sent a letter Monday to the Washington State Public Employees Relations Committee asking for binding arbitration hearings. The fire union local represents 13 full time Edmonds fire fighters.

July 28, 1976—EDMONDS PLANS AMBULANCE UTILITY SERVICE

Edmonds officials took the first steps towards involving the city in the ambulance business when the City Council directed attorneys to draw up legal plans for a city emergency service utility. Under the plan, the service would be funded by an increase in household taxes.

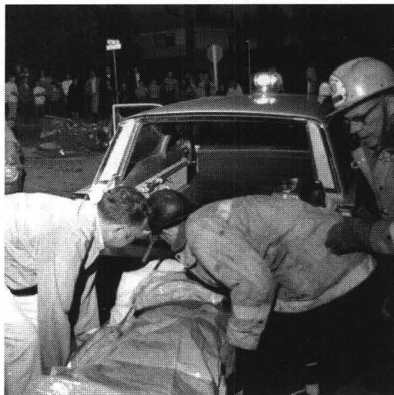
Mountlake Terrace passed a resolution earlier this month to provide ambulance service to the city with fire department aid cars.

Mayor Harve Harrison belongs to a committee of fire chiefs and other city officials attempting to design a paramedic system for the area.

November 3, 1976—AMBULANCE TAX PASSED IN EDMONDS

The Edmonds City Council on October 26th passed an ordinance creating a city utility to pay for government operated ambulance service.

Under the new plan, each home will pay \$1.59 every two months. The new tax will bring in an estimated \$87,624 to pay



for city ambulances. Fire Chief Jack Cooper said about 70 percent of his department's runs are for emergency medical aid.

With the new system, Edmonds Fire Department will answer all emergency medical calls. If a person needs transportation to the hospital for non-emergency ailments, he should call a private firm in Seattle or Everett, according to fire department officials.

March 16, 1977—WOODWAY MANSION DESTROYED BY FIRE

A blaze that Edmonds fire fighters called "one of the worst we've seen in years" destroyed the home of Bertine Pigott, 23129 Wachussetts Road, Woodway, on March 9th.

Jack Weinz, Edmonds Assistant Fire Chief, estimated the fire caused approximately \$250,000 damage. The blaze also killed her nine prize winning German Shepherds, valued between \$2,000 and \$5,000 each.

The Edmonds Fire Department received the alarm at 3:12 P.M. They were assisted by Fire District One. When they arrived, the house was already enveloped in billowing flames.

Miss Pigott said she left the house at 3 P.M. to go to the Edmonds Post Office. Miss Pigott has no insurance.

Preliminary findings indicate that the fire may have started from an electrical problem in the attic.

June 29, 1977—MILLION DOLLAR BLAZE LEVELS LOCAL LANDMARK

A fire that raged unchecked for more than an hour leveled most of the Pointer Willamette Building on the Edmonds waterfront June 22.

The blaze totally destroyed three businesses in the building—Craig Craft Boats, Edmonds Yacht Sales, and a warehouse for Bayside Furniture Inc. There was severe damage to LaFarge and Egge Co.



ABOVE AND BELOW—*The Pointer-Willamette Building on the Edmonds waterfront leveled in a million dollar blaze. The building was built in the 1930s and used by John Yost for his lumber business.* CRAIG SELVIDGE COLLECTION



The first alarm was turned in by police at 2:56 A.M. By the time the Edmonds and Lynnwood fire units arrived, most of the building was enveloped in flames.

The heat was so intense it

bent the building's steel beams into pretzels. Fire crews had the last flames extinguished by about 6:30 A.M. Mopping up operations continued until afternoon.

Craig Craft lost two outboard racing boats, two customers' boats and a large number of power tools, paint

and other supplies. The Bayside warehouse lost a shipment of antique furniture, while LaFarge and Egge lost a number of power tools.

Chief Cooper said the blaze appears to have started near Craig Craft office, and added that the building was inspected by firefighters about 3 months ago. The building was owned by the Port of Edmonds, which acquired it in condemnation proceedings about a year ago.

The building was constructed in the 1930s and used by John Yost for his lumber business.

During World War II, Pointer-Willamette purchased the building for manufacturing submarine nets and, later, parts for freight trucks.

The building was sold to Northwest Industrial Associates in the 1960s.

January 18, 1978—POLICE NAB HYDRANT BANDITS

Edmonds Police arrested four 18-year old South County men Jan. 15 after they opened fire hydrants throughout the area.

The men, two from Mountlake Terrace and two from Edmonds, used a pipe wrench to open 14 fire hydrants in Edmonds, Woodway, and Esperance.

The fire crews spent the better part of the night turning off the hydrants.

April 19, 1978 & Nov. 23, 1978—MAYOR GETS IN SHAPE FOR FITNESS CHALLENGE:

FITNESS TEST STILL DEBATED; EDMONDS FIRE AND POLICE START PHYSICAL FITNESS TESTS

Edmonds Mayor Harve Harrison will attempt to complete six new physical fitness tests set up for police and fire fighters.

The city adopted the new physical fitness tests during recent police and fire negotiations using criteria set in other cities.



Pierce Dodge "mini" Pumper was in service over 10 years and crews nicknamed it "The Tonka Toy."
STAFF PHOTO

June 7, 1978—EDMONDS KEEPS THEIR CLASS 5 FIRE RATING

Edmonds has made enough changes in its fire department and water supplies to retain a Class 5 fire rating reports Assistant Chief Jack Weinz.

The only way to improve fire protection is to increase manpower and improve training programs, Weinz said.

June 21, 1978—EDMONDS BRUSH FIRES DOUSED ALONG RAILROAD

Four fire engines from Edmonds, two engines from Lynnwood, and one engine from Snohomish Fire District No. 1 responded and extinguished nine separate fires along the railroad right of way in Edmonds starting at 6:15 P.M. and completed by 9:10 P.M. Thursday night.

No one was injured in the fires, but about six acres of grass and brush burned, as well as a few trees, telegraph poles, and fence posts.

Some of the fires burned the back yards of residents living next to the railroad, and one of the fires threatened a house on Talbot Road. The cause of the fires was a passing train with a wheel problem throwing out sparks igniting the fires.

October 18, 1978—JAMES ASTELL, FORMER FIRE CHIEF, DIES

James Astell, 72, a former Edmonds fire chief and

former Edmonds City Council member died Oct. 13 in Edmonds. He was a lifelong Edmonds resident, a member of the fire department from 1926 to 1965—serving as chief for 16 years. He worked for 40 years for Standard Oil Company until he retired in 1970.



James Astell

February 21, 1979—ARSON BLAMED FOR APARTMENT BLAZE

An arson fire swept through a portion of a two-story Edmonds apartment building Monday night causing injuries to three persons.

"It was definitely arson and we have a suspect," said Assistant Fire Chief Jack Weinz.

The blaze caused an estimated \$150,000 damage to the Chipperfield Apartment located at 7901 196th S.W. The Edmonds Fire Department received a fire call at 10:21 P.M. and three Edmonds fire engines, one ladder truck, along with an engine from Lynnwood responded. Twenty-three Edmonds fire fighters and three Lynnwood fire fighters battled the blaze.

The fire was doused in about one hour, but crews continued to fight spot fires until about 3 A.M. Injured were the tenant of the damaged unit, the manager, and one volunteer fire fighter.

May 2, 1979—\$100,000 DAMAGE IN WOODWAY FIRE ONE EDMONDS FIRE FIGHTER INJURED

Flames raged through a portion of a large Woodway home and surrounding buildings overlooking Puget Sound last Tuesday night, causing an estimated \$100,000 damage. Fire fighters from Edmonds and Fire District No. 1 fought the blaze on Union Oil Hill for one and one-half hours before "blacking it out."

It was an accidental fire starting in the garage. The big problem was the fire hydrant location. "We lay 2,400 feet or

about one-half mile of fire hose,” Weinz said.

One Edmonds fire fighter fell down some stairs inside the house and was taken to Stevens Hospital with an injured knee and lower back pain. **Ed. note:** *This paid fire fighter, Gerald Ehtee, was released from the hospital; however, several months later he had to take a medical retirement from the Edmonds Fire Department due to his injuries.*

May 16, 1979—14 YEARS WITH THE CITY OF EDMONDS, JACK COOPER RESIGNS AS FIRE CHIEF

Edmonds Fire Chief Jack Cooper announced his resignation as of June 15th. Chief Cooper came to Edmonds as the first full-time fire chief in 1965.



Jack Cooper

May 16, 1979—MIXED REVIEW, FURTHER STUDY; ONE FIRE DEPARTMENT, ONE CHIEF?

With the retirements of Edmonds', Mountlake Terrace's, and Lynnwood's fire chiefs, maybe it's time for consolidation of the four fire departments with one fire chief. Members of the other cities and fire district, along with Katie Allen, Edmonds City Council member, and former Edmonds' mayor Maxwell, say the idea has some merit and more information is needed. At the time of this article, Fire District One had 4 manned fire stations, Lynnwood had 2 manned stations, Mountlake Terrace had 2 manned stations, and Edmonds had 2 manned stations. **Ed. note:** *The concept of consolidation between two or more of the departments would be discussed for years to come and may still be done!*

July 11, 1979—A QUIET FOURTH OF JULY IS REPORTED IN EDMONDS

Without a traditional fireworks display above the Edmonds waterfront, the Fourth of July was an unusually quiet holiday for Edmonds police and fire fighters. The

display in 1978 had many crowd control and illegal fireworks problems.

“We only had about 1,000 people the whole night,” said John Holleman, Edmonds patrolman.

In previous years 15,000 to 20,000 people gathered along Sunset Avenue and Sunset beach.

August 15, 1979—JACK WEINZ NEW EDMONDS FIRE CHIEF

Jack Weinz, a 16-year veteran of the Edmonds Fire Department, was appointed last week as Edmonds new fire chief.

As the new Fire Chief Weinz will be in charge of seventeen paid and thirty-three volunteer fire fighters.

Weinz has served under two fire chiefs—James Astell and Jack Cooper. Weinz was one of the first four full-time firemen in 1963; later he became the first paid Fire Lieutenant and the first Battalion Chief of the department.



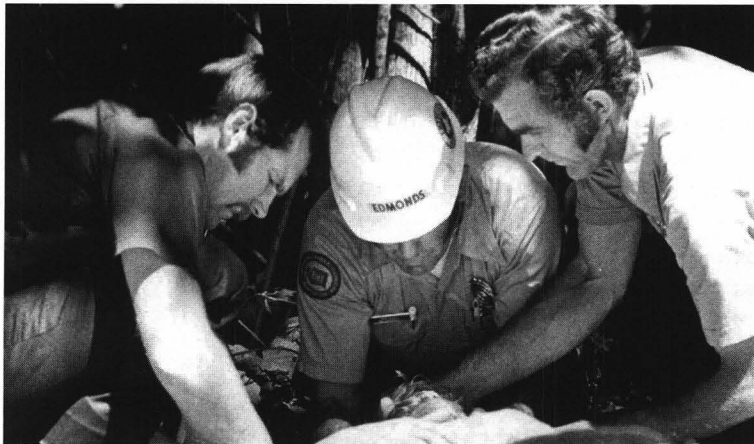
Jack Weinz

November 14, 1979—MEDIC 7 GETS SHOT IN THE ARM

Special six-year tax levies to support Medic 7 and other emergency medical services were approved by more than 70 percent of the voters in Lynnwood, Edmonds, Mountlake Terrace, and Woodway.

The tax of up to 25 cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation will bring in more than enough revenue to pay their shares to Medic 7.

Ed. note: *This Medic 7 levy, a multi year tax levy was to become known as the Edmonds' "E.M.S." levy, and is still in effect as of 2003. The revenue received goes into the Edmonds Fire Department's medical part of the annual budget. As of early 2004, Edmonds does not charge for medical (aid car and medic car) transport to local hospitals, where as many fire departments and cities do charge.*



ABOVE—Lt. Jack Weinz, Stan Olson, and Terry Luce with a patient on an aid call in the early 1970s. STAN OLSON COLLECTION



An auto accident in the mid 1970s. Edmonds fire fighters and an Edmonds Police officer remove a victim from a vehicle. STAN OLSON COLLECTION



RIGHT—The Fog Cutter Restaurant fire at 3rd and Main in May 1971. Setting up a generator is Capt. Milholland, Capt. Gray and fire fighter Ritter. STAN OLSON COLLECTION



LEFT—Fire at Hanks Mower Shop, 110 Main Street, in the mid 1970s where the street is littered with hose, hose, hose. STAN OLSON COLLECTION

1980-1989

FIRE FIGHTING ON THE WATER AND F.R.E.D.



FIRE CHIEFS, EQUIPMENT, FIRE STATIONS, GROUPS, AND ASSOCIATIONS

FIRE CHIEFS:

1980 Jack Weinz

EQUIPMENT:

1980 Edmonds Fire Equipment: 1972 Crown pumper, 1963 Ford LaFrance pumper, 1976 Dodge Pierce mini pumper, 1969 Crown Snorkel ladder truck, two aid cars and several staff vehicles.

1982 Pierce Ford Fire Engine: A 1982 Ford with a 1000 GPM pump and 500 gallon water tank was purchased for \$121,795. It was Edmonds' last yellow fire engine. This engine was in service until 2002. Its nickname was "The Elephant," due to its height and overall appearance.

1982 "Jaws of Life" or the Hurst Tool: This rescue tool was purchase from fundraising efforts of the volunteer association for \$8,223.93. The rescue tool was to extricate or to help in removing injured people from a vehicle. The hydraulic tool ran by a gasoline engine and was carried on an engine. It was used many times during its service of over 20 years. A problem with this rescue tool was the weight. It took a strong fire fighter to operate the original Hurst Tool.

1985 F.R.E.D: In 1985 a converted Coast Guard rescue boat was made into a fire rescue boat named F.R.E.D. (Fire Rescue Edmonds Division). The name "F.R.E.D." was selected by a contest with local school students. The boat was stationed at the Edmonds Marina.

It was equipped with twin diesel engines and a fire pump. This craft also served the Edmonds Police/Fire Dive Team for emergency calls for Puget Sound diving accidents. The call sign was Marine 7. It was yellow in color and was in service for several years. By the late 1980s, it was determined that too much money was being spent on the boat. In 1988 it was sold for \$20,000 to a police agency.

1989 Edmonds Rescue Boat: A new 19 foot aluminum rescue boat was purchased for \$19,525 and will be used by the fire and police department, and the dive team.

FIRE STATIONS:

1984 The Five Corners fire station was called Station 6 and the Civic Center fire station was called Station 7. The 10 fire stations in south Snohomish County were re-numbered. Snohomish Fire District One had stations 1, 2, 3, and 10. Lynnwood had stations 4 and 5. Mountlake Terrace had stations 8 and 9.

1985 Water front locations: In the mid 1980s on Admiral Way, the Port of Edmonds made available to Edmonds Fire Department a metal storage building which housed a reserve fire engine. This was in case a train would block the west side of the railroad tracks. Within a few years, the port needed this location. Also for several years the fire department had a small fire boat "F.R.E.D." and later a rescue boat station in the water at the Port of Edmonds. The Edmonds Police/Fire Dive-Rescue team also operated

from these boats. F.R.E.D. (Fire Rescue Edmonds Division) had a great moorage space. F.R.E.D. was very hard for some fire fighters to operate.

GROUPS:

1984 Edmonds Dive Team: In 1984 the Edmonds Fire/Police Dive Team was started with four fire fighters and four police officers. (See page 203)

FIRE DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION:

There was an election every year and the officers of the association were selected by the members. Many of the members served several years in the same office. Many requirements were being mandated for additional training for volunteer fire fighters in Washington state and the fire service. With the increased numbers of the full time fire fighters, there were fewer emergency calls for the volunteers. The volunteer fire fighters had a very limited insurance in case of injury while serving their community. Many volunteers wishing to serve their community found it hard to comply with the increased amount of training and the time required.

1980 Stuart Murdock is President of the association.

1981 Officers were President, Stuart Murdock; Secretary, Roy McCorchuk; and Treasurer, Dave Johnson.

1982 Officers were President, Monte Ritter; Secretary, Stuart Murdock; and Treasurer, Darren Rentas.

1980-1989 MEMBERS OF THE EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Abrams, Mark	Hart, Pirie
Allen, Mike	Heins, Mike
Allison, Steve	Hepler, Pat
Angel, Bill	Herwick, Tom
Audett, Karen	Heryla, Mick
Bailey, Bill	Hickey, Ted
Barnard, Earl	Hills, Randy
Barton, Ron	Hollcraft, Jon
Becraft, Dan	Hudson, Steve
Bentler, Bob	Johnson, Dave
Burleigh, Brad	Johnson, Ole
Burns, Bob	Jones, Mike
Buttler, Scott	Karr, Mike
Cain, Chuck	Keefe, Jim
Calvo, Lance	Kirkemo, Lisa
Campbell, Charles	Knudson, Pete
Carson, Carmen	Larson, Ken
Cenerazzo, Greg	Lloyd, Jerry
Conroy, Dennis	Lindh, Nels "Okie"
Cordova, Charlie	Lucas, Greg
Dahl, Doug	Lyons, Ray
Day, Andy	Martin, Jim
DeLisle, Joe	Martineau, Kevin
Desrosier, Jon	McCarthy, Matt
Desrosier, Tamara	McComas, Gary
Dorsey, Scott	McNamar, Wade
Downing, John	Medema, Jim
Eyrish, Barbara	Miller, Bob
Fields, Brent	Murdock, Stu
Fischer, Mike	NcCorchuk, Roy
Gaydos, Ken	O'Brien, Bill
Gordon, Bob	Oftedahl, Dennis
Groesbeck, Greg	Ogan, Marty
Hacker, John	Olson, Stan
Hall, Marty	Pantley, Bob

MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT DURING 1980–1989

Paquette, Greg
Petrella, Marc
Pickard, Mark
Prinz, Jeff
Reading, Brad
Redford, Don
Rentas, Darren
Rice, Byron
Ritter, Dick
Ritter, Greg
Ritter, Monte
Sameshima, Bob
Schievink, Sven
Schirman, Ron
Schmitt, Bob
Schoonmaker, Guy
Scott, Peter
Silhan, Jessie
Sly, Dick
Simon, Rob

Soderback, Eric
Sorenson, Ralph
Soucy, Joe
Springer, Mike
Stevens, Geoff
Storm, John
Sutton, Dave
Swanson, Roy
Thomas, Jim
Thwing, Donald
Trolson, Walter
VonSchuessler, Tom
Warren, Dean
Weinz, Jack
Westfall, John
Whitman, Tim
Wirtz, Bill
Wood, Bridget
Woods, Joel
Wyll, Zane

EDMONDS TRIBUNE–REVIEW AND OTHER AREA NEWSPAPERS

February 6, 1980—FIRE, POLICE OKAY PHYSICAL TESTS

Fire fighters and police officers will take an annual physical fitness test under a new contract approved last week by union members and the City of Edmonds.

Dr. Steve Bramwell, director of sports medicine at the University of Washington, will be in charge of the physical fitness program for commissioned police officers and fire fighters.

The officers may participate in a 20-week voluntary conditioning program at the First Serve Racquetball Club in Edmonds. Following the training program, each fire fighter will be tested.

February 6, 1980—FIRE DAMAGES MEDIC 7 VAN

The paint was still fresh on the recently repaired Medic 7 van Friday when an engine compartment fire sent the medic unit to the repair shop for the 2nd time in a month.

“They say lighting doesn’t strike twice,” groaned paramedic coordinator Mark Pizzitola. Paramedics Jane Hayes and Dan Schultz were inside an Edmonds residence, aiding a patient, when the fire in the engine compartment was discovered.

The Edmonds Fire Department extinguished the fire and an Edmonds aid car transported the patient to Stevens Hospital.

When reported to the insurance company, they said “You’re kidding,” as the van had been out of the body shop less than 2 weeks after it had been struck twice during a January 7 snow storm. A temporary replacement van/medic unit was leased from Evergreen hospital in Kirkland.



Edmonds' 1982 Pierce Ford was the last yellow fire engine. It was in service until 2002 and was nicknamed "The Elephant." due to its height and overall appearance. STAFF PHOTO



Gasoline tanker trailer spills half its load. Fire fighters were walking around in and standing in inches of gasoline while covering storm drains to prevent more gas from getting into the drainage system. JOHN WESTFALL COLLECTION

June 18, 1980—ANXIOUS MOMENTS OVER EDMONDS GASOLINE TANKER SPILL

Edmonds fire and police departments worked for hours cleaning up gasoline that spilled from a gasoline tanker trailer that overturned on 224th Street Southwest just west of Highway 99.

Gasoline leaked out from the dome covers on top of the 5,200-gallon tank and ran onto Highway 99. Edmonds Fire Chief Jack Weinz said about half the gas in the tank spilled before fire fighters could stop the leak. The accident was reported on Saturday June 14 at 7:49 A.M.

Fire fighters were walking in and standing in inches of gasoline while covering storm drains to prevent more of the gas from getting into the storm drains.

A dike was built on Highway 99 with sand and foam was applied to reduce the chance of explosion. The gas leak from the open dome covers was stopped.

Vehicle traffic was stopped on the highway for about eight hours to prevent any source of ignition. Fire protection came from Paine Field, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, and 2 Fire Districts as well as traffic control from

the State Patrol and the Sheriffs Department. There were no fires or injuries from this incident. Many fire fighters “counted their blessings.” **Ed. note:** *A small group of young spectators who had gathered within 50 feet of the spill were escorted out of the area by police when busy firemen observed one or more of the group trying to light their cigarettes.*

July 9, 1980—JOHNSON, GAYDOS SELECTED FIRE FIGHTER FOR AWARDS

David “Ole” Johnson, 23, was named Fire Fighter of the Year for 1979, and Ken Gaydos, 41, Edmonds Fire Department chaplain, was chosen as the first recipient of the Monte Edmonds Inspiration Award for his service to the fire department and the community award.

Stuart Murdock, 51, a volunteer fire fighter, replaced Steve Allison, an Edmonds fireman, as president of the association.

The fire fighters association also honored members who had died the previous year—Bill Eddy, Al Jakobitz, and Monte Edmonds.

July 16, 1981—NO MORE FIREWORKS AT THE EDMONDS BEACH

Fireworks will no longer be launched off Edmonds’ waterfront. This year’s 30-minute show drew more spectators than ever, perhaps as many as 25,000, but was marred by injuries from illegal fireworks, harassment of police and fire fighters, blocked streets and mounds of litter.

Sixteen Edmonds volunteer fire fighters and the duty crew responded to 9 fire calls and 3 aid calls. Several brush fires were extinguished along the Burlington Northern Railroad right of way near Sunset Avenue. **Ed. note:** *Illegal fireworks were thrown into and at moving vehicles, at the police officers and fire fighters. A large fire cracker was tossed into a public beach restroom occupied by a pregnant lady and her young child; both were frightened and suffered a temporary loss of*

hearing. This was the last year for the public waterfront fireworks display, (as recalled by EFD personnel).

November 26, 1981—FOUR VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS JOIN EDMONDS DEPARTMENT

Four new volunteer fire fighters have been accepted into a 6 month probationary period with Edmonds Fire Department.

The new members are Walt Trolson, Charlie Cordova, Greg Paquette, and Mark Pickard, all of Edmonds. These new members bring the number of volunteers to 30. **Ed. note:** *Many of Edmonds fire fighters later went to other fire departments. Charlie Cordova is remembered as an eager young man getting in shape for the fire service by running up Edmonds' Main Street hill in fire gear. Within a few years Cordova was on the Seattle Fire Department, and as of 2003 was a Captain.*

January 13, 1982—EDMONDS FAMILY HOMELESS AFTER FIRE

An Edmonds family who has opened their home to more than 100 foster children over the years became homeless when fire gutted their house early last Tuesday. The residents escaped uninjured from the 76th Ave. house at 5:30 A.M., as flames licked up from the basement where the blaze started and smoke billowed out through heating ducts.

One Edmonds fire fighter suffered burned wrists and was transported to Stevens Hospital.

Temperatures in the low teens didn't ease the fire fighters' job. The frigid air froze regulators on breathing apparatus and one nozzle.

"I'm really glad we all got out safely," Mrs. Graves said. "We've lost a lot of things that cannot be replaced. But the lives were saved and that's what is really important. We were very sorry about the fireman who was injured."

April 14, 1982—EDMONDS HOUSE DESTROYED AND TWO EDMONDS FIRE FIGHTERS TREATED FOR INJURIES

Two fire fighters were injured in a Friday morning blaze that completely destroyed a house in downtown Edmonds on 3rd Avenue South. One of the volunteer fire fighters received burns on his arms and neck, while the other stayed over night at Stevens Hospital due to burns, exhaustion, and smoke inhalation. A family dog died.

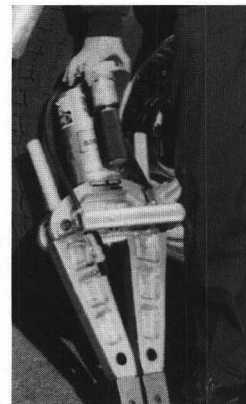
Within a short time after this house fire, an arson reward was offered. Information about a "sandy-haired man, about 25 years old, 5 foot and 10 inches tall, and of medium build" was requested by the Edmonds Fire Marshal and Edmonds Police.

December 1, 1982—EDMONDS GETS JAWS OF LIFE

A two-year fundraising effort by volunteer fire fighters provided the cash to purchase the \$8,223.93 tool. The volunteers began collecting newspapers and cans for recycling in 1980, said Stu Murdock, president of the Edmonds Volunteer Firefighters Association.

"We were amazed at what we got from the community. The tool is paid for and now it belongs to the city of Edmonds." The rescue equipment is only the second of its kind in the South County. The other "Jaws" is stationed at Martha Lake with the Snohomish County fire department.

Last week fire fighters were running drills with junk cars donated by Shannon Towing company. Fire fighters Pat Hepler and Steve Allison turned a sturdy Impala station wagon into a convertible with half its doors removed in a matter of minutes.



January 1983—DONATIONS SOUGHT FOR RESCUE BOAT

A boat tied up along one of the long finger piers at the Edmonds waterfront catches fires, and fire fighters are unable to get to the blaze. Thieves take off with their loot in a boat and police have no way to pursue. A diver is reported in trouble in the city's underwater park, and help is 45 minutes away. A rescue boat is needed in Edmonds.

To remedy situations like these, say members of a safety committee, a plan to purchase a boat with support from the community and to equip it with city funds got an initial nod of approval from the Edmonds City Council last week.

Originally the safety committee set out to make recommendations for a rescue program for scuba diving areas near the city, according to Bob Schmitt, a fire fighter on the committee. Their study led to the discovery other areas lacking protection.

Edmonds jurisdiction extends a half-mile out into the Sound and stretches for five miles from Union Oil dock to Meadowdale Marine.

According to the safety committee's report there are over 900 boats moored in the Port of Edmonds with another 100 slips to be added within 5 years. There are 5,000 gallons of diesel and some 7,000 gallons of gasoline stored near the Breakwater Marina, and Meadowdale Marine has a 1,000 gallon fuel storage facility.

The Underwater park and nearby diving areas attract an average 30,000 scuba dives a year.

In the past 20 years, 11 divers and one swimmer have drowned off Edmonds beaches, the committee reported. Fifteen freight trains and 2 passenger trains pass daily. During the summer brush fires along the railroad tracks are a problem. An average 27 ferries dock at Edmonds daily during the summer and an average of 15 passengers a year require medical aid by Edmonds Fire Department or

Medic 7. Some 125,000 people fish off the piers at Edmonds. The safety committee recommends purchase of a "multi-purpose waterfront service craft."

March 23, 1983—FIRE FIGHTERS DONATE TO BOAT FUND

Edmonds got its first donation toward purchase of a waterfront rescue boat last week when the Mountlake Terrace Fire Fighters Association gave the city \$200.

The city council is looking for \$30,000 in donations from the public to purchase an aid boat to patrol the waterfront. The council pledged \$14,000 to equip the craft and train personnel to operate it.

March 23, 1983—CITY GETS GRANT FOR FIRE BOAT

Edmonds has received a \$10,000 grant from the Burlington Northern Foundation towards purchase of a fire and rescue boat for the waterfront. **Ed. note:** *In 1985, F.R.E.D. (Fire Rescue Edmonds Division) was Edmonds first fire/rescue boat. This craft was a converted Coast Guard 24 foot rescue boat and was equipped with a fire pump and fire fighting*



A converted 24-foot Coast Guard rescue boat was purchased in 1985. MICK HERYLEA COLLECTION

equipment. Donations for the conversion came from local and major businesses of the area. The name F.R.E.D. was selected by a contest with local school students. This craft also served the Edmonds Police/Fire Dive Team for emergency calls for Puget Sound diving accidents. The training for a fire boat was new for the fire fighters, and many stories have been told. It was stationed at the Edmonds Marina. It was sold to a police agency in the south sound.

April 13, 1983—ANSWERS ARE FEW IN FIRE DEATHS

The badly charred bodies of an Esperance couple were found in an upstairs bedroom of their home on 236th Street S.W. Snohomish County fire officials said that large quantities of gasoline were used to start fires in both the home and a workshop behind it, and the workshop was completely gutted by the blaze while the fire damage in the home was limited to the bedroom and kitchen.

Neighbors woke to a rapid series of explosions about 5:00 A.M. which one person said sounded like shotgun blasts.

While fire fighters were inside battling the blaze, another fireman found a pet parrot in a covered cage sitting out in front of a van in the driveway.

Officials later found about 20 gallons of unburned gasoline in plastic jugs inside the house. They speculated

that as much as 60 gallons of gasoline had burned, causing the explosions neighbors heard. **Ed. note:** Fire District 1's fire engine from the Esperance fire station was first on the scene and attacked the fully involved workshop located behind the house. An Edmonds fire engine from Five Corners station was second on the scene. The EFD fire fighters attacked the fire inside the house. The fire had been extinguished and the bodies found when several containers of gasoline were found. At that time the fire crews were removed from within the house. One of the Edmonds fire fighters can recall years later, that while searching the smoke involved living room he saw what he believed to be a fish tank with dead fish floating on the surface. What he saw through his air mask and in the heavy smoke was a large container full of gasoline with ashes floating on top. There were no injuries to any fire fighters from this fire.

October 12, 1983—CANDLE CAUSES FIRE

A candle was the cause of a fire in an Edmonds College Place condominium unit last Thursday before dawn. No one was injured from the fire.

Edmonds Fire Chief Jack Weinz said the fire started in the upstairs bedroom, and when fire fighters arrived, flames were shooting out of the upstairs windows.

Weinz said 24 fire fighters from three departments were on the scene and extinguished the flames within 15 minutes. Smoke and heat damage to the unit was estimated to be \$10,000.

June 13, 1984—HOUSE SUFFERS \$85,000 DAMAGE

A house fire at 8117 Frederick Place did \$85,000 worth of damage at 11:00 A.M. June 4. The fire was tapped by noon, according to the Edmonds Fire Department, and most of the damage was contained to the garage and breezeway. The fire started in the garage, but no cause has been found, a department spokesperson said. There is no suspicion of arson. Thirteen fire fighters fought the blaze



Esperance Station #20 and assigned equipment as it appears in 2004. STAFF PHOTO

for nearly an hour; three Lynnwood fire fighters joined the Edmonds crew.

December 19, 1985—HEART ATTACK KILLS ENGINEER AFTER TRAIN HITS MAN

(The Herald)

Tragedy struck at a familiar location but in a different way early Wednesday evening when an Amtrak train hit a pedestrian standing by the tracks north of Edmonds, and the engineer of the train suffered a fatal heart attack just minutes later.

The accident took place about 5:27 P.M., just a mile and a half north of the Edmonds train station on a section of tracks south of Picnic Point. Burlington Northern engineer Thomas Speckman, a 38 year veteran, suffered a heart attack shortly after the Chicago-bound Empire Builder grazed Albert Starke, 74, who was apparently standing near the tracks.

Starke suffered multiple fractures and cuts, and was in serious condition at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle.

The engineer was pronounced dead on the scene at 6:25 P.M.

After that accident Burlington Northern beefed up a large public awareness program called Operation Lifesaver.

December 21, 1986—A 7 YEAR OLD EDMONDS GIRL DIES IN APARTMENT FIRE *(The Herald)*

A 7 year old Edmonds girl died early Saturday morning in a house fire that seriously injured her father. She was found dead in an upper bunk in her family's apartment on 208th Street.

Her father was in serious condition Saturday night at Harborview Medical Center's burn unit in Seattle, suffering from burns and severe smoke inhalation.

"This is the hardest one for me," said Fire Chief Jack Weinz, who has been with the department 25 years.



"Corkey the little fire engine" in the 1982 Fourth of July parade. EARL BARNARD COLLECTION

"It's really a tragedy." Fire officials said combustible material that came into contact with an electric baseboard heater appeared to be the cause of the blaze. Weinz said it may have been a mattress or sheets. Weinz said the total dollar loss from the blaze is expected to exceed \$150,000.

Fire fighters were immediately informed that the girl was still in the apartment, but the unit was burning so fiercely that a rescue attempt was impossible. Twenty-six fire fighters from Edmonds, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace and Fire District 1 battled the blaze. An Edmonds fire official said the victim was the first child to die in a fire in Edmonds in at least 25 years.

March 17, 1988—UNOCAL EXPLOSION; WELDING SPARKS BELIEVED CAUSED OF OIL-TANK BLAST

Dick Osburn, terminal manager of the Union Oil Co.'s tank farm in south Edmonds, said sparks from a welding torch were the likely cause of the accident. The tank was 2/3 full, mostly of water and waste oil. A fluid-level gauge system to measure the amount of waste oil in the 25 foot high tank was being installed. The process involved welding. One employee of the Unocal tank farm was



Park Apartment at 424 3rd. Ave. South started in the living room of an apartment where a 79 year old heart attack victim was found. Four tenants suffered smoke inhalation in the morning fire.

Fire Chief Jack Weinz said that the fire may have been caused by the tenant dropping a cigarette after suffering the heart attack. The fire caused an estimated \$160,000 damage.

November 29, 1989—EDMONDS LAUNCHES ITS NEW RESCUE BOAT (*The Enterprise*)

A new rescue boat bought by the City of Edmonds was launched to its permanent moorage place in the Port of Edmonds Marina last week. A 19-foot rescue boat purchased by the city for \$19,525 will make the waterfront safer for residents, divers, and boaters, said city officials. It will be used by the Edmonds Fire and Police Departments.

Earlier, concerned residents of Edmonds urged City Council members to acquire another rescue boat to ensure the safety of the waterfront, after an earlier boat was sold by the city in a cost-saving measure.



A 19-foot rescue boat was purchased by the city in November 1989. MICK HERYLEA COLLECTION

Edmonds Park Apartment fire started in the living room of an apartment where a 79 year old heart attack victim was found. Four tenants suffered smoke inhalation in the morning fire. STAN OLSON COLLECTION

burned in the explosion and fire. The explosion occurred around 11:00 A.M. at the Union Oil Depot. The explosion brought fire fighters from the Edmonds, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, and Snohomish District 1 fire departments.

April 25, 1988—MOST RESIDENTS RESPOND QUICKLY TO WAIL OF ALARM

The 53 unit apartment building where Sunday's fire occurred is home to many older people whose normally lazy weekend morning routines were fractured by the high pitched sound of a fire alarm. The fire at the Edmonds

1990-1999

IT'S NOT ALWAYS ABOUT FIGHTING FIRES



FIRE CHIEFS, EQUIPMENT, AND FIRE STATIONS

FIRE CHIEFS:

1990 Jack Weinz
1991 Clarence "Buzz" Buzalsky
1994 Mike Springer
1998 Ron Haworth
1999 Tom Tomberg

EQUIPMENT:

1990 Edmonds fire equipment: 1969 Crown Snorkel ladder truck, 1982 Ford Pierce engine, 1972 Crown engine, two aid cars, 1989 rescue boat, and several staff vehicles.

1991 Darley fire engine: A 1991, custom made fire engine with a 1500 GPM pump and a 500 gallon water tank was Edmonds first fully enclosed cab engine and was red in color. The purchase price was \$179,850. In 2004 this engine is being used as a reserve engine.

1996 Two used fire engines and an aid car came to Edmonds with the acquisition of the Esperance fire station from Snohomish County District One. A 1974 Ford Anderson fire engine was equipped with a 1250 gallon per minute pump and a 500 gallon water tank, a 1974 Hendrickson fire engine equipped with a 1500 gallon per minute pump and a 750 gallon water tank became Edmonds fire engines. Both of these engines were yellow and white. They were replaced in 1998.

1998 Two Darley fire engines: Two new Darley fire engines with 1500 gallon per minute pumps and 500 gallon water tanks were purchased for \$151,500 each. The new fire engines are red.

FIRE STATIONS:

1990 Five Corners fire station and the Civic Center fire stations are still in use.

1995 In 1995 the original two bay fire station at Five Corners was determined to be unsafe due to the many cracks in the outside walls. Many of the worst cracks were from a 4.8 earthquake that struck the area in February 1995. In March of 1995 the Station 16 crews were moved out of the brick building and put in a 24-foot motor home for one month until the city was able to lease a used modular home (one that the Bellevue Fire Department had built for themselves and was used for a short time while they had a station built). The modular home was moved next to the station in April 1995 and used until 2003 for living and business areas.

1996 Edmonds Fire Administration: In 1996 the Edmonds City Hall along with the Fire Administration moved to its new location at 121 5th Ave. N. The Fire Chief and his assistant, Fire Marshal, and the Fire Inspector have offices located here. There are several meeting rooms.

1996 Esperance fire station or Station 20 from June 1996 to current: This station is located at 23009 88th Ave. W. This station was a Snohomish Co. Fire District 1 station and first built in the 1960s and rebuilt in the early 1990s. Due to the reduction of the fire district in this area, Edmonds purchased the station and it was dedicated to Edmonds on June 29, 1996. In the early days the station was called Station 4, Station 10, and finally



Esperance Fire Station 20 has one aerial ladder truck, another engine and an aid car, manned by three or four fire fighters. The new station has three bays and sleeping quarters upstairs.

STAFF PHOTO

Station 20. The new station has three bays, one engine, one aerial ladder truck, and one aid car. Sleeping quarters are upstairs with out a “fire pole.” This is a modern residential fire station and has three to four fire fighter crew.

1990–1999 MEMBERS OF THE EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Albers, Jeff
 Allison, Steve
 Anderson, Todd
 Angel, Bill
 Angiono, Loren
 Balsler, Matt
 Barnard, Earl
 Barton, Ron
 Blackmar, Ben
 Buzalsky, Clarence
 Boyle, Dean
 Bushey, Deborah
 Campbell, Charles

Campbell, Tom
 Carden, Ray
 Chambers, Darin
 Conroy, Dennis
 Dahl, Doug
 Dickison, Charles
 Dorsey, Scott
 Erickson, Dave
 Eyrish, Barbara
 Fahey, Mike
 Fischer, Mike
 Flett, Tom
 Gaydos, Ken

Gerlach, Jay
 Gustafson, Kevin
 Haas, Devin
 Hacker, John
 Haehnel, Frank
 Hart, Jay
 Hart, Pirie
 Hepler, Pat
 Heryla, Mick
 Hills, Randy
 Hollcraft, Jon
 Horner, Don
 Horner, Shannon
 Hovis, Thad
 Howard, Isaac
 Hunter, Dave
 Ito, Jim
 Johnson, Dave
 Jones, Mike
 Karr, Mike
 Keefe, Jim
 Kipley, Christopher
 Krugmire, Dave
 Kuhn, Bret
 LaCasse, Laura
 Larson, Ken
 Lattier, Andrew
 Lindh, Nels
 Lucas, Greg
 Martin, Jim
 McAllister, Brian
 McComas, Gary
 McDermot, Ed
 Medema, Jim
 Mess, Steve
 Nichols, Bob

Oftedahl, Dennis
 Ogan, Marty
 Petrella, Marc
 Reinke, Jon
 Rheume, Andrew
 Ritter, Brian
 Roesch, Lleny
 Rothaus, Randy
 Schievink, Sven
 Schmitt, Bob
 Simon, Rob
 Smith, Cheryl
 Smith, Mike
 Soderback, Eric
 Soucy, Joe
 Speier, Andrew
 Springer, Mike
 Steinbach, Justin
 Stevens, Geoff
 Storm, John
 Straume, Glenn
 Sutton, Dave
 Taylor, Kevin
 Thomas, Jim
 Thomson, Walter
 Thorpe, Mike
 Tilbury, Jeff
 Tomberg, Tom
 Turner, Amy
 Warren, Dean
 Westfall, John
 White, Don
 Whitman, Tim
 Woods, Bridget
 Woods, Joel
 Yoakum, Andre

AREA NEWSPAPERS

February 12, 1990—SMOKE ON THE WATER; DAMAGE FROM YACHT BLAZE TOPS \$1 MILLION AT EDMONDS MARINA

Four yachts valued at a total of more than \$1 million were destroyed or severely damaged Sunday night, February 11th, by a raging fire at the Port of Edmonds on I dock. Fanned by a stiff Southerly wind, the fire spewed a thick black smoke that covered the waterfront area and hampered the firefighting effort on narrow, dark, and slippery ice covered docks. Nobody was aboard the vessels when the fire was reported just before 9:00 P.M. All the burned boats were between 45 and 50 feet in length.

The most severe injury came to the pride of Lynnwood Fire Chief Al Dillion, the appointed "safety officer," who slipped off a wet dock into the icy Puget Sound water. An Edmonds fire fighter also fell in, Edmonds fire Chief Weinz said.

There was a failure of the Port's dry standpipe on the fire pier, which meant fire fighters hand laid fire hose to the fire. Also early in the fire, the attack fire engine had minor mechanical problems and was later replaced with another fire engine. Edmonds had extra help and equipment from Lynnwood, Snohomish County Dist 1, and Mountlake Terrace fire departments.

February 26, 1990—PORT OF EDMONDS LETTER TO EDMONDS MAYOR NAUGHTON

A letter from Port Manager Bill Stevens expressed thanks and appreciation to the Edmonds Fire Department for the fire fighters who fought the fire on February 11, and the members of the department who provided training in identifying various classes of fire and proper method of extinguishment in the Port's ongoing training program for

employees on February 7th, and for the CPR and first aid class on February 21st.

January 2, 1991—FIRE FIGHTER SAVES LIFE OF RESIDENT (*The Enterprise*)

Edmonds fire fighter Randy Hills arrested the progress of a fire which caused \$50,000 worth of damage to a house on 85th Place and helped carry 59 year old William Potts from his blazing living room.

"If he would have waited, the guy wouldn't have lived," Asst. Chief Ron Schirman said of Hills. "It was a very aggressive job of firefighting." The man was transported by helicopter to Harborview burn center.

Police officers and neighbors pulled Mrs. Potts and her dogs from a bedroom window. At that point Mr. Potts remained trapped in the living room. "The neighbors and family were screaming, 'he's still in the house'," Hills recalled.

November 1, 1991—BOAT DESTROYED

Edmonds fire fighter Captain Bill Angel inspected the remains of a power boat destroyed by fire at the Edmonds Marina Thursday evening. Two adjacent boats were damaged. "We are real lucky because the fire didn't spread," Angel said. "There was just some radiant heat damage to neighboring docks. It hadn't spread to other boats."

June 19, 1991—ARSON HITS NW FUR CO-OP: ALF FACTION CLAIMS RESPONSIBILITY

On the night of June 15, members of the "Western Wildlife cell of the Animal Liberation Front (ALF)" set fire to the Northwest Fur Foods Cooperative in the 400 block of Admiral Way. Slogans and symbols were painted on the walls.

When the Edmonds Fire Department arrived at the scene, the NE section of the building was fully

involved in flames. At the height of the fire, there were 8 engines, 2 ladder trucks, 4 aid units, and numerous support vehicles.

The fire fighters had contained the fire in less than 60 minutes. Damage was estimated at \$300,000 for the structure, and \$100,000 for the contents.

December 12, 1991—LIT CANDLE CAUSED FATAL LYNNWOOD FIRE, INVESTIGATORS SAY

(The Herald)

LYNNWOOD—A candle left burning on a table in the living room caused the fire that took the lives of two children Monday, fire investigators said Wednesday.

“The candle had been lit the night before on a table next to the couch in the living room,” said Tom Foster, fire marshal for Fire District 1.

“The fire had been burning for an undetermined amount of time prior to its discovery, and flashed over (burst into open flame) shortly after the home owner attempted to extinguish the fire with a pan of water.”

Twenty-eight fire fighters from Fire District 1, Mountlake Terrace, Lynnwood, Edmonds and Fire District 7 answered the call as well as the Medic 7 paramedic ambulance from Stevens Memorial Hospital.

June-July 1993—NEWSLETTER: FROM THE WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ARSON INVESTIGATORS;

PAUL KELLER: HOW THE GOOD GUYS WON ‘76 CONFESSED ARSON FIRES’

Nearly everyone in Washington State regrettably knows the name Paul Kenneth Keller by now. Recently convicted and sentenced to 75 years for committing 76 confessed arsons (32 pleaded guilty and the remainder stipulated to facts) totaling more than \$22 million



Fighting fires can make a fellow thirsty, so a fireman helps himself to a drink out the open window.

STAN OLSON COLLECTION

in damage, Paul Keller exhibited no remorse at his sentencing hearing.

His father and family appear to have grieved more for these crimes than Keller himself. Since the hearing, Keller told Chuck Wright that he personally agrees that he should have gotten 25 years, but thinks that “the next 50 years” were merely political.

Ed. note: *In August 1992 fires broke out in three unoccupied homes still under construction in Lynnwood and a church in Snohomish. Within three days, four more fires were set in homes and churches.*

Over a period of months, the progression of fires grew in intensity, from unoccupied homes and churches to occupied residences, often with sleeping children or elderly persons. He started with one fire per night and it grew to as many as 7 within 3 hours. All the fires were set with nearby combustibles, “just waiting to set a fire.” It is believed that

Keller did not add accelerant to any site. His ignition method was to “just flick his Bic.”

August 10, 1994—EDMONDS CHIEFS JUMP IN, SAVES A LIFE

Gerald Lovell, a retired Edmonds volunteer fire fighter with many years of service, was scheduled to speak at last week's council meeting.

Minutes before the meeting began, Lovell collapsed just outside the council chambers. Acting Edmonds Fire Chief Mike Springer, and Police Chief Tom Miller, and Planning Board Member Mike Cooper (a Shoreline fire fighter) came to Lovell's aid by performing cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (C.P.R.).

Mrs. Lovell said Gerald has had heart problems and is now in intensive care at a Redmond hospital.

December 14, 1994—IT'S NOT ALWAYS ABOUT FIRES (*The Edmonds Paper*)

Anyone who thinks the life of a fire fighter is all drama and heroics should have been present when the Edmonds Fire Department's Engine 6 responded to a call at Wesco Autobody Supply Inc., at 216th Street and 66th Avenue West. Mountlake Terrace fire engines also responded to the alarm, which resulted from a broken pipe on the second floor. Fire or not, there had to be a cleanup.

December 28, 1994—5 FIRE DEPARTMENTS UNITE TO QUELL BEESON BUILDING BLAZE; DAYS GONE BY

On Sunday December 18th, Edmonds' historic Beeson building built in 1910 got the benefit of a modern-day firefighting program when a blaze erupted on its 2nd floor. While half of Edmonds watched from the street, fire engines from five agencies that share an inter-local automatic aid agreement roared to the scene. 40 fire fighters combined



In 1909, this fire was on the south side of Main Street from Fourth Avenue to the alley. The area was rebuilt with a two-story building by Roscoe Beeson from Indiana.

EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

their efforts to quell the flames, but not before damage reached \$100,000. A lighted candle left in the unoccupied business is believed to have been the cause of the fire.

The fire on Sunday December 18th was not the first time this block had been hit by fire, except that the first time was much more devastating. Thanks to the efficiency of the Edmonds area fire fighters. The recent potential disaster was quickly brought under control and the damage was minimized.

The fire that broke out in 1909 was a major disaster, which might add some meaning to the following chain of events which occurred many years ago. A big Edmonds fire started in the early hours of July 8, 1909 in a confectionery store. The fire bell was sounded and the Edmonds Fire Department members brought the fire hose cart to fight the flames. This fire was on the south side of Main St from 4th Avenue to the alley. Total losses were suffered by Patterson Hardware, Williams Jewelry, and Davis Confectionery. The

Jones Block was totally destroyed. Soon after the fire Florance Roscoe Beeson from Indiana purchased the lots where the fire had taken place and announced that he would construct a 2 story concrete building to replace the structure that had been lost. This building was named after him. Beeson served on the city council, became mayor, and was active in the Edmonds Chamber of Commerce.

May 10, 1995—10 HURT IN EDMONDS ARSON FIRE

Edmonds fire officials suspect an apartment fire on May 5 was arson. Fire Marshal McComas said the fire is being investigated as arson because some type of flammable liquid was found on some stairs in the building. It was reported that people were on their decks getting away from the smoke. They were evacuated by ladders. Ten residents were examined at the scene and six were transported to Stevens Hospital. These patients were treated and released.

February 21, 1996—EDMONDS LANDMARK DESTROYED (*The Edmonds Paper*)

The Dairy Queen at 76th Avenue and 212th Street SW which has been an Edmonds landmark for over 20 years was destroyed by a blaze that began at 3:00 A.M. and raged for two hours before fire fighters brought it under control. They had cleared the area by 6:15 A.M., and the search for a cause began.

Fire fighters from Edmonds Station No. 6, first on the scene were soon joined by units from Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace and Shoreline.

The flames gutted everything between the walls, which caused the roof to collapse. Damages are estimated at \$250,000.

By a sad irony, the Edmonds Dairy Queen had only changed ownership on October 1. Under original owner Vaunda Olmsted, the restaurant first opened for business on May 23, 1971.



Firemen fight a house fire in the dark of the night. STAN OLSON COLLECTION

The cause of the fire was attributed to an electrical malfunction in the dryer located in the rear of the building.

June 27, 1996—PRESS RELEASE FOR FIRE AT 902 HINDLEY LANE

At 7:09 P.M. on June 27th there was a house fire at 902 Hindley Lane in Edmonds. The fire was reported by the owner of the home who stated their propane barbecue was on fire and they were not able to shut off the gas.

On arrival of the 1st engine, the front exterior of the house was well involved with fire, smoke was coming through the roofing material and the fire was extending into the house. The fire was contained to the front exterior and roof area of the house.

All occupants exited the home and there were no injuries. The cause is accidental and the loss estimated at \$60,000. 28 fire fighters were involved.

August 1, 1996—LOSS AT LEAST \$400,000 IN EDMONDS CONDO FIRE (*The Herald*)

EDMONDS—A two-alarm blaze Tuesday night that forced more than 30 people to evacuate a condominium

complex caused at least \$400,000 damage, the Edmonds Fire Department reported.

The fire started at the Mill Park Condominiums at 7305 224th St. SW about 9:00 P.M. when either hot embers or heat from an unattended barbecue spread to a nearby sofa, said John Westfall, senior inspector with the Edmonds Fire Department.

The fire was reported by Edmonds police officer Ken Ploeger. Employees at Funtasia Family Fun Park also noticed the fire and went to help. Fun Park employees jumped the fence and used a garden hose to put water on the fire while other people ran to the units and knocked on doors to warn people.

No one was injured, but four condominiums were severely damaged. A few others had water damage, Westfall said.

August 7, 1996—BARBECUE STARTED FIRE THAT CAUSES \$400,000 DAMAGE AT CONDOMINIUM *(The Enterprise)*

A fire that forced the evacuation of the 12 unit Mill Park Condominiums 7305 224th S.W. July 30 was caused by a barbecue on a balcony, an Edmonds fire inspector said.

No one was injured in the fire which broke out at about 9 P.M. The fire was spotted by an Edmonds police officer, who turned in the alarm and then ran to the building and began evacuating tenants. More than 50 fire fighters from five jurisdictions battled the blaze.

The fire damaged four units and necessitated the evacuation of eight others.

September 28, 1996—NO ONE HOME AS FIRE HEAVILY DAMAGES HOUSE *(The Hearld)*

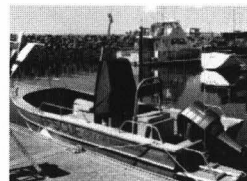
Fire fighters from four departments battled a two alarm blaze that heavily damaged a home Saturday night in the

8900 block of 226th Place S.W. The two story house was unoccupied at the time of the fire, but the flames and smoke could be easily seen by fire fighters even before they arrived.

Fire fighters from the four local departments, Lynnwood, Edmonds, Snohomish County Fire District 1, and Mountlake Terrace helped extinguished the blaze. The accidental fire was started on a deck by an unattended candle. The estimate of damage was \$110,000.

November 12, 1996—PLAN TO SCRAP RESCUE UNIT TAKES HEAT *(The Hearld)*

EDMONDS—A proposal to ground the city's waterfront rescue boat and dive team next year raised concern Monday among some fire fighters and at least one community representative.



Operation of the boat and diving squad at \$22,000 a year is one of the cuts Mayor Barb Fahey is suggesting as city officials try to come up with a spending plan for 1997. The rescue program has been around since 1982.

May 28, 1997—MATCHES THE VILLAIN IN HOUSE FIRE *(The Edmonds Paper)*

A team of 24 fire fighters and seven vehicles from Edmonds, Mountlake Terrace and Lynnwood responded to the May 23 alarm in the College Place area. But by the time they got the fire controlled, the damage was done: \$40,000 to the structure and \$20,000 in loss of contents.

"It started in a bedroom with young hands and a book of matches," says Fire Inspector, John Westfall. Everyone inside, including pets; escaped safely.

"Please make sure you keep all matches and lighters stored in a safe place away from children," urges Inspector Westfall.

March 5, 1997—CITIZEN OF THE YEAR; “CHUCK” CAIN

Chuck Cain, the 1997 Citizen of The Year was formally introduced at the recent meeting of the Edmonds Chamber of Commerce, where he demonstrated his characteristic grace and modesty.

The owner of the Edmonds Lumber Company and a long time Edmonds volunteer fireman was selected from a field of 8 individual nominees for his unstinting support of community projects over many years. The contest is sponsored by Sno-King Kiwanis of Edmonds and Edmonds Senior Kiwanis. In the past, Charles “Chuck” Cain has received a commendation from the city council for service to the community (1983) and has been The City’s Volunteer of the Year (1985). At 72, he is as much involved in civic and community affairs as he ever was.

October 29, 1997—ARSON FIRE DAMAGES WESTGATE CHAPEL

The damage estimated from an early Sunday morning arson at Westgate Chapel had reached \$1 million by late Monday afternoon.

The Sunday fire was reported at 1:40 A.M. Emergency units from Edmonds, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, Shoreline, and Snohomish County responded to the blaze.

It’s being investigated as arson because the fire started inside the building in two locations.

Westgate Chapel has one of the largest congregations in the area. Its average Sunday morning attendance is 1,800.

February 12, 1998—EXPLOSIVE SITUATION CLEARS OUT CONDOS: VAN WITH DANGEROUS CHEMICALS STOLEN, FOUND IN PARKING LOT (*The Herald*)

Police evacuated 40 to 50 people from the Maplewood Manor condominium complex in Edmonds Wednesday night after they located a van stolen earlier in the day



Edmonds’ 1998 Darley fire engine pictured here—one of two new Darley fire engines with 1500 gallon per minute pumps and 500 gallon water tanks were purchased for \$151,500 each.
STAFF PHOTO

that reportedly contained explosive materials.

The van which had been stolen from a Lynnwood company, All-World Scientific, Wednesday morning, was found in the parking lot of the condominium complex, located in the 8500 block of 196th Street SW, said Kevin Taylor, Edmonds assistant fire chief.

The Washington State Patrol bomb squad and the Lynnwood Hazardous Materials Team were called to the scene about 6:00 P.M. Officers searched the van and reported it was empty, the Edmonds police reported.

The recovered van was towed to the Lynnwood Police Department for processing.

March 6, 1998—FIREWORKS BLAST COSTS BOY FINGERS (*The Herald*)

An 8 year old boy called 911 Thursday evening asking for help after fireworks exploded in his hand, blowing off several of his fingers.

The boy told the dispatcher several of his fingers were missing after the 5:00 P.M. accident. The boy was unable to



Downtown Station 17, located at 275 6th Ave. N. It houses three fire fighters with an engine and aid car, two paramedics with Medic 17, and engine #1, the retired 1938 Ford. STAFF PHOTO

remember his address, but the dispatcher was able to locate his house through the enhanced 911 dispatch system.

The Edmonds Fire Department and Medic 15 responded to the call and treated the boy's wounds and then transported him to Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, said Captain Bob Schmitt.

It was unknown who was in the house when the fireworks device blew up, Schmitt said. Surgeons were attempting to reattach the fingers at Harborview.

October 28, 1998—VITAL AID FOR FIRE FIGHTERS

When Edmonds fire fighters respond to an alarm these days, it's a comfort to know they can take along the Argus Thermal Imager. The Imager enables a fire fighter to "see in the dark" and through dense smoke. It was purchased after a campaign led by the Edmonds Fire Safety Foundation. The Imager came in handy during a commercial fire in Lynnwood.

October 28, 1998—WORKERS HELP THREE DOGS ESCAPE FLAMES: NO ONE INJURED, BUT EDMONDS HOME SUSTAINS \$50,000 DAMAGE

According to Edmonds Fire Inspector John Westfall, on October 21 an older split level home on the 20400 block of 88th Ave. W. in Edmonds caught on fire after a candle was left burning inside the basement on a plastic patio table. The estimated damage to the home is \$50,000. Fire crews from Edmonds and Lynnwood responded and put the fire out. If it wasn't for two nearby construction workers, 3 dogs probably wouldn't have survived.

March 9, 1999—EDMONDS SNUFFS OUT FIRE MERGER: PLAN TO UNITE 3 AGENCIES DIES *(The Seattle Times)*

It seemed like a good idea: Merge three South Snohomish County fire departments and hire a single chief, funneling the savings into improved service.

But after two years of study, the proposed consolidation of fire departments in Edmonds and Mountlake Terrace and the Snohomish County Fire District 1/11 has fizzled out.

The Edmonds City Council voted last week to withdraw from the consolidation.

There would have been no layoffs, but a consultant predicted the departments would save \$152,952 annually by withdrawing from Medic 7, the county's shared emergency-services system, and training its own fire fighters as medics.

Edmonds City Councilman, John Nordquist, said he wasn't convinced Edmonds needed to join a combined fire department.

Chauncey Sauer, chief of Fire District 1/11, and other fire officials said they favored the merger. The three departments' combined annual budgets total about \$18.5 million.

July 21, 1999—COUPLE STOPS FIRE

An apparent arson fire on the evening of July 14 was extinguished by the resident managers of Maplewood Manor at 8500 block of 196 S.W., according to the Edmonds Fire Department. The fire burned in an exterior stairwell and the manager pulled the material from the structure and doused the fire with a garden hose.



Always a highlight; the fire trucks are a main entry in the annual Fourth of July parades. Circa 1960s. STAFF PHOTO



Battalion Chief Bob Schmitt in 2004 with the command unit. Greg Lucas and Steve Allison are the other two battalion chiefs. STAFF PHOTO

2000-2004

**EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT
CELEBRATES A CENTENNIAL YEAR**



FIRE CHIEFS, EQUIPMENT, AND FIRE STATIONS

FIRE CHIEFS:

2000 Tom Tomberg

EQUIPMENT:

2000 Edmonds fire equipment: 1969 Crown Snorkel ladder truck, 1991 Darley engine, 1982 Ford Pierce engine, 2 1998 Darley engines, 4 aid cars, and several staff vehicles.

2001 Darley Aerial Innovation Ladder Truck: In 2001 a new 100 foot aerial ladder/basket truck with a 1500 gallon per minute pump and a 200 gallon water tank was purchased for \$684,000. This replaced the 1969 65 foot Crown Snorkel ladder/basket truck.

FIRE STATIONS:

2000 Five Corners fire station 16 is still in use.

2000 Edmonds Fire Administration is located at 121 5th Ave. N.

2000 Esperance fire station is located at 23009 88th Ave. W

2000 Station 17 from 2000 to current: This fire station is located on part of the old Civic Center/station sight and the new address is at 275 6th Avenue N.

2003 Station 16 from 2003 to current: This new fire station is located at 8429 196th St. S.W. and replaces the old station at Five Corners. The station was dedicated on Nov. 19, 2003, and was built by John Daniels Construction of Bellingham for a cost of \$2,225,000. The equipment bays open onto 196th S.W. and there is a “drive through bay” from the rear. This station is the home of “The Duty



Station 16 from 2003 to current: This new fire station is located at 8429 196th St. S.W. and replaces the old station at Five Corners. The brass pole is now in the new Station 16, however being a one story building, the pole is just a “reminder of the old days.” STAFF PHOTO

Battalion Chiefs” (officer in charge of the shift-all three stations). This is also a very modern station and has a three to four fire fighter crew to man both an engine and an aid car. The “brass fire pole” that was installed in the “old station 2” when the second story was added, and then removed years later was stored for several years. This pole is now in the new station 16, however being a one story building; the pole is just a “reminder of the old days.”

Ed. note: *The names and numbers of Edmonds fire stations have changed over the years. Edmonds had its station 2 (Five Corners) and station 1 (Civic Center). In the late 1970s, the 10 fire stations in southwest Snohomish County renamed their stations 1 through 10, and their assigned equipment had the same radio call signs. At this time Edmonds became stations 6 and 7. In the early 1990s Snohomish County renumbered fire stations, and Edmonds stations became 16 and 17, and Esperance became station 20.*

2000–2004 MEMBERS OF THE EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Allison, Steve	Lucas, Greg
Anderson, Todd	Martin, Jim
Angiono, Loren	McAllister, Brian
Balser, Matt	McDermot, Ed
Beard, Melissa	Mess, Steve
Boyle, Dean	Nichols, Bob
Bushey, Deborah	Oftedahl, Dennis
Campbell, Tom	Petrella, Marc
Carden, Ray	Reinke, Jon
Carter, Clay	Rheaume, Andrew
Clark, Dave	Ritter, Brian
Dahl, Doug	Rooks, Lisa
Delisle, Art	Sarchin, Jeff
Dickinson, Jason	Schleicher, Brian
Dowling, John	Schmitt, Bob
Erickson, Dave	Smith, Clayton
Eyrish, Barbara	Smith, Mike
Fischer, Mike	Smith, Todd
Flett, Tom	Soucy, Joe
Ford, James	Speier, Andrew
Gaydos, Ken	Startzman, Jeanne
Gustafson, Kevin	Steinbach, Justin
Haas, Devin	Stevens, Dave
Hart, Pirie	Stevenson, Tobey
Hepler, Pat	Storm, John
Heryla, Mick	Taylor, Kevin
Hills, Randy	Timm, Eric
Hoover, Tim	Tomberg, Tom
Howard, Isaac	Turner, Amy
Hunter, Dave	Warren, Dean
Iffert, Paul	Westfall, John
Krugmire, Dave	White, Don
Kuhn, Bret	Whittcut, Roy
LaCasse, Laura	Woods, Joel
Lenté, David	Yoakum, Andre



A \$1 million blaze lights up the night sky and requires the efforts of several fire stations, and a lot of men and equipment. CRAIG SELVIDGE COLLECTION



A fire fighters drill night at station 16 at Five Corners. STAFF PHOTO

AREA NEWSPAPERS

January 6, 2000—BOAT BLAZE

LEAVES FAHEYS HIGH 'N DRY (*The Edmonds Paper*)

The 40 foot Tollycraft tri-cabin cruiser owned by Barb and Pat Fahey caught fire and burned to the waterline on Christmas Eve. The boat's value was \$175,000, Fahey said. Firefighters from Edmonds and four other jurisdictions fought to contain the damage at the Edmonds Marina.

In this case the peripheral damage was minimal. Only two other boats sustained what Fire Marshall Westfall calls "radiant damage—mostly cosmetic."

February 2, 2000—FIRE SPRINKLERS PREVENT MAJOR DAMAGE TO HOUSE

An automatic sprinkler system installed in an Emerald Hills residence extinguished an unintentional fire caused by a worker on January 14 before serious damage occurred, according to the Edmonds Fire Department. The cause of the fire was found to be a cigarette butt discarded in a trash can filled with rubbish and construction materials. The single sprinkler operated for about 15 hours, the water department estimated. There was \$2,400 water damage and \$30 fire damage.

March 15, 2000—COULDN'T WAIT (*The Herald*)

A 22-year-old woman, on her way to her doctor's for a checkup, pulled her car into a parking lot Monday on Highway 99 and gave birth to a healthy baby boy, alone, in the front seat.

Emergency medical folks from the Edmonds Fire Department and Medic 7 responded.

June 7, 2000—HOMEOWNERS QUELL FLAMES

(*The Enterprise*)

Quick action by homeowners saved eight pet

rabbits and prevented serious damage to their home at 703 Third Ave. S. after a shed fire on May 30, according to the Edmonds Fire Department. No injuries were reported.

The fire started, for reasons still under investigation, shortly before 7 P.M. The fire completely destroyed the shed and its contents, for a loss estimated at \$5,500.

The fire started to spread to the house, damaging some of the siding and a roof fascia, and destroyed a 24-foot section of fence.

December 27, 2000—EDMONDS BLAZE KILLS 2; APARTMENT FIRE CAUSES HEAVY DAMAGE AND DISPLACES 20 FAMILIES

Fire took the lives of a young man and a woman early Tuesday morning after it swept through a ground floor apartment at the Firdale Village Apartment complex. The cause of the 3 alarm fire was accidental, said Edmonds Assistant fire Chief Kevin Taylor.

The fire started in the living room of an apartment and spread to the second and third floor apartments above the fire unit.

The apartment building is home to more than 50 people, the 6 A.M. blaze damaged 6 apartments, another 6 were lightly damaged, and the remaining 24 apartments were damaged by smoke, Taylor said. More than 35 fire fighters from Edmonds and other departments battled the blaze for nearly an hour.

December 27, 2000: EDMONDS APARTMENT FIRE KILLS TWO—BLAZE FORCES 50 PEOPLE FROM THEIR HOMES YESTERDAY MORNING (*Seattle Post-Intelligencer*)

Dozens of people are without homes after a deadly fire

As Edmonds continues to grow and prosper, the fire service has the challenge and opportunity of meeting the community's needs for years to come.



Dick Sly, a fire fighter and city councilman, as seen reflected in the fire truck door mirror.
STAN OLSON COLLECTION

swept through a ground-floor apartment in a sprawling complex here, killing two young adults.

Many of the 50 people who were forced to flee their residences lost all of their possessions, including children's holiday gifts.

The fire moved swiftly through a three-story, U-shaped building at Firdale Village Apartments, charring the two units stacked directly above. Flames leaping from the roof punctured the pre-dawn darkness like "a giant orange torch," one witness said.

The cause of the fire could not be immediately determined.

The three-alarm blaze, reported at 6:24 A.M., may have claimed more lives had it not been for quick-thinking residents.

June 28, 2001—UNOCAL TANKS WILL COME DOWN THIS SUMMER (*Edmonds Enterprise*)

It might not be pleasing to the ears, but it will eventually be pleasing to the eyes.

Removing the 23 former oil-storage tanks from the Unocal property in Edmonds will entail giant hydraulic shears cutting them to pieces.

The work is expected to take three months, roughly from the end of July until the end of October, said Mark Brearley, senior staff geologist for Unocal.

July 5, 2001—B'S PRINTING STRIVES TO REBOUND FROM FIRE

An apparently defective electrical strip triggered a fire that has shut down B's Quality Printing in Firdale Village for an indefinite period. Edmonds fire fighters upon arrival found dark smoke pouring from the print shop windows. Their quick response kept the blaze from spreading. Damage was confined to B's Quality Printing, located at 9605 Firdale Avenue.

January 3, 2003—FAMILY ESCAPES CHRISTMAS FIRE UNHARMED (*The Herald*)

It was the early morning hours of Christmas Day, and the Moss's house was on fire. But rather than this turning into the worst kind of tragedy, the five people inside escaped unscathed and the fire was contained before a swarm of 12 fire fighters arrived.

Even the presents, resting nearby under the tree survived. So Christmas morning in the Moss household went off without a hitch, except for some rattled nerves, lost sleep, and minimal fire damage.

A candle accidentally left burning throughout the night on the fireplace mantel is blamed for causing the fire on Brookmere Drive.

Long after the family Christmas Eve party and everyone was asleep, the one candle apparently burnt down low enough to ignite the greenery.

Upstairs, Moss' 12-year-old daughter, Eve, heard the smoke alarm blaring. She and her sister, Greta, 11, ran to wake up their mother, their brother and his girlfriend.

They also gathered the pet parakeet Bisbee and golden retriever Daisy before making it outside.

The fire was extinguished before the fire fighters arrived. Damage was estimated at about \$2,000.

August 7, 2003—CONDO FIRE CAUSE IS STILL A MYSTERY (*Edmonds Beacon*)

A fire that ravaged a 6 unit condo complex in downtown Edmonds started on the second floor not the third, as previously believed. The blaze erupted at 1:29 A.M. July 30.

Fire Marshal John Westfall estimates damage at \$1 million. The handsome edifice at 604 Bell Street was in the final phase of construction when the 2 alarm fire drew a swift response from regional departments.

The entire Edmonds on-duty force, 12 fire fighters responded. So did engine crews from the Lynnwood, Shoreline and Fire District 1/Mountlake Terrace Departments. Altogether 37 fire fighters, six chief officers and three support crew members raced to the scene. They numbered six engine companies, three ladder companies, and four aid and medic members. A passing citizen turned in the alarm.

2004—THE CENTENNIAL YEAR

The Edmonds Fire Department has begun a “Second Century” of serving the community. In early 2004 the department has 49 full time employees and 5 volunteer fire fighters. There is a shift of fire fighters manning three fire stations 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, with a fire engine and an aid car at each station. Station 17, located downtown Edmonds, is also the home of the “Medic unit” with 2 paramedics on duty. Station 16, located on 196th Street or the Maplewood area, is also the home of the duty officer or the Battalion Chief. Station 20, located in the Esperance area, is the home of the 100 foot aerial truck. Fire Chief Tom Tomberg and his administrative staff can be found at City Hall.

In early 2004, Engine # 1 was returned to the Edmonds Fire Department as a reminder of Edmonds historic past.

As Edmonds continues to grow and prosper, the fire service has the challenge and opportunity of meeting the community’s needs for years to come.

The Edmonds Fire Department has had 1230 emergency calls during the first quarter of 2004. There have been many first aid medical emergencies, a number of minor and major fires, and many public assists and or investigations during this time.

Fire Chief Tom Tomberg has given a brief description of three fire calls during 2004:

On February 15, 2004 fire units responded to the Esperance area for a single family residential fire



Maintenance repair facility (above) is necessary for ready-to-serve equipment. STAFF PHOTO

in the 8600 block of Maple Lane. This fire caused \$150,000 damage to the structure and \$25,000 to the contents when rags used to apply a furniture refinishing product ignited due to spontaneous combustion. The rags were in a garbage can located on the side of the garage. The flames burned up the exterior wall and entered the gable end of the attic. Seventeen fire personnel responded. Along with the Edmonds fire fighters were Snohomish County Fire District One fire fighters. Support Seven volunteers and the Edmonds Police did a great job with their assistance. There were no injuries at this fire.

On March 19, 2004, there was a single family residential fire in the 1100 block of Kulshan Road in the Town of Woodway. The fire caused \$50,000 damage to the structure and \$25,000 to the contents when roofers accidentally ignited roof support members. The four roof levels and internal-external design modulations made the fire difficult to locate and extinguish after it entered concealed spaces. Twenty fire personnel from Edmonds, Lynnwood, and Fire District One responded and extinguished the flames. The Edmonds Police assisted on the scene. There were no injuries.

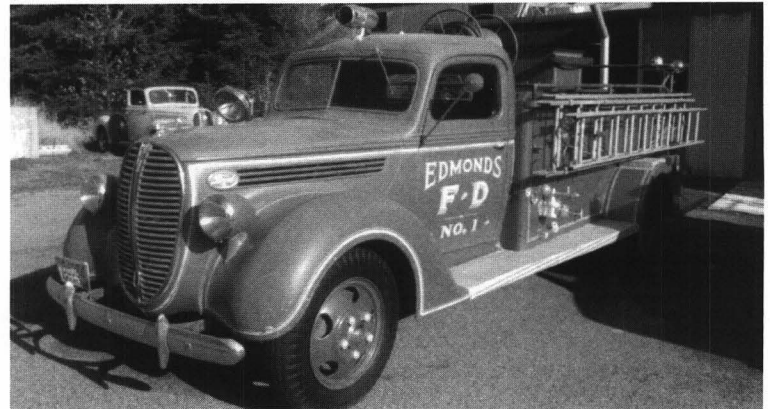
On April 5, 2004, a family safely exited their home in the North end of Edmonds in the 7800 block of 175th Street prior to fire units arrival. The fire caused \$100,000 damage to the home and \$25,000 to the contents. An external power source for outside lights ignited and burned into the attic. The title roof and internal design modulations made the fire difficult to locate and extinguish after it entered concealed spaces. Fire personnel encounter these types of problems more frequently in modern construction. Twenty three fire fighters from Edmonds and Lynnwood fought this blaze. Personnel from the Edmonds Police and Support Seven assisted.

EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT #1— THE 1938 FORD FIRE ENGINE

In January 1938, Edmonds received their new fire engine. This fire engine was purchased from Edmonds Yost Motor Company. A 1938 Ford (85 horse power) V/8 with a custom built body from Tricoach Corporation of Seattle, WA. The fire engine had a 250 gallon per minute Waterous pump and a 300 gallon water tank, plus 150 feet of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch hose on a reel, 1,200 feet of $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch hose, 400 feet of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch hose, and aluminum ladders, all of this for only \$3,200.

Engine #1 was Edmonds main fire engine for 15 years until the purchase of Engine #2 in late 1953. However, Engine #1 was still in service (being used) until 1963 when Engine #5 was purchased. Engine #1 was used as a reserve engine into the late 1960s.

In 1984 with a broken pump and a crack in the motor, the 1938 Ford fire engine #1 was sold and purchased by an Edmonds fire fighter. It took Ron Barton almost 20 years to restore the 1938 fire engine. He was willing to sell this fire engine to the Edmonds Fire Safety Foundation for his restoration costs of \$10,000. He loaned the fire engine to the Foundation for fund-raising events during the summer of 2003 to help obtain donations for the purchase.



The engine was purchased from donations and the Edmonds Fire Safety Foundation gave it back to the Edmonds Fire Department. It is on permanent display at the downtown fire station “looking brand new.” This fire engine is the only Edmonds fire engine designated #1.

Some Stories Re-Told About Engine #1

WHILE RECALLING STORIES of memories of fires and being a member of the fire department, 25 year veteran Sam Ewing told a story of a chicken coop fire (there were many) in the Alderwood Manor area. Sam had missed the engine (Engine #1) so he and another volunteer took his electrician’s panel truck to the fire. When he and the engine arrived the firemen were able to “cool the ashes” and protect some other out buildings. The engine performed well and as they were leaving the chicken farm to return to Edmonds, Sam found several quart size canning jars of clear liquid inside his van. This homemade “moonshine” was the property owners’ way of saying “thank you.” Years later, Sam didn’t recall what happened to the “moonshine.”

IN EARLY 1960’S while this engine was responding to the waterfront on a drill night, the fire boys were having fun jumping up and down on the rear running board. You can

visualize four firemen standing on the rear running board having a good time and jumping up and down. According to the driver and officer inside the cab, the front wheels were coming off the road and it was hard to steer. Drill nights were serious, but you had to have some fun.

IN THE EARLY 1970’S, Engine #1 was taken to a fire show in Everett. There were many displays of “firemanship” for the crowd of spectators. The trip to Everett was fun and went well. However, when the fire show ended it was late in the day and getting dark. Interstate 5 was busy with traffic, here was Engine #1 with its 6 volt lighting (very dim) and traveling at 40mph. There were several car loads of Edmonds firemen and their families at the event. Several recall the procession of vehicles coming back to Edmonds. A car was behind the engine as the “tail lights” and another car was in front of the engine as “the head lights.” It took for ever to get back to Edmonds. Engine #1 didn’t go out at night for long trips after that.

*There are many stories about this piece of history.
Hopefully, these stories will be recalled for years to come.*
WELCOME HOME ENGINE #1!

APPENDIX

THE REST OF THE STORY



MEDICAL SERVICE PROVIDED FOR CIZITENS AND VISTORS OF EDMONDS

AMBULANCE SERVICE FOR EDMONDS

Early ambulance companies were available to residents of Edmonds by May 1946; one could telephone 2074 for Suburban Ambulance Service in Richmond Beach, or call 342 Edmonds for Swedberg Invalid Coach. In 1951, Edmonds had Beck's Ambulance Service (Beck's Funeral Home) by calling Edmonds 5324 and Alert Ambulance (Swedberg's) at Edmonds 2202.

The Edmonds Fire Department received their first rescue truck in January 1960. This was a one-ton Ford with compartments to carry first aid equipment along with fire equipment. Two to three firemen could ride inside the cab, but there was no area for a patient.

Beck's Ambulance Service obtained a new modern ambulance and advertised "oxygen equipped, two trained attendants on every call, 24-hour service by calling PR8-1234." Beck's Funeral Home, as many other funeral homes, stopped providing ambulance service.

Shepard Ambulance opened in south county in August 1967. Shepard Ambulance closed its Lynnwood office December 31, 1969.

Edmonds Fire Department started medical transport on January 1, 1970, using a converted fire chief's 1965 Ford Ranch station wagon as ambulance/aid car. There wasn't much room in the back for the patient and the attendant. Before the first-aid car was obtained in 1972 an older Cadillac ambulance was used for a short time.

February 4, 1970—Edmonds *Tribune-Review* newspaper reported, "Private Ambulance Plan Seen as Solution, establishing a private ambulance service for South County is apparently the best solution to the problem of adequate service, according to police, fire, and hospital

officials who have been meeting on the matter. Local fire departments have been transporting accident victims and others needing an ambulance since Shepard Ambulance closed its south county service recently. Officials have held three meetings in an attempt to find a solution for the problem. The problem developed after Shepard Ambulance Co. of Seattle recently closed its service in south county. Owner Lee Cox said the operation was running some \$1,500 in the red each month. Now the only local ambulance is Hub City, but officials said that service is not adequate. The cost of operating one ambulance is at least \$53,000 and two would be needed for this area. Shepard could move back to this area if it got \$1,000 a month and suggested that the Lynnwood Police could do the dispatching. Everett Ambulance Service said they could open a station in South County for a \$2,000 a month subsidy from the cities. All the fire departments are using both money and manpower to meet the current ambulance crisis. In Edmonds aid calls are up 25 percent since Shepard left the area."

March 4, 1970—"City Seeks Ambulance Problem Solution—Councilman Jim Haines said the situation is becoming acute. Police Chief Grimstad agreed that the situation is critical and that something must be done. Fire department aid cars from the cities and fire districts have been handling much of the ambulance work since Shepard Ambulance closed its south county service."

August 30, 1972—"Edmonds is left without any ambulance service again, with the revocation of the license of the Guardian Ambulance Co. and the withdrawal of a license application by the new company, Lynnwood Ambulance."

September 13, 1972—"Edmonds F.D. gets a new emergency aid vehicle. By the end of September, the Edmonds Fire Department's new \$12,000 GMC van, with an extended roof, aid car will be in service."

Ed. note: *This replaced the 1965 Ford station wagon.*

Hub City Ambulance again licensed in Edmonds October 1972, with a 1963 ambulance operating from Lynnwood with 24-hour service. Sno-King Ambulance of Lynnwood (formerly Lynnwood Ambulance) licensed to operate in Edmonds in May 1974.

In 2004 American Medical Response, Shepard, Rural Metro, and Airlift NW are ambulance companies that transport Edmonds patients outside of the city.

MEDICAL TRAINING & SERVICES

In Edmonds' early days, the local doctor would visit the patient at the patient's home or see the patient in the doctor's office.

As reported in August 21, 1931, "Two new members, Robert Sanderson and Grafton Smith, were received into the ranks of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department at its meeting Wednesday evening. F. K. Rittenhouse has been named assistant chief succeeding Roy Rynearson who has resigned. Aubrey Engels was elected treasurer. A first-aid squad is being organized and will be under the direction of Dr. H. H. Kretzler."

American Red Cross standard and advanced first-aid classes were taught to all the Edmonds firemen. Instructors were volunteer captain and paid fire fighter Luke Milholland, volunteer Lieutenant Gary Stewart and paid fire fighter Earl Barnard. Several other firemen were also instructors.

An early definition of 'First Aid' was "The immediate and temporary care given to an injured or sick person until the services of a physician can be obtained." This is still true in 2004.

A 45-hour first-aid class was given to all the paid and a few volunteer Edmonds fire fighters in 1971 and 1972. The class was taught at the University of Washington.

As reported on March 21, 1973, "Thirty south county

STEVENS HOSPITAL. IN 1963 Howard S. Wright Co., the Seattle contracting firm that built the Space Needle, began actual construction work. Total cost of the three-story building was estimated at \$2,000,000 including equipment as reported in the local newspaper.

The hospital opened in 1964 with 110 beds and 200 employees. Over the next 40 years there would be many additions and improvements.

By 1989 the hospital had grown to 217 beds, 1000 employees, and 250 doctors.

In 2003 Stevens Hospital has 217 beds with a staff of 1400 and 400 doctors.

Edmonds Fire Department along with other area fire departments has made many trips with sick and injured patients in their aid cars to Stevens Emergency. For most of Medic 7's life it was housed at Stevens Hospital.

firemen take emergency training. Thirty firemen completed the Emergency Medical Training (EMT) course Monday, in an effort to help their departments meet the growing need in this area for emergency aid calls. The men attended 81 hours of classes at Stevens Memorial Hospital in Edmonds starting Feb. 5 and finishing with final exams on March 19. The firemen were in class Monday and Thursday for six hours each day, plus spending an additional 10 hours in the hospital's emergency room. The instructor was a Seattle Fire Department paramedic Ralph Maughn, while Doctors Donald Keith and Carl Allen coordinated the training. Taking the class from the Edmonds Fire Department were Bill Angel, Earl Barnard, Gerald Ehtee, Harold Hatzenbuhler, Jim Hovick, Tom Johnston, Ken Larson, Terry Luce, Gary McComas, Stan Olson, Ted Schilling, Skip Simmons, Ken Thomas, Jack Weinz, and Tim Whitman." Several of the classes were also held in a meeting room at Doces' Furniture Store on Highway 99.

This EMT class was one of the earliest classes in Washington state.

Paramedic Maughn entertained his trainees with stories of his Seattle calls—In the early days of Seattle Medic One (about 1970), a visiting doctor who was riding aboard Seattle Medic #1 on an emergency call was asked if he wanted to take over the care of the injured patient. His response was “no, your training as a paramedic has you more qualified under these conditions.”

In 2003, fire fighters become paramedics, and paramedics become fire fighters. Edmonds Fire Department has its own fire fighter paramedics. In 2004 all Edmonds fire fighters are either EMTs or Paramedics. Edmonds Fire Department has an aid car at each of the three stations as well as a reserve aid car and a paramedic van. These medical aid units can transport two or more patients if needed. The duty chief’s vehicle, the three fire engines and the aerial ladder truck are equipped with medical and rescue equipment to assist the sick or injured.

There are many stories and memories of aid, rescue, and medical emergencies that the past and current fire fighters recall. Some were funny and many were tragic. Some of the rescuers have also been injured while assisting on these emergencies.

There is no question or doubt that any injured or sick patient or person in the 21st century will receive the BEST treatment before arrival at a hospital due to the quality of training and personnel in the fire service.

PARAMEDIC LEVEL OF MEDICAL SERVICES FOR EDMONDS

By November 1977, a report stated that many firemen in the south county fire departments are interested in working a paramedic program now being studied for this area. Task force chairman, Tom Carns, Edmonds City Councilman said “there is a high interest in the paramedic

program among fire fighters but there are still many questions which must be answered, and whatever way we go, there is still a long way away from having a program in operation.” Eight of the 14 paid Edmonds firemen indicated they would be interested in the paramedic program. Volunteers were not surveyed. In Fire District #1, 13 of the 32 fire fighters expressed an interest in the program.

“The fund drive for the south county Medic 1 program is near enough to its goal that officials hope to take the first steps toward establishing the program by September 1978. The fund has \$30,000 in the bank from many contributors plus the \$20,000 from the hospital auxiliary and \$5,000 from United Way. The total of \$55,000 doubles to \$110,000 thanks to promised matching money from the Northwest Foundation. The Edmonds Rotary has pledged \$50,000 for the Medic 1 van and that brings the drive to \$160,000,” advised Tom Carns, chairman.

Reported in the local newspaper:

“Medic 1 coordinator started work October 2, 1978. Mark Pizzatola, 23, who came here from California, is the program coordinator for Medic 1. He will oversee the day-to-day operation of Medic 1 service. Doctor Carl Allen is the Medic 1 medical director. Pizzatola has been working with the Medic 1 committee and with Dr. Allen on writing job descriptions for the personnel and will help in hiring of the paramedics. The program is to be headquartered at Stevens Memorial Hospital in Edmonds. Medic 1 is advertising for applicants for the six positions through November. The plan is to have the paramedics hired by December.

“By November 1978, a formula for splitting up the additional \$129,000 needed to run the South County Medic 1 program through 1979 has been approved. A budget of \$294,000 has been approved for setting up Medic 1 and running the program through 1979 with

Edmonds to pay \$31,800, Lynnwood \$30,200, Mountlake Terrace \$17,700, Brier \$1,800, Woodway \$1,000, and Fire District 1 \$46,400.

“Medic 1 service won’t start in south county until February was reported in November 1978, as everything was taking a long time because there is so much ‘red tape’. The postponement was requested in a letter from Mark Pizzatola, the man hired by the Sno-Com board to be the Medic 1 coordinator. Pizzatola said the Medic 1 van, which is coming from Portland, will not be available and delays in getting equipment. Sixty people applied for the six paramedic jobs.

“Paramedic team is hired and has come of age as reported February 1979, Todd Smith of Kansas, Paul Iffert, Duane Carriere, and Vince Schweitzer of California, Janie Hayes of Kirkland, WA, Dave Potter of Tacoma, WA, and Dan Schultz of Tumwater, WA, were Southwest Snohomish County paramedics.”

The name ‘Medic One’ was shortly changed to ‘Medic 7,’ possibly to avoid confusion with Seattle’s program.

In February 1980 reported in the news, “Fire damages



A 2004 picture of Edmonds medic unit—Medic 17. STAFF PHOTO

Medic 7 van. The paint was still fresh on the recently repaired Medic 7 van Friday when an engine compartment fire sent the medic unit to the repair shop for the second time in a month. ‘They say lighting doesn’t strike twice,’ groaned paramedic coordinator Mark Pizzatola. Paramedic Jane Hayes and Dab Schultz were inside an Edmonds residence, aiding a patient when the fire in the engine compartment was discovered. The Edmonds Fire Department extinguished the fire and an Edmonds aid car transported the patient to Stevens Hospital. When reported to the insurance company, they said ‘You’re kidding’, as the van had been out of the body shop less than two weeks from being struck twice during a snow storm on January 7. A temporary replacement van/medic unit was obtained until the fire damage could be corrected.”

From 1970 until 1979 there were many ideas of how to provide a quality medical evaluation and transport service for the citizens. Several Ambulance services tried to provide the service, however, none seemed to last. The Southwest Snohomish County/Sno-Com Paramedic, or Medic 7 program was the answer. Citizens of the area had a quality level of medical evaluations in the field and transportation. The fire service had been providing the EMT level of first aid and transportation, however with the addition of paramedics, this was a relief and assistance for the fire fighters on aid calls.

In a report given in early March 1979, in February Medic 7 had responded to a total of 163 calls, 10 of which were cardiac arrest and two of those people were revived and considered ‘saves’. During this period Medic 7 transported 54 of the patients, a busy month.

In November 1979, special six-year tax levies to support Medic 7 and other emergency medical services were approved by more than 70 percent of the voters in Lynnwood, Edmonds, Mountlake Terrace, and Woodway. The tax of up to 25 cents per \$1,000 assessed valuation will

bring in more than enough revenue to pay their shares to Medic 7. This Medic 7, a six-year tax levy was to become known as Edmonds' 'E.M.S.' levy, and is still in effect as of 2003. The revenue received goes into the Edmonds Fire Department's 'medical' part of the annual budget. Edmonds does not charge for medical (aid car) transport to local hospitals, where as many fire departments and cities do charge.

Years later, Medic 7 program was still operating out of Stevens Hospital. Due to the increased number of calls and financing problems of the cities and Fire District 1, it was facing financial problems. By 2003 Medic 7 was disbanded and the different fire departments in the area were providing medics within their departments and their own Medic units along with aid cars. Edmonds Fire Department employed two of the original paramedics, Todd Smith and Paul Iffert. They are both medics and also fire fighters.

SOUNDING THE FIRE ALARM

METHODS USED TO ALERT THE EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT

In "sounding the alarm" for a fire or emergency in Edmonds there have been several methods used by the Edmonds Fire Department. First was the *bell*; next were the *siren* and the *home telephone*; then the *fire radio with the home receiver* and most currently the *pager*.

In the summer of 1904 a **fire bell** was ordered by the council. Three more poles were added to the hose tower and a platform provided for the new fire bell.

March 3, 1911, the Edmonds local newspaper reported, "J. N. Otto, who is the Chief of the fire department, brought in requests for several improvements. An **electric fire alarm** that could be operated by the operator at the telephone exchange was a vital necessity. Chief Otto recited several cases where the delay caused by having to first phone to his

house and wait for him to get dressed and over to the fire house to ring an alarm had resulted in much damage that could have been avoided had an electric alarm been in use."

In September 1911, the Edmonds City Council ordered an apparatus so that the fire bell can be rang without doing an aerial stunt.

The **siren**: In August 1922, the local newspaper reported, "Edmonds Has New Fire Alarm Siren. A large fire siren has been installed on the top of the public library building, ordered recently by the city council, and installed for their approval. The siren gives a clear, piercing tone and is a great improvement over the old bell, previously used. It is operated electrically from the switchboard at the telephone office. The siren is sounded every noon at twelve o'clock, standard time."

As reported on February 6, 1956 (*Edmonds Tribune-Review*), "Fire District 13 (Woodway Park), the telephone number to report a fire is GREENWOOD 1212, same as the Edmonds fire department."

February 23, 1956, the *Edmonds Tribune-Review* reported, "Council OK's Purchase of Police Radio. Edmonds City Council authorized Police Chief Grimstad to apply for matching funds from the county civil defense office for a complete two-frequency radio network for the city. The four mobile units would be installed in the police car, both fire trucks, and one of the utility trucks and a base station."

In the weekly addition of the local paper on August 23, 1956, it was reported that, "City Fire Truck has **Radio** Communications. Installation of a new two-way radio in one of the Edmonds city fire trucks has been completed, making possible direct communication between the fire department and the police or sheriff's offices and cars while out on a fire call. Another radio is planned for the other fire truck soon." **Ed. note:** *This radio was installed in Engine #2, the 1953 Ford.*



During a night shift in 1959, Sadie Christiansen serves as the radio dispatcher.
EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

In January 1958, the newspaper reported, “Edmonds Council OKs to Hire Dispatcher for Police–Fire Departments. Mayor Maxwell was authorized to employ a woman to act as police and fire dispatcher during the 4 P.M. to midnight shift. Mayor Maxwell said she also could do some office work for the city clerk’s office during the shift.” For many years the firemen’s **home telephones** are alerted by the operator and later dispatcher advising them of an emergency.

On November 29, 1959, the *Edmonds Tribune-Review* reports, “Firemen Sleep Easier: The 24 hour dispatch system in operation for the Edmonds police and fire

department is working smoothly, according to Police Chief Grimstad. The regular city hall crews act as dispatchers during the day, and during the night and weekend hours the job is divided between Sadie Christiansen, James Cole, Herman Roeper and Allan May. Swing and graveyard shifts and weekends are covered. The system will make it possible for the fire phones to be removed from the homes of most of the firemen. These phones all rang at once when the fire number was called, and all the firemen answered. In many cases the calls were for information only, a fact the firemen understandably failed to appreciate when being roused out of bed at 3 A.M.”

In 1964, for an emergency, residents of Edmonds can call the Edmonds Fire Department at Prospect 8 (PR 8–1212), in April 1972, the fire department emergency reporting telephone number was 775-4545, and in September 1973, “911” became available for the Edmonds residents.

“The **home receivers and pagers**: By the mid 1960s, “Plectron” or “Motorola” receivers, a radio alerting device, were obtained and assigned to the volunteer fire fighters to place either at their home and or business. When an emergency call came to the emergency dispatcher, they would activate this unit and the voice of the dispatcher would come across with the type of emergency, the location or address, and what equipment should respond. The Plectron or Motorola receiver type of device has been replaced with a pager that does the same thing. The pager is much smaller, portable, and more reliable. The pager devices have been much improved over the years. Currently on duty fire fighters each carry one of these units during their shift and know of an alarm at the same time wherever they are.

The **fire sirens** located on both fire stations (Five Corners and the Civic Center) were used for many years to alert not only the fire fighters but also the public of an

emergency. “Sounding or blowing” the fire siren at night was discontinued after the use of the home radio device was in place as the noise bothered too many people. A few years later after many complaints were received, from residents near the fire stations; the use of the sirens was discontinued for emergencies. However, for several years into the mid 1980s, the fire siren at the Civic Center (downtown) sounded at noon at the request of many to indicate lunch time. With the construction of the newer fire stations, the “fire siren” to alert fire fighters is gone.

SNO-COM: SOUTHWEST SNOHOMISH COUNTY PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AGENCY—911

SOUTH SNOHOMISH COUNTY FIRE AND POLICE EMERGENCY DISPATCHING CENTER

By August 1971, Lynnwood Police Lt. John Paddock and Edmonds Assistant Fire Chief Bud Klein were named by a group of mayors and fire/police administrators to work towards putting the 911 program into effect for south snohomish county. Involved in paying the costs for the center would be the cities of Edmonds, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, Brier, and Woodway, plus Fire District 1.

In September 1971, Edmonds City Council authorized Mayor Harrison to sign the agreement which established Southwest Snohomish County Public Communication Agency or Sno-Com.

During the first year (1972) Edmonds paid about \$50,500 as its share of the \$219,682 total annual budget.

April 1, 1972, south county police and fire departments reached a long-sought goal when the new joint dispatching center went into operation, giving local residents a single number to call in police and fire emergencies. The

telephone number was 775-4545 and stickers were mailed out. Michael Norman was the dispatch center director and there were two dispatchers on duty at all times to answer emergency calls. The new dispatch center was on 196th. S.W. in Lynnwood and will be a secured building. Phil Baker, Steve Wicks, and Jim Martin of Edmonds along with John Coulson and Sol French of Lynnwood, and Bev Allen of Mountlake Terrace were some of the dispatchers.

On September 11, 1973, SNO-COM went to **911**. Some areas were still a seven digit number.

In 1978 the first T.T.Y. (telephone teletype unit) to serve the deaf community was installed and was given to SNO-COM by the Mountlake Terrace Firefighters’ Association. In 1979 Medic 7 was added to the SNO-COM operation.

In October 1981, south county 911 emergency operators offered CPR (cardio pulmonary resuscitation) by telephone.

In 1982 SNO-COM’s budget was \$420,000.

In 1985 SNO-COM moved from 196th St. S.W. to its current location at the Lynnwood and Mountlake Terrace Public Works building. The community center was a secured building.

In March 1986, the Town of Woodway joined the 911 system. For a period of time residents of Woodway had two different phone numbers for emergencies.

In 1991 SNO-COM installed “Enhanced 911” allowing dispatchers to see the location from which someone is calling. Also C.A.D. (computer aided dispatch) was installed.

In 2001 SNO-COM moved into temporary quarters, a double-wide trailer, while the dispatching center under goes a major remodel.

In 2002 one year later, the dispatchers were in their new, modern, and larger current home still at the public works sight. Few, if any of the dispatchers missed the *trailer*.

Some of the past and current members of the

SNO-COM family are Michael Norman, Jim Martin, Steve Wicks, Phil Baker, Bev Allen, Sol French, John Coulson, TJ Young, Terri Carsen, Jodi Basim, Sara Kane, Jason Carvet, Shelly Brooks Hankins, Shane Kane, Dave Friedman, Kelli Ewald, Stacey Burlingame (supervisor), and director Steve Perry.

POPULATION OF EDMONDS

1890	474
1900(1895)	750
1904	1,000
1920	936
1930	1,165
1940	1,288
1950	2,057
1955	3,100
1956	4,145
1957	5,000
1960	8,016
1961	10,000
1962	11,800
1967	21,800
1968	23,500
1970	23,998
1971	23,996
1977	26,541
July 2003	
Edmonds	39,580
Lynnwood	34,500
Mountlake Terrace	20,380
Everett	95,470
Woodway	1,050
Brier	6,450

(2003 Estimated Population Source: State Office of Financial Management)

1977 REPORT OF CITIES IN SOUTH SNOHOMISH COUNTY

South county has become a patchwork quilt of overlapping jurisdictions and gerrymandered boundary lines. That description is found in the recently completed study of the governments in the areas, the services they provide and how things might be improved. Looking at the cities of Edmonds, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, Brier, and Woodway, plus the unincorporated county area which make up south county, consultants from Arthur Young and Company have worked with the citizens committed under a \$17,950 grant for the project.

Edmonds incorporated in 1890 with a population of 474 and was the only city in south county for over 60 years. The population in 1950 was 2,057, the population in 1960 was 8,016, and by 1970 it reached 23,998. In 1977 the population is 26,541. The City of Edmonds has a mayor-council form of government with a part-time mayor who is paid \$6,960 annually; there are 154 full-time employees, and a general fund budget of \$3.1 million.

Mountlake Terrace was incorporated in 1954 and boasted a population of 1,922 people. The population in 1960 was 9,122 and by 1970 it was 16,600. In 1977 with a population of 17,329, the city has a council-manager form of government run by a city manager at a salary of \$26,799 a year, 90 employees, and a general budget of \$2.1 million. In May 4, 1950, the *Edmonds Tribune-Review* reported "these newcomers to the district are mostly young families. On this rolling tract which commands a view of Lake Washington and Mount Rainier, 200 houses have been erected and sold, while plans are now completed for the erection of about 100 more. Most of the houses have been priced at \$4,999, while some larger homes with basements have been priced at \$6,500."

Woodway was incorporated in 1958 with a population

of 731. By a margin of just 19 votes out of 183 ballots cast, the incorporation of the fourth class city of Woodway was approved in a special election held in the area Tuesday. The vote was 99 to 80. The new city includes all the area south of Union Oil Company's property to the county line, and west of 108th W. except for the Standard Oil Co, refinery and dock. The population in 1970 was 879 and 873 in 1977. Woodway has a mayor-council government headed by a part-time mayor. All city employees are part-time and there is a general fund budget of \$128,753.

Lynnwood was incorporated in 1959 with a population of 6,854. The population in 1965 was 10,000 and 16,600 by 1970. In 1977 with a population of 21,263, the city has a mayor-council form of government and is the only one in south county with a full-time mayor who is paid \$25,440 a year. The city has 127 employees and a general fund budget of \$3 million.

Brier was incorporated in 1965 with a population of 2,268. The population in 1970 was 3,093. In 1977 the population has grown to 3,180, the city has a mayor-council form of government with a part-time mayor at a monthly salary of \$250. The general fund budget is \$153,505.

In 1977 the south Snohomish county's unincorporated area has a population of 23,912 and its citizens are under the county commissioner government. Services are provided by Fire District #1 and the Alderwood and Olympic View water districts.

FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN SOUTH SNOHOMISH AND NORTH KING COUNTIES

SNOHOMISH COUNTY DISTRICT 1

(Edmonds Tribune-Review May 15, 1958):

"Carl Eisen and the Seattle Heights Civic Club bought Edmonds second fire engine, a 1925 REO



Teams of firemen come from surrounding fire departments to compete against each other at the annual Fourth of July water ball fight in Edmonds Park. THE SEATTLE TIMES

Speedwagon in 1938. The fire engine was kept at the Eisen's Garage, located at 212th S.W. and Hwy. 99. This fire engine and another engine served the unincorporated areas for several more years. Years later, volunteers of District 1 restored the old REO engine and it is now on display at the Headquarters Fire Station and it looks as new as it did in 1925.

"Fire District 1 came into existence in 1945. Clarence Cray served as the first chief and Carl Eisen as assistant chief. The fire district continued using the Eisen's garage as a fire station until a new station was built in 1954 at the same location.

"Fire District 1 added two more full time paid men to the department. The two were Virgil Schoentrup, Alderwood Manor, and Jack Boyle, Seattle Heights, both long time volunteer firemen of the district. The men received \$385 per month for the first year, with a raise to \$400 per month the following year and \$415 the third year. This brought the fulltime payroll of the fire district to four, including Fire Chief Carl Eisen and Assistant Chief Carl Gohm."

Fire District purchased the area's first aerial fire truck, a 1962 Crown Snorkel for \$52,233.

August 1968, Wilber Spencer became the full time paid fire chief of District 1. He replaced acting Chief Virgil Schoentrup. Former chief, Carl Eisen assumed duties as chief mechanic for the district. District 1 ordered two new 1,500 GPM fire engines.

The district operated several stations including two within Lynnwood. When Lynnwood started their fire department with two stations, the district had four fire stations for many years. Snohomish Fire District 1 and District 11 merged into District 1 in 1999.

KING COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 4 **(Shoreline Fire Department)**

District 4 was formed in 1939 to serve an area north of the City of Seattle to Snohomish County. On September 15, 1939, the fire district was authorized. By an overwhelming vote of 601 to 42, residents of eight precincts in the north end of King County authorized the creation of Fire District No. 4 in King County. The first fire engine was located at the Highland Lumber Company until the fire station was built. The fire siren and telephone were located at Ray Mau's Service Station in Richmond Highlands. In case of a fire, one would call Richmond 333. The Fire Chief was Ray Mau and Pat Bookey was the Captain.

In 2004 Shoreline Fire Department has 93 employees including civilians and volunteers and four fire stations.

MOUNTLAKE TERRACE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Snohomish County Fire District 1 provided fire protection for several years after the city incorporated in 1954 with a population of 5,104. Mountlake Terrace Fire Department started in January 1956. Patrick McMahan was the first fire chief and served from 1954 to 1962. Frank Aff was the second fire chief and served from 1962 to 1963.

Don Garberg was the first paid fire chief and started in February 1963 with a starting salary \$569 monthly. In January 1964 the city approved 35 alarm boxes. The department had both paid and volunteer fire fighters. In 2001 Mountlake Terrace Fire Department merged with Snohomish County Fire District 1.

LYNNWOOD FIRE DEPARTMENT

After Lynnwood was incorporated in 1959, the city contracted with Snohomish County Fire District 1 to provide fire protection for the city. There was a county fire station on 212th east of Highway 99 and another on the north side of 196th, east of 44th Ave. W.

In January 1962 the completion of the Lynnwood fire hall at 68th Avenue and 188th St. S.W. was about a month away, according to Fire District 1 Chief Eisen. The two truck station being built by an Everett firm will be completely equipped by the district. Chief Eisen said the City of Lynnwood will have the option to renew a contract with the district at the end of five years, or taking the station over themselves.

In 1969 Lynnwood's first Fire Chief, Ken Montgomery, was hired and he started the department with 11 paid fire fighters and a new fire station located at its current location on 44th Ave. W. Along with Chief Montgomery were Al Dillon, Denny Scoville, Jim Moore, Paul Walker, Don Olsen, Greg Long, Wendell Geffere, Wade Warren, Paul Boehm, and Jim Scugalmarey. The department also had volunteers. In the first year the department responded to 362 emergency calls.

In 1974 seven additional firemen were hired to man Station 2 on 188th. An emergency road was made from Station 2, north to Olympic View Drive and gave a quick response to North Lynnwood and North Edmonds. The crew from Lynnwood Station 2 went on many Edmonds calls. Edmonds nearest station was on Bowdoin

Way until 2003. Many thanks go to Lynnwood Fire Department crews from their Station 2.

In the 34 years of the department there have been four fire chiefs, Ken Montgomery, Al Dillon, Bob Meador, and Gary Olson.

In 2002 the department responded to about 5,654 emergency calls. In 2003 Lynnwood Fire Department has 54 fulltime members and 12 volunteers. Gary Olson is the current chief.

EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Department started in 1904 with an all volunteer group. In February 1, 1963, John Iacuesa, Luke Milholland, Jack Weinz, and Joseph Krankota were Edmonds first paid firemen. Milholland was a volunteer fire captain for the department. The full time men maintained fire equipment, made fire inspections, and did custodial work at the civic center. The monthly salary was \$406 for the six month probationary period, and then rose to \$498.

In 2004, paid and volunteer fire fighters serve Edmonds citizens from three fire stations.

RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

WASHINGTON STATE VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S RETIREMENT:

The retirement system started in 1939 and is still current. In the fire service this retirement requires 25 years service with a fire department as a volunteer or reserve fire fighter. In 1945 the name of this system was revised to Volunteer Fire Fighters and Reserve Officer's Pension.

FIREMEN'S PENSION & RELIEF ACT:

R.C.W. for paid fire fighters was enacted 1909. Edmonds first paid fire fighters in 1963 were covered and paid fire fighters hired up to March 1970 were covered.

L.E.O.F.F. PENSION & DISABILITY ACT:

R.C.W. for Law Enforcement Officers, and Fire Fighters was enacted in March 1970, and later referred to as L.E.O.F.F. #1. Many police and fire personnel took advantage of the disability provision in this system and took a disability retirement. An annual cost of living provision passed in 1974.

As of 2000, there were no L.E.O.F.F. #1 active Edmonds fire fighters.

1971: The nine paid fire department firemen withdrew from Social Security.

M.E.B.T. In 1975, all Edmonds city employees withdrew from Social Security, and went into a multi-city investment program.

L.E.O.F.F. #2 Pension Retirement Act: Enacted on October 1, 1977, and currently active and does not have a disability program.

SECRETARY TO EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

In 1904 when the fire department started, listed in their officers was the position of Secretary. One would expect that this officer was to write and keep written records of activities and possibly to write communications. Council Minutes and other documents at the time were hand written. The group had an annual election of officers. Over the years there have been many names of the different firemen mentioned as the department's secretary.

Most of the city appointed fire chiefs made reports back to the council and other groups. The last two volunteer chiefs were involved in doing fire inspections and fire prevention work. More than likely, the elected secretary for the volunteer fire department did not do the 'secretarial' duties for the chief. He did it, his wife did it, or the city clerk may have helped prepare the written reports.



Joanne Highlander was hired in April 1968 to become the department's first full time secretary.

STAN OLSON COLLECTION

After Jack Cooper was hired in 1965 as the first full time fire chief, and several additional fulltime firemen were added, there was a need for an assistant to help in the fire department with written correspondence, keeping records for the fire personnel, and even answering the telephone. In April 1968 Joanne Highlander was hired as the department's first full time secretary. For a short time Joanne and Chief Jack Cooper had to share a small office. Also the duties of the secretary seemed to be growing as the size of the department was also growing.

Within a short time an addition was built out over the truck room (the area where the fire equipment was kept), and the fire chief had his own office. Now the secretary had more room for her growing responsibilities. Some years later, the fire department took over some of the city office space within the Civic Center and the secretary had a larger area. The department has had several secretaries since Joanne in 1968. From time to time the secretary would have to put the firemen in their place and remind them that they could clean up after themselves and make their own coffee. It soon became apparent to the firemen that this lady was actually the person who 'ran the show' and knew what was going on.

Joanne Highlander was replaced by Petie Hendricks. Unfortunately Petie passed away while on a trip. Her services as the department's secretary were missed. She was

replaced by Lori Varra. When Lori resigned in the early 1980s she was replaced with Barbara Eyrish.

Barbara saw the coming of the computer, which may have helped in many ways, however, the number of fire fighters and the number of emergency calls had grown as well as her duties. Several years later the fire chief, assistant chief, fire marshal, fire inspector, and the secretary moved into the current city offices in their newly remodeled building and offices. Also Barbara's title and job description changed and she became the Executive Assistant for the Fire Department, this meant more responsibilities, more work, but no additional pay. Barbara served the department for many years.

The department's 2004 Executive Assistant is Jeanne Startzman. Jeanne has an updated and expanded job description.

The computer age has opened a new world of ways to communicate. Today's Executive Assistant must have advanced computer skills just as Joanne Highlander was expected to accurately type an original document with multiple carbons.

WOMEN FIRE FIGHTERS

In November 1974 Lesley Stead was the first woman volunteer fire fighter with the Edmonds Fire Department. She was a 1973 graduate of Edmonds High School, and working on her E.M.T. class. Stead was on the roster in 1975 and 1976.

In 1985 Bridget Wood joined the department as a volunteer and served until 1991. During this time several women were volunteer fire fighters, Tamara Desrosier from 1986 to 1989, Carmen Carson 1987, Lisa Kirkemo 1988, Deborah Bushey 1996 to 2000, Cheryl Smith 1998 and 1999, Laura La Casse and Shannon Horner 1998 to 2000, and Lisabeth Rooks 2002 to 2004.

In 1996 Edmonds Fire Department hired Amy Turner, their first woman fire fighter. In 2002 Melissa Beard became the second full time woman fire fighter.

Women fire fighters wear the same fire fighting equipment (bunker-gear and breathing apparatus) and uniforms as their male counterparts. The hiring qualifications, physical, and written testing process are the same.

Living 24 hours at the fire station was new after Amy started in 1996, as this was the first time men and women were on shift together at the Edmonds Fire Department. Seattle, Mountlake Terrace, and other fire departments already had co-ed departments. Edmonds adjusted fine as the few *dinosaurs* of the department were gone. The fire service is made up of brothers and sisters, and they are a family.

In the early days of Medic 7, Janie Hayes was the only female medic. It was found on many emergency situations that patients preferred Janie to her male counterparts. It is still the same today, however, Amy and Melissa were on an aid call together with a woman who had fallen and wanted male fire fighters to pick her up. The ambulance crew was also female. You just can't satisfy some patients.

Amy and her officer were in their fire gear and at the end of a fire call, when the homeowner, asked the fire lieutenant, "Working with your son?"

CIVIL SERVICE

FROM FIRE CHIEFS TO PROBATIONARY FIRE FIGHTERS

The City of Edmonds appointed members of the community to a civil service board for the Edmonds Police Department in September 1957. This board was expanded



Melissa Beard

to the fire department in 1962 to cover testing and assist in making appointments to the fire department.

The first four full time firemen were hired after civil service testing in February 1963; their position was called 'Maintenance-Fireman' and the starting salary was \$406. In 1965 the board of commissioners announced the position for the first full time fire chief. The search and testing for the position followed. Jack Cooper became the first full time paid fire chief.

In 1966 additional firemen were tested and hired. There was also a test for the first assistant fire chief-fire marshal and Ralph "Bud" Klein was promoted in 1966.

In 1968 a lieutenants' position and new firemens' positions were tested. Jack Weinz was promoted to lieutenant and two more firemen were hired.

By 1968, there were several positions within the fire fighters' ranks. For the first six months a new fire fighter was on probation then advanced to Fireman B, then Fireman A, Engineer, and finally Inspector. For advancement written tests were given. Fire Engineers and the Inspector had special badges. There were several Engineers and one Inspector. Earl Barnard was the last Engineer. For his test, the civil service board requested that an outside fire officer do the testing for driving and operating the pump, so Lynnwood's Fire Chief, Ken Montgomery, conducted the test. Within a short time the position of Engineer was eliminated.

In the mid-1970s several additional fire fighters had been hired opening the need for additional lieutenants, several senior fire fighter positions, and a battalion chief.

In the late 1970s there was an assistant chief position and a fire marshal position filled by the board, and the battalion chief's position was eliminated.

A few years later there were three additional lieutenant positions filled.

In the late 1980s there were three new captain

positions tested and filled from within the six lieutenants leaving three lieutenant positions.

When an additional fire station was added to the department in 1996, additional lieutenants were tested and advanced.

In 2002 battalion chiefs positions were tested, three chiefs were promoted, and two of the captains positions were eliminated. As of 2003, all positions within the Edmonds Fire Department except the fire chief are tested and covered by civil service.

Early civil service commissioners for Edmonds were Harold Bucklin, Kingman Bailey, and Meredith Stokes in 1963. Within a few years Jim Shields, Allen Hendricks, and Chuck Cain would become commissioners and serve for many years. In 2004 Damien King, William Wallace, and David Bracilano are the civil service commissioners.

Edmonds Water Department

Source of following: *Edmonds, The Gem of Puget Sound*, by Ray V. Cloud, and City of Edmonds Water Department.

1900: The Perkins Firm, known as the Edmonds Water Company, began operations on such an extensive scale, supplying water from springs back of the town, that the council was encouraged to install 10 fire hydrants. But when the water was turned on in January 1900, the pressure at the hydrants was so feeble that plans were abandoned for the purchase of fire hose.

1902: The Edmonds Spring Water Company was formed by A. M. Yost and his sons, and on October 1, 1902, the new company was granted a franchise. Later this company purchased the Perkins and Engel systems.

1928: City enters water business—municipal water system—early days were quiet—causing no premonition of the legal entanglements and civil strife that was to ensue.

March 1930: Two new wells drilled by the Puget Well Drilling Company were supplying such quantities of water that use of the Edmonds Spring Water Company's source was discontinued.

1931: The Alderwood Water District was formed, and began supplying the unincorporated areas north and east of Edmonds. In March 1933, Alderwood signed a contract with the City of Everett for its water supply.

January 1936: Water Superintendent Denslow reported that the city would face a water shortage in the summer if something were not done and he was directed to make an effort to improve the output of the Yost well.

1937: The Olympic View Water District was formed, and secured a contract with the City of Seattle for water supply.

January 1938: WPA allotted \$21,550 to an extensive project of laying water mains in Edmonds.

March 1938: Edmonds council voted to replace wooden water mains on Fifth with cast iron.

1940s: The steady increase in population aggravated some of the municipal problems to plague Edmonds officials throughout the entire decade, notably the problem of water supply.

November 1941: Water Superintendent, W. W. Womer warned the council of possible water shortage in the coming summer. 3,000 feet of cast iron pipe was authorized, to be used in replacing old wooden water mains.

January 1942: The council approved a new well in south Edmonds.

April 1943: A pump was bought for the new South Edmonds well.

June 1943: The north Edmonds water distributing system became the property of the city.

March 1944: Edmonds council was reminded of a probable water shortage. In May a contract was awarded for a new well and the following month drilling was

under way at a site on the south side of Main Street east of Ninth Ave.

December 1944: The city awarded a contract for a new water tank in south Edmonds.

March 1945: The city bought a pump for the new Main Street well.

April 1945: An order for 1000 feet of cast iron pipe was placed.

February 1946: A contract was awarded for two new wells at the Main St. site.

March 1948: The city awarded a contract for a new well on the Main Street site.

July 1948: Edmonds purchased 2,200 feet of four-inch water pipe to serve north Edmonds customers.

Despite all of this effort, dry weather shortages in June 1949 resulted in emergency restrictions.

Water shortages occurred again in July 1950, necessitating shutdown of sprinkling for a number of days.

April 1951: Water from Shell Creek to supplement the regular water supply during the summer was authorized.

In the summer of 1954 demand problems arose again.

Between 1955 and 1966, Edmonds experienced its largest growth in both area and population. Areas that were annexed to the south remained as Olympic View Water customers (with Seattle Water supply) for a number of years. Areas to the north were Edmonds Water customers (springs and wells).

With this rapid growth, Edmonds city staff and council were again concerned about water supply. In 1966, the city took over the distribution system and customers of approximately 400 acres of the Olympic View service area situated east of Highway 99, in the vicinity of Lake Ballinger. The city also contracted directly with the City of Seattle for water supply. Subsequently, a transmission main was extended from a new supply meter

at the King County line through the Ballinger area and then north and west to the city storage tank near Five Corners. Also in 1966, the city signed a water supply agreement with Alderwood Water District. (*See page 129*)

1967: Old wooden water pipes in north Edmonds were replaced.

In 1971, an ordinance was passed by the City Council creating a new chapter in the Edmonds Fire Prevention

FIRE SERVICE COLLEGE EDUCATION: March 20, 1968, *Edmonds Tribune-Review* newspaper reported, "Firemen begin work on degrees. Firemen from south county will begin work March 28 at Edmonds Community College toward an Associate of Arts degree in fire protection technology. Chiefs Cooper, Edmonds; Don Garberg, Mountlake Terrace; Carl Eisen, Snohomish Co. #1; Clint Mayo, King Co. #4; Bill Hunter, Everett; and Lyle Goodrich, Director of Washington State Vocational Training Fire Service Division, pooled their time and talents to establish the college course."

Many fire fighters from Snohomish and north King County fire departments took classes for their Associate Degree for the fire service. The early degree was Fire Science and is currently Fire Command. Classes for Edmonds Community College were first held at the Edmonds High School and then later at the college. Instructors came from several departments. The first associate degree was earned by Earl Barnard, then Ted Schilling and Jack Weinz, all of Edmonds Fire Department. Although several local community colleges had fire degrees, Edmonds Community College has continued to offer this degree.

Of the Edmonds fire fighters, Bob Schmitt was the first to receive a Bachelor of Science Degree in Fire Administration from Western Oregon State College in 1990. Most fire chiefs in the 21st century do have a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, or Masters Degree related to their work in the fire service.

Code, requiring and regulating the installation of public and private fire hydrants and water mains in the city. The new code also provided technical requirements and standards for these facilities.

Ed. note: *Early 1970s—Firemen Luke Milbolland and Earl Barnard were flow testing fire hydrants in the downtown area when a fire call came in and Barnard turned off the hydrant too fast. It was later reported that several hot water heaters were affected by a pressure surge, and a forgotten wooden water main in the Casper area broke. Souvenir pieces of the wooden main were taken by many.*

Over the ensuing years there would be many studies, plans and improvements made to the water supply in Edmonds. The water department maintains and installs all fire hydrants. The water and fire departments work together to ensure the citizens that there will be water in case of a fire.

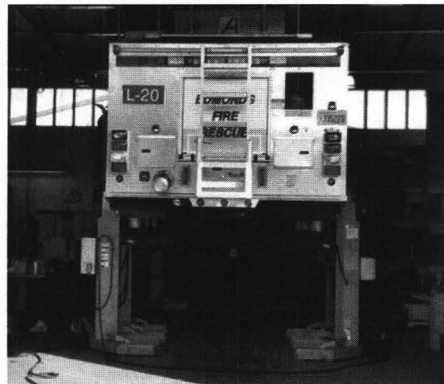
FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS

From early accounts, needed vehicle repairs and maintenance was most often done on the early fire equipment by volunteers or tradesmen in Edmonds. The mechanics at Yost Garage reportedly did the work on the early fire engines. With the hiring of the first full time firemen in 1963, one of their assigned jobs was to do some maintenance on the equipment. Several of the early full time firemen had experience as vehicle mechanics, so they would do as much as they could. In the late 1960s the City of Edmonds had a vehicle maintenance shop and they would do some of the maintenance and the fire department would contract out the rest. This city maintenance shop was located on 2nd Ave. S. along with the Public Works. The city mechanics had their hands full taking care of all the city's vehicles. The fire vehicles even though they were city vehicles, were listed as "fire department vehicles,"

and there would be a "budget item charge" from the public works to the fire department for work preformed by the city's mechanics.

The fire department shopped around and took the equipment to different places for new tires, brake jobs, motor tune-ups, and whatever was needed. Taking the vehicles to Everett, Seattle, and other places for the needed work required taking two fire fighters and another vehicle out of the city and running a crew short manned. Several days or weeks later when the fire vehicle was ready, it would again require two fire personnel and another vehicle to retrieve the vehicle. On some occasions the work was not preformed as needed, and the process was repeated.

The department did receive quality work from the Snohomish County Fire District #1's mechanic at his shop, however, he was kept very busy with doing maintenance on his own fire vehicles. A few outside mechanics were hired to come to Edmonds fire stations and work on the rigs there. The cost was high and there was always a greasy mess to be cleaned up afterwards. One of E.D.F.'s cost saving vehicle maintenance measures that led to the city doing all of the work was when a local tire shop changed a tire on a fire engine at Station 2 and it fell off the jacks doing a large amount of damage to the vehicle.



Repair shop equipment is ready for vehicle maintenance.

STAFF PHOTO

In the late 1980s, Edmonds city mechanics under Greg Ramsland started doing more and more of the maintenance work to the vehicles. Greg started having his mechanics receive training in fire equipment; also he had more room within the old building, but not enough. With the construction of the new public works building in 1994 near Highway 99, came the new maintenance shop.

In 1996, Mayor Hall sent Edmonds mechanic Dave Sittauer, tools and his sleeping bag, along with an Edmonds fire crew and their fire engine to the “Chelan fires.” When the fire fighters were working on the forest fires, Dave Sittauer and other fire mechanics were working to keep the fire equipment in service and available for the fire crews.

A week later the Edmonds crew returned to their duties in Edmonds. It was decided that the City of Edmonds should have emergency equipment maintenance people. An additional mechanic was hired. Sittauer received special training as an emergency vehicle technician and became the fire mechanic. In 2000 Greg Ramsland retired and Sittauer moved into maintenance management. Loren Angiona became the fire mechanic. The Edmonds Fire Department has never had the level of service and dedication it has right now.

RECOGNITION AWARDS

1. **The Matt Engels Trophy: EDMONDS FIREMAN OF THE YEAR**
2. **The Monte Edmonds Award of Honor**
3. **Stu Murdock Memorial Youth Award**
4. **Edmonds Fire Department Employee Of The Year**

1. **The Matt Engels Trophy: EDMONDS FIREMAN OF THE YEAR** award was started in 1966. The recipient of this award is selected by colleagues in recognition of

outstanding service to the Edmonds Firefighter’ Association and the community it serves. Matt or M. C. Engels moved to Edmonds in 1919 and managed or owned several businesses in Edmonds. He was a member of the fire department from 1919 to 1950 and was the fire chief for 20 years. Matt was Mayor of Edmonds from 1922 to 1924. Mathis Casper “Matt” Engels passed away at the age of 88 in September 1968.

The following members of the fire department have received the award:

1966—Howie Clark	1973—Einer Johnson
1967—Ernie Vollan	1974—Einer Johnson
1968—Jack Weinz	1975—Dick Ritter
1969—Clint Gray	1976—Monte Edmonds
1970—Luke Milholland	1977—Steve Allison
1971—Jim Bender	1978—Jess Silhan
1972—Dave Johnson	1979—“Ole” Johnson
For several years the award was not given.	
1987—Dean Warren	1990—Mike Jones
1988—Mike Karr	1991—Pirie Hart
1989—John Hacker	1992—Jim Thomas
For several years the award was not given.	
1996—Pirie Hart	1998—Pirie Hart
1997—Pirie Hart	1999—Laura LaCrosse

2. **The Monte Edmonds Award of Honor** was for **DEDICATED AND INSPIRATIONAL SERVICE** and started in 1980. Monte Edmonds was an Edmonds volunteer fire fighter from the late 1960s until his death in the late 1970s. Monte’s home away from home was the fire station.

The following received the award:

1980—Ken Gaydos
1981—Women’s Auxiliary “Sirens”
1982—Chuck Cain
1983—Nels “Okie” Lindh
1984—Barbara Eyrish

The Monte Edmonds Award of Honor *continued*

1985—Stu Murdock
1986—Dave Sutton
1987—Volunteers of Support 7
1988—Bill O'Brien
1989—Jim and Adah Butchart
1990—Mike Heryla
1991—Randy Hills
For several years the award was not given.
1996—Chuck Cain
1997—Betty Mueller
1998—Shannon Horner

3. The Stu Murdock Memorial Youth Award began in 1987 and is a \$500 award, funded by the Edmonds Fire Fighters' Association to be **presented to an individual, individuals, or a group, for education, recreational, or other purpose designed to benefit the young people of the Edmonds area.** Stu Murdock was a volunteer fire fighter for the Edmonds Fire Department from 1964 until his death in 1985. He served as an officer in the Association for many years. It was in his memory that this award was established.

The following received the award:

1987—Jim Kenny
1988—Shelli Axtell
1989—Robert Lawler
1990—Cindee Cook,
1991—Lisa Wood

4. Edmonds Fire Department Employee of the Year began in 1999 and the employee is chosen by members in **recognition of Superior Service** to the Edmonds Fire Department and the Citizens.

The following have received the award:

1999—Dennis Oftedahl

2000—Dave Hunter
2001—Bob Schmitt
2002—Mike Smith
2003—Dennis Oftedahl

GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

EDMONDS VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

In July 1925 there was a new constitution and by-laws adopted by the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department. The department will hold a business meeting on the second Wednesday evening of each month. The officers elected were as follows: Chief A. B. Bently, President E. M. Moore, Secretary W. W. Womer, Treasurer P. E. Bacon, and Trustees are George Pence, Dan Doty, and Frank Kingdon. This could have been the start of the association.

Every year there was an election of officers: President, Treasurer, Secretary, Historian, and a Board. Over the years several of the members have served several terms in the same office. One paid or full time fire fighter was elected to serve on the "board" as the paid staff grew larger.

The retired and past members with many years of



Mr. and Mrs. Carl Calban sitting on Santa's knee. In the 1970s Carl still enjoyed visiting EFD as he had been an active member for 30 years.

EARL BARNARD PHOTO



The Christmas party in 1987 was held at Station 1. CLINT GRAY COLLECTION

service to the volunteer association were “life time members” or “members in good standing.”

For many years the association paid for the weekly Wednesday night donuts. The donuts along with coffee were a popular ending to the three drill nights and the association meeting which were held each month. The members had many social events during the year, the most popular may have been the annual (winter or February) “wild game feed” which was held for many years at Crow Hardware and currently is held at the American Legion Hall; the family picnic held at the Cain’s residence during the summer; the Christmas “kiddies” party held at the Civic Center fire station; the annual fire department dance which was held at different locations; and the annual Fourth of July activities.

The members of the association had several money making projects over the years, however, the newspaper and pop can collections in the 1970s through the 1990s made the group good money, if you didn’t count the free man hours.

In 2004 with the reduced number of volunteer or reserve fire fighters, the association is still active. The president is Pirie Hart for 2004.

EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT **(VOLUNTEER) CHAPLAINCY**

In the early 1970s, fire-service chaplaincy in the Pacific Northwest was pretty much nonexistent, with the exception of a few volunteer ceremonial chaplains, when Fire Chief Jack Cooper initiated the department’s first position with Rev. David Strand, an Edmonds pastor.

Shortly after Strand’s service began, he left for ministry in another state, with his personal recommendation to the department that a local church lay leader/elder and active church worker receive the volunteer appointment.

At first, Ken Gaydos was very hesitant to accept the position (primarily, because he had never actually served as a pastor). However, following a tentative acceptance, Gaydos with a purpose to keep effort low-profile, began to identify needs (and possible solution options) which he would eventually introduce to the department and the Edmonds community. He proposed involving significant principles of practical and biblical nondenominational ministry and service—that would be far from a mere token and traditional ceremonial functions, previously associated with historic fire chaplain responsibilities.

Much of Gaydos’ initial sensitivity and insight would come from the death of a daughter and his long years as a career radio and television news reporter. As such, he would often observe scenes of great trauma, the quality care that the primary victim was receiving from emergency service personnel, and the surviving family members and/or friends with so many questions, seemed to always be left alone to fend for themselves.

Thus, an early focus was appropriately centered around the on-scene physical, emotional, and spiritual

needs of family members in the community (served by the department's skilled and gifted emergency service personnel), who would experience sudden events of crisis and great trauma. The chaplaincy ministry and program would immediately touch a very real and practical need. As medic and fire fighter personnel (and law enforcement) would give priority attention to the primary victim and scene, the chaplain would care for the immediate on-scene needs of perhaps the real victim—the emotionally broken and often times grieving family and/or friends.

Also, a significant part of the Edmonds chaplain team, through the early and subsequent years were David Sutton and Jim Keefe, both gifted area pastors who served the department and community well during their tenure.

Chaplaincy

An expression often used in describing the very practical ministry of the nondenominational chaplain "*It is foolish to try and satisfy spiritual need with physical substance,*" conversely, "*when someone is hungry, they don't need a lecture on grace, they need their dinner.*" Thus the immediate focus on *dinner*—be that *dinner* come in the form of complimentary temporary lodging in a fine local hotel, meal service, clothing needs, or just having someone interpret and explain who all the seemingly strangers are (each with their own practical on-scene assignments). Then of course, as emergency service personnel leave the scene, the chaplain remains (some times for hours) attending to a myriad of details, caring for a family the way anyone would want their family cared for—if they themselves were unable to do so.

Whether the job description includes a *personal notification* following a sudden death on a highway; care at the scene of a suicide, drowning, or sudden infant death; *practical care* at the fire scene when all earthly possessions are lost; *practical counsel and ministry* to emergency personnel (and their families), who routinely face the toughest

SIRENS" THE LADIES' AUXILIARY. For several years, Swives of the members of the Edmonds Fire Department both volunteer and paid were active in this Ladies' Auxiliary called "Sirens." The group was active as early as 1970. Some of the activities in 1978 included: organizing the Edmonds Fire Department blood drawing; preparing the gift sacks, food, making tree ornaments, and organizing the Kiddies Christmas party; planning the reception honoring Clint Gray's retirement party; and helping the family of a deceased fireman and sending appropriate remembrances to fire department personnel and families in times of bereavement, illness. The women also completed five quilts for the Red Cross.

When called upon, the group also provided emergency assistance to families who requested an aid car, and temporary need for baby sitting and transportation. For several years they had their meetings on the first Wednesday night of the month at a member's home. This was also drill night for the fire fighters; some of the children would either be watching their Dads at fire drill or playing at the Sirens' meeting.

The fire fighters really appreciated the work done by these Ladies.



LEFT TO RIGHT—Maureen Barnard, Barbara Swanson, Judy Lloyd, Sue Ritter, and Shirley Murdock. SIRENS COLLECTION

imaginable tasks daily; or to the citizens these fire fighter personnel serve. The significant ministry of the chaplain serving hundreds of volunteer hours annually, has been a significant and valuable partnership.

So presently, because of the solid innovative principles that have been introduced to fire service over the past 30-plus years, the pioneering influence of the hometown Edmonds program and Chaplain Gaydos has touched communities all across the United States and Canada, along with select countries around the world. Similar programs have been established within emergency service organizations modeled after the Edmonds program.

LOCAL 1828 **EDMONDS FIRE FIGHTERS UNION**

On April 23, 1969, in the *Edmonds Tribune-Review* newspaper was the news of the “First in south Snohomish



The first contract between the City of Edmonds and the seven firemen members of Local 1828 of the I.A.F.F. was signed last week. Taking part in the ceremony were local members Harold Hatzenbuhler and Al Jakobitz, Chief Cooper, and Mayor Harrison. JACK COOPER COLLECTION

County; Seven Edmonds Firemen Now Union Members. The paid full-time firemen from the Edmonds Fire Department last week joined a union, the International Association of Fire Fighters (I.A.F.F.). The new local, 1828, is affiliated with the Washington State Council of Fire Fighters as well as the international group. The local has seven members, not including the chief and assistant chief who are administrative personnel. The union has been officially recognized by the City of Edmonds and the local firemen become the first in south county to become union members.”

The seven members were Luke Milholland, Jack Weinz, Al Jakobitz (president), Harold Hatzenbuhler (treasurer), Stan Olson, Earl Barnard (vice president-secretary), and Tom Johnston.

As reported on December 24, 1969, in the *Tribune-Review*, “Firemen Sign First Contract. The first contract between the City of Edmonds and the seven firemen members of Local 1828 of the I.A.F.F. was signed last week. Taking part in the ceremony were local members Harold Hatzenbuhler and Al Jakobitz, Chief Cooper, and Mayor Harrison. Edmonds is the smallest local in the state and one of the newest to sign a contract with the city. The new contract calls for a 9 percent wage increase, time-and-a-half for all overtime, and increased medical benefits.”

This was a new working relationship for both the city and the local’s members. In early contract negotiations the members sought pay parity with the police department, dental, vision and maternity benefits for their spouses.

The local has been a member of the Washington State Labor Council since the early 1980s and the Snohomish County Labor Council since the late 1990s. They have also had representation on the Edmonds Community College Advisory Board since the 1970s. It has been active with the Edmonds School District High School Fire Science Board from its inception.

Local 1828 has been involved in Muscular Dystrophy Association fund raising since the 1970s, and has been supportive of the Northwest Burn Foundation and the Washington State Council of Firefighters Burn Foundation. Since 1981, members of the local have been supportive and participated in the Columbia Tower Climb for Leukemia. Since 1981 it has been involved and still is in a food and toy drive and delivery for the needy at Christmas, and a food drive for the needy at Thanksgiving until 2002.

The local has a long history of good labor/management relations since its inception. It has striven to stand up for its rights and to work hard to foster a good relationship with city management. The local has been very active in local and state politics and has a reputation for being a strong player in the political scene.

In the 35 years of Local 1828's existence, there have been several presidents and many members. Al Jakobitz was the first president and Doug Dahl is the president in 2004. Since the beginning, all fire fighters with the exception of the fire chief and assistant chiefs have been members. Some of the presidents such as Bill Angel and Pat Hepler served many terms and did an excellent job. Safer working conditions for fire fighters can be attributed to organizations like the fire fighters' union and the fire chiefs associations.

SUPPORT 7

Voluntarily Serving Agencies of Fire and Rescue— Police and Law Enforcement—Search and Rescue— and the Greater Edmonds–Snohomish County Community

Always evaluating ways to provide even more effective care to victims of sudden events of crisis, the Edmonds and Southwest Snohomish County Volunteer Fire and Law Enforcement Chaplaincy introduced (in 1986) the distinct and first of its kind ministry in the nation—called Support 7.

During an unusually long and emotionally painful search and recovery effort of an underwater diver who had drowned off Edmonds' Bracketts Landing Beach, there was no private place amidst crowds of onlookers and media cameras to host a grieving wife and children.

The only place for any privacy for the family then, was the uncomfortable backseat of a police unit.

A few days after that event in the mid 1980s, Ken Gaydos (Edmonds Fire Department chaplain) and Fire Chief Jack Weinz were discussing the intended future salvaging of a long-used Edmonds aid car.

Immediately, the vision was in Gaydos' mind and heart—not only would such a vehicle (if restored appropriately) be a meaningful place of temporary on-scene refuge for grieving families, but also be able to be equipped to serve these families light beverages and refreshments, in addition to on-scene “rehab” items for fire fighters and emergency service personnel.

In the earlier years, these rehab snacks and beverages were cared for and provided by the fire department's highly respected volunteer association and auxiliary—and brought to selected scenes via pickup truck.



Support 7's first unit on the left and the current unit on the right. KEN GAYDOS COLLECTION

Through the gracious initial financial support of the Sno-King Kiwanis Club, along with the skilled labor and refurbishing efforts of gifted friends of the Edmonds Chaplaincy, an aging (1974) fire department aid car was given significant new life as “Support 7.” Serving the Edmonds and Snohomish County community for more than 14 years, the still aging “Guppy” was finally replaced in 2002 with Support 7 “11,” a significant gift of labor and love by community friends of chaplaincy—dedicated in memory of dear loved ones, who in the past had been served by this district (first of its kind) support vehicle.

The ministry of Support 7 and the chaplains program is completely voluntary, and is supported exclusively by the financial gifts of friends—through an existing tax-exempt Washington state nonprofit organization 501(c)(3).

EDMONDS DIVE RESCUE TEAM

Edmonds’ beaches have always been popular for sightseeing and swimming. There have been many water accidents in the waters off Edmonds’ city limits. With the popularity of underwater diving, Edmonds’ waters became the spot to explore what is under the surface of Puget Sound. In the 1970s and 1980s, more and more divers were using the new dive shops in Edmonds and the Edmonds Park Department developed an underwater park. With the increased number of divers coming from outside of Edmonds, the number of diving accidents and deaths increased. Edmonds Fire Department’s aid car and fire engines were being called to assist divers either in trouble in the water or after they were back on the shore.

On some emergencies, a private boat would be used in an emergency off shore and extra divers in the area may have been used. This took time to organize, and the question was asked, “What can be done to help these divers and even boaters?”

The U.S. Coast Guard was asked if they could station a

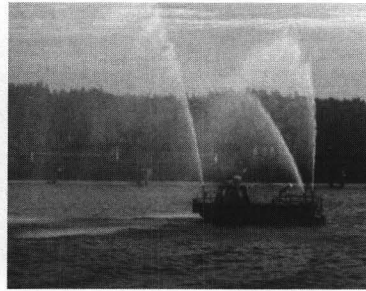


Dive team preparing to enter Edmonds’ Underwater Park. PAT HEPLER COLLECTION

manned rescue vessel in Edmonds. To the surprise of many the Coast Guard would consider it if property could be made available. The property seemed to have been the problem, because the Coast Guard never came.

At a city council meeting on February 22, 1983, there was a discussion regarding an emergency rescue boat for Edmonds and a presentation with transparencies and a slide show was given to the council by Fire Fighter Bob Schmitt. The total cost of the project was estimated at \$44,691. \$14,743 was requested from the council and the balance would be raised through community donations and grants. This was passed. A \$10,000 donation was received from Burlington Northern, and many other large and small donations were received.

In 1985, F.R.E.D. (Fire Rescue Edmonds Division) was Edmonds first fire/rescue boat. This craft was a converted



F.R.E.D., Edmonds first rescue boat was a converted Coast Guard rescue boat and was equipped with a fire pump and fire fighting equipment. MICK HERYLEA COLLECTION

Coast Guard rescue boat and was equipped with a fire pump and fire fighting equipment. Donations for the conversion came from local and major businesses of the area. The name F.R.E.D. was selected by a contest with local school students. This craft also served the Edmonds Police/Fire Dive Team for emergency calls for Puget Sound diving accidents. It was stationed at the Edmonds Marina.

By the late 1980s, it was determined that too much money was being spent on the boat. There was still a need for a rescue boat so a 20-foot aluminum boat with a shallow 'V' hull was built for the fire department by Almar Marine in Tacoma. This boat was also stationed at the Edmonds Marina and used by the fire/police dive team.

When funding for a fire/police dive team became available in 1984, a team started with four Edmonds fire fighters and four police officers. The first members were fire fighters Marc Petrella, Mick Heryla, Jon Holcraft, and Pat Hepler, and police officers Fred Bonallo, Mike Bard, Mike Green, and Tim Dreyer. Over the years the members would change.

In 1997 and 1998, citing the cost to run the team, the mayor cut the rescue boat and its funding and the Edmonds Fire Department participation in the team. The Edmonds Police Department as of 2004 still has a functioning team. During the years of the fire/police dive

rescue team, its members went on many water rescues and recovery emergencies.

BICYCLE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PATROL

In June 1999, two mountain bicycles with bikes racks and safety helmets were purchased for the fire department to use in providing first aid and medical care when there was heavy vehicle and pedestrian traffic in Edmonds. They were first used in the Fourth of July parade in 1999 by fire fighters Tom Flett and Amy Turner. Since then several of the fire fighters have taken this off duty assignment. Two fire fighters will ride these bicycles equipped with first aid equipment through crowded situations and provide a patient evaluation, give first aid, and advise the responding aid or medic car of the patient's condition. These fire fighter 'bikers' can be seen at events such as The Taste of Edmonds, Hot Autumn Nights (classic car show), The Waterfront Festival, Fourth of July Parade, and other events.

The bike program was proven on an early assignment, while patrolling a walk-a-thon for cardiac survivors. The event started and ended at Harbor Square Athletic Club. The course was several miles long and there were no emergencies during this event. However, when the bike patrol finished and was getting ready to leave the event, there was a reported heart attack victim playing



*Bicycle Medical Assistance Patrol bike
STAFF PHOTO*

tennis at the Harbor Square Club. The bicycle medical team provided care for the patient until the medic unit arrived. There have been several emergencies when the bicycle medical team has been the first on the scene to provide care for the sick or injured.

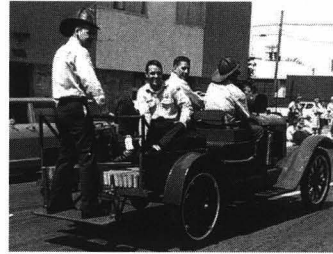
In 2001 the Edmonds Fire Safety Foundation donated the funds to purchase sirens and flashing warning lights that double as headlights for the bicycles. A few of the ‘peddlers’ are Tom Flett, Amy Turner, Brett Kuhn, Dave Erickson, Brian McAllister, Marc Petrella, and J. J. Dowling.

EVENTS

CELEBRATING THE FOURTH OF JULY

The City of Edmonds has celebrated the Fourth of July for many years. On the Fourth of July in 1955 or 1956 the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department showed the citizens and visitors of Edmonds what fire fighter’s do best—shoot water and have a good time. This was the beginning of the Fourth of July water ball fight. Volunteer fireman Howard “Howie” Clark recalls that he was the president of the fireman’s association and they sponsored the event. Several fire departments participated and all had a good time. This became an annual event right after the parade and has been held in the city park on 3rd Avenue S.

What would a parade be without marching bands, politicians, and fire engines? At the Fourth of July parade one or more of Edmonds shiny fire engines have been shown off to the public along with the proud fire fighters. Neighboring fire departments and their fire fighters also



cruise the parade route to the delight of the crowds. These parades have been held for many years, and hopefully years to come.

In the mid 1960s, something else was added for the firemen and the public. The Washington State Fireman’s Association had state wide competition for events of ‘fire hose make and break’ and ‘fire company evolutions.’

The ‘make and break’ competition was two or three teams of firemen running a course laid out side by side and made up of three sections of fire hose, a nozzle, and a fire hydrant. Speed and following the rules was the objective. For the best time and performance went trophies for first, second, and third place.

For the fire company evolution drill there was a crew of four fire fighters, a fire engine, and a fire hydrant. Other fire department teams would be out of sight but waiting their turn. There was a written drill given to the officer of the performing team. The officer would read the instructions and give the orders. Hose would come off the fire engine, be attached to the fire hydrant, the engine would move a short distant to four targets and stop. More fire hose would come off the engine and as per the instructions given to the officer, the targets would be knocked down with a water stream from fire hoses. Again the best time and also following the instructions would bring the best teams trophies.

These two events were usually before the parade and would start early in the morning. In Edmonds, teams

came from Bellevue, Tacoma, Everett, and many other departments. This was a lot of work, but also fun. Teams could be all volunteer, all full time, or mixed fire fighters. These evolutions or games only lasted for a few years as it took much time for practice and staging the event on 'game day.'

For several years, the volunteer association set up their 'water dunk tank' in the city park and many visitors enjoyed throwing softballs trying to get someone wet. Many 'good sports' sat inside the dunk tank; favorites were Mayor Harrison and Bob Bentler.

The Fourth of July has started for many years with an early breakfast for past and current fire fighters and their families. The final planning of the day's events is made at the breakfast. For several years, after the full day of events and after the waterball fight, the visiting and local fire fighters would meet for an early evening feed. There would be a few hours before the after dark fireworks show. The common question was "When are the fireworks?" Answer, "After dark." Question, "When is dark?" Answer, "When it gets dark!"

For many years members of the fire department not only enjoyed the evening fireworks show, but would be on standby duty if needed. The last couple of years for the waterfront display found the fire fighters too busy to enjoy the show as the crowds were so large and a few spectators

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY. At the Christmas parties Santa after arriving on the roof and coming down the 'hose tower' or arriving on a fire engine would take gift requests and talk with the kids at the fire station. Lots of pictures were taken, good food eaten, and music was provided by different members of the department. Most of these kids have kids of their own now.

ruined it for the masses by throwing fire crackers into the crowds and even starting fires.

In 2004, the Edmonds Fire Department and other fire departments will display their shiny equipment with lights and sirens in the parade, and afterwards the big ball on the wire will be moved by fire fighters squirting water in the city park.

THE ANNUAL GAME FEED

The term 'game feed' has two meanings. Roy Swanson recalled that prior to the fire department game feed, he and several hunters, some of whom were firemen, would bring sea food and roasts of deer, bear, elk, and other game to a potluck feed. Roy recalls several of these were at the home of Dave Crow. In 1966 members of the fire department started having their 'game feed' with the same selection of fine foods and for many years this fire fighters social event was held at Crow Hardware. Other locations were Edmonds Lumber and the Legion Hall.

For many years the selected and donated meats were prepared and cooked by 'chef' Roy Swanson and fellow fire



LEFT TO RIGHT—*Game feed attendees: Clint Gray, Dave Johnson, Roy Sorenson, Jim Bentler, Dean Warren, Sr., Sam Ewing, Chuck Cain, and Red Francis.* STAFF PHOTO

fighters. Roy later trained Dave Johnson and Tim Whitman. Tim Whitman did an excellent job in 2004, as he has for the past several years.

For this February treat there would be active and retired fire fighters getting together to enjoy the great meal, recall stories, and the other ‘game’ or a little cards were played. No one ever went home broke or rich; however ‘the morning after’ for some was a long day. This social event is a great way to relax, knowing that friendship and memories of fellow fire fighters last forever.

ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC

The Summer Family Picnic for kids of all ages was held at the Cain’s residence. By age, the kids went exploring in mounds of hay looking for candy, pennies, nickels, and dimes. The younger kids went for the candy. Everyone waited for the salmon to slowly bake over the hot coals.

Games of horse shoes, croquet, and volleyball were always a hit. Volleyball was enjoyed by all ages. The summer picnic to remember was when a bee or hornet hive was found on the volleyball court. This game had to be played therefore the hive had to go. Thank goodness the fire department was on the scene when the hive and the garbage can went into the air. Bob Bentler made a good bee person. Soon the game went on as scheduled.

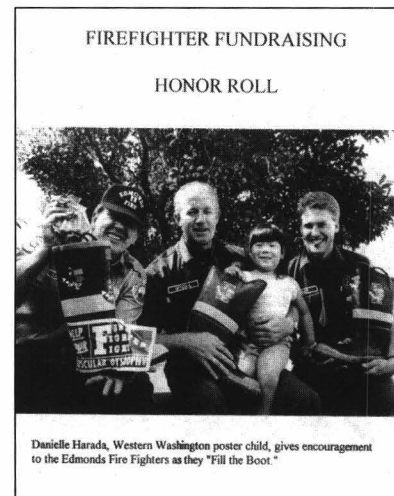
RAISING MONEY FOR MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

In 1954 the Fire Chiefs of America started playing a major part in the fund raising campaign for the Muscular Dystrophy Association of America, Inc. Fire fighters both uniformed and volunteer across the United States raised almost \$4 million. The fire service has been active in this great fund raiser ever since.

On November 25, 1954, the *Edmonds Tribune-Review* reported that “Howard Clark, President of the Edmonds Firemen’s Association, said local smoke eaters will call door

Passing the ‘boot’ for Muscular Dystrophy are Danielle Harada, the Western Washington poster child sitting on the lap of fire fighter Dennis Ofiedabl, along with fellow fire fighters Joe Soucy and Earl Barnard.

EARL BARNARD COLLECTION



to door within the city limits from 7 to 10 P.M. asking for donations to combat Muscular Dystrophy.

“Envelopes were mailed this week to post office patrons to aid in collections. They can be filled and turned over to firemen Friday or mailed to Postmaster Otto Sorensen.”

As reported in the *Edmonds Tribune-Review* on December 1, 1955, “Firemen Raise \$550 In Canvass Here. Fire Chief James Astell reported today that Edmonds firemen collected \$550 here for the Muscular Dystrophy fund, nearly double the amount collected last year. The fire chief expressed his men’s thanks to the community for its generous donations to the fund.”

On February 3, 1971, *Edmonds Tribune-Review* reports, “Local firemen help MD Fund. Edmonds Firemen, members of Firefighters Local #1828, present the check representing the money they collected in their part of the drive for Muscular Dystrophy. They placed canisters in various stores around town and said they wanted to thank the merchants and citizens of Edmonds for their support of the drive. A check of \$148.55 was presented.”

In the fall of 1992, members of the Edmonds Fire Department were passing the 'boot' and receiving donations for MDA at the Edmonds Ferry holding lanes. This was during the three-day holiday weekend. On a warm afternoon while the 'boots' were filling with cash, several Washington State MDA representatives stopped by to visit. A picture was taken with three members of EFD Local 1828 and a young girl. There was a nice visit and all went about raising more money.

Several weeks later when the MDA Western Washington tally was published and information sent to participating groups, the cover picture showed Danielle Harada (the western Washington poster child) sitting on the lap of Edmonds fire fighter Dennis Oftedahl flanked by Edmonds fire fighters Joe Soucy and Earl Barnard. EFD Local 1828 raised \$2110 and there was a total of \$58,757 raised by the western Washington fire locals. Some of it went to MDA summer camp and to buy three electric wheelchairs.

As mentioned above, EFD members have participated in MDA every year for more than 25 years. The large sums of money raised could not be possible without the generosity of the donors.

Fire Department Annual Reports

1910 CITY BUDGET:

With total expenditures of \$9,108. Fire Department expenses were wages and team hire \$200 and maintenance of equipment \$300, for a total of \$500.

1933 REPORT:

Fire loss in Edmonds for the entire year of 1933 amounted to about 30 percent per inhabitant, according to an estimate compiled this week by M. C. Engels, chief of the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department.

During the year there were but 14 fires, five of which were chimney fires. While property with a total valuation of \$100,400 was exposed to the flames, total loss of buildings and contents amounted to but \$328, Mr. Engels' figures show.

"This is the smallest fire loss since the city has kept a record," stated Mr. Engels, "and the splendid showing is largely due to the improved method of fighting fires taught by the fire college conducted by Washington State Firemen's Association."

MAY 1939—FIRE CHIEF LISTS FIRES AND LOSSES IN 10-YEAR PERIOD

The number of fires both inside and out of the city, to which the Edmonds Volunteer Fire Department responded, for each of the last ten years, has been tabulated by Fire Chief M. C. Engels, together with the per capita loss for fires within the city for each year. The table below shows first the year, then the number of fires within the city, the per capita loss, and the number of fires outside the city to which the firemen responded.

Year	Edmonds	Loss per capita	Outside Edmonds
1929	13	\$2.35	13
1930	7	.90	23
1931	20	5.16	13
1932	10	4.80	11
1933	14	.30	4
1934	7	.32	24
1935	15	4.00	7
1936	14	.22	7
1937	7	.80	8
1938	8	.10	15

The above chart, accounts for 115 fire calls within the city and 125 fire calls outside the city.

JANUARY 2, 1958—CITY BOOSTS CITY BUDGET TO MEET ANNEXATION EXTRA NEEDS

(Edmonds Tribune-Review)

The Edmonds City Council passed an emergency ordinance at a recessed meeting Dec. 23 to provide \$6,240 in additional funds for several departments. The extra funds were needed to pay for additional services provided to newly annexed areas—services not contemplated when the 1957 budget was adopted. Mayor Gordon Maxwell was authorized to send a letter to Fire District 13 to open negotiations on a new contract between the city and the fire district. The Edmonds fire department has been providing fire protection to Fire District 13, which includes Woodway Park and an area to the south of Woodway Park, for \$1,200 per year.

1964 ANNUAL BUDGET:

TOTAL CITY BUDGET \$2,524,597.33

Fire Department	salaries	maintenance
Fire Chief	\$ 1,800.00	
Full-time Firemen (4)	22,014.00	
Firemen (Volunteers)	7,000.00	
Insurance		\$ 746.35
Hydrant rental, Materials, Supplies, Gas, Oil, Repairs, Telephone, etc.		8,899.00
Employee Benefits		2,381.40

1967 FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

Despite an increase in the number of fire alarms, Fire Chief Jack Cooper reports the loss from fires decreased during the year. Total loss during 1967 was \$42,000, down some \$26,000 from the previous year. The department received a total of 154 alarms, up 35 from 1966. Of the alarms, 57 were fires in dwellings, 42 grass or brush fires, 26 vehicles, 14 commercial, 10 outdoors, 3 rubbish, and

2 industrial buildings. Firemen were called out on 17 more grass fires during the dry months of the year. An increase was also seen in other calls handled by the department which totaled 76. Of these, 33 were for rescue and emergencies, 10 false alarms and 9 needless calls. There was one fire death during the year, Mrs. Laverne Peterson who suffocated in a fire December 10.

1970 REPORT:

Personnel	10 Paid	26 Volunteer/Call
Total Responses	219	
Total Fire Loss	\$187,835	

The fire loss for 1970 reached \$187,835, as compared to \$43,215 for 1969. Total calls, received by the department, were 394,242 alarms and 152 aid calls. There were no fire related deaths in 1970; however, there were 21 set fires. The department using a station wagon with special equipment transported 121 people to the hospital: 27 were auto accidents, 26 heart victims, 13 drug cases, and five with strokes; 18 persons were dead on arrival. The nine paid firemen spent a total of 641 man hours answering alarms and the volunteers 973 hours.

An extensive inspection program was conducted during the year by Inspector Al Jakobitz. There were 533 fire code violations found and 380 corrected. He made 576 inspections at commercial buildings. A decreasing number of fire permits were issued, only 1,927. In the public relations field, the department reached a total of 11,138 persons. They gave 135 speeches, demonstrations, tours of the station, and fire prevention programs. The paid firemen took several hours of training courses at Edmonds Community College studying fire tactics, fire prevention, communications skills, and hydraulics. They

A Terrorist Alert' level was raised on Dec. 2, 2003 to Jan. 10, 2003, to "High Orange."

also attended courses in Bellevue, Eugene, Ellensburg, Olympia, Arlington, and Seattle. All firemen also took the Red Cross first aid course. There were a total of 288 drills during the year.

1971 REPORT:

Personnel	18 Paid	36 Volunteers/Call
Total Responses	210	
Fire Loss	\$267,035	

1972 REPORT:

Personnel	17 Paid	31 Volunteers/Call
Total Responses	565	
Fire Loss	\$4,482	<i>(average loss per building)</i>

1994 REPORT:

Personnel	29 paid and 3 volunteers
Total Responses	2,099
Fire Loss	\$510,282

1995 REPORT:

Personnel	29 paid and 10 volunteers
Total Responses	2,354

1996 REPORT:

Personnel	41 paid and 8 volunteers
Total Responses	2,715

1999 REPORT:

Personnel	41 paid
Total Responses	3,993

2000 REPORT:

Coverage Area	Square Miles	Population
Edmonds	8.9	38,610
Woodway	1.12	990

2000 REPORT: continued

Coverage Area	Square Miles	Population
Esperance	.7	2,990
TOTAL	10.72	42,590

Total number of Emergency calls 4,214

Personnel

Suppression/EMS	37
Fire Prevention	2
Administration	2.5
Reserves	11
TOTAL	52.5

Budget

\$3,835,293

Fire Victims

Firefighters Injuries	13
Civilian Injuries	2
Civilian Fatalities	3

Significant Incidents

A residential fire on Bowdoin Way with a loss of \$70,000

A residential fire in Esperance with a loss of \$90,000

An apartment fire with a loss of \$50,000

An apartment complex fire in Firdale Village with a loss of \$600,000 and two civilian fatalities

2001 REPORT:

Coverage	Area Square Miles	Population
Edmonds	8.9	39,590
Woodway	1.12	945
Esperance	.7	3,503
TOTAL	10.72	44,038

2001 REPORT: continued

Total number of Emergency Calls 4341

Personnel

Suppression/EMS	37
Fire Prevention	2
Administration	2.5
Reserves	11
TOTAL	52.5

Budget

\$4,080,830

Fire Victims

Firefighters Injuries	11
Civilian Injuries	2

Significant Incidents

- An earthquake on 2-28-01
- A commercial fire on 6-22-01 in Firdale with a loss of \$10,000
- An apartment fire on 6-22-01 with a loss of \$145,000
- An apartment fire on 7-25-01 with a loss of \$15,000
- A residential fire on 8-30-01 with a loss of \$170,000
- A residential fire on 9-11-01 with a loss of \$400,000
- A residential fire on 12-9-01 with a loss of \$200,000

2002 REPORT:

Coverage	Area Square Miles	Population
Edmonds	8.9	39,460
Woodway	1.12	990
Esperance	.7	3,503
TOTAL	10.72	43,953

Total number of Emergency Calls 4,470

2002 REPORT: continued**Personnel**

Suppression/EMS	40
Fire Prevention	2

Personnel continued

Administration	2.5
Reserves	8
TOTAL	52.5

Budget \$4,501,589

Fire Victims

Firefighters Injuries	8
Civilian Injuries	2

Significant Incidents

- A residential fire on 1-22-02 with a loss of \$120,000
- A residential fire on 2-14-02 with a loss of \$175,000
- A residential fire on 7-02-02 with a loss of \$10,000
- A residential fire on 7-27-02 with a loss of \$90,000
- A residential fire on 8-08-02 with a loss of \$20,000
- A condominium fire on 9-3-02 with a loss of \$30,000
- A commercial fire on 9-19-02 with a loss of \$15,000
- A commercial fire on 10-17-02 with a loss of \$20,000

2003 REPORT:

Coverage	Area Square Miles	Population
Edmonds	8.9	39,580
Woodway	1.12	1,050
Esperance	.07	3,503
TOTALS	10.72	44,133

Total number of Emergency Calls 4,897

Personnel

Suppression/EMS	47
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2003 REPORT: continued

Personnel continued

Fire Prevention	2
Administration	2.5
Volunteers	5

Budget \$5,792,048

Fire Victims

Fire Fighters	0
Civilian Fatalities	0

Citizen Requests

Request for Public Information	54
Requests for Chaplain/Support Seven	49

Significant Incidents

A residential fire on 1-26-03 with a loss of \$120,000

A "Terrorist Alert" level raised on 3-18-03 to 4-16-03 to "High Orange"

A rescue on 5-11-03 at Casper Street and Sunset Avenue

A "Terrorist Alert" level raised on 5-2-03 to 4-16-03 to "High Orange"

A residential fire on 6-26-03 with a loss of \$40,000

A gas tanker fire on 7-12-03 on I-5 and 44th. Ave. Lynnwood

A condominium fire on 7-30-03 with a loss of \$1,000,000

A residential fire on 8-5-03 with a loss of \$150,000

A residential fire on 9-17-03 with a loss of \$120,000

A residential fire on 10-11-03 with a loss of \$85,000

A storm on 10-23-03

A storm on 10-28-03

A medical call on 11-28-03 aboard the Washington State Ferry *Walla Walla*

A commercial fire on 11-3-03 with a loss of \$30,000

A mobile home fire on 12-13-03 with a loss of \$5,000

A "Terrorist Alert" level raised on 12-2-03 to 1-10-04 to "High Orange"

A recreational vehicle fire on 12-24-03 with a loss of \$95,000

EDMONDS FIRE SAFETY FOUNDATION

EDMONDS FIRE DEPARTMENT FOUNDATION

This was the name of the foundation when we filed for our Articles of Incorporation in October 1996. We amended that filing to: "Doing Business as Edmonds Fire Safety Foundation." That change was made to avoid any misunderstanding of the fact that the foundation was neither a part of the Edmonds Fire Department nor a part of the City of Edmonds, but a separate entity.

Organizing a foundation to support the Edmonds Fire Department was envisioned by Betty Mueller (longtime Edmonds resident) as a result of her work, the group formed to plan and support passage of the Public Safety Building levy in 1996. She solicited the help of Chuck and Joy Cain, (Edmonds residents since 1948 and former owners of Edmonds Lumber), Dave Page (local realtor), Michael Hall (attorney), and Michael Springer (Chief, EFD).

Purpose of the foundation as stated in the Articles of Incorporation reads: "This corporation is organized for charitable, benevolent and eleemosynary, educational, social, cultural and scientific purposes, in support of the Edmonds Fire Department."

November 6, 1996, was the first official meeting of the newly formed organization.

Board Members: Ed and Shirley Aliverti, Marlene Angel, Chuck and Joy Cain, Pirie Hart (Pres. Edmonds Fire Fighter's Assoc.), Michael Hall,

Randy Hills (Pres., Local 1828), Betty Mueller, Dave Page, and Mike Heryla, (Edmonds Fire Lieutenant). Jim Braun, attended as a consultant to the group.

The first slate of officers elected by the foundation was President, Betty Mueller; Vice President, Ed Aliverti; Secretary, Mike Hall; and Treasurer, Joy Cain.

Edmonds City Council ruled that the money remaining in the Public Safety Fund from public donations would be split between the EFDF and the newly formed, Police Foundation. We received \$1,130.90.

Application for 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Status was prepared by CPA Bill Loughrin and Joy Cain and in October 1997 the advance ruling was received.

January 1997, Fire Chief Springer made a presentation to the board on thermal imaging cameras and Marlene Angel stated that if the foundation decided to launch a fund raising effort to secure money for the purchase of such a camera, she would like to donate one half the costs in memory of her late husband, Edmonds Fire Captain Bill Angel. Thus was launched the "Save a Life Campaign." A direct mail campaign along with personal solicitation to the local clubs and associations was initiated. The generosity of the Edmonds citizenry made it possible for us to obtain and formally present the camera to the City of Edmonds at a reception in the Plaza Room December 11, 1997.

Since 1996 the foundation has raised funds to:

Repaint and refurbish the reserve Aid Unit

Support First Aid and CPR classes

Provide Station 17 and 20 with televisions, VCRs and mounting brackets for training

Buy smoke detectors for distribution throughout the community

Acquire emergency lights and sirens for the bicycle team

Purchase the AMKUS Combi-Tool heavy rescue tool

Purchase surface water rescue exposure suits
Buy the AMKUS 30 Push-Pull Ram with 10-inch extension rescue tool

Provide a used heavy duty commercial-grade sewing machine to repair department emergency equipment

Acquire voice-amplification units for self-contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) masks

Purchase SOG Para Tools for each member (17-function specialty knife worn in a belt case)

Return home Engine 1 by acquiring the 1938 Ford Fire Engine that served Edmonds citizens until 1984

Buy a Bullard Thermal Imaging Camera (Engine 16). This was the second camera purchased.

Besides direct mail campaigns, the foundation has conducted a number of fund-raising activities.

Fourth of July, "Pop in the Park" was started July 1997. During the fire department water ball fights, the foundation maintains a booth offering pop and chips for a donation to those attending the event. This later included selling T-shirts with the foundation logo.

Taste of Edmonds participation began in August 1997. We started by helping the firemen with the booth to raise funds for Muscular Dystrophy. Beginning in 2000, we have shared a booth with the EFD aid car. We sell T-shirts and raffle tickets.

Annual Garage Sale, the initial sale was September 1999 at the Red Barn, then annually starting in 2001. Items are donated from local citizens. The sale is a two-day affair and has been very successful.

Raffles. In 1998 we have raffled an American Girl Doll with extensive wardrobe made by foundation members and volunteers, a wooden wardrobe chest made by fire fighter, Dennis Oftedahl and a bed complete with bedding made by Betty Mueller and her brother.

In 2000 we raffled an outdoor playhouse constructed by foundation volunteers and members.

In 2002 first place was an Ichiro jersey in a display case, a baseball autographed by Dan Wilson, and various Mariner memorabilia. Second place was a crocheted afghan made by Betty Running.

In August 2003 we raffled a remote control fire engine. In September we raffled the chance to ride in the 1938 Fire Engine for the 2004 Fourth of July Parade and a model of a 1938 fire engine.

Other foundation activities include:

Distribution of fire and life safety information from booths at civic events

Support of the annual 9/11 ceremony at the fire fighter memorial, "Somewhere every day"

Support fire prevention week activities and fire station open house

Host and serve refreshments at fire department functions

Board member, Don Olsen, writes the Fire Sirens column for local newspapers

Write letters to the editors related to public safety topics

Door-to-door distribution of "Safety Reminder" door hangers

Support the IAFF Union Local 1828 Holiday Basket Program

Centennial Committee:

In September 2000, retired Edmonds fire fighter, Earl Barnard and his wife, Maureen, attended a foundation meeting to present information about and request assistance regarding the 100th birthday of the Edmonds Fire Department in 2004. In November 2000 the board voted to form a Centennial Committee to research the history of the EFD and plan for a Centennial celebration. The Barnards were appointed



LEFT TO RIGHT, BOTTOM ROW—*Edmonds Fire Safety Foundation members Chief Tom Tomberg, Earl Barnard, Don Olson, Mike Heryla, and Tom Dockins.*

LEFT TO RIGHT, MIDDLE ROW—*Pirie Hart, Jennie Startzman, Gail Welfringer, Joy Cain, Betty Running, and Chuck Cain.*

LEFT TO RIGHT, BACK ROW—*Mark Foote, Greg Jacobsen, Don Nicholson, and Maureen Barnard.* STAFF PHOTO

co-chairmen. They devoted many hours in researching and compiling the history, collecting pictures, etc. Other members of the board assisted with planning of the Centennial Celebration, September 18, 2004, was a joint effort of all the board and volunteers. This book is a result of the efforts.

THE PICTURE GALLERY



Fireman of the Year 1971, Luke Milholland receives the trophy from Chief Jack Cooper. STAN OLSON COLLECTION



A few attendees at Earl Barnard's retirement party in 1993. LEFT TO RIGHT—George Kopan, Chuck Cain, "Okie" Lindh, Harold Hatzenbubler, Clint Gray, Mike Cooper and Earl Barnard. STAN OLSON COLLECTION

Board Members, February 2004:

Earl and Maureen Barnard (2000), Chuck and Joy Cain (1996), Tom Dockins (1997), Mark Foote (1999), Pirie Hart (1996), Mike Heryla (1996), Greg Jacobsen (2004), Don Nickolson (2003), Don Olsen (2001), Betty Running (2001), Jeannie Startzman (2004), Gail Welfringer (2001).



The Edmonds Fire Department sponsored Explorer Scout Post # 356. This post was active for several years and had several leaders from the fire fighters. Some of the scouts were Mike Cooper, Jack Cooper Jr., David Cooper, Russ Powell, Barry O'Brien, Rick Harris, Tom Curcio, Mike Wyer, John Rochester, and John Leupold. Volunteer fire fighters Tim Whitman, Dick Ritter, and Jim Bentler were some of the advisors. The scouts drilled in fire fighting evolutions and medical first aid and rescue procedures. Many of these Explorer Scouts became fire fighters. EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Edmonds' Fire Chiefs



Former chief M. C. "Matt" Engels with grandson in 1968. COURTESY OF MILDRED ENGELS



AT LEFT—*Fire Chief Mike Springer, in 1994.*
STAFF PHOTO



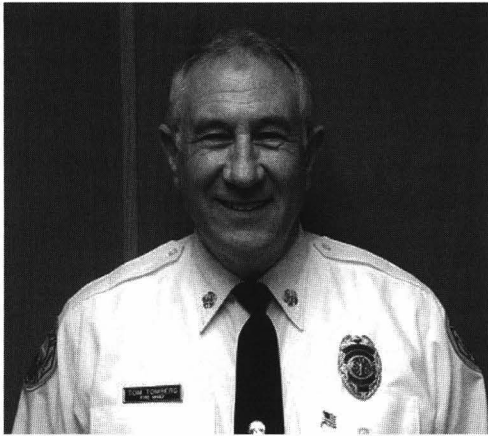
AT LEFT—*Fire Chief Jim Astell.*
EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM



Chief Jack Weinz and new Lieutenant Mark Petrella in the 1980s. JACK WEINZ COLLECTION



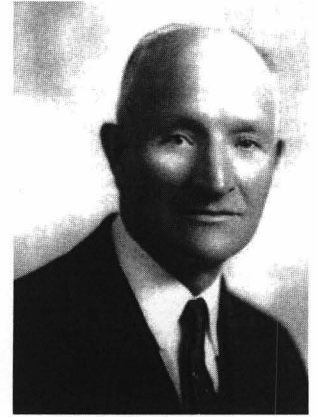
AT RIGHT—*Chief Jack Cooper in 1972.*
JACK COOPER COLLECTION



Edmonds Fire Chief Thomas Tomberg, 2004. STAFF PHOTO



*Chief Thomas Hall, 1909.
EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM*



*Chief James Otto, 1907.
EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM*



BACK ROW LEFT TO RIGHT—1965 retired chief Jim Astell, Howie Clark, Ernie Vollan, Clint Gray, Jack Cooper, Cecil "Red" Francis, and Bill Eddy.

FRONT ROW LEFT TO RIGHT—Roy Sorenson, Carrol Greenleaf, and Dave Crow.

STAN OLSON COLLECTION

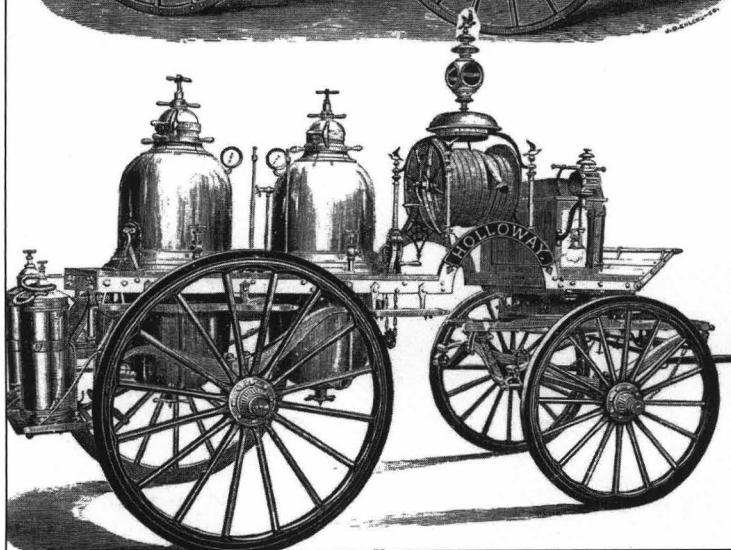


LEFT TO RIGHT—Paid crew in 1965 with the new chief's car, Luke Milholland, Chief Jack Cooper, Jack Weinz, Al Jakobitz, and Harold Hattenbubler.

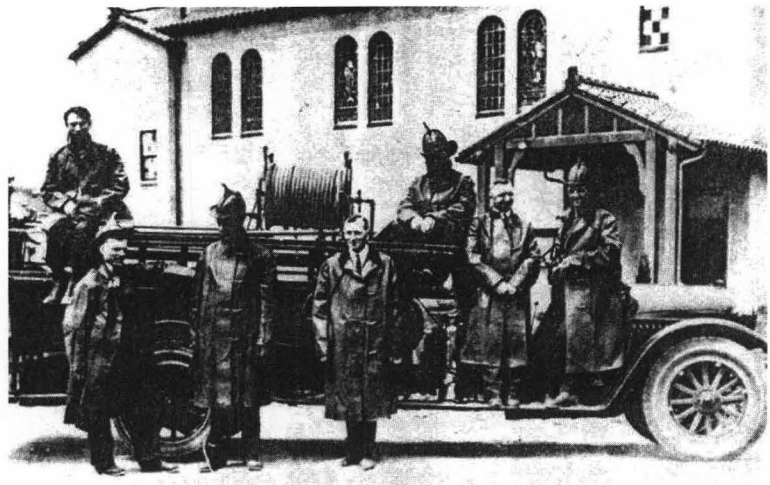
STAN OLSON COLLECTION



No. 4 Chemical Engine
for Cities and Towns.



Chemical fire engines that were horse drawn. Something like this was part of Edmonds' first fire engine in 1921. CRAIG HELGELAND COLLECTION

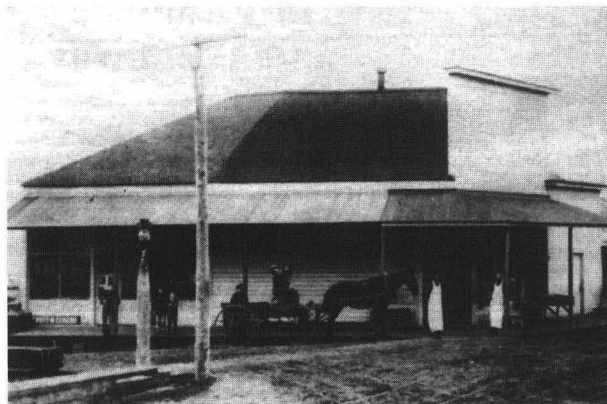


ABOVE—The REO fire engine in 1925 in front of the Methodist church.
BELOW—The restored REO fire engine in 1975 with Fire District 1 crew, taken at the same location as 1925 photo. The location is Fifth and Dayton in Edmonds.
CRAIG HELGELAND COLLECTION





The restored REO fire engine in the 1980 Fourth of July parade. Craig Helgeland, a volunteer from Snohomish District 1 is driving the REO. CRAIG HELGELAND COLLECTION



Jim Otto's market in 1903. Otto was the owner of Edmonds Meat Market, a fire chief, a councilman, and chamber president.

EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM



LEFT TO RIGHT—Pete Scobby, Dave Johnson, Stan Olson and Earl Barnard were the Fourth of July hose evolution team in the 1970s. EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM



By January 17, 1930, the fire department had available as an auxiliary fire unit, a 1923 Chevrolet, with 400 feet of fire hose and fire extinguishers. This engine did not have a fire pump, but had a water tank. EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM



LEFT—*Support 7 and equipment ready for use.* KEN GAYDOS COLLECTION



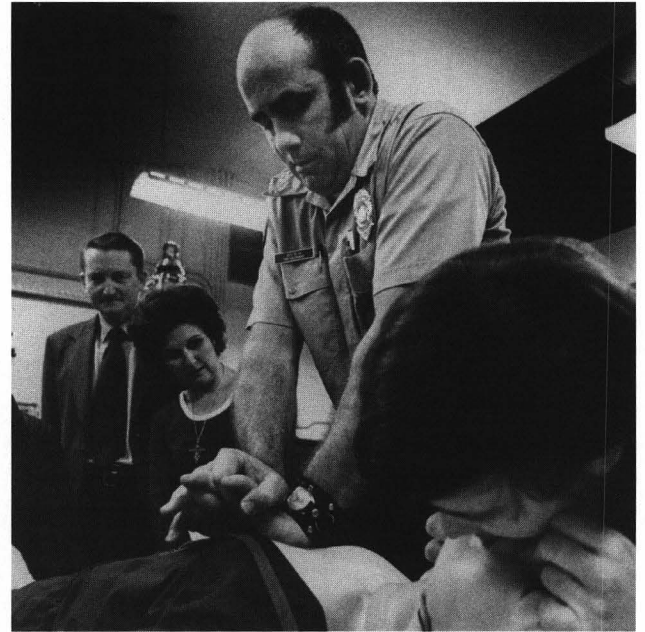
GMC aid car, 1972. This was the first real aid car, however it was totaled in an accident injuring the aid crew. STAN OLSON COLLECTION



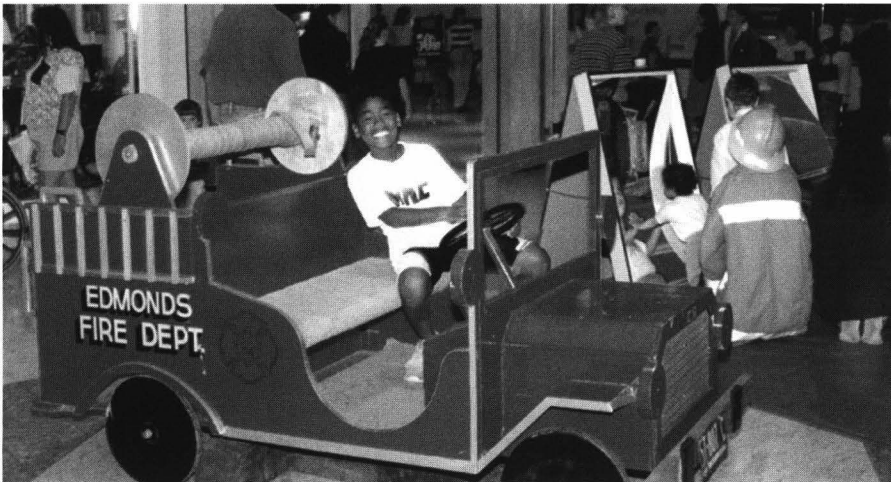
LEFT—*Edmonds Fire Department's temporary ambulance in 1974 with Jack Weinz and Tim Whitman at the ready.* STAN OLSON COLLECTION



A house fire in March 1973. STAN OLSON COLLECTION



Jack Weinz leads a demonstration on resuscitation as fellow city employees look on. STAN OLSON COLLECTION



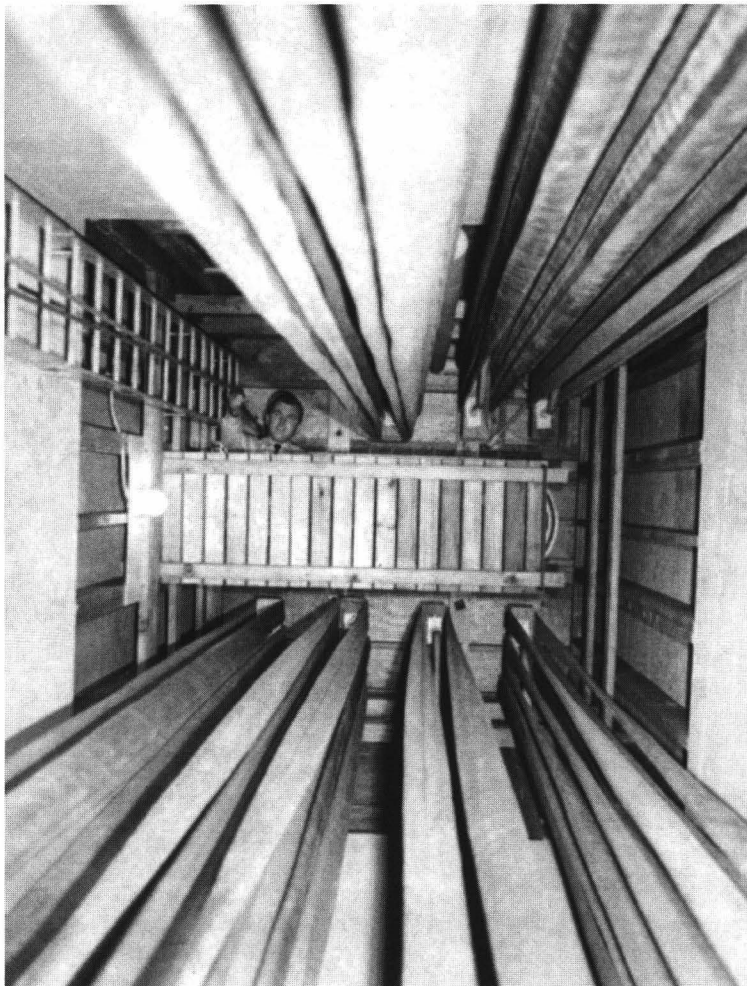
*"Corky" the wooden fire engine.
EARL BARNARD COLLECTION*



*Drill night at the Civic Center
fire station in 1967.*
EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM



LEFT TO RIGHT—*Jim Hovick, Tom Johnston, Chief Jack Cooper, Ken Larson, Gary McComas, Bud Klein, JoAnn Highlander (executive secretary), and Terry Luck.* STAN OLSON COLLECTION



Hanging firehose at the civic center fire station in 1967. Fireman Bud Klein is looking down from above. EDMONDS HISTORICAL MUSEUM



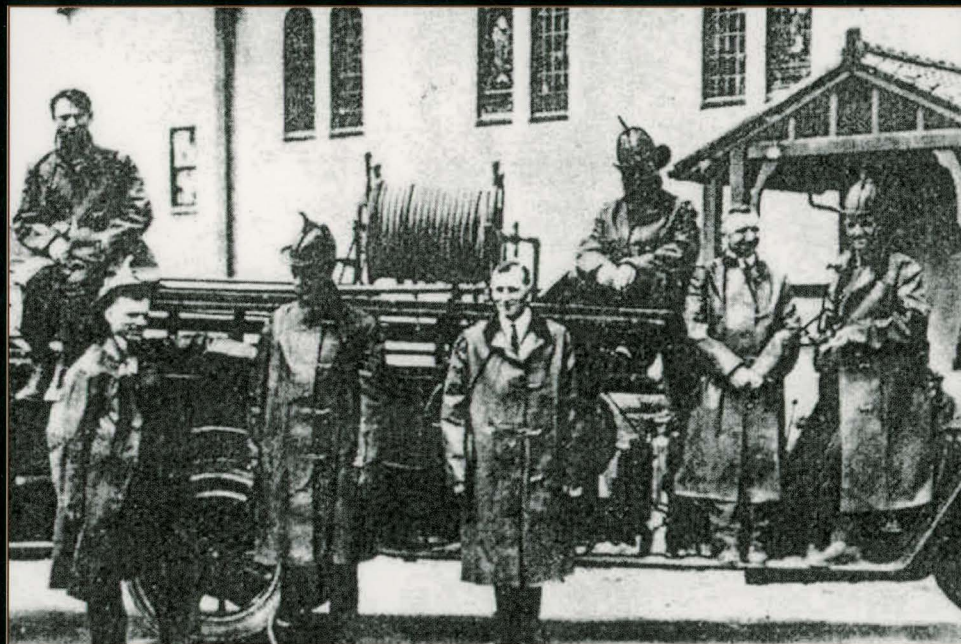
Firemen's families visit with Santa at annual Christmas party. EARL BARNARD COLLECTION



*Some old-timers enjoy a retirement party for Earl Barnard in 1993.
LEFT TO RIGHT—Dave Crow, Earl Barnard, Jim Bentler, Clint Gray in back,
Jack Weinz, and Bob Bentler. EARL BARNARD COLLECTION*

\$ 7.⁹⁵

Fire



*“July 1904—Firemen requested 15 belts, 15 wrenches
and 15 axes, but they received a fire bell,
a ladder and 3 axes.”*