FIRE DEPARTMENT

Department Roster

FIRE CHIEF

Paul Thibault

ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF

Vacant

CAPTAINS

*Kevin Browne	*William Devereaux
*Scott Carpenter	*Michael Nolan

LIEUTENANTS

*Alfred Brabant	*George Creamer	*Michael Patterson
Lee Callahan	*Michael Hanafin	Donald Robinson
*John Corbett	*Charles White	

FIRE PREVENTION/INSPECTION SERVICES

Captain Edward Costa
Lieutenant Paul Gerbrands

CLERICAL STAFF

Joanne Arbing	Mary Fay	Karen Carlson

FIREFIGHTERS

*Gary Arbing	*Michael Bibbey	*James Browne
*Timothy Browne	*William Callahan	*Kevin Canty
Gary Cauldwell	*Clifford Comeau	*Andrew Connerty
*Sean Connors	Thomas Corbett	Michael Donahue
*Kurt Duprez	*Louis Falzarano	*Michael Fontannay
*Gerard Hanafin	*John Hanafin	*James Hapenney Jr.
*Richard Hovasse	John Hunt	*Ronald Kullman
*Gerard Letendre	*Donald MacDonald	*Peter McAnespie
*Paul McLaughlin	*Edgar McLean	*Steven McLean
*Nicholas Menkello	*Robert Paul	*Kevin Pollicelli
*John Price	*Michael Runyan	*Mark Saia
*Leonard Sawyer	*James Sherman	*John Skinner
*James Sorenson	*David Sullivan	*Paul Sullivan
*Fred Williams	*Steven Yetman	

EMERGENCY VEHICLE TECHNICIAN

G. Thomas Lee

CIVILIAN DISPATCHERS

*Elaine Carpenter	*Timothy Hovasse
*David Richardson	*Nicole Runyan

**Department* EMTs

FIRE CHIEF

The new year began without Y2K computer problems and ending with many changes in data acquisition. All Department incidents, both fire and emergency medical service (EMS) are computerized. The data is available however the Department lacks a supervisor for managing this data.

Looking at fiscal needs for the new millennium, the 2001 budget proposals reflected additional personnel. The Board of Selectmen in recognizing this need, proposed a study to evaluate the fire and EMS capabilities of the Department for implementation in the 2002 budget. The study was funded in the May Town Meeting and the contract awarded to the Massachusetts Municipal Association Consultants.

The draft study provided in the Fall of 2000 recommended changes in delivery of services and increases in personnel. The two important factors were the increase in personnel was directed at managing the Department and increasing the level of EMS from Basic Life Support (BLS) to Advanced Life Support (ALS). These recommendations in the study will be addressed in the 2002 budget process.

Increases in service calls averaged 5% over 1999. EMS was 4% and fire 5.53%. Much of the fire service call increases can be attributed to early detection systems. The responses, although increasing, are proving that smoke detectors and sprinkler systems work. Many of the calls from smoke detectors were related to generation of smoke from faulty or overheated appliances or smoking related issues. As a result, there was minimal damage to buildings and no or few injuries to occupants. Without these early detection systems we would be realizing larger property losses and increases in injuries to occupants. We continue to see an increase in multiple calls 624 in 2000 or almost two per day average, that is two or more calls for services at the same time. These simultaneous calls split Department resources requiring a greater reliance on neighboring com-

munities to respond to our calls. Mutual aid has increased to 288 calls. With developments continuing we will experience increases in calls and delays in response. We will continue to respond to the best of our ability but do anticipate additional hurdles which we hope will be addressed during the next year.

Just before the year ended in late December, Armstrong Ambulance Service notified the Town of pending changes to Medicare. The changes are going to impact the delivery of ALS services and fees collected from ambulance billing. The Town's contract with Armstrong provided for reimbursement for the Town's ambulance and personnel used in providing the ALS service. Effectively, January 1, 2001 Armstrong would no longer reimburse the Town (average $150.00) for the call. Armstrong wanted to keep the entire medical reimbursement received. Agreement was reached December 27, 2000 to extend the current operation for another 30 days and Armstrong would meet with the cities and towns after January 1, 2001 to arrange a new contract for ALS service. This will be discussed in 2001 as this was an issue brought to light in the study of the Fire Department.

In February, George T. Lee transferred from the Department of Public Works to the Fire Department. His new position in the Fire Department is that of Emergency Vehicle Technician (EVT). Mr. Lee is responsible for the maintenance, repair, and record keeping of vehicles and equipment. The EVT position is extremely important as not only does he have to repair and maintain equipment, but he must apply the laws, codes, and standards that pertain to emergency equipment and vehicles.

The unexpected loss of Firefighter Lawrence "Lorry" Pacios took the department by surprise. He was an excellent firefighter and well liked. Lorry was looking forward to retirement in the next several years, with almost 30 years of service first a firefighter in Woburn (July 1970) then transferring to Burlington (June 1976). His presence here is missed, however his family was even more taken by his passing. We express our sympathy to them and wish them the best of memories of Lorry.

We hired Nicholas Menkello to replace Firefighter Pacios. Firefighter Menkello graduated from the Massachusetts Fire Academy Recruit Training class in April of 2000. He has a long career ahead and we wish him well.

AMBULANCE

The calls for service for the Burlington Fire Department ambulance service have increased to 2131 a 4.1% increase over last year. This makes this year the busiest on record for the Department. As the town continues to grow, so do the calls for service. This relates to the opening of two new hotels this year that increases both the daytime and nighttime populations, also, renovations to buildings increasing office space again and the daytime population.

This past fall, the Fire Department purchased four new defibrillator units. These units are equipped with the newest technology allowing for faster and more accurate defibrillation. Burlington continues its higher than national average of successful pre-hospital resuscitations. Each ambulance and two front-line engine companies are equipped with defibrillators.

Firefighter EMTs and First Responders continue to provide a high standard of care. This is accomplished by continuous training through the department and regionally. This year EMTs received training in the new statewide medication assist program. In addition to EPI-pen administration, EMTs are now certified to assist patients in taking a limited number of medications including nitroglycerin and medication for asthma.

This year has also seen a complete year of using the new computer program designed to keep patient records, billing information and improved statistical tracking.

We continue to work toward our ultimate goal which is to enhance our level of care to the Paramedic level. Beginning in 2001 will be the start of new Medicare reimbursement guidelines which will directly affect the way our current Advanced Life Support service is provided. We hope that this will allow us to explore several different options in allowing us to achieve our goal to provide Advanced Life Support within the Fire Service.

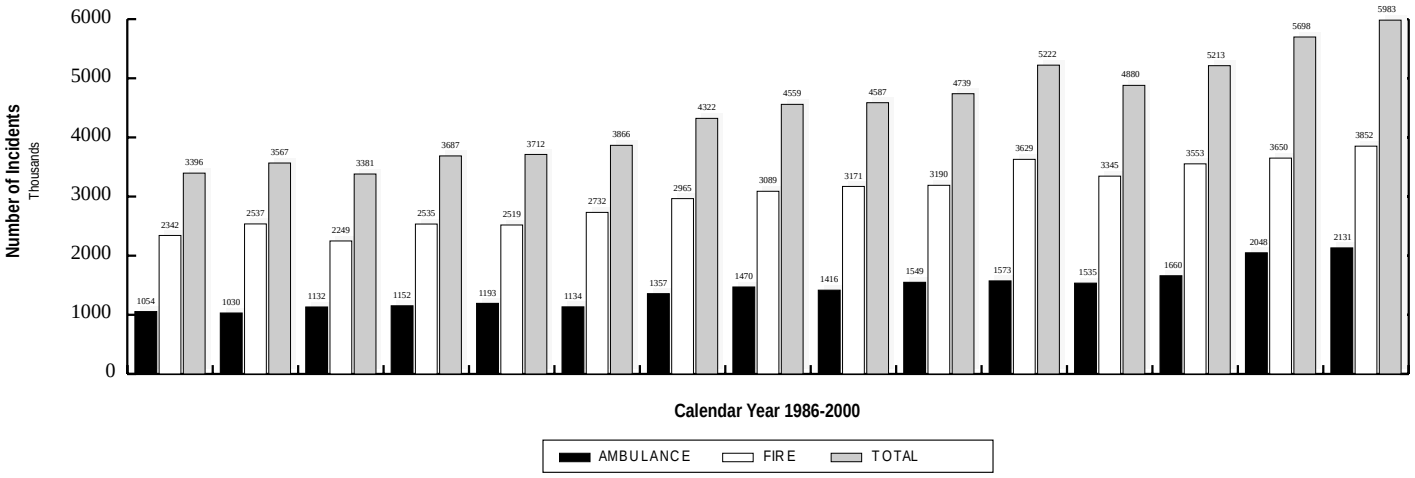
Mark Saia
EMT Coordinator

2000
RESCUE - FIRE EXPERIENCE RECORD
JANUARY 1, 2000 - DECEMBER 31, 2000

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
ACCIDENTS:													
Motor Vehicles	40	27	26	20	31	35	33	33	30	33	40	37	385
Pedestrians	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	6
ALARMS:													
Accidental	29	23	21	26	28	22	22	32	17	33	39	29	321
False	4	1	4	5	5	5	6	4	3	3	2	2	44
System Malfunction	23	13	13	26	19	43	26	31	25	20	22	20	281
FIRES:													
Apartments	1	0	1	2	2	1	0	4	3	3	1	1	19
Appliances	1	3	5	3	5	1	1	1	2	1	3	3	29
Brush, Grass, Wood	1	0	5	5	8	1	8	4	3	3	0	0	38
Business/Office	0	0	0	1	3	1	0	0	2	2	1	1	11
Church/School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Dumpster/Trash	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	3	9
Hospital	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hotel/Motel	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	4
Industrial/Manufacturing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle	6	3	4	5	5	6	5	4	0	2	2	2	44
Residential	0	1	3	1	0	5	4	1	3	0	2	0	20
Storage Areas (garage/shed)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Store/Restaurant	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	2	1	2	1	12
HAZ-MAT:													
Spill Leaks, Odors, Vapors	6	10	4	5	5	4	9	5	6	11	4	12	81
Wires (arcing, burning, lines down)	0	3	0	3	2	5	5	8	4	0	1	22	53
INSPECTIONS:													
Fire Drills	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4
In-Service	3	3	8	11	11	11	12	10	8	14	25	10	126
Investigations	56	19	17	24	24	41	25	21	13	23	27	48	338
Smoke Detectors	15	22	12	26	25	32	38	35	31	18	21	12	287
MEDICAL AID	136	105	118	133	122	128	135	138	120	124	107	124	1490
MUTUAL AID	2	2	0	8	4	4	1	1	3	1	2	3	31
RESCUE:													
Entrapments/Lockouts	1	3	2	1	7	3	2	1	0	1	3	2	26
ASSISTANCE	21	3	13	11	8	12	16	12	8	12	14	8	138
TOTAL FIRE RESPONSES:	347	242	260	320	315	363	350	350	283	308	321	340	3799
RESPONSES:													
HQ to Eng-2 District	28	17		39	33	40	48	57	25	51	42	46	426
Eng-2 to HQ District	36	11		33	19	12	14	21	12	14	20	11	203
Eng-2 District *	97	74	93	96	95	138	147	155	103	125	115	145	1383

*E*ng-2 District % of Calls = 36%*

RESCUE – FIRE EXPERIENCE RECORD



AMBULANCE RESPONSE REPORT

Ambulance Responses for 2000 2131

Rescue 1 1830
Rescue 2 264
Mutual Aid (Received) 37

Burlington Locations:

Churches/Schools 17
Doctors' Offices 8
Fire Headquarters (walk-ins) 4
Hotels 21
Other Locations: (Examples: Street/Highway, Parks,Playgrounds, Fields, Parking Lots, etc.) . . 885
Places of Employment 77
Police Headquarters 9
Residential (Burlington) 729
Stores/Restaurants 118

FIRE PREVENTION / INSPECTIONAL SERVICES

New development both in residential and commercial properties continued in 2000. Some examples of construction completed or in progress during 2000 are Sun Microsystems, 30 Corporate Drive, Nokia, Oracle, and Knowledge Beginnings. There have also been many new and renovated commercial and residential occupancies throughout the town.

The following is a list of permits and inspections made:

TYPE OF SERVICE

Plan Review 303
Site Plan Review 70
Permits Issued 445
Smoke Detector Inspections 255
Commercial Occupancy Inspections 206
Residential Occupancy Inspections 144
On-Site Inspections 494
Traffic Light Repairs 4
Masterbox Certifications 75
TOTAL 1996

Inspectional Services would like to take this opportunity to thank all residents and members of the business community for their cooperation in making Burlington a safer place to live and work.

Captain Edward Costa
Lieutenant Paul Gerbrands

The following is a count of all permits issued and inspections done during the period of January 1, 2000 to December 31, 2000.

Permits

AST	19
Blasting	16
Dumpster	2
Extinguishing System	5
Fire Alarm	13
Flammable Storage	44
Fuel Dispensing	1
Haz-Mat	4
Leak Test	2
Oil Burner	56
Propane Storage	35
Sprinkler	140
Tank Installation	26
Tank Removal	37
Tank Truck	5
Tank Upgrade	1
Tar Kettle	1
Welding/Burning	22
UST	16
SUBTOTAL	445

Inspections

Fire Drills	9
Knox Box	46
Commercial Occupancy	206
Residential Occupancy	144
Oil Burner	48
On Site - Fire Alarm	31
On Site - Fire Prevention	298
On Site - Plug In	4
On Site - Plug Out	13
On Site - Site Plan	5
Oil Tank Installation	20
Oil Tank Removal	4
Quarterly	11
Smoke Detector	255
Tank Truck	5
SUBTOTAL	1099
BUILDING PLANS STAMPED & REVIEWED	**303**
SITE PLAN REVIEWS	**70**
MASTER BOX CERTIFICATIONS	**75**
TRAFFIC LIGHTS	**4**
COMBINED TOTAL	**1996**

TRAINING PROGRAM

During the past year, the fire fighting force has been active in weekly training programs coordinated by Captain William Devereaux, assigned to coordinate all fire suppression training. This training follows IFSTA 1001 Training Standards which meet the NFPA standards.

During the past year, the Department has sent men to Logan Airport for specialized training in large petroleum fires and rescue operations. The officers and future officers of the Department took part in a two-day Leadership Seminar conducted by Dr. Lawrence Ritcey, who holds a BS degree from the University of Massachusetts, an MA from the University of Hawaii, and a Ph.D. from Temple University. The Department has been aggressive in Confined Space Rescue training. Nineteen members of the fire fighting force took part in an extensive 40-hour training program held at Fire Headquarters. The hands-on training was conducted at selected locations. The course was instructed by Mr. Charles Flanagan.

The Department also has a twenty-member Hazardous Material Response Team that meets for specialized training once a month and two members are also assigned to the Massachusetts District Thirteen Hazardous Material Response Team.

The Department works well with the gas company, keeping abreast with changes in CO detectors. The Department also works with the electric and telephone companies, dealing with E.M.S. and fire emergencies.

The Department also has a High Angle Rescue Team. This coming year the Department is looking forward to working with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Special agents will be reviewing terrorist tactics and high explosive situations.

The mission of this training is to prepare the Department members for fire and rescue problems of an unusual occurrence.

Captain William Devereaux
Training Program Coordinator

IN-SERVICE INSPECTIONS

In-service inspections are inspections of commercial buildings by shift fire-fighting personnel when not responding to emergencies. In-service inspections are scheduled into the daily routine along with training, pre-incident planning and equipment maintenance.

In-service inspections are important for several reasons. The most important is the life safety of the occupant. Inspections identify potential life safety hazards such as exit doors that are obstructed or not working properly. Sprinkler and alarm systems are also checked to be sure that they are functioning and have been serviced recently. Improperly stored materials that could potentially contribute to the start of a fire are also identified.

Although the in-service inspection program continues, unfortunately we were unable to conduct as many inspections as we would like. The main reason for this is the increased emergency call workload. Inspections are constantly being interrupted by emergency calls. We are also spending more time pre-fire planning new construction projects as they are being built.

I would like to thank the businesses for their continued cooperation and support in helping to make Burlington a safer place to work and visit.

Captain Scott Carpenter
In-service Inspection Coordinator

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Syamal N. Chaudhuri
Superintendent of Public Works

Pete G. Peters — Town Engineer
Evelyn M. Shaw — Administrative Assistant

Thomas F. Hickey
Robert C. Gravino (resigned October 2000)
Operations Manager

Assistant Superintendents

Harry E. Enos — Cemetery
Dennis L. Chase — Central Maintenance

William A. Bannon — Highway
Patrick L. Mustoe — Water and Sewer Utilities

William D. Keene
Treatment Plant Manager

Frank Anderson
Paul Bieren
Maria L. Bonfanti
Paul Cauldwell
Robert Clougherty
Craig H. Cooper
Martha DeFrancesco
Richard L. Dubbs
Michael P. Dwyer
Allen F. Ferriera
Dennis F. Fitzgerald
Ronald Ganley
Jennifer Gelinas
Mark C. Gerbrands
Paul R. Giglio
Robert S. Glover
Stephen Hardy
Frederick M. Haynes
Stephen A. Johnson
Jeanne Jones
Larry Kennedy
Robert N. Lau
William Lundgren
Russell Makiej
Thomas W. Malatesta
Donna L. Manning
Charles Mantsourani
Albert G. Marchant
James Marchese, Jr.
Armand Marion
Nanette Masotta
David C. McCafferty
Kathleen McElaney
Robert W. McMahon
Michael Minichiello
Eric Moran
Jimmie Morgan
Paul Neilsen
Alan C. Nelson
James O'Brien
Donald H. Price
Charles D. Ralph
Richard A. Reid
Rosemarie Tieri
Michael Quinones
Charles F. Woods, Jr.

James Battcock and Roger Quigley passed away this year. James was the Working Foreman for the Water and Sewer Utilities Division. He started with the Town in 1961 and retired in 1993. Roger worked as a laborer for the