



THE FDC - FIRE DEPARTMENT CONNECTION

A Quarterly Publication for the Membership of the Silvertown Fire District

www.silvertownfire.com

Volume 5



UPCOMING

OCTOBER

- 8th – 14th Fire Prevention Week
- 12th Silvertown High School Homecoming Parade
3:30pm – 5:00pm
- 16th Station 8 Open House
5:00pm – 6:00pm
490 3rd St, Scotts Mills 97375
- 17th Station 9 Open House
5:00pm – 6:00pm
4724 Crooked Finger Rd, Scotts Mills, 97375
- 18th Station 1 Open House
5:00pm – 6:00pm
819 Railway Ave, Silvertown, 97381
- 19th Station 2 Open House
5:00pm – 6:00pm
13404 Riches Rd SE, Silvertown, 97381
- 20th Station 3 Open House
5:00pm – 6:00pm
17447 Abiqua Rd NE, Silvertown, 97381
- 21st 45th Annual Chicken Dinner
4:30pm – 7:00pm
490 3rd St, Scotts Mills, 97375
- 31st Goblin Walk & PVA Trunk or Treat
4:00pm – 6:00pm

NOVEMBER

- 8th Assistant Chief Ed Grambusch Retirement
- 10th Administrative Office Closed
- 6th Toy & Food Drive Kick Off
- 23rd – 24th Administrative Office Closed

DECEMBER

- 1st Christmas Tree Lighting
- 2nd – 3rd Toy & Food Drive Porch Pick Up
- 9th Food Drop Off at SACA
- 10th Toy Drop Off at Immanuel Lutheran Church
- 20th Christmas Dinner: Hawaiian Shirt Theme
- 25th Administrative Office Closed

SPOT OF RECOGNITION

The following individuals have resigned from their volunteer position at Silvertown Fire District. Thank you for your service!

- Matthew Lockman
- Tyler Bishop
- Tyler Bolton
- Brock Dean
- Dean Reiner
- Trent Rainforth

FROM THE CHIEF'S DESK

Bill Miles



It's hard to believe that summer is over and we are into October already. Fall is upon us and that means small evening campfires, Fire Prevention Week, leaves to rake, changing the batteries in your smoke and CO alarms, having your furnace professionally serviced and being alert to school busses while driving and watching for children at cross walks.

We've made it through another busy summer with several of our members and apparatus deployed to fires around the state. Thanks to everyone who deployed and helped us do our part to help around the state!

OSFM Staffing grant has been a huge help for us to provide expanded staffing in the evenings and on the weekends. Many thanks to all those that have been able to work those extra shifts and help extend our coverage in the evenings and weekends.

With it being a week into October, that means the reality will be upon us in a month that Ed will be leaving us. It is bittersweet, but we are proud to announce Assistant Chief Ed Grambusch's retirement from a remarkable 33 ½ year career in the fire service. Ed has been an integral part of the Silverton Fire District and his contributions have touched every facet of our organization. His dedication, expertise, and unwavering commitment to excellence have helped shape our District's culture and values and will never be forgotten. He will be sorely missed but we congratulate him on his much-deserved retirement and the beginning of a new chapter.

We will be hosting a retirement open house event on November 8th from 3:00PM-5:00PM. Beginning at 6:00PM, we will have a BBQ send-off from the membership.

As always, I am so proud of all of our members and the amazing work that is done every day by our volunteers and staff. Thank you to all for everything you do.

ASSISTANT CHIEF

Keith Veit



As the leaves begin to change and the air turns crisp, we welcome the arrival of fall and the end of fire season. Just as fall signals a time of transition it also signals a time of preparation for winter weather and you guessed it.. annual mandatory compliance training. The training advisory group is working hard to ensure the annual training will be as accessible as possible.

As we all know A/C Ed Grambusch will retire on November 9th, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Chief Grambusch for his years of dedicated service and leadership. His wisdom, mentorship and tireless efforts have propelled us forward and we are immensely grateful for his impact on the district and in our community. I wish Chief Grambusch happiness and good health in his well-deserved retirement.

Please join us on November 8th at Station 1 to celebrate AC Grambusch's retirement with a BBQ send off beginning at 6:00pm!





ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

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EMS Kyle Miller



The month of October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. For this year I have purchased pink EMS gloves to wear for the month to show our support.

Brass Roots Training has an EMR class coming up.

DATES OF CLASSES:

- October 2nd
- November 2nd
- November 4th
- November 5th
- November 11th
- November 12th

STATE TEST:

- November 17th
- November 18th

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR Candace Cantu



Did you know that the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) offers more than just counseling services to its members? EAP offers a number of benefits for you and your family to help with the stress that money problems caused for so many during the pandemic. EAP Benefits for Your Personal Finance are designed to help you solve money issues and get on a path to a positive future. To learn more about these benefits just visit www.silvertonfire.com/membersonly.

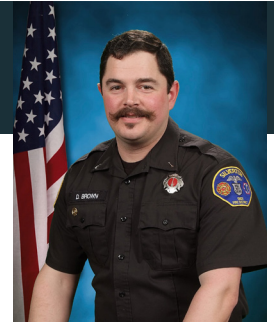
We are constantly trying to find ways to improve the quality of benefits to our volunteers. We are excited to announce that the District will be joining MASA for air and ground ambulance transportation for you and your dependents. More information will be coming at the end of October, but in the meantime, please visit www.masamts.com for additional information on benefit coverages.

We are looking forward to our Annual Awards Banquet in February 2024. As in previous years, we are forming a banquet committee that can coordinate decorations, food, invitations, clean up and slide show. If you or your spouse/significant other would be interested in participating on the committee (as much or as little as you want), please contact me at cantuc@silvertonfire.com with your response! Once I have names, another email will be sent with dates/times to meet to begin discussion and planning.



TRAINING & RECRUITMENT COORDINATOR

Lt. Dan Brown



“You’re as good as the best, and you’re better than the rest” -Wes Brown (my Dad)

“Lt. Dan” here... I was hired full time with the Silverton Fire District in August as Training & Volunteer Coordinator. Although I have been a Volunteer for this organization for 23 years, until my status change to “paid”, I am still a Volunteer at heart. I want what’s best for the Fire District, its members, and who we serve as members of the Fire Service, and I want our Volunteers to have what they need, when they need it. I am humbled, honored and proud to be able to continue to serve our communities and each member of the Fire District in my new role. I hope that the only change in my status is merely where my paycheck comes from and my duties to/for the Fire District. Feel free to call/text/email anytime, or come by and visit me in “the fishbowl”!

RECRUITMENT UPDATE:

I cut my teeth in this organization as a fresh-out-of-high school kid with the crazy idea of becoming a Firefighter. I am fortunate to have been involved with such an amazing organization for as long as I have been. One constant for me has been the idea planted in my brain from my first introduction to Capt. Alan Mann: it is my job to have recruited my replacement, should that day come, and as many others as possible in the meantime. I believe the same as Capt. Mann, that we all should be doing our part as volunteers to convince our neighbors to join our ranks. I encourage all members of the Fire District to have conversations with folks around town...when you’re wearing your Association or District shirts and folks ask “Hey, so how does that work, joining the Fire Department?” Tell them about it, then refer them to the website, or have them get ahold of me. When you’re on a call and someone wants to check out the engine, show it off! Then tell them how they can get started as a Volunteer. Who better to tell potential new members about our organization than the Volunteers who are already members?!

Our efforts from Homer Days have paid off with with a handful of Applications and Interest Cards to show for it! The Highschool program has also provided a number of applicants, and I anticipate more in the coming months.

TRAINING:

Drill attendance continues to improve...as does the Fire District because of it! It’s no secret that we have been improving on scene as a direct result of Drill Participation. Wildland season went off without a hitch this year, and I can only correlate how well we did on fire scenes to the training everyone has attended/participated in and INSTRUCTED! Did anyone else notice that we taught ourselves everything this year? I am proud to be wearing the same uniform! As we continue through the rest of the year, I encourage you all to keep training, keep learning and keep improving! If you haven’t finished your Mandatory Compliance Training through Target Solutions, get back on it! If you have any questions/concerns regarding Target Solutions, don’t hesitate to email/text/call me with those questions/concerns. While I am still learning the “ins and out’s”, I will do my best to make it happen. We have great numbers! Drill Attendance, Fire certifications, EMS certifications, call response. Keep it up!

Lastly...Are you as skilled and knowledgeable as you should be? Are we? I know that life happens (believe me...I KNOW!), and we all have our own schedules to keep. The bottom line is: we only get better by training, by our officers passing along what they’ve learned and pushing us to do better, by actively participating in drills, taking care of our people and taking care of our equipment.

RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

- Fire Station Open House are scheduled for the week of October 16th-20th.
- Scotts Mills Chicken Dinner Oct 21st!





The following are some of my ideas and future Plans (Ambitious, yes, but it can be done!):

- One-on-one interviews with each Officer
- Figure out Target Solutions and ESO
- Officers certified to NFPA Officer 1
- All members certified to minimum of: NFPA Driver, WLFF2, FF1, EMR, BLS-Provider CPR (we're SO close to this already!)
- "Qualifications Board" displayed at all stations
- Increase number of NFPA Instructor 1
- Increase number of Volunteer HSI-certified CPR Instructors (we currently have 2)
- Continue to recruit and retain THE BEST volunteers Scotts Mills and Silverton has to offer

We ARE as good as the best, and *better than the rest!!* If you have any training needs and/or ideas, PLEASE don't hesitate to reach out to me...I could always use a break from Target Solutions!!

FIRE PREVENTION

Max Hughes

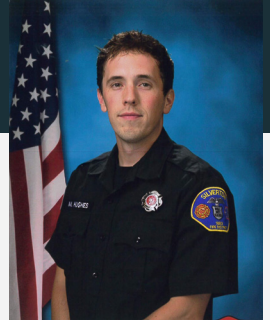
We're excited to showcase our recent successes in Defensible Space Surveys, which have become a cornerstone of our fire prevention efforts.

Our dedicated team has been actively visiting homes to create defensible spaces, a vital step in reducing wildfire risks and ensuring the safety of our neighbors. To streamline our process, we've adopted the Survey 123 app, making our surveys more efficient and allowing us to focus on fire safety rather than paperwork.

Our team members have been at the forefront of these surveys, making a tangible difference in the lives of homeowners. They'll share their experiences, highlighting the positive changes we've brought to properties, now safer and more resilient.

Beyond surveys, our interactions with homeowners have fostered trust and collaboration, strengthening our foundation for community safety. Stay updated on upcoming training sessions and resources designed to enhance our skills in conducting Defensible Space Surveys effectively.

As we continue our journey in fire prevention through these surveys, let's celebrate our achievements and remain unwavering in our commitment to community safety. Together, we're making a profound difference!



MAINTENANCE

Ian Peterson

Will be focusing on NFPA 1911, standard for the inspection, maintenance, testing, and retirement of in-service emergency vehicles. This will include annual pump testing and servicing which has been completed for the year on Type 1's, brush trucks and tenders. Will have upcoming annual testing, hose and ground ladder testing October 23rd- 27th. L408 is coming in the shop for its annual service interval at the end of October as well and SCBA flow testing will occur October and November.



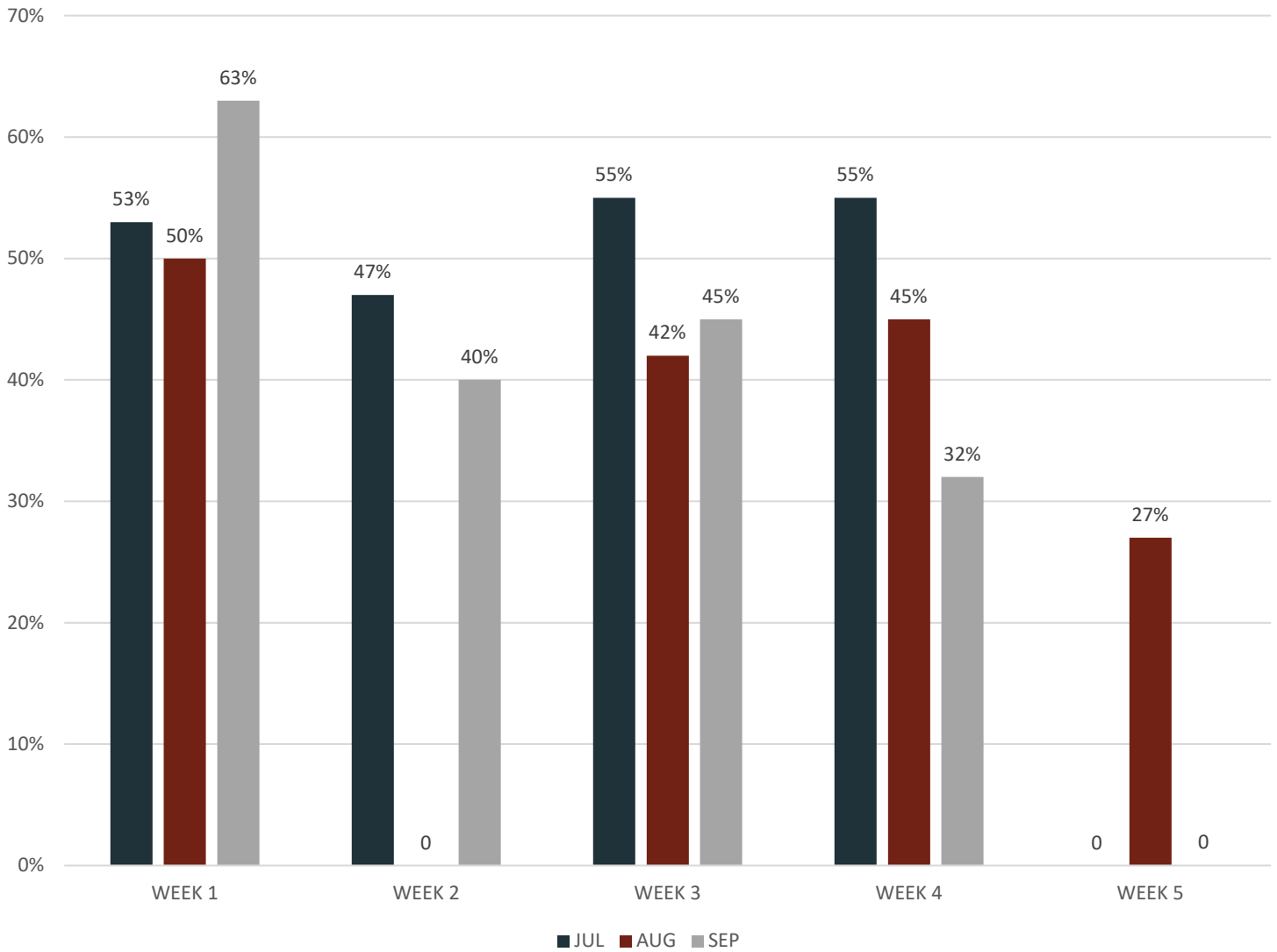
DATA

Data used for this report is rendered from the number of current active firefighters on our roll sheets divided by the number of personnel that attended drill night.

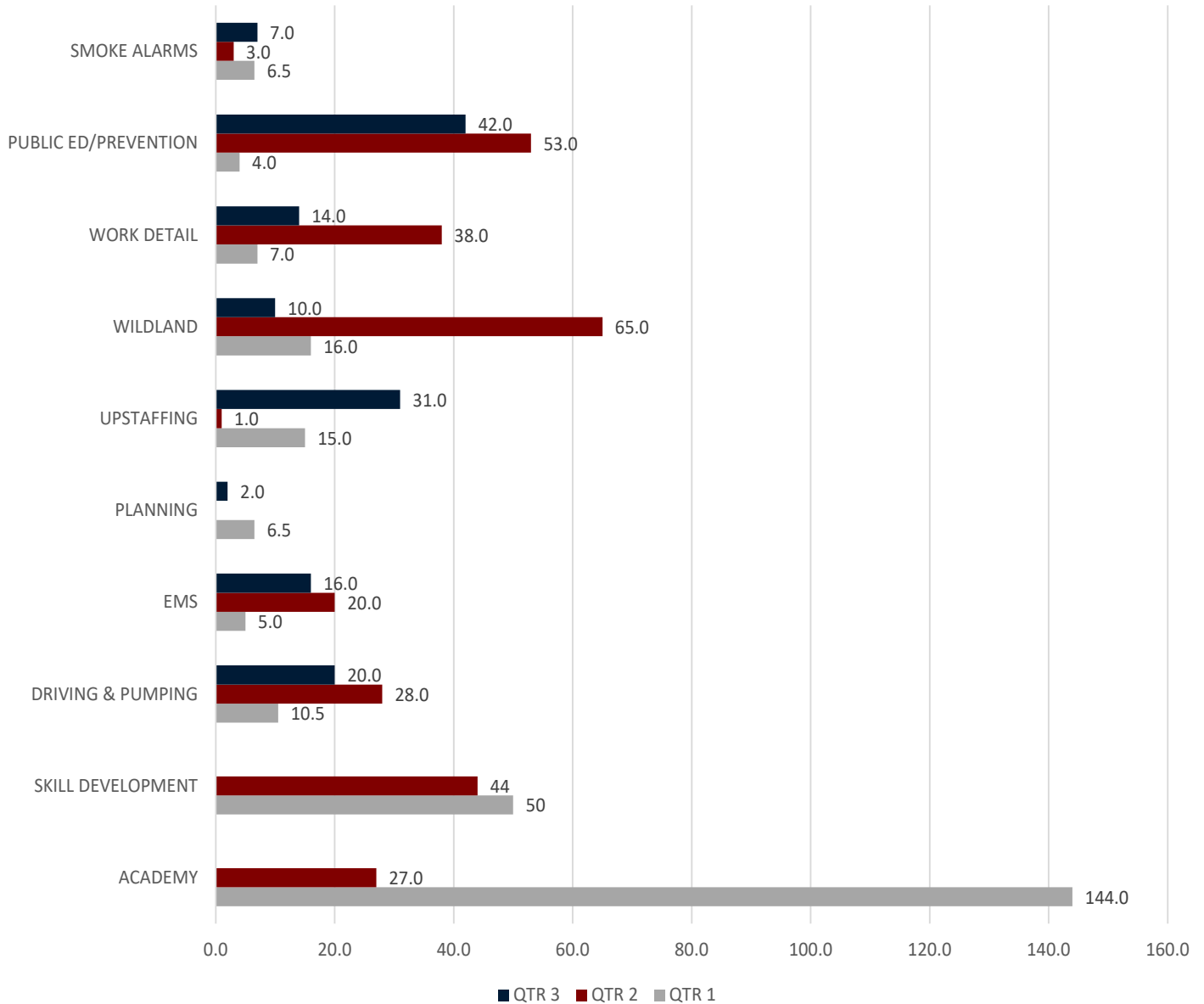
Additionally, drill nights typically follow a consistent training activity schedule as listed below:

- 1st Wed. - Safety Committee, Apparatus Inspections, EMS Related Topic
- 2nd Wed. - Officer's Meeting, Apparatus Inspections, Association Meetings
- 3rd Wed. - Apparatus Inspections, Fire Related Topic
- 4th Wed. - Apparatus Inspections, Fire Related Topic
- 5th Wed. - When fifth Wednesdays are present in the month, Officer or specialty training is given

DRILL PARTICIPATION Quarter 3

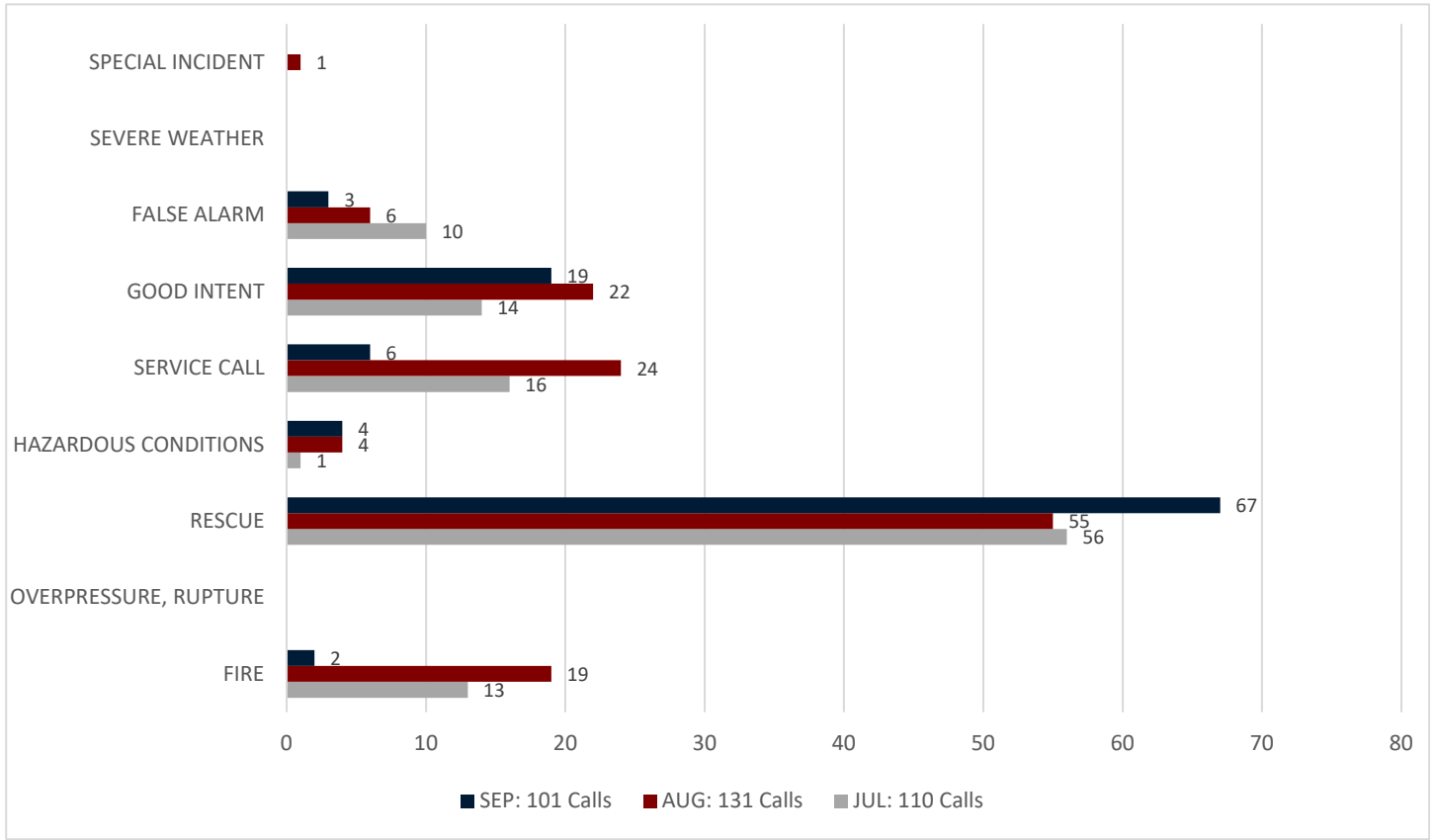


ACTIVITY HOURS Quarter 3



Activities by members are hours beyond regular Wednesday night drills. These include Academy training and other training completed by members on their own accord. Public education and public assistance events can include many different functions; school assemblies, first Fridays, installing smoke alarms and batteries, EMS standby for sports etc. Work detail is when a volunteer(s) help with maintenance, cleaning, etc.

CALL DATA Quarter 3



2023 WEBSITE VIEWS

