

Perry Twp Volunteer Fire Department

Serving the residents of Perry & Union Twp Since 1959!

P.O. Box 7051 * Evansville, IN 47719

Spring/Summer 1997

<http://www.digicom.com/perry>



Station #2 at 11 Williams Rd under construction.



New 100 ft. E-One Ladder Truck ready to respond.

New Additions To Perry Township Keep People Looking Up!

1997 is becoming a big year for the Perry Township Fire Department in many ways. First, we just purchased our departments first ladder truck. Ladder 1 is a E-One 100 ft. ladder truck, also known as a Quint, that is capable of carrying up to 6 firefighters and 200 gallons of water. It will also be carrying 500 ft. of large diameter hose along with 5 ground ladders and other firefighting equipment.

Ladder 1 will be housed at our Station #2, which is located at 11 Williams Road. The ladder truck can be used not only for our growing base of businesses and University of Southern Indiana, but also the home owners of the area. It's reach will allow us to quickly gain access to the roof for ventilation, windows for rescue operations along with fire suppression needs and many other tasks.

One big feature of Ladder 1 is the ability to flow water from the ladder. When the ladder is extended, a pipe that runs up the middle of the ladder allows us to spray water from heights of up to 87 ft. in the air. This will allow us to get water into hard to reach areas of a fully involved structure to quickly knock down the fire. This makes for a much safer environment for firefighters to enter the building and complete the extinguishment of the fire. Meanwhile minimizing the damage caused due to the fire and

making it safer for the firefighters & victims.

Due to the size of Ladder 1, we also had to add on to Perry Station #2. The addition consisted of adding one additional bay to the station that would allow the 12 ft. tall, 40 ft. long truck to enter. Construction is currently underway and should be completed in April.

We have been planning ahead for this addition for sometime, so we were able to put a good size down payment on the \$440,000 Ladder Truck, along with the \$102,000 in station addition costs. Along with the purchase of the truck, we have to purchase additional equipment to be placed on the truck, such as ventilation fans, air-packs and other firefighting equipment. This additional equipment will cost around \$28,000 to properly equip the truck. All this may seem like a lot, but the purchase of this truck will hopefully help you in lower insurance premiums.

The remaining truck and station payments will be made out of our operating budget and truck funds, but we also need your donations to assist us on quickly paying off the truck and addition to save on interest costs of the loan. Please take the time to send us donations of whatever amount you can afford, every dollar counts.

Annual Fund Drive

To The Residents of Perry and Union Township:

The Perry Township Fire Department wishes to thank everyone who has supported and donated to the fire department. Because of your considerations, we have continued to provide quality fire, rescue and emergency services to the community.

In order for us to continue to maintain the best services available we need your assistance. YOU can help the fire department continue to provide these quality services by making a **tax deductible contribution** to the Perry Township Fire Department.

The fire department is continuing to meet the needs of the community by upgrading and adding new equipment and apparatus to be a Modern Fire Department. It is also necessary to update with the latest and safest equipment available to keep up with Federal and State Guidelines. These guidelines are continually changing to keep up with the Safety Rules issued by OSHA, The National Fire Protection Association and the State of Indiana.

1996 was another busy year for our department, in which we made 476 runs. The break down of those runs were 155 fire related runs, 238 medical runs and 83 automobile accidents. All these runs means more money is needed for replacing supplies along with maintenance on the equipment that is being used.

Insurance has become more expensive each year. The fire department pays in excess of \$26,000.00 annually for insurance coverage. A firefighter's personnel protective clothing costs in excess of \$1300.00. The expenditures to operate the fire department in 1996 was in excess of \$120,000.00.

To remain a progressive and modern fire department, we must depend on you. Your **tax deductible contribution** can help us provide the budgetary funds needed for capital expenditures, so the fire department can continue to provide quality service and protection to you and the community. There are approximately 3600 residences in our response area. We are only receiving donations from 15%.

There are 43 active members on the fire department committed to emergency responses for you and our community. **We are asking you to commit to our annual fund drive.** Thank you for your past and present support to the fire department and the membership.

Sincerely,



David Johann, President



Robert Doerr, Chief

New Carbon Monoxide Detectors Donated By SIGECO

Thanks to a grant that SIGECO offered to the fire departments in our community, the Perry Township Fire Department has purchased two Lumidor Micromax Multi-Gas Detectors. These detectors will assist the fire department in determining if carbon monoxide is present in a residence and the quantity of carbon monoxide that is in the atmosphere. Our thanks to the people at SIGECO for helping us protect the residents of Perry and Union Township in detecting where unsafe environments might exist.

New Perry Twp Fire/Rescue Boat Pays Off In Flood of '97

Towards the end of 1996, Perry Twp Fire Department made a purchase of a 17 ft. Jon Boat with a 49 horsepower engine for our water rescue team. The boat has an onboard pump for firefighting operations. Prior to this, members of our department were donating their private boats for water rescue runs. Our water rescue/fire team is gaining demand in which we have fought boat fires, search teams and recovery. Most people relate water rescue to only being a Ohio River incident, but it is not. With lakes throughout Perry Township, the water rescue team has been needed in a variety of places.

When purchasing our new boat, we had not anticipated how quickly and how much we would be using the boat in it's first year of operation. During the flood of '97, our boat began assisting residents with evacuations from the quickly rising waters that trapped residents in their houses. There are many residents of Union Township that weather each years normal flooding in their houses, but this year, once the water starting getting into their homes, it was time to get out.

During this time, two of our members, Assistant Chief, Keith Kuester and Tim Steinkamp weathered out the flood in their homes with the rescue boat tied to their homes and the fire dispatch radios by their sides. When distress calls came out, Keith and Tim would jump in the boat and rush to assist on a variety of situations, backed up by a large



support crew from the department. Situations varied from helping people to evacuate their houses, checking on residents well-being, to capturing LP Gas tanks that had broken away and floated off. They also assisted the Vanderburgh Humane Society with saving animals that were trapped in the flood waters and getting them to safety.

35 runs were made in a weeks time in the flooded areas alone, meanwhile other emergency runs were also being made. Throughout the flooding event, we proved that our Water Rescue team could meet the challenge of large scale events and learned a lot of lessons in the unfortunate event flooding on this scale would ever occur again.

The Firefighters of Perry Township Volunteer Fire Department

Presently there are 43 volunteer firefighters on the Perry Township Fire Department. These members receive no pay for the dedication and sacrificies that they and their families are making to serve you and the community.

These dedicated men and women are continuously training throughout the entire year. Members attend monthly fire and EMS training sessions that we provide for them. In addition to the fire department training, some members have obtained and/or currently seeking specialized fire, rescue and EMS training from specialized training organizations along with state or national fire schools. Following is the list of dedicated volunteers who make of the Perry Township Fire Department:

Officers:

Chief - Bob Doerr	Captain - Wayne Willoughby	Safety Officer - Paul Kuester
Asst. Chief - Bill Phipps	Captain - David Johann	EMS Captain - Tim Montgomery
Asst. Cheif - Keith Kuester	Captain - Larry Krack	EMS Lieutenant - David Roos
Asst. Chief - Scott Whifield	Captain - Bob Leggett	

Firefighters:

Steve Anderson	Ron Emory	Jim Hart	Sam Peters
Gary Barr	Brandon Fagin	Steve Jewell	Eric Reutter
Jeff Buente	Bob Flowers	Nathan Johnson	Jeff Roedel
Jerry Bulger	Mike Fritchley	Joey Jones	Tim Steinkamp
Rick Carl	Larry Gasser	Mark MacGregor	David Sugg
Brad Day	Perry Gostley	Paul Mattingly	Mary Jean Weiss
Amy Daza	Jon Grubb	Tom McDowell	Cecil West
Marlene Doerr	John Hahn	Rodney Miller	Harlon Ziliak

New Defibrillators Are Saving Lives!

Almost two years ago, we purchased two automatic defibrillator units to be placed on our rescue squads. Automatic defibrillator units are used on heart attack patients to shock the heart back into a normal rhythm. These defibrillators are only effective if the patient is reached in a minimal amount of time, so it seemed essential to carry them.

Since placing the defibrillators on our rescue units, we have been excited over the success we have had with saving patients lives. As of March 1997, we have enjoyed 3 saves that were directly a factor to the use of our defibrillators. These people would probably not be here today to read this newsletter if it was not for those units and the hard, quick actions of the medical personnel of Perry Township Fire Department.

Since the obvious success of our units in saving lives, other fire departments have taken our lead in getting these units on the trucks and to the scene quickly to give those patients a better chance of surviving a serious heart attack. It is now a proven fact that the \$10,000 price tag for each unit became worth it with only the first life saved and we are sure the patients families agree.

Perry Twp On The Internet!

Thanks to donated space by Evansville Online, all local fire departments are getting their own space on the Internet. With donated webpage development from Gary Barr of Digicom Consulting, your fire department is now on the Internet and ready for you to visit.

Through our website, you will be able to find out what your fire department is doing with the latest information on department happenings. Pictures of some of our latest fire scenes and accident scenes will also be available. Information on all our fire and rescue trucks is also available.

If your kids are into surfin' the.net, they will also find a lot that they will enjoy with our Kids Corner where we will have contests for the kids along with fire education information.

To visit our online fire station, just point your web browser to our address at:

<http://www.digicom.com/perry>

**Perry Township Volunteer Fire Department
P.O. Box 7051
Evansville, IN 47719-0751**

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