

Tucson Fire Department

Odds and Ends



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Odds and Ends

We have finished (for now) telling the story of the Tucson Fire Department. We wanted to leave you with a few bits of data that you might find useful:

- a. **TFD Milestones:** A timeline of important events in TFD history from 1881 to 2016.
- b. **TFD Chiefs and Terms of Office:** A complete list of the 27 TFD Fire Chiefs that served from 1881 to 2016 - including volunteer and paid chiefs.
- c. **TFD Active Fire Stations:** A list of the current active 22 fire stations.
- d. **TFD Archives:** A roadmap to the online archive that was the principal source of materials for this series of articles, "Reflections on TFD History." At the time of this posting (January 2017), the ever growing archive contains 1,330 pdf's (individual data packages); 163,300 pages; 245,000 graphics; and 140 videos.

TFD Milestones

- 1871 Tucson organized as municipality in the Territory of Arizona
- 1881 Tucson Hook & Ladder Co. No. 1 organized as volunteer group
- 1881 Alarm bell mounted in Church Plaza Bell Tower
- 1882 Tucson Volunteer Fire Association organized
- 1882 First water delivered to downtown by gravity pipes from Santa Cruz River
- 1883 Tucson Fire Department formalized as volunteer group under revised City charter
- 1883 First fire station completed at 111 North Church Avenue
- 1883 First fire apparatus purchased - two hand-drawn hose carts
- 1900 First paid firefighter hired; transition to fully-paid department begins
- 1900 Period of horse-drawn fire apparatus begins
- 1909 Horse-drawn Nott Steamer begins service
- 1912 Arizona becomes a state
- 1914 Period of gasoline-powered apparatus begins
- 1915 TFD is fully-paid department
- 1917 Horse-drawn apparatus period ends
- 1920 TFD starts two-shift, day-night operations
- 1923 First aerial ladder truck starts service
- 1930 All TFD positions subject to Civil Service guidelines
- 1934 Fire at Hotel Congress results in capture of John Dillinger
- 1936 Local 479 Firefighters Union established
- 1946 Training Section established
- 1946 Fire Prevention Section established
- 1949 All fire department vehicles equipped with three-way radios
- 1950 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (airpacs) introduced

- 1951** First Rescue Unit - All firefighters are qualified in first aid
- 1961** Communications Center opens in Randolph Park
- 1967** First diesel fire engine put in service
- 1970** Training Center completed at Ajo and Park
- 1970** Pioneer Hotel fire - Arson claims lives of 29 people; 34 firefighters injured
- 1974** First Paramedic Unit in service
- 1970s** Paramedic Units first transmit EKGs to hospitals by radio while in route
- 1981** Hazardous Materials capability added to TFD mission
- 1984** First female firefighter hired
- 1986** Technical Rescue capability added to TFD mission
- 1995** Old Tucson Movie Studio burns (TFD assisted)
- 1997** Public Safety Academy opens at 10001 South Wilmot Road
- 2002** Disaster Preparedness added to TFD mission
- 2004** Hazardous Material Team put in service
- 2004** Mutual Aid Agreements formalized for Pima County fire departments
- 2006** Rapid Response Team put in service
- 2006** Support Services Facility opens at 720 Ajo Way
- 2000s** Emergency Medical Responses reach 90% of TFD responses
- 2007** Alpha Truck program started for less-serious medical responses
- 2010** Greater Tucson Fire Foundation (non-profit, philanthropic) formed to assist TFD
- 2011** TFD takes over operation of Tucson's 911 Communications Center
- 2016** Tucson Collaborative Community Care program started to reduce over-reliance on limited Fire/EMS services

TFD Chiefs and Terms of Office

Volunteer Chiefs

1. Sam Baird 6/1881-9/1882
2. Thomas Hallahan 9/1882-8/1883
3. Jack Boleyn 8/1883-6/1884, 1/1888-9/1898
4. Harry Gutsch 7/1884-7/1885
5. John Innes 7/1885-1/1886
6. Jack Blinkhorn 2/1886-8/1886
7. John Hart 8/1886-11/1887
8. William Reid 11/1887-1/1888
9. Frank Russell 10/1898-1902, 1905
10. George Smith 1903
11. Henry Melliush 1904
12. George Scholefield 1906-1908
13. Sam Barkley 1909
14. Frank Ganz 1910-1915

Paid Chiefs

15. Tom Conlon 4/1910-12/1910
16. Harry Parker 1911-1920
17. Joseph Roberts 1921-6/1938
18. Henry Hilles 6/1938-6/1946
19. John Sievert 7/1946-10/1953
20. Robert Freeman 11/1953-4/1966
21. Leonel Peterson 4/1966-7/1976
22. Dean Holland 11/1976-3/1982
23. Richard Moreno 4/1982-9/1992
24. Frederick Shipman 2/1993-1/2001
25. Daniel Newburn 7/2001-9/2008
26. Patrick Kelly 11/2008-2/2011
27. Jim Critchley 9/2011-present

TFD Active Fire Stations

Presently 22 Total Stations; Station 2 is Closed

No.	Established	Address	Comments
1	2009	300 South Fire Central Place	Fourth location. Fire Headquarters. Largest station in terms of apparatus and personnel.
2	1917	1030 North 4 th Avenue	Decommissioned in 1963
3	1953	24 Norris Avenue	Oldest fire station in operation
4	1997	2102 North Dragoon Avenue	Third location
5	1983	2835 East Grant Road	Relocated from 1510 East Grant Road
6	1997	10251 South Wilmot Road	Fourth location; co-located with Public Safety Academy
7	1983	4902 East Pima Street	Relocated from 3202 East 1 st Street
8	1968	250 West King Road	Relocated from 3325 North Stone Avenue
9	1966	6275 East Eastland Street	Relocated from 5941 East 22 nd Street
10	1965	801 East Ajo Way	Relocated from original downtown airport
11	1961	4075 East Timrod Street	Second oldest fire station in operation
12	1976	250 South Harrison Road	Third location
13	1973	7975 East Stella Road	Relocated from 341 West Ajo Way
14	1968	5757 South Liberty Avenue	Relocated from 5832 South 6 th Avenue
15	1974	2002 South Mission Road	
16	1976	7575 East Speedway Boulevard	
17	1988	5270 Houghton Road	
18	2000	1855 West Drexel Road	Relocated from 1102 West Irvington Road
19	1996	9700 East Esmond Loop	
20	2005	4798 North 1 st Avenue	City's most northern fire station
21	2005	8620 East Tanque Verde Road	
22	2007	6810 South Alvernon Way	
23	2015	1151 East Hermans Road	Former Raytheon fire station

TFD Archives

<http://www.tucsonfirefoundation.com/tfd-archive-down/>

Category	Content
Alarm Systems & Communications	Bell & Bell Tower, Alarm Systems, Communication
Annual & Other Reports	Annual Reports: 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, 2000s, 2010s, Miscellaneous Other Reports
Apparatus	Specific Apparatus, Apparatus History by Period, Scrapbooks, Logos
Articles, Histories & More	Directories, Maps, TFD Histories, Tucson History
Chronological History (1881-1959)	1880s, 1890s, 1900s, 1910s, 1920s, 1930s, 1940s, 1950s
Chronological History (1960-present)	1960s, 1970s, 1980s, 1990s, 2000s, 2010s
Day Books, Journals, Logs, & More	Chow Bill Books, Day Books for Stations 1-16, Logs & Journals (1930-1948), Miscellaneous Other Papers
EMS & Paramedics	History by Period, Agreements, Special Programs, Scrapbooks
Fire Record Books	Fire Records by Period, Fire Station Run Books by Period
Honor Roll & Membership (1)	Chiefs, Chief Officers, Volunteers-Alphabetical, Volunteer-Individuals, Volunteer Honor Roll
Honor Roll & Membership (2)	Firefighters & Support Staff, Firefighters-Individual, Personnel Records
Inspection, Prevention & Public Outreach	History, Scrapbooks
Magazines, Newsletters & More	Daily Bulletins, Magazines by Year, Newsletters by Period
Major Incidents	Major Incidents by Year, Major Incidents-Individual, Hotel Congress Fire, Pioneer Hotel Fire, 2002 Bullock and 2003 Aspen Fires, Yarnell Fire Tragedy, Arizona Major Incidents, National Major Incidents
Neighboring Fire Departments (NFD)	NFD-Active, NFD-Disbanded; Pima County and Southeast Arizona Borderland
Oral History	(In Progress)
Other Organizations	Arizona Fireman's Assoc., Greater Tucson Fire Foundation, International Assoc. of Fire Chiefs, Last Alarm Foundation, Local 479, Camp Fury, Arizona Western Assoc. of Fire Chiefs
Radio Transmissions (Audio)	Pioneer Hotel Fire, Maverick Fire, Tucson Convention Center Fire, 2008-2016
Reflections on TFD History	The complete history of the TFD
Scrapbooks	Fred Bair, Joe Roberts, Miscellaneous Scrapbooks, Sparketts Publicity Scrapbook, Training Academy Scrapbooks
Stations	Histories: Stations 1-23, Summary Station History
Training	Graduations and Classes - Records by Year, Videos; Training Papers; Miscellaneous Training
Tucson Common Council Minutes	1879-1889, 1890s, 1900s, 1910s, 1920s, 1930s, 1940s, 1950s
Videos & Voice Programs	Miscellaneous Training, Celebrations, Interviews
Yearbooks & Awards	Yearbooks: 1881-1981, 1980-2000, 2000-2010; Awards

Greater Tucson Fire Foundation

Thank you for taking an interest in Tucson Fire Department history —

This is one of many sections that contain information, documents, letters, newspaper articles, pictures, etc. They have been collected and arranged in chronological order or by a subject. These items were collected, organized and entered into a computerized database by Dave Ridings Retired Assistant Chief Tucson Fire Department, Al Ring friend of the department, Greater Tucson Fire Foundation and with the help of many friends and fellow firefighters.

All graphics have been improved to make the resolution as good as possible, but the reader should remember that many came from copies of old newspaper articles. This also applies to other items such as documents, letters, etc.

Credit to the source of the documents, photos, etc. is provided whenever it was available. We realize that many items are not identified and regret that we weren't able to provide this information. As far as the newspaper articles that are not identified, 99% of them would have to be from one of three possible sources. The *Arizona Daily Star*, The *Tucson Citizen* and the *Tucson Daily Citizen*, for which we want to give a special thanks.

Please use this information as a reference tool only. If the reader uses any of the information for any purpose other than a reference tool, they should get permission from the source.

Should the reader have additional information on the above subject we would appreciate you sharing it with us. Please see the names and contact information on the 1st. TFD Archives page right below this paragraph.

