

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Every year I use this report to let the Shaftsbury Community know what its fire department is doing and to thank you for your support. This year I would like to do something a little different. I want to thank all the hard-working men, women and young people who make the Shaftsbury Fire Department what it is today. Their dedication and service to Shaftsbury with a combined total of well over 400 year's service is truly remarkable. They risk their lives and give back to the community, for nothing more than the satisfaction of knowing that they were part of something truly special. Whether it is getting up at two in the morning when it is ten below outside and fighting a structure fire or collecting food door to door for our local food shelves, they are one of a kind. So this is my way of letting you know what I see everyday and how I am truly blessed.

I am taking this opportunity to let you know that our "Fred Stacy Outstanding Firefighter of the Year" is Jerry Mattison. Jerry is the Lieutenant on our Engine 1, Truck 64. He has been a long time member of our department and is also the Shaftsbury Director of Emergency Management.

This year and over the next couple of years the Shaftsbury Fire Department will be complying with Federal guidelines to update our radio equipment. This is regarding the narrow banding of our frequencies and, unfortunately, it can be costly, although we have already taken a proactive response to this matter. We have purchased two new sets of extrication equipment to help expand our capabilities at car accidents. Last but not least, I feel it is time that we look towards upgrading and refurbishing both of our fire facilities. Both Stations were originally built through donated labor and materials with an upgrade to our Station 1 in the mid seventies with Federal revenue-sharing monies. I have compiled a list of much needed repairs and hope to address these issues over the next several years.

Below you will find the number of emergency responses we encountered for the year. If you do have an emergency, please call **911**.

Respectfully Submitted

Joseph Vadakin, Chief

<u>Emergency Responses 2009</u>	
Structure Fires.....	8
Car accidents/Extrication.....	26
Car Fires.....	2
Chimney Fires.....	1
Hazardous Materials.....	2
Wildland Fires.....	9
Good Intent.....	24
Assist Bennington Rescue.....	6
<u>Mutual Aid.....</u>	<u>14</u>
Total Calls.....	92