

# Brooking Fire Department

# 2015



**FIRE PROTECTION CLASS 3**

Darrell Hartmann, Fire Chief  
Brookings Fire Department



# Message from the Chief

Darrell Hartmann  
Brookings Fire Chief



**FIRE PROTECTION CLASS 3**

I am pleased to present the Brookings Fire Department 2015 Annual Report, an overview of the challenges and successes we have experienced as a department over the past year. It serves as a tool in which to benchmark our progress as we plan for our future. Our ability to be flexible and adapt to the constant demands of a changing world is a testament to the tradition and sustainability that is the Brookings Fire Department and its volunteers.

2015 was an exciting time for our community, as your fire department was able to elevate the level of safety, health, and economic viability in many ways. You continued to experience short response times to 202 calls in 2015. Your home owners' and business owners' insurance rates remained low due to continued effort to raise the departments training level and by proceeding with the future substation to be located on South Main. The department had great news with the lowering of our ISO rating to a 3/3Y. We will continue to strive towards an ISO 2 rating in an effort to lower insurance premiums even further for our community.

Our department has continued to move forward with apparatus, equipment and facility replacements with the vision and guidance of the Council and City Manager. In 2015, the department was able to finish replacing the aging self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), to order a replacement Ladder apparatus and place new tables and chairs in the Fire Hall. We were also able to make the final payment on the four truck 10 year lease program.

Our department continues to provide public education, structural and wildland fire suppression, all forms of rescue coverage, and provides mutual aid to the other six fire departments in Brookings County and other communities in surrounding counties.

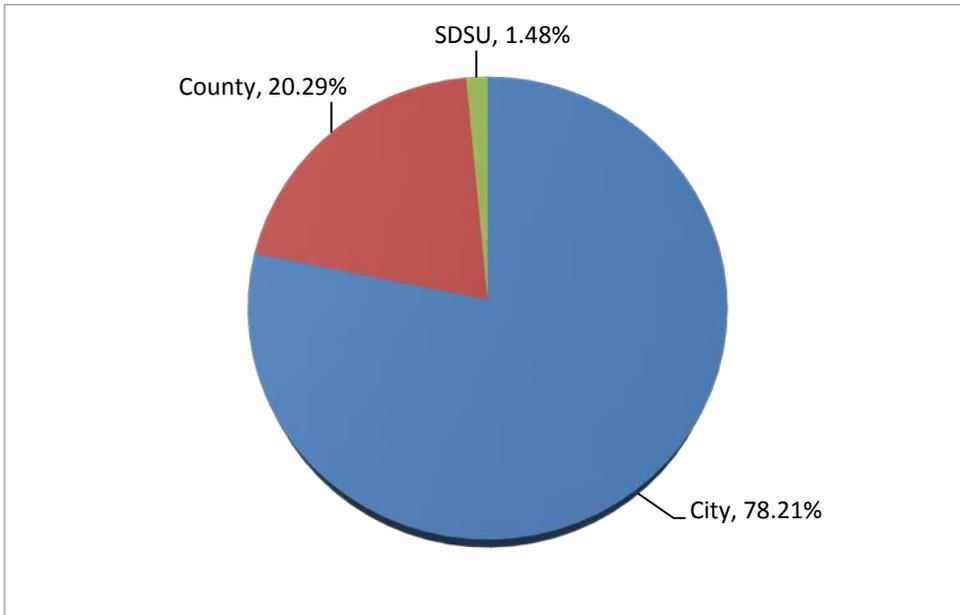
Most of our members have obtained numerous certifications, including certified Firefighter I & II, Driver/Operator, Technical Rescue, Fire/Arson Investigation, Hazardous Materials Operations, and several National Wildland Coordination Group (NWCG) wildland qualifications. We no doubt have some of the most dedicated and talented firefighters in the area.

I would like to express my gratitude to City Council, the City Manager, and the citizens of Brookings. Their understanding and support of the Brookings Fire Department has made it another successful year in delivering the highest level of services to ensure the safety of all people that live, work, and visit Brookings. I would also like to congratulate the entire membership of the Brookings Fire Department for a job well done!

# 2015 Statistics

## Incidents by District

Each year we look at where the previous fires have occurred by district. After compiling all of the runs, the breakouts show that we responded to 78.21% of our calls in the City of Brookings, 20.29% of our calls were in Brookings County, and 1.48% was on SDSU property. These figures do not total to 100% because we responded to a few calls outside of Brookings County limits.



### 2014 Incident Percentages

City of Brookings	70.04%
Brookings County	25.73%
SDSU	3.37%

### 2012 Incident Percentages

City of Brookings	66.29%
Brookings County	28.65%
SDSU	5.05%

### 2013 Incident Percentages

City of Brookings	72.90%
Brookings County	23.64%
SDSU	2.46%

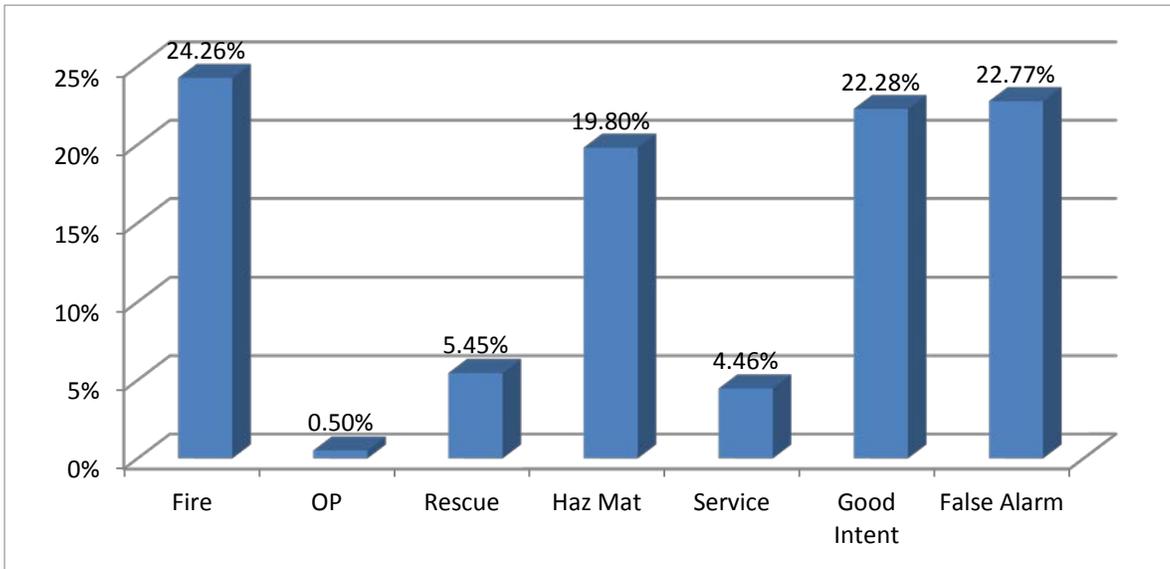
### 2011 Incident Percentages

City of Brookings	69.71%
Brookings County	24.51%
SDSU	5.76%

# Statistics (Cont'd)

## Incident Type

The Fire Department follows the incident type to assist in training and equipment needs. The department is usually higher in fire and hazardous materials responses and we train heavily for that. We also train heavily in rescue due to the very technical nature of the business and the high risks involved.



Fire – buildings, cooking, vehicles, grass, garbage

OP – overpressure rupture, explosion

Rescue – extrication from vehicle, high-angle rescue, rescue/ems standby

Hazardous Materials – spill, vehicle accident cleanup

Service Call – smoke or odor removal, unauthorized burning

Good Intent – cancelled in route, odor of smoke

False Alarm – malicious, malfunction, sprinkler activation

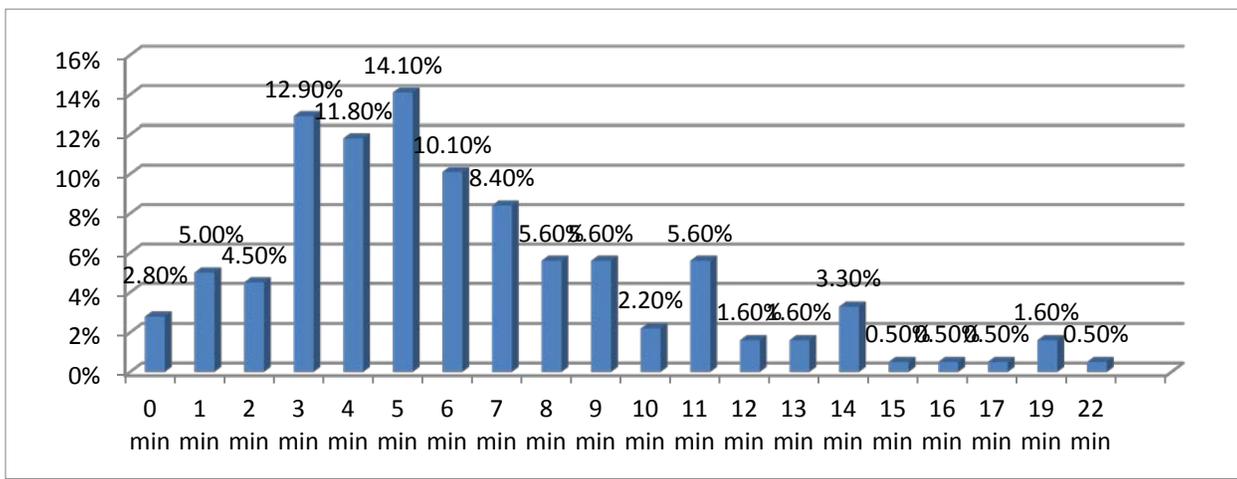
# Statistics (Cont'd)

## Incident Response Time Analysis

The Brookings Fire Department uses the initial response time analysis as one of our primary indicators. This is a critical factor that indicates how fast we can arrive on scene and try to mitigate the situation for the residence of the City of Brookings.

Any time under eight minutes is considered acceptable for a paid service. Our average response time for fires inside the city limits is currently under *five minutes* which is outstanding. We currently have an overall average response time of *six minutes forty seven seconds*. This is an outstanding average for a combination department where all of the firefighters are volunteers.

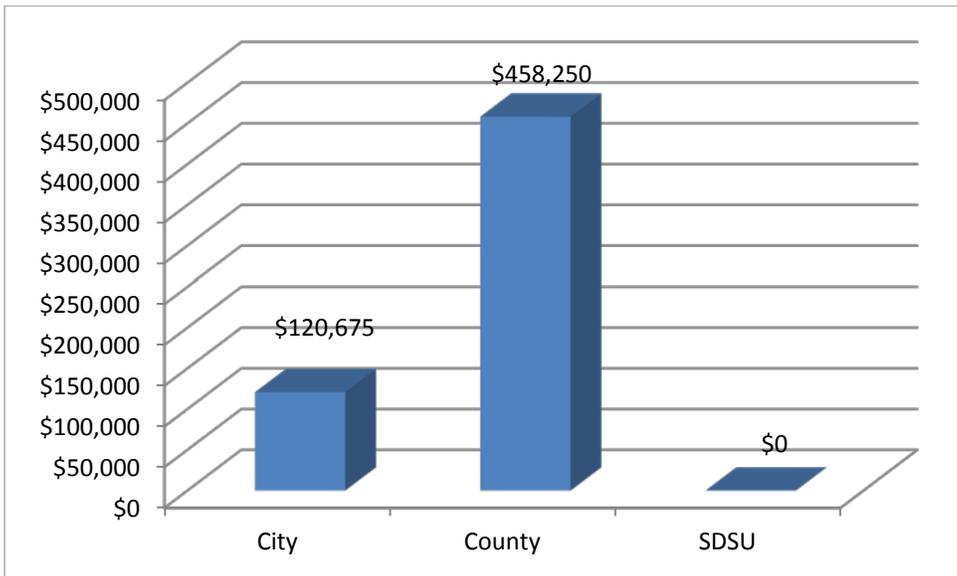
Most calls over the ten minute mark are typically rural calls.



# Statistics (Cont'd)

## Estimated Dollar Value Losses by District

We look at property value loss as an indicator which is tied into response times and location. The sooner we arrive on scene the quicker we can knock down the fire and have less property loss value. This is why typically County dollar value for property lost is higher even though the run numbers are less compared to the City of Brookings.



### 2014 Estimated Losses:

City of Brookings     \$262,650  
Brookings County     \$333,000

### 2012 Estimated Losses:

City of Brookings     \$217,835  
Brookings County     \$135,700

### 2013 Estimated Losses:

City of Brookings     \$431,750  
Brookings County     \$135,700

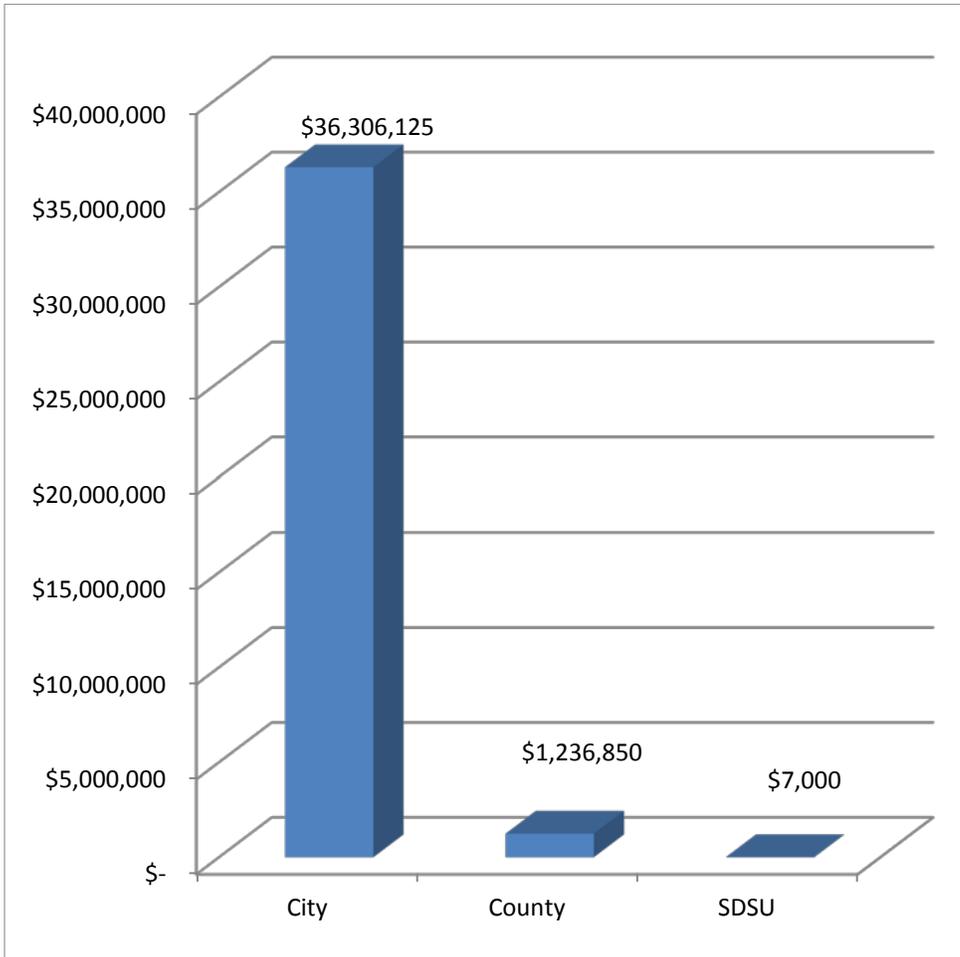
### 2011 Estimated Losses:

City of Brookings     \$194,450  
Brookings County     \$326,050

# Statistics (Cont'd)

## Estimated Dollar Value Saved by District

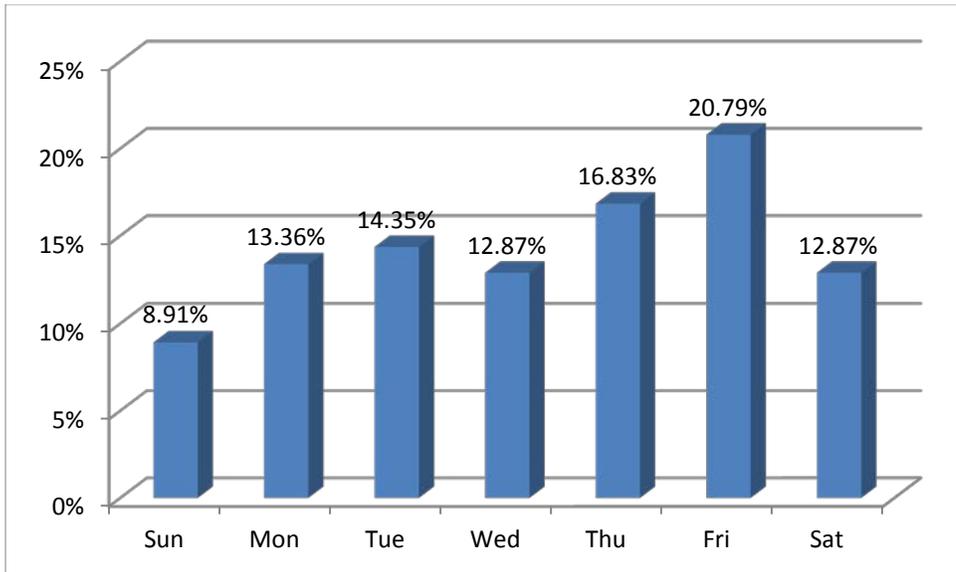
We look at estimated property dollar value saved as an indicator which is tied into response times and location. The sooner we arrive on scene the quicker we can control the fire and have less property loss. This is why typically the City dollar value for property saved is higher. This is also based on the property that is threatened in this case with SDSU property.



# Statistics (Cont'd)

## Incident by Day of Week

We use the day of the week indicator to follow the trend. Typically we would expect that Friday through Sunday would be our peak areas because people are spending a higher percentage of time in their homes or apartments. We have seen our call volume leveling out across the week over the past years.



## Average Firefighter Turnout per Incident

Total number of incidents in 2015 **202**  
237 - 2014  
203 - 2013  
178 - 2012  
208 - 2011

Average firefighter turnout per incident **26**  
25 - 2014  
26 - 2013  
26 - 2012  
27 - 2011

Total number of hours volunteered **8401.23**  
9,901.45 - 2014  
8,859.40 - 2013  
8,330.85 - 2012  
9,337.64 - 2011

# Command Staff/Officers

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Fire Chief	Darrell Hartmann
Deputy Chief	Pete Bolzer
1 <sup>st</sup> Assistant Chief	Gary DeBeer
2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief	Bob Heitkamp
1 <sup>st</sup> Battalion Chief	Jim Kriese
2 <sup>nd</sup> Battalion Chief	Monte Gummer

## **Captains/Lieutenants:**

Jeremy Scott/Kurt Athey	Engine 1
Curt Teal/Bill Hardin	Engine 2
Dan Bruna/Nathan Vandersnick	Engine 3
Mike Lambertus/Fabian Ysker	Engine 4
Dave Owens/Jeremy Paulson	Engine 5
Brandon Long/Michael Scott	Tower 1
Adam Vaux/Kevin Banken	Ladder 2
Tim Austin/Dave Koch	Rescue 1

# Certified EMT's & Paramedics

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Major Anderson - Paramedic

Tim Austin

Pete Bolzer

Monte Gummer

Darrell Hartmann

Dave Koch – Intermediate

Jim Kriese

Mike Lambertus

Jeremy Scott

Michael Scott

Tabithia Scott

Darin Sinner

Rob Schuneman - Intermediate

Rainer Westall

## Certified Instructors

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Tim Austin	Pete Bolzer
Mandi Cramer	Monte Gummer
Darrell Hartmann	Dave Koch
Jim Kriese	Michael Lambertus
Brandon Long	Joshua Mann
Jeremy Scott	Nate Vandersnick
Rainer Westall	Fabian Ysker

## Years of Service – 15 Years or Greater -

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Bob Heitkamp	43
Gary DeBeer	32
Jim Kriese	27
Keven Perry	26
Bill Hardin	26
Curt Teal	25
Mike Jensen	20
Darrell Hartmann	17
Tim Austin	16
Pete Bolzer	16
Dave Owens	16

# Fire Prevention



Despite a continuing downward trend in the number of structure fires reported across the country, the United States continues to lead the world in the number of per capita fire fatalities, fire injuries, and property loss. **Fire kills over 3,000 and injures 16,000 people each year. Direct property losses due to fire reach almost \$12 billion a year.** The sad fact? Most of these deaths and losses can be prevented! Firefighters also pay a high price for this terrible fire record as well; with about 100 firefighters killed in the line of duty each year. Evidence that Public Fire Education does work is found in the fact that fire losses today represent a dramatic improvement from more than 40 years ago. In 1971, our nation lost more than 12,000 residents and 250 firefighters to fire.

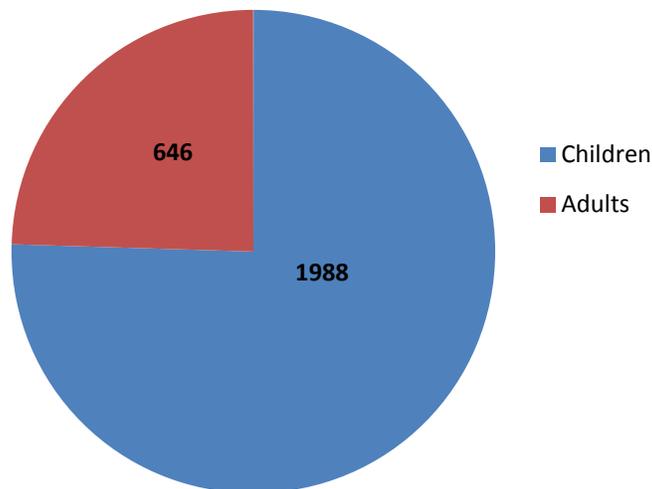
The Brookings Fire Department continues to partner with national initiatives, life safety organizations and other professionals in an effort to reduce fire injuries, deaths and property loss by changing how people think about fire and fire prevention through education and fire and life safety inspections. The department's educators continue to reinforce that. Fire is fast! Fire is hot! Fire is dark! Fire is deadly! And, fire is everyone's fight!

2015 was a banner year for our educators, as a total of 2,634 children and adults were provided with life saving information regarding fire safety and fire prevention. 2015 also marks the first full year of use for the mobile interactive learning trailer, with 841 children and adults receiving hands on experience with fire safety.

The past year also saw a collaboration between the Brookings Fire Department and South Dakota State University professionals by providing them training and resources, so, that they can provide campus wide fire and life safety building audits, fire safety education, and portable fire extinguisher training.



## Fire Safety Education Demographics



# Fire Department Activity (Cont'd)

## Firefighters' dance hits 100th year

BY ERIC SANDBULTE  
The Brookings Register

BROOKINGS – A Brookings staple is celebrating a milestone this year. The Brookings Volunteer Firefighters Association is celebrating its 100th annual dance with a day filled with activities for families. The dance – as always – will take place on Main Avenue on Saturday, July 18.

“The whole block will be closed off,” volunteer firefighter Mike Jensen said. After setting up in the morning, the activities begin at 2 p.m. with a children’s safety fair. “We’re going to have the fire department’s interactive smokehouse there for the kids, we are going to have a couple fire trucks for them to climb around on. Some games and prizes, too,” Jensen said, later adding, “It’s going to be an afternoon of fun.”

This marks the first time the association has done these kinds of events in an effort to make it child friendly: “We’re trying to do something special for the 100th anniversary, so we’re making it an almost all-day event. We’re hoping for good turnout.” Also at 2 p.m. is a beanbag tournament for those 21 and older, with separate bean bag tosses set up for younger attendees, and an army band, FTX, will play for a couple of hours. “We’re glad to have them coming. Hopefully they’ll bring in a crowd,” Jensen said. All the daytime events are free to the public, and Jensen said they might become a regular part of the dance. The dance begins at 9 p.m. Tickets are needed to attend but are easy to come by. They can be purchased in advance at the fire department offices or from any firefighter for \$10 per couple, or at the entrance to the dance for \$10 per person. Although the number of tickets sold always is greater than the number of attendees, the dance usually draws in 500 or so people.

“We’ve been doing it for 100 years. As far as the first ones go, we don’t really know” what they were like, Jensen said, except that they were likely very formal affairs. “Even when I first got on, it was very formal. We wore suits and ties, and I’ve been around this now for 25 years.” It also used to be held indoors in the fall, but that’s changed through the years. From indoors, it moved to the 24-hour parking lot and then to Main Avenue after the city realigned the street there, said Tim Austin, another volunteer firefighter.

The dance serves as a fundraiser for the association, helping the city maintain its volunteer force. A department with all paid firefighters could cost millions each year. “We sure appreciate (the community’s) support. With the child safety fair, it’s always good to educate people on fire safety. And what kid doesn’t like a fireman?” Jensen said.

The dance isn’t the only important anniversary for the fire department; this year marks the 135th year of the Brookings Fire Department’s existence.

# Fire Department Activity (Cont'd)

Celebrating 135 years

07/31/2015



Pictured is the first motorized fire engine owned by the Brookings Fire Department. The photo was taken in 1918.

## Brookings Fire Department marks 135 years of service, volunteerism

**BY ERIC SANDBULTE**

The Brookings Register  
BROOKINGS – 1880 was a busy year. Rutherford B. Hayes was in the third year of his presidency back then, there were only 38 states in the Union, construction of the Panama Canal began and Thomas Edison patented his electric incandescent lamp. But that year, nestled in the Dakota Territory, the small prairie town of Brookings established its volunteer fire department with 12 men. According to the Golden Jubilee Edition of *The Brookings Register* of July 18, 1929, the department was armed with 12 leather buckets (one for each man), a 16-foot ladder able to “reach ... the roof of any building in town,” and a wagon with a hand pump. It was a Friday, July 21, fire in 1880 that initially spurred the people of Brookings “to the organization of a fire company,” with equipment being purchased throughout the next few years. Local businessmen were called upon to provide the equipment, with the Brookings County Press writing, “the businessmen, who have so much at stake, ought at least to furnish the necessary funds to equip the companies with apparatus. Of course every man who owns a home in Brookings is interested in the efficiency of the fire department, and shall be willing to encourage the fire laddies in whatever way he may.”

The department’s first home was in the old city hall, with the Brookings County Press recording in July 1884 once construction of the building was completed, “The lower floor will be used as an engine room and a large well under it will afford water to squelch any outbreak of the devouring elements in the vicinity of the engine house.” Former fire chief Curt Jensen recalled those days when the department still called the city hall home. There was room for four small fire trucks, and they had a

## Fire Department Activity (Cont'd)

meeting room upstairs. But they outgrew the space, notably, parking space. The volunteers would struggle to find parking when they were called to a fire, Jensen said. "It was a real bummer for the firefighters to try and find a place to park. During the day, they pretty well had to abandon their cars in the street to get to the fire trucks." The department first moved to a newly constructed facility in 1965. Now known as the west station, it was built after the city bought the Bates Motel and tore it down. Other stations were added in 1978 (the east station) and in 1995 (the 22nd Avenue station).

Still volunteer - Since its inception, the department has proudly continued to be a volunteer-based operation. For many years, even the post of fire chief was only on a volunteer basis, with the chief selected by the firefighters. But that too changed in Jensen's time. He joined in 1963 and was elected fire chief in 1973. But, overwhelmed by the demands of the job and his own full-time job, something had to change. "The fire chief job is much more than just fighting fires. We started to do building inspections. The city implemented an inspection plan and started to enforce fire codes," he explained. "It just got to a point where I was at my fire department job more than my own job. Luckily they opened up the position and I got the job." And so, in 1975, the fire chief became a paid position, although his assistants were still volunteers. Today, the volunteer force has grown to 45 volunteers and three paid staff, including Fire Chief Darrell Hartmann and his deputy, Pete Bolzer. The demands have grown throughout the years, with the department responsible for covering 200 square miles in Brookings County and Moody County, as well as 27 miles of Interstate 29. In 2014 alone, they responded to 237 calls and spent more than 9,900 man-hours on training and calls. The department has had 23 fire chiefs or wardens in its 135 years, with some serving for as short as a month, others, for years. The first fire chief, A.J. Dox, is listed as only having served for March 1888, when the force was actually organized. On the other end of the spectrum, Jensen led the department 25 years.

Technology changes - Throughout those 135 years, a lot has changed, most notably in the technology used. Around 1917, the fire department obtained its first motorized fire engine. Recording the engine's first call to a fire, the Brookings Fire Department record book noted that the volunteers briefly lost control of the machine: "After showing Mere Men they could not start her, by any inducement or coercion on their part, she starts herself, with a roar and a snort that would shame the artillery fire of the Allies. After safely passing thru the door, without even so much as touching a hair, she turned sharply to the street and proceeded eastward at a rate of speed never before attained by man or devil, causing even the Most Hardened Sinner, spectator to offer up a silent prayer in behalf of those aboard. "After a run of a few blocks, she was winded, and those at her helm yanked and jerked her into absolute submission and control and without more ado she proceeded gently and graciously to the scene of 'rapid oxidation,' and all was well." There was a time when firefighters didn't even have the luxury of a fire extinguisher, instead relying on chemical-laden jars they'd toss at smaller fires. Improved technology for breathing apparatuses has proved to be invaluable to the firefighters. Beyond the improvements in technology on the fire engines throughout the decades, how the volunteers are alerted to a fire has been crucial. These days, two-way radios are the standard, but before that, pagers were the way to go, which were added around the early to mid-1980s. Before then, a telephone was their alert system. The emergency siren was also used to alert the volunteers – and, incidentally, everyone else in town – to a fire call, but it was eventually outmoded as the volunteers received pagers. The problem with the siren was it led to citizens coming out to the scene of fires. These spectators might not have meant any harm in being there, but they often would be in the way, Jensen said. Plus, "people didn't like sirens going off in the middle of the night."

Notable fires - There have certainly been many fires throughout the years. Two relatively recent notable fires include the destruction of downtown businesses Lone's Café in 1985 and Mac's Diner in

## Fire Department Activity (Cont'd)

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1990. Ione's Café, located where Nick's Hamburger Shop has its outdoor seating, burned during a March blizzard, resulting in the death of a tenant who lived in one of the upstairs apartments. The city had to plow the streets ahead of the fire trucks in order to reach the fire, Jensen recalled. "A volunteer fire department in a small town, if they get a fire on Main Street, typically they'll lose half the block, if

not the whole block. But this department has been so well trained over the years that they managed to save the whole block in two major fires," said firefighter Tim Austin. "That is something to be proud of," added Mike Jensen, Curt's son and a firefighter. For Curt, there are some fires you try to forget, but with so many calls each year, it's all part of the job. But one of the biggest changes the department has seen hasn't been in any of its tech or equipment, but with the city they watch over. "Think of how much in our lifetimes this town has grown," Mike said. And with the town's growth, so to have grown the demands placed upon the department. "The volume of calls has gone up drastically," Curt said. "We work very hard to keep this a volunteer fire department," Austin added. "We want to say that the best way to ruin something is to turn it into a job. The camaraderie, the family: This is pretty much just a big extended family." And with any luck, that family will enjoy another 135 years of safe and dedicated service to their community.

## Fire Department Activity (Cont'd)

Below, Brookings volunteer firemen pose for a photo on Third Street in 1954 and a photo that shows firefighters participating in a convention in 1952. The Brookings Fire Department is celebrating 135 years of volunteer service this year. In 1880, nestled in the Dakota Territory, the small prairie town of Brookings established its volunteer fire department with 12 men. Today, the volunteer force has grown to 45 volunteers and three paid staff.



# Fire Department Activity (Cont'd)

## Storm damage in, near Brookings

08/07/2015



A Thursday night storm-damaged areas around the south edge of Brookings, including Esther Heights, River Ridge, University Estates, Sheldon Trailer Court and South Brook Estates. Damage included downed trees and power lines, holes in roofs, trees on cars and homes, a vacant mobile home flipped over, torn-apart fences and mangled trampolines, a completely destroyed garage and more. The cell prompted tornado warnings from Arlington to Volga to Brookings as the storm traveled southeast, and some witnesses say they spotted a tornado, but no actual touchdowns have been confirmed. No storm related injuries have been reported, Assistant Sheriff Scott Sebring said. Emergency responders and storm spotters were watching the clouds and rotation as they moved through the area, and then many were called into action afterward to keep people away from dangerous areas and help with cleanup and other emergencies. Responding agencies included the Brookings fire and police departments, Brookings County Sheriff's Department, Brookings Ambulance, Northwestern Energy, Sioux Valley Energy, Brookings County Highway Department, Brookings County Emergency Management and others. "Several areas had big trees uprooted. Trees were found laying across county and township roads. A mobile home flipped over in Southbrook," Sebring reported. "It was found that the most damaged area ranged from the south side of Brookings to 216th Street and up to 2 miles west, which would be 469<sup>th</sup> Avenue and east to Medary Avenue, with power lines also down on roadways. "Main Avenue South was closed from the south side of Brookings to 216th Street until shortly after 10 p.m. while Sioux Valley Electric worked on power lines in that area. Power was restored to the area shortly after 10 p.m."

Above and below are shots of damage in River Ridge.





## Fire Department Activity (Cont'd)

BFD sent to three weekend fire calls

12/08/2015

BROOKINGS – The Brookings Fire Department had a busy weekend, being called out three times on Friday and Saturday, including to the Guadalajara restaurant, said Fire Chief Darrell Hartmann. The first was a quick call to Brown Hall on the campus of South Dakota State University at 8:22 p.m. Friday regarding a propane heater, he said. By 8:43 p.m., the crew was “done and returned to the station,” Hartmann said. “Obviously it wasn’t much of anything,” he added. The second call amounted to much more. The trucks rolled out at 1 a.m. Saturday for a fire at Guadalajara Mexican Restaurant in the Village Square Mall. The cause of the fire was “cooking material overnight,” Hartmann said, describing it as a “smoldering fire” with “light smoke.” “(Crews) removed a portion of the roof to get to the insulation,” Hartmann said. Crews cleared the scene at 3:05 a.m., and the restaurant was back open for business on Monday. The third fire call came in at 9:18 p.m. Saturday for a semi on fire at the Interstate 29 rest area at mile marker 121, near the Ward-Nunda exit, Hartmann said. “It may have started in the refrigeration unit of the trailer,” Hartmann said. “I believe the whole trailer was a total loss.” Crews cleared the scene at 11:08 p.m. There were no injuries reported at any of the incidents, Hartmann said. The BFD volunteers were operating without Hartmann, Deputy Chief Pete Bolzer and the battalion chiefs, who were at a chief’s meeting in Aberdeen over the weekend, Hartmann added.

Trailer was a total loss



## Fire Department Activity (Cont'd)

### *Students evacuated for gas leak at high school 12/05/2015*

**BY JODELLE GREINER**

The Brookings Register

BROOKINGS – A gas leak at Brookings High School caused the evacuation of students Friday morning, but no one was injured, according to Fire Chief Darrell Hartmann. After being called to the high school, firefighters investigated and found a smell on the southwest exterior of the building, Hartmann said. “About that time, a larger diameter gas line broke; we believe due to cold and heat,” Hartmann said. “Just for safety, we evacuated the students to a safe site.” That was about 9 a.m., according to Brookings Superintendent Klint Willert. “The gas company arrived on scene. They got the gas shut off,” Hartmann said. “We went through the building and had some smells.” Further investigation revealed no gas readings inside the structure, he said. “I worked with the school staff. After an update, we brought the students back with the full intention of completing out the school day,” Hartmann said. “The students returned to class about 11 a.m.,” Willert added. “Nobody was injured. Everything went as planned, both for us and the school,” Hartmann wrapped up.

## Fire Department Activity (Cont'd)

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### Three suffer smoke inhalation in house fire 04/25/2015

Courtesy image

BROOKINGS – A Brookings County woman and two sheriff's deputies were treated for smoke inhalation Friday morning when a fire broke out in a rural residence about 11 miles north of Brookings. At 8:24 a.m., Brookings firefighters and the sheriff's department were called to 19949 471st Ave., where the 78-year-old owner was trapped inside. Brookings County sheriff's deputies were the first to arrive and broke a window. They found the woman near the window, unconscious from smoke inhalation, and with help from a fireman lifted her out. She was then transported by ambulance and treated at the Brookings hospital. The deputies were also later treated for smoke inhalation and released from the hospital. Multiple area fire departments were called to the rural residence to provide tender support for extra water in battling the blaze.

Brookings County Assistant Sheriff Scott Sebring said the cause of the fire is unknown at this time, and the home is a total loss. It remains under investigation. The woman was the only person inside the home at the time of the fire. There were no injuries to firefighters, who were on the scene of the blaze all day and into the evening hours.



## Fire Department Activity (Cont'd)

### Honoring a hero

06/10/2015

Jill Fier/Register

Brookings Mayor Tim Reed, second from right, congratulates Brookings Fire Department Battalion Chief Jim Kriese, center, as Kriese's family and Fire Chief Darrell Hartmann look on. Reed read a mayoral proclamation and Hartmann awarded Kriese a Medal of Merit Award at Tuesday's city council meeting for Kriese's role in helping rescue a Brookings County woman from her burning house this spring. On April 26, the Brookings Fire Department, Brookings County Sheriff's Office and Brookings Health System ambulance were called to 19949 471st Ave. for a structure fire, where Amber Hartmann reported that she was trapped inside. Upon arrival it was found that the house had heavy fire on its exterior along with substantial smoke conditions inside, where the woman was trapped.



## Fire Department Activity (Cont'd)

### Brave the Shave

03/17/2015

Above, Brave the Shave participants, from left, Rystrom Mahlke and Jake and Kevin Hillmoe sit eagerly awaiting stylists Amelia Berger, Sarah Cazer and Megan Buller to finish shaving their heads. At left, Sunflower stylist Sheena Page takes clippers to a patiently waiting Jason Prout Jr., 5, during the St. Baldrick's Brave the Shave event held Monday at the Brookings Fire Department. The local event was a fundraiser to help find a cure for childhood cancer. Participants raised money and then had their heads shaved, or they could cut 8- 12 inches of hair to donate. Money goes to St. Baldrick's Foundation to help fund childhood cancer research and fellowships. Hair donations will be sent to Wigs for Kids or Pantene Beautiful Lengths. The event, organized by the Brookings Volunteer Firefighter Association, Basin Electric's Deer Creek Station and Sigma Lambda Chi, included at least 26 participants and raised more than \$2,600, according to St. Baldrick's website.



## Fire Department Activity (Cont'd)

### Serving BFD for 25 years

09/16/2015

The Brookings Volunteer Fire Department congratulates Captain of Engine 2 Curt Teal on his 25 years with the fire department. "Your time and commitment for the citizens of Brookings is greatly appreciated. Thank you! Only 15 to go!" Teal and his wife, Barb, have three children: Makayla, Jacob and Nick. He works for NorthWestern Energy. He joined the department in 1990 because of his desire to give back to the community.



## 20 years of service

11/03/2015

The Brookings Volunteer Fire Department congratulates Mike Jensen on his 20th anniversary as a Brookings volunteer firefighter. "Thank you for your continued selfless service in protecting the lives and property of the citizens of the county and city of Brookings." Jensen, captain of Engine 5, joined the Brookings department in order to serve his community. He is employed at South Dakota State University, and he and his wife, Joy, have one child, Jensi.



## Fire Department Activity (Cont'd)

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### Family honor

11/12/2015

Navy veteran and Brookings volunteer firefighter, Tim Austin and his 8-year-old twin daughters, Sonja and Sophia, recite the Pledge of Allegiance during the annual Veterans Day program at the Swiftel Center on Wednesday morning.



# BROOKINGS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



*Celebrating 135 years  
of volunteer service.*



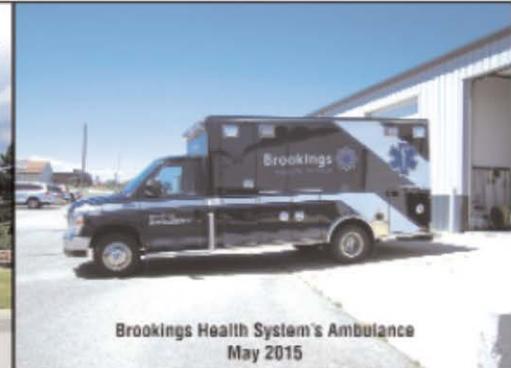
**FIRE AND  
SAFETY, Inc.**

111 Kasan Ave | Volga, SD 57071

Providing SD, ND and MN with  
Emergency Apparatus, fire equipment,  
industrial safety supplies and service



**Congratulations to Brookings Fire Department on 135 years of service**



**Brookings Health System's Ambulance  
May 2015**