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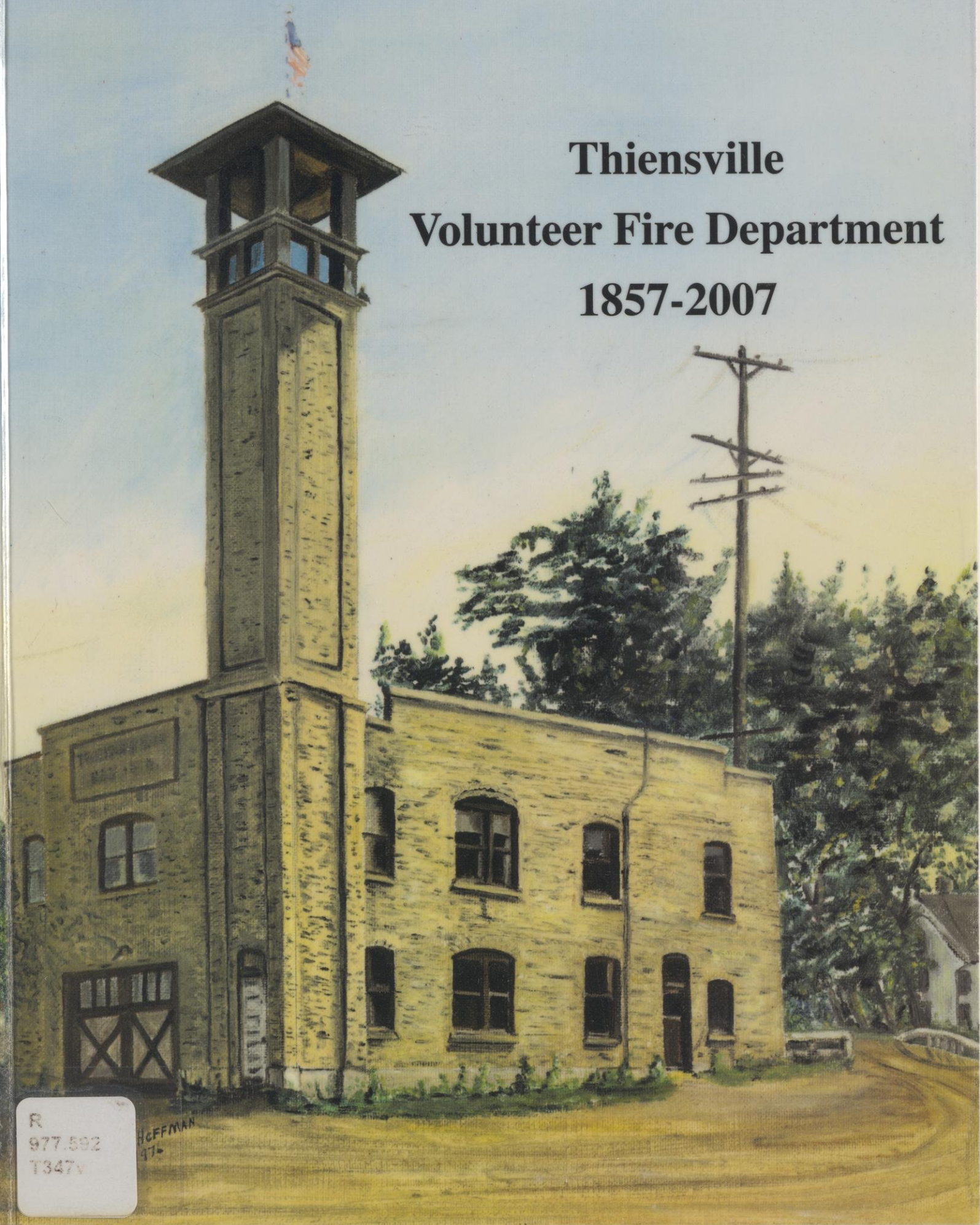
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Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department 1857-2007

# Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department 1857-2007



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*Presented by the  
Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department  
July 2007*



### Dedication

This 150th anniversary book is dedicated to the memory of Leo Rausch. Leo joined the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department in 1949, serving in both active and passive capacities through the years. This history book of the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department was one of his passions over the past two years, frequently taking time to research past rosters, and locate any other department artifacts for this project.



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This Book Is Dedicated To The Past And The Present Members Of The  
Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The 150th Anniversary Committee would like to thank the past and present members of the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Dept., for all the years of dedication.

We would also like to acknowledge the following Worzella Photography, News Graphic, Lustre Color Printing, Ozaukee County Historical Society and cover by Katie Hoffman for their knowledge and guidance in helping to prepare this book.

We would also like to thank Lucile Netzow (the great-granddaughter of founder John Henry Thien who organized the first Thiensville Fire Engine Co.)

Most of all we would like to acknowledge the 150th book committee for the countless hours of work putting this book together.

Leo & Rita Rausch

Bill & Pat Rausch

James Luedtke

Bill Rosenberg

Joanne Franken

Carla Ellner

Elliot & Regan Schneider

Kenneth Schultz

## Introduction

This book is dedicated to the men and women of the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department who have served with distinction and pride over the past 150 years. Although the Thiensville Fire Company was formed in 1857, it was formally incorporated as the Thiensville Fire Department in 1859. Due to the significant population of German immigrants in Thiensville, the early minutes were written in German in 1859 and remained that way until 1911 when they were finally written in English. The German minutes were translated to English by Vallie Stemmler and Hartmut Lorenz in the late 1960's.

As we reflect on the department's first 150 years, the equipment and technology used to extinguish fire had developed exponentially. The department has adjusted to the changing needs of our community by offering dive rescue, public education, fire prevention, explorer scouts, and an emergency medical service with an outstanding reputation. At the time of this book's publication, the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department is the only Ozaukee Fire Department to offer Paramedic Service.

The following pages will detail the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department's development and the growth over the first 150 years. Although the methods and services offered have changed, the commitment to untiring dedication and service to the community have remained steadfast.

We would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation and thanks to the Village of Thiensville Board members and the constituents we have the honor to serve for their support of our great department.





# VILLAGE OF THIENSVILLE

250 Elm Street  
Thiensville, WI 53092-1602

Phone (262) 242-372  
Fax (262) 242-474

November 22, 2006

Thiensville Fire Department  
250 Elm Street  
Thiensville, Wisconsin

Dear Fire Department Members:

It is a great pleasure indeed to write this letter of congratulations upon the occasion of your 150<sup>th</sup> year serving our community. As I think about the passage of those years, it strikes me how the whole nature of your responsibility has grown. The History of Thiensville Bicentennial Edition records that in the early days buildings often burnt to the ground because the volunteers could not get water to the fire. I suspect that problem was magnified by the nature of the building materials and the cooking situation as it was in those days.

When John Henry Thien started the Voluntary Fire Company in 1857, he also gave the ground for a facility. He became the first captain. It is clear that he had a solid belief that the people were in this business of living in this area together. The common good seemed to be high on his agenda.

As we come to this special historical juncture in 2007, we might wonder what Mr. Thien would have thought of our efforts today. We can imagine that he would be amazed. Amazed at the growth of Thiensville. Amazed at the sophistication of the fire equipment. Pleased at the added services which not only race to fires but rush to the side of people who have threatening health situations of all kinds. The instructional aspect of the fire and ambulance service would likely please him. We can almost see a smile on his face at the sight of the children crawling over the equipment and marveling at the inside of today's apparatus.

The people of Thiensville wish to thank and congratulate our current volunteers and all of those men and women who served the community over the past 150 years. You have been strong, courageous, and compassionate. The trustees and administrator certainly join me in offering our sincere best wishes and keen sense of gratitude for all that is being done and has been done through the many years. All the best!

Sincerely,

Karl Hertz  
President, Village of Thiensville

The Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department was organized in 1851, as a group of proud people, dedicated to their community and fellow man.

From its inception, the first members were confident in what they were doing while knowing there would be many obstacles to overcome. They realized there would be many hours of training ahead and they never faltered on their goal to provide the best services for their community and its residents.

It's not just about fighting fires; the fire department was and continues to be the heart of the community and many social events. Many fundraisers, picnics, pancake breakfasts, raffles and other events were held to help purchase the original equipment and supplies needed to service and protect the community.

In 1914, the community incorporated as a village; a new Village Hall and Fire Department was built. As the village population grew, other buildings were used as the firehouse and in turn, the fire department continued to grow.

The first "pumper" truck, bought in 1857, had the wording, "Die Berühmte Thiensviller Feuer Sprüty". Translated into English, it means, "The Famous Thiensville Fire Sprayer". Today, we are met with new and ever changing hazards; training to prevent tragedy and protect the public is much more intense.

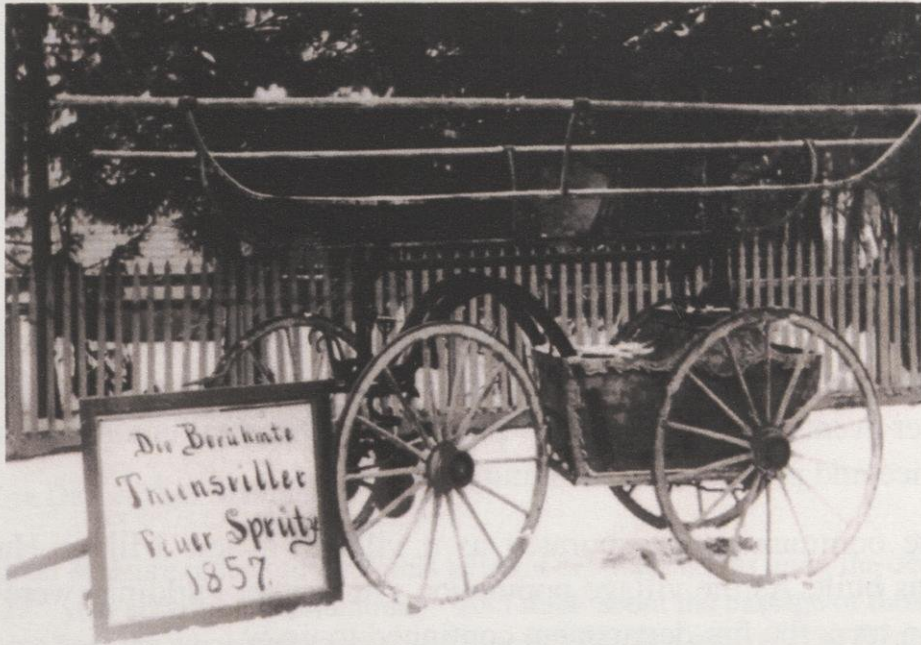
New building materials, changing building designs and continually improving knowledge of hazards, forces us to devise new methods in fire protection and suppression. Improved fire fighting equipment and tactics provide faster extinguishment, less damage to property and assure better protection of the village and its residents.

Although the founding members of the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department have long since passed, multiple generations have carried on their legacy of excellence.

I wish to thank all of the people who carried on the traditions of the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department set forth by John Henry Thien and the early group of dedicated fire fighters and village residents.

I am proud and honored to carry on the traditions of the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department, allowing us to reach 150 years of dedicated service to the Village of Thiensville.

*Chief William F. Rausch*



THE FAMOUS THIENSVILLE FIRE SPRAYER  
1857



THE NEW LADDER TRUCK  
2007

**THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED TO THE  
PAST AND PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE  
THIENSVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

## HISTORICAL OUTLINE OF THE THIENSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT. 1857-2007

In 1857, the Thiensville Fire Engine Company was organized. John Henry Thien was listed as the first chief of the department according to available records. Three years after the start of the company, the first fire engine was purchased. It was a hand pumper, and was pulled to the scene of the fire by horses- but was operated by the men at the fire.

Sometime in the 1860s', the first fire hall was built. It was located in the area of Elm Street and Green Bay Road, next to the Van Buren School (later the Gilbert Shoe Company- this structure has since been demolished) Records show that the department was always moving the fire engine around Thiensville to different locations- the property owners apparently allowed the company to locate the engine on their property to avoid paying the fire tax. By the late 1800's, the fire engine company purchased a ladder wagon and hose cart, and raised funds to purchase a horse-drawn gasoline pumping engine. This unit was "hard to start, and backfired all the way to the fire" - but once it got warmed up it did work fairly well.

In 1910, the area known as Thiensville incorporated as a village, with a listed population of 289. After moving around to various locations since the founding of the Fire Engine Company, a committee approached the Village Board with \$1000 cash to purchase the Wiesler lot to build a Village hall and firehouse. The board accepted the offer, and on March 16, 1914, John Vollmar of Cedarburg was awarded the contract to build the Village Hall and "Fire engine house" for \$4,380. The use of cut stone on the building cost an additional \$53.00. The building was finished in January 1915- this would be the home of the Thiensville Fire Department until 1961.

In 1918, the Mequon Town Board approved a contribution of \$1,000 for the purchase of a "motor fire engine" for the department. In 1920, a Luverne pumper was purchased, replacing the horse-drawn gasoline pumper. It carried a 200gpm pump, and had a chemical tank on it as well. Later in the 1920's, a Buick chassis was outfitted by the department as a second firefighting vehicle.

In January of 1933, the department was recognized by the village for the purpose of obtaining lower fire insurance rates for the village. The following month, the village took control of the Fire Department, approving the appointment of Louis Sitkiewitz as Fire Chief and Otto Bublitz as Assistant Chief. In March of 1933, the department stopped providing fire protection to the Town of Mequon, as Mequon organized it's own Fire Department. March 1933 also saw the village purchase a new fire whistle at a cost of \$99.00. This was located on the village hall, and was part of the "Fire Phone" system that was put in the fire chief's home and various local businesses. In October of 1933, a mutual aid agreement with the Mequon Fire Department was approved by the village board and the town board.

In January of 1934, the post office burned, claiming the life of Postmaster John Albers.

By 1935, the Buick was worn out, so the village approved the purchase of a Seagrave 500gpm pumper to replace it.

After being unable to purchase any major items during the depression and the second world war, the 1920 Luverne and the Seagrave pumper served the village well during this time, but the need for a new pumper was apparent. The village board approved the purchase of a 1947 Chevrolet/General pumper, which consisted of a 500gpm pump and a small water tank.

In 1952, the department built the first of the two pavilions in the village park, and built a second one in 1956. These were not only used by the department for it's annual picnic, but by other organizations who used the park during the year.

In 1959, a GMC pumper was purchased. It consisted of a 500gpm pump and a 1000 gallon tank. After the delivery of this engine, the firehouse on Main Street became very cramped. The village had just completed a new highway garage on Freistadt Road, and offered the old one at 256 Elm Street to the department. The new engine fit in the building, and the department formally moved in early 1961.

In 1963, the department began providing rescue squad service with a used GMC Step Van. The department outfitted the unit after looking at squads from other departments.

During the 1960's the department took part in many community events, including the first bicycle registration, and donated items for improving the village park. The original rescue truck was replaced in 1965 with a Chevrolet Step Van. After 32 years of service, the 1935 Seagrave was replaced with an FWD (Four Wheel Drive) "tractioneer" pumper. It consisted of a 1000gpm pump and 300 gallon water tank. The Seagrave was retained as an extra engine and a historical unit.

The department entered the field of water rescue in 1970 with the donation of a boat for that service.

By the early 1970's, the 1914 village hall was too small. The village board decided to build a new village hall and fire station on the site of the existing station in 1972. The old firehouse was burned down in June 1973 as a training exercise, with the new village hall being built on that site. The Fire Department moved into the building in 1974 with the village offices and Police Department.

In 1974, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Johnson donated money for the purchase of an ambulance for the Thiensville Fire Department. The unit purchased was a Chevrolet van. Two snowmobiles were also donated that year to the department for winter rescue work.

The department purchased a Pierce minipumper in 1975. It consists of a 300gpm pump and a 275 gallon tank. It was mounted on a 4x4 International chassis, and was the first unit painted in the lime yellow and white paint scheme.

The 1948 Chevrolet pumper was replaced in 1976 with an FWD 1250gpm pumper with a 1000 gallon tank. It was purchased with money raised by the department over a ten year period.

A second ambulance was purchased in 1979, a Chevy with Pierce bodywork. A Boston Whaler boat was purchased to replace the original boat in 1980.

In 1982, a Ford Club Wagon van was purchased. It was used to transport members to classes, and used for inspections in the village.

Also purchased in 1982 was a GMC van modified by 3-D fire equipment into a heavy rescue unit.

The 1959 GMC was replaced with an FWD pumper in 1984. This unit has a 2000gpm pump and 1000 gallon tank. It was the first diesel powered engine purchased by the Thiensville Fire Department.

The last firemen's picnic was held in 1986, ending a longtime event in the Village of Thiensville.

The original ambulance was replaced with a Ford ambulance in 1987.

The 1980's saw a rise in ambulance calls, a trend which continues today.

The snowmobiles were replaced with new Yamaha snowmobiles in 1988.

An addition was built on to the station in 1990. It contained a larger training room, and a bay dedicated to the ambulances and the van.

The 1979 and 1987 ambulances were replaced in 1992 with two Ford/Medtec ambulances. A fire safety house was donated in 1992 also.

The 1967 FWD pumper was replaced with a Tanker/Pumper in 1997.

It consists of a 2000gpm pump, 2500 gallon tank and has a class "A" foam system. It was one of the first Pierce Quantum trucks built.

The 1982 Ford van was replaced in 2000 with a new Ford van.

In 2003, the Thiensville Fire Department joined with the local Harley Davidson dealer to celebrate the motorcycle builder's 100th birthday.

Money raised from the event was used to purchase a 4x4 rescue unit, and a unit for the dive team. The dive unit (nicknamed "Edmund") was purchased from a fire department in Indiana, and was converted by dive team members for use as a water rescue unit.

Two new ambulances were purchased in 2004. Built on a GMC chassis, these units were equipped as the first paramedic ambulances in Ozaukee County.

In 2006, the department received approval to purchase a 100 foot aerial ladder, equipped as a quint to replace the 1976 FWD pumper. Also being replaced were the 1975 minipumper, and the 1982 rescue truck. Pierce Manufacturing of Appleton, Wisconsin won the contract to build the unit at an approximate cost of \$672,000.

Since the founding of the Thiensville Fire Department, the members have worked to provide the best possible service to Thiensville and the surrounding communities.

November 11, 2006.

## Interesting events from the early years of the Thiensville Fire Department

### HISTORICAL EVENTS

- January 3, 1859      First officers  
Chief J. H. Thien  
Assistant Chief - R. Baus  
Treasurer-William Carbys  
Secretary - Charles Engels  
Engineer - Charles Ferge  
3 Trustees - 9 Hook-Men - 6 Ladder Carriages
- June 6, 1859      Thiensville Fire Engine Company incorporated.  
John Henry Thien was elected Captain that date as well.
- May 2, 1859      Building committee will find the "lowest priced help" to help  
do work on the firehouse.
- August 5, 1861      Money in the treasury shall be used to paint the engine hall.  
However, remainder of the paint will be donated by  
Mr. Zimmerman from the profits of the next dance. All sides of  
the building got two coats of paint-except the north side.
- October 7, 1861      Mr. Golner and Mr. Kolwey fined 25 cents each for not cleaning  
the engine.
- June 2, 1862      Mr. Ferge commissioned to look for good fire hose in  
Milwaukee.
- January 15, 1867      No meeting due to a fire at the William Jaeger home.
- December 6, 1869      New officers- Fred Duwe (Chief), G. Haas (Asst. Chief),  
William Carbys (Sec).
- March 7, 1870      Approval for a new pumper - cost of \$175.75 (Arrived in April).
- May 1870      With the first hand pumper showing signs of age, members  
agree to either purchase new engine or rebuild the old one.  
At the June meeting, the company voted to spend \$295.00 on  
rebuilding the pump assembly.
- August 1871      Despite being unfit for fire fighting service, the original pump  
from the fire engine was sold to Fred Duwe for \$20.00.
- December 1872      Short on operating funds, the Thiensville Fire Engine Company  
votes to sell the Fireman's Hall to William Goltermann for  
\$600.00.
- April 5, 1880      Wisconsin Central Railroad pays the department \$10.00 for  
putting out a fire at the depot.

- March 1882 Never having a building they could call their own, the members hold a long discussion about building a firehouse. No action was ever taken on this- the company continued to store the equipment in various buildings until 1914.
- August 13, 1883 Mr. Voland and Mr. Kuhn rebuilt the firehouse for \$110.00.
- July 1, 1893 After much debate, the purchase of the hose wagon was tabled indefinitely.
- December 12, 1896 Committee appointed to look at newer fire engines- trip taken to look at Grafton's new engine. No action was taken after two years.
- June 1902 St. James Church in Mequon had a fire. This was the first known call answered in Mequon by the company.
- December 30, 1904 Firehouse moved by Chas. Gerlach for \$20.00. Approval for the purchase of the gasoline powered engine.
- June 1904 With the hand engine needing repairs, members begin looking into buying a new fire engine. After much debate, a gasoline-powered engine from the Waterous Engine Works was purchased.
- May 25, 1905 Members go to Newburg to look at their pumper. Cost of trip was \$2.25.
- June 19, 1905 New pumper, hose cart and ladder wagon purchased for \$1,700.00. The unit was purchased from the Waterous Engine Works of St. Paul, Minnesota.
- June 1905 The hand engine was officially retired this year, when the horse drawn Waterous engine arrived. Later that year, a new hose cart and ladder wagon was built by local wagon maker Otto Hadler.
- April 25, 1907 Donations from Cedarburg of \$37.00 and \$25.00 were received as appreciation for assisting at the firehouse fire.
- July 1910 Thiensville Fire Engine Company celebrates fifty years of service. 1910 also saw the Village of Thiensville created.
- January 1912 Members vote to become a Village department, with 24 votes in and 3 against.
- October 1913 Thiensville Fire Department approaches the Village Board with \$1000 cash to purchase a lot for the Village Hall and Fire Engine house.
- July 1914 Members vote to formally give \$1000 to the village for the construction of the Village Hall.



Thiensville - When she was just a wisp of a young girl, Lucile Netzow would listen with amazement to her grandmother, Elizabeth Thien Leffingwell, tell of the stars in the skies just 3 miles north of Port Washington in Sucker Brook where the family's cottages were located.

Netzow said her grandmother would also speak of her great-grandfather, John Henry Thien, the founder of what is now Thiensville.

"We loved her so much. She was so willing to share of yourself . When I was a little girl, I would spend a month and a half with my grandmother. She would take me out on picnics just north of Port Washington and tell me these wonderful stories of my great-grandfather," Netzow said . "We were a very close-knit family so it was neat to hear about my family's history."

Netzow, 83, who resides in Thiensville, said "it is a bit 'spooky' how a girl who grew up in Whitewater, earned a degree in dance at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, worked as a receptionist on Fifth Avenue in New York and lived with her husband in South Carolina now calls Thiensville her home after moving here in December 2003."

"It's a little spooky to think where I live now is the same place my great-grandfather founded," she said while clutching a book on John Henry Thien (which she says some of her family members pronounced "teen"). "I think that may be the German pronunciation."

Netzow said her great-grandfather was a wealthy immigrant who came from Oldenburg, Germany in 1842 and decided to settle on the Milwaukee River just 20 miles north of Milwaukee. It was here in 1839 that John Weston built a home along Pigeon Creek on Green Bay Road where he ran a small general store and a post office

"It was on July 20, 1842 that John Weston sold 148 acres to Joachim Heinrich Thien (John Henry Thien) - my great-grandfather - for \$800," Netzow said . "He built the first grist mill and his home next to it. He then decided to layout his plans for Thiensville ." According to Netzow, Thien's first wife was the reason why he made his initial stop in Thiensville.

"Evidently she was tired of all the jostling on Green Bay Road when the two of them were riding in a carriage and she wanted him to stop," Netzow said. "The stop the two made was a historic one because this is where he decided to start the village.

"It's believed that when his wife smelled the pigeons and deer meat grilling on a fire by the Sauk Indians she told him to stop and this is where she wanted to stay," Netzow said.

Netzow said her great-grandfather used the help of the Sauk Indians to help him build a mill in 1876 and also construct a dam to help with the water flow into the mill.

“He didn’t discriminate against the Sauk Indians. He paid the same amount as the other workers who helped him build his mill,” Netzow said.

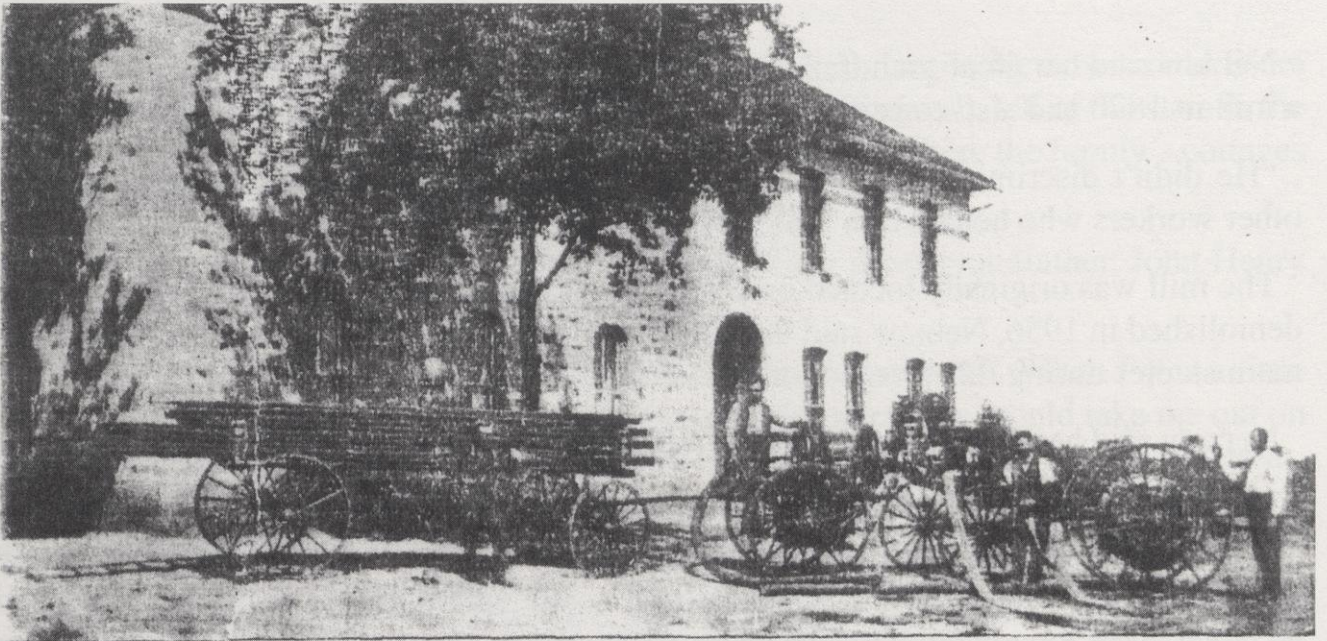
The mill was originally located on Green Bay Avenue next to the river. Before it was demolished in 1956, Netzow said the mill was used to grind wheat into flour, one of the main staples during this time period.

Netzow said her great-grandfather also organized the first volunteer fire department or “company” as it was called in 1857.

“He was the captain of the fire company,” she said. “He even gave the land for the department which also served as a community center where dances were held.” She said he never lived long enough to see Thiensville become incorporated as a village; Thien died in 1863, and is buried in the old Opitz Cemetery on Mequon Road.

“He was a true pioneer in every sense of the word,” Netzow said.



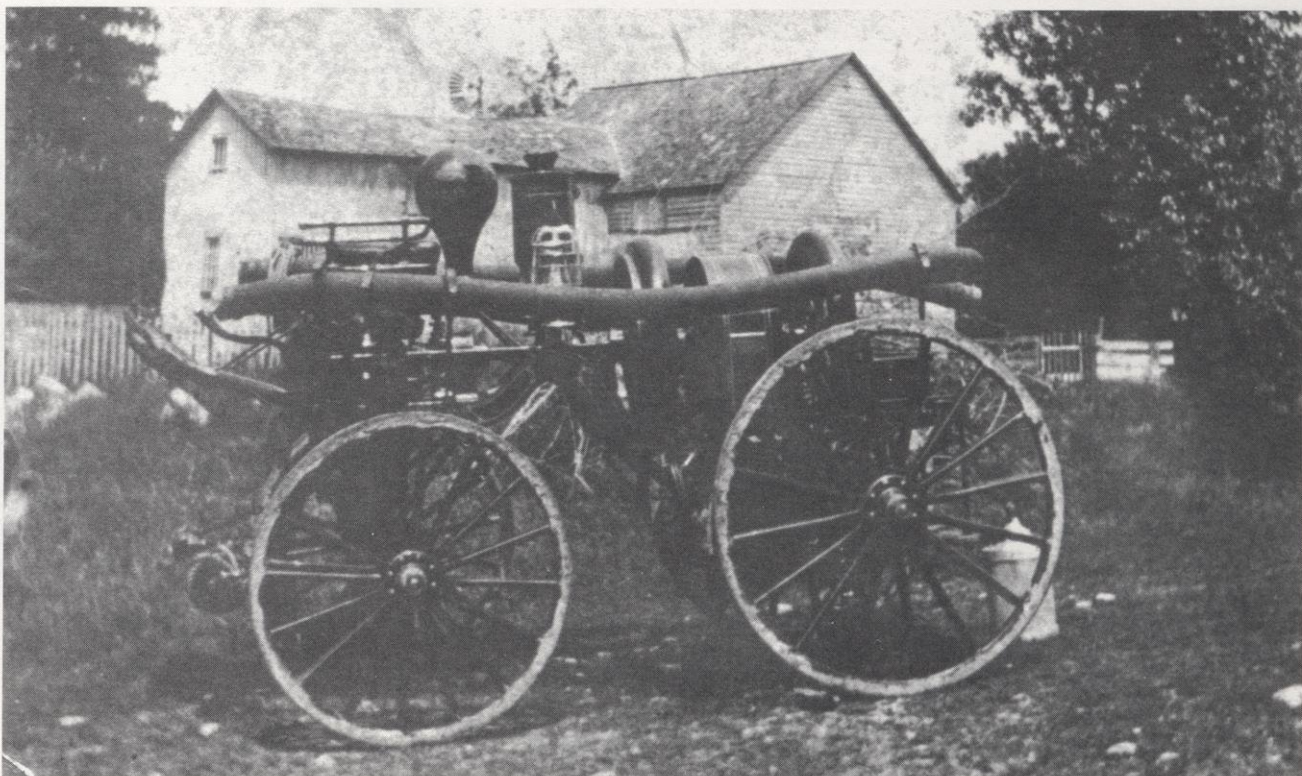


*Safen- und Leiterwagen, Spritze und Schlauchwagen des Feuerdepartments in Ebersville.*

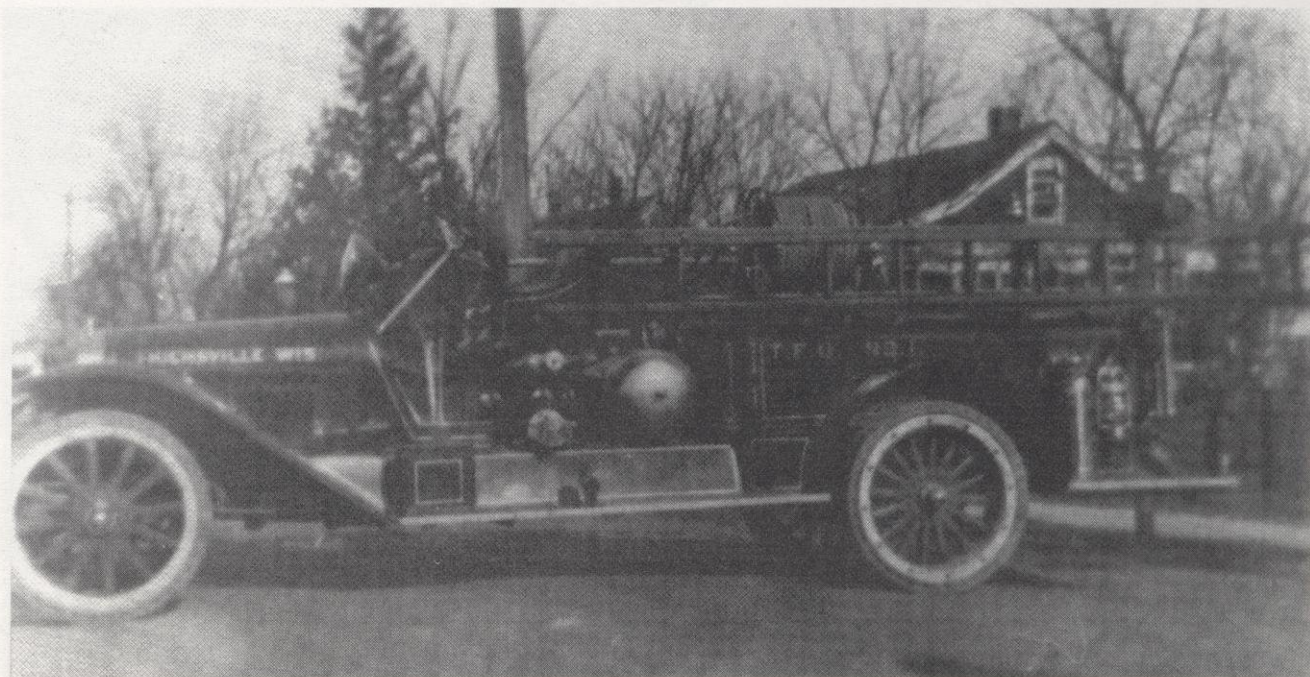
OLD FIRE EQUIPMENT WITH GERMAN WRITTEN UNDER PICTURE.



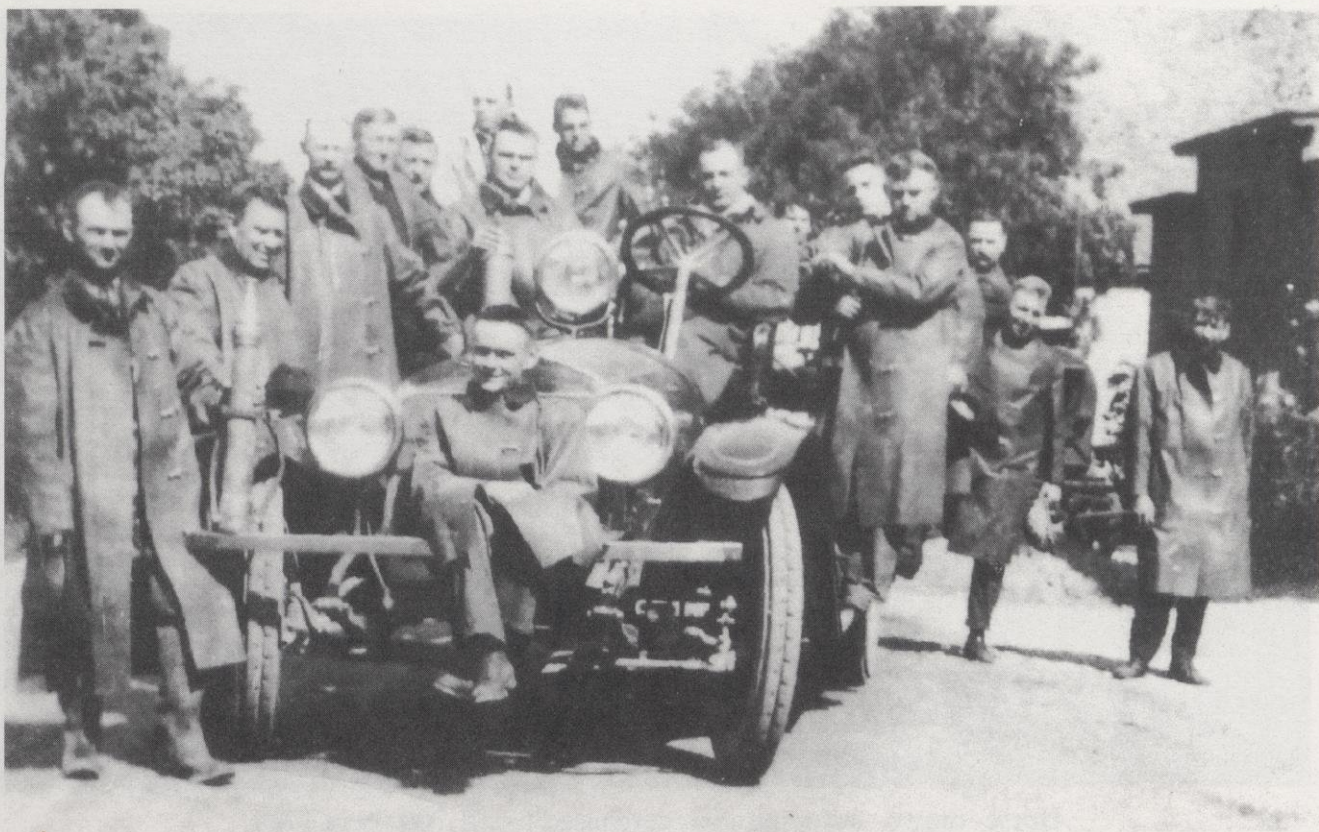
Getting horse-drawn equipment to the fire was easier than returning it to the station, as this 1915 photo shows.



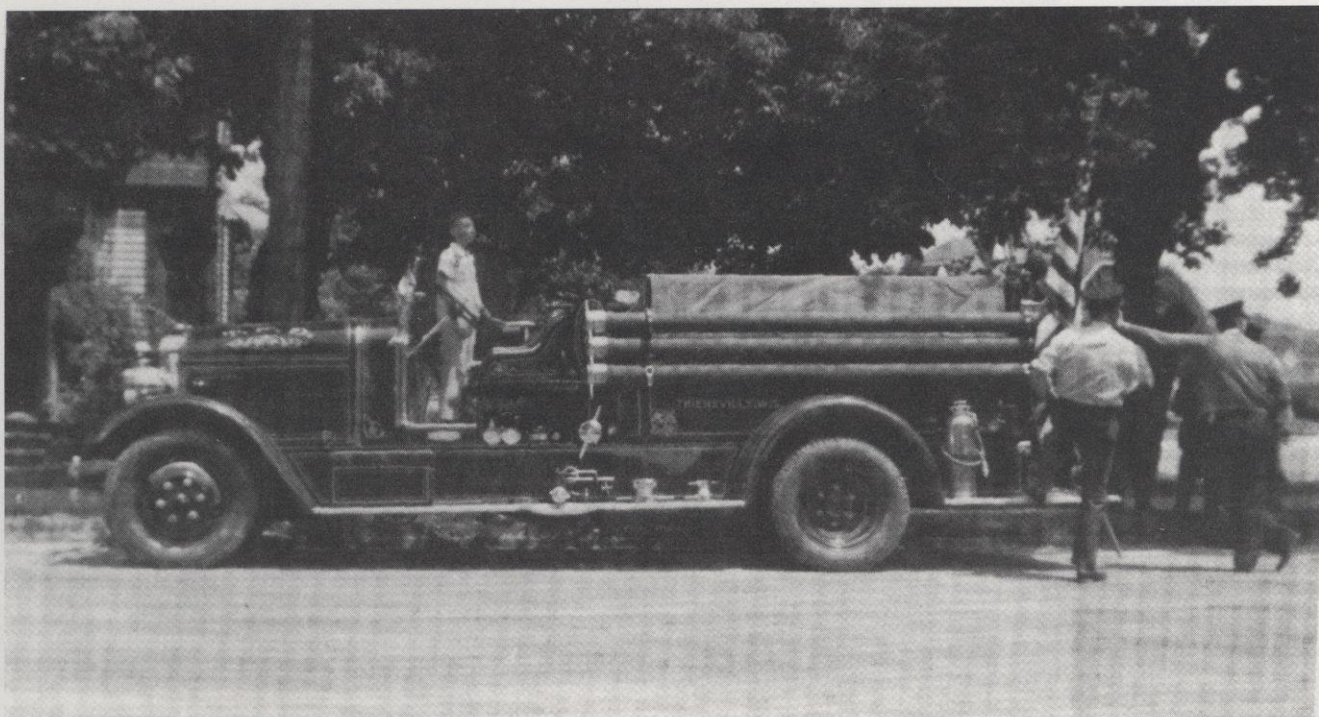
Horse- drawn water pumper, purchased for \$1,700.00 in 1904.



This Luverne fire engine was the first motorized vehicle purchased by the Thiensville Fire Department. With money given by the Village of Thiensville and the Town of Mequon, this engine was purchased in 1920. It had a 500GPM pump, and a small water tank.



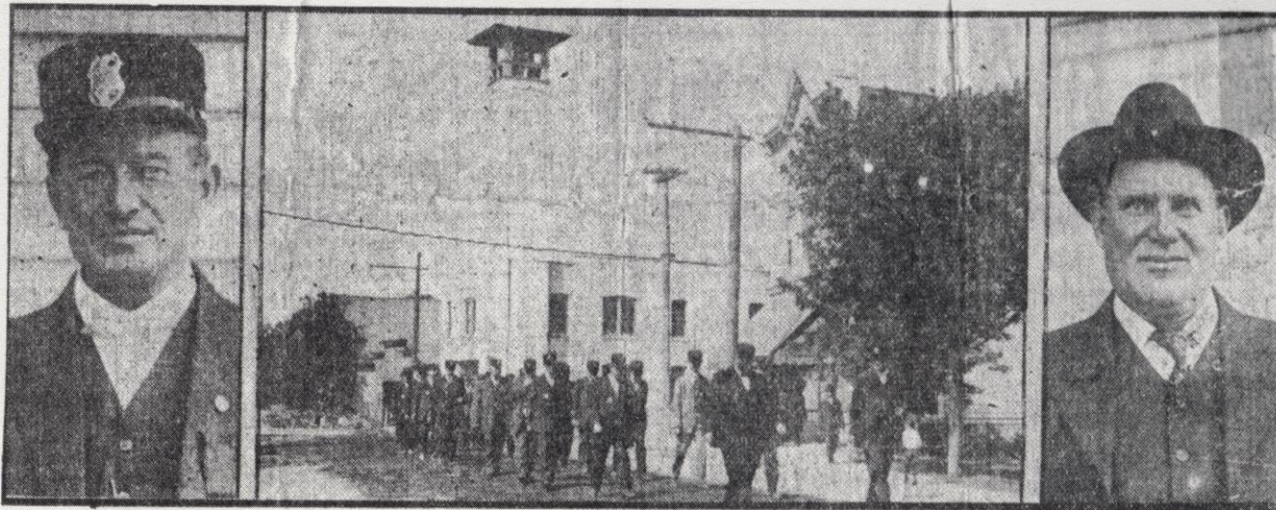
Trying out the Luverne pumper, Early 1920's.



The 1935 Seagrave shown at the start of a parade.

# Rain Fails to Dampen Ardor of Thiensville Firemen

By Sentinel Staff Photographer.



Frank Gerlach,

Fire Department on Parade, With New Village Hall in Background.

J. H. E. Mueller.

Chief of Fire Department.

President of Village.

## RAIN FAILS TO STOP PICNIC OF FIREMEN

Thiensville Volunteer Department  
Holds Celebration in Honor of  
Doubly Significant Event.

### DEDICATE VILLAGE HALL

Green Bay Road Connecting Prosper-  
ous Community With Milwaukee  
Formally Reopened.

"Oh, for the life of a fireman, a fire-  
man, a fireman!" sang the popular song  
composer.

But "Into each life some rain must  
fall," a poet wrote.

The Thiensville fire department  
planned a big celebration for Sunday.  
Old Jup Pluvius, well known dispenser  
of sky hydraulics, heard about it and  
determined to pull off a rival exhibition  
of his fire extinguishing prowess.

An intermittent all day drizzling  
sprinkle, however, did not serve to  
extinguish the picnic enthusiasm of Thiens-  
ville's lusty firefighters, or even to  
dampen it. And the warmth of Thiens-  
ville's hospitality fully made up for the  
chill and drizzle of the day for several  
hundred persons who braved unpropit-  
ious weather to attend the event.

#### Observes Double Event.

The celebration had double significance.  
It marked the reopening of the Green  
Bay road, connecting Thiensville with  
Milwaukee. And what was more im-  
portant, it marked the dedication of  
Thiensville's new \$6,000 village hall and  
fire engine house.

The building is a neat two story brick  
structure, 50 by 32 feet, with a sixty  
foot tower rising at the southwest cor-  
ner. The lower floor is mainly devoted  
to housing apparatus by the fire depart-  
ment, one of the earliest founded vol-  
unteer fire fighting organizations in this  
section of the state, which was started  
in the early fifties, and now has nearly  
ninety members. On the first floor also  
is the village lockup, and upstairs an  
assembly hall, the session chamber of  
the village board, and the village clerk's  
office.

Celebration festivities were begun at

10:30 o'clock Sunday morning. Deliver-  
ing the dedicatory address in the new  
building, Dr. J. A. Rohr of North Mil-  
waukee commended the spirit of villagers  
which made the hall possible.

#### Lauds Peaceful Patriots.

"It is indicative not only of your civic  
pride, but of your patriotism, my  
friends," he said. "Many seem to think  
that patriotism must evince itself in  
bravery and sacrifice in war. But there  
is also a patriotism of peace. You show  
that patriotism in rearing structures of  
this character, your schools, your  
churches, your public buildings.

"I want to congratulate the citizens of  
Thiensville and especially the volunteer  
firemen. I want to tell you volunteer  
firemen it is a great thing to be a volunteer—  
not only a volunteer fireman, but a vol-  
unteer of whatever kind, providing the  
motive be worthy. The world looks to  
volunteers, because it knows there is no  
sordidness or selfish incentive behind their  
deeds. Every great move for the better-  
ment of the race was begun by volun-  
teers. The world needs volunteers—and  
they can fill a big place in Thiensville."

#### March in Parade.

It was still sprinkling lightly when the  
procession formed at 1 o'clock. Headed  
by Fire Chief Frank Gerlach and a band  
dispensing notes that were "liquid" in  
more than a metaphorical sense, the fire-  
men marched in parade to the bunting  
decorated park, where the afternoon exer-  
cises were held.

"I doubt if there is another village the  
size of Thiensville in this state that can  
boast a better and finer village hall," said  
Attorney William F. Shanen of Port  
Washington, in making the address of  
welcome. "Thiensville always has been  
known for its strong fire department—  
purely a volunteer department of men  
serving without pay. The members are  
willing to sacrifice their time, their work  
and even their lives, if necessary, solely

for the benefit of the community. There  
is no finer American spirit than that."

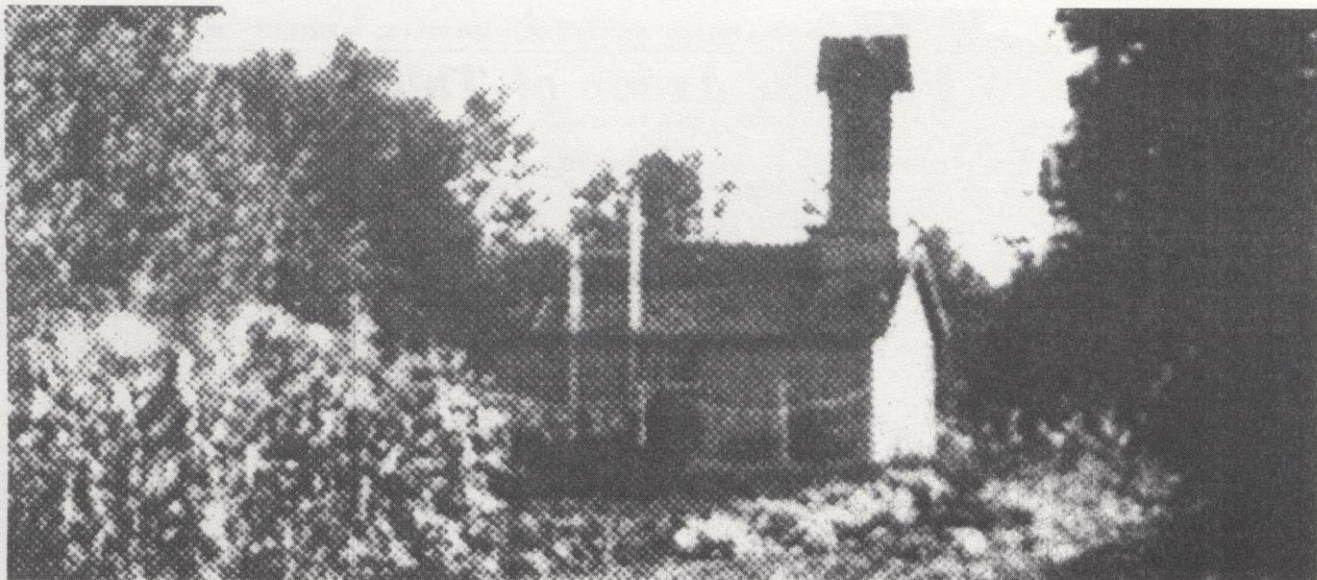
A "water soaking" contest was a main  
entertainment feature of the afternoon.

John H. E. Mueller, village president,  
said that due to the spiteful activities of  
the weatherman, Thiensville had been  
giving her visitors more or less of a  
"water soaking" exhibition all day. But  
there was only one short one of the pre-  
arranged kind.

Standing on platforms 100 feet apart  
and directing hose streams at one another,  
Charles Kemp defended the water fight-  
ing honor of Thiensville against Arthur  
Radke of Mequon.

The celebration closed at night with  
dancing.

Fire Department on Parade, with the  
new village hall in the background.



This is one of the first garages used to house fire equipment.



One of the worst fires in the history of the department was the post office fire on New Year's Eve 1933. Postmaster John Albers lost his life in the fire, which destroyed the building.



As a member of the Badger Firemen's Association, the department participated in the annual Firemen's Tournament. Here three members compete in the hose coupling contest.



Bob Morhausen, fire chief, resigned his position, and last Friday the Fire Dept. named Ed. Hadler, Ed. Krause and Joe Fedrich as nominees from which the village board will choose a new chief. (left to right ) These firemen are: Elroy Hauser, Lory Fisher, Ray Hilty, Paul Memmler, Joe Fedrick, Walter Schmoll, Ed. Krause, Herb, Paeglow, Max Polzig, Ed. Mueller, Herb Radtke and Andrew Maus, musician. Photo by Pete Hiltgen.





Members pictured in photo.

1st Row: H. Radke, G. Raloff, P. Memmler

2nd Row: R. Hilty, K. (Bud) Raloff, J. Fredich

3rd Row: D. Raloff, C. Ruegee, K. (Butch) Mueller, W. Tretow



These members are waiting for a department meeting to start, or are wondering why the meeting has not ended yet.



On March 6th, 1948, the fire department took delivery of a new engine. Chief Edward Hadler (second from the left) and members of the department's truck committee pose with the new pumper at the Thienerville Mill.

# CHARTER MEMBERS OF THE THIENSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

January 3, 1857

John Henry Thien- Captain  
R. Baus  
William Carbys  
L. Crusins  
Ferdinand Duwe Sr.  
Charles Engles  
Charles Ferge  
Phillip Fleisch  
M. Frey – Honorary Member  
R. Grunter  
M. Hanke  
P. Knopp  
H. Kolwey  
Hartwig Lau  
C. Lidole  
Matthew Linden  
E. Metzler  
Ludwig Merz  
H. Mohrhusen Sr.  
Joseph Seiberlich- Killed at Resaca, Georgia May 5, 1864 (civil war)  
Henry John Thien  
Johann Thiermann  
Joseph Tietjen  
G. Voland  
William Zimmermann

# Fire Chiefs 1857-2007

## **Thiensville Fire Department - Chiefs.**

1857 to 2007

John Henry Thien 1859 - 1860\*

William Carbys 1860 - 1862; 1866 - 1869

F. Kaselow 1862 - 1863

Fred Duwe 1863 - 1865

C. H. Ferge 1865 - 1866

Fred Duwe 1869 - 1874

Henry John Thien 1874 - 1875

William Goltermann 1875 - 1882

Enrst Aloon 1882 - 1892

H. Kroehnke 1892 - 1895

August Maas 1895 - 1904

Otto Hadler 1904 - 1905

John Mueller 1905 - 1915

Charles Maas 1915 - 1927

Ben Morhusen 1927 - 1932; 1933 - 1941

Louis Sitkiewitz 1932 - 1933

Edward Hadler 1941 - 1955

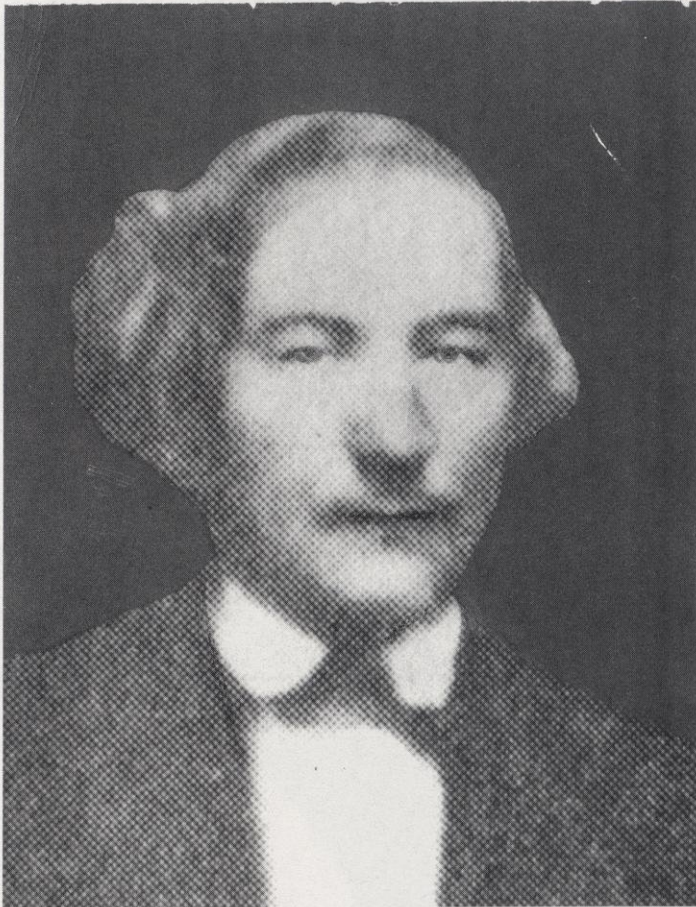
Herbert Radke 1955 - 1960

Kenneth Schultz 1960 - 1965

John "Bud" Helm 1965 - 1972

William F. Rausch 1972 - present

\* John Henry Thien held the rank of Captain since the founding of the company in 1857. The first records of meetings chaired by him begin in 1859.

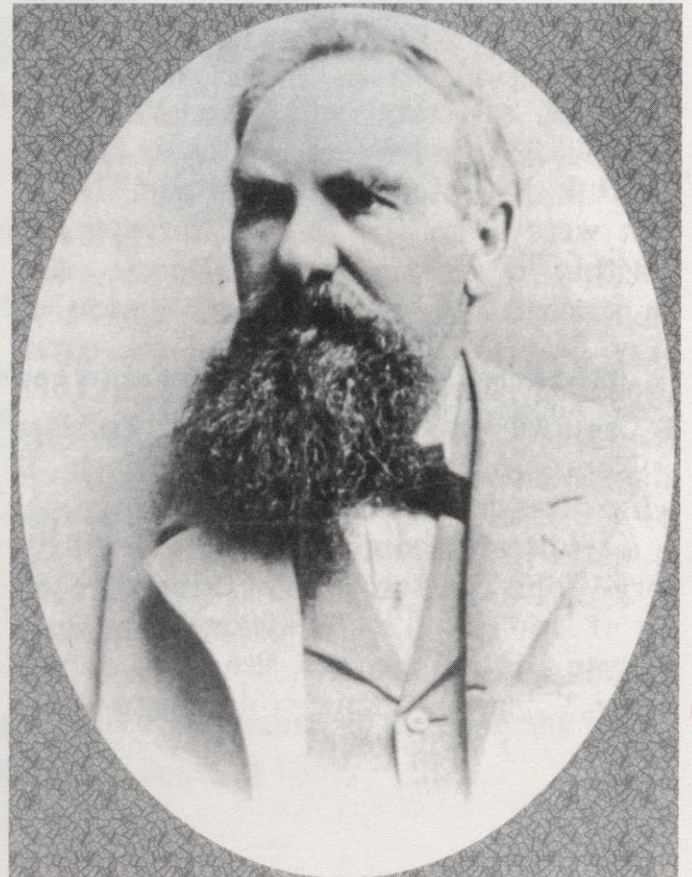


John Henry Thien was the first chief of the Thiensville Fire Engine Company. Known as the "Father of Thiensville," he would serve as chief from January 1859 to May of 1860.



The second chief, William Carbys, served in that role twice, from 1860 to 1862 and from 1866 to 1874.

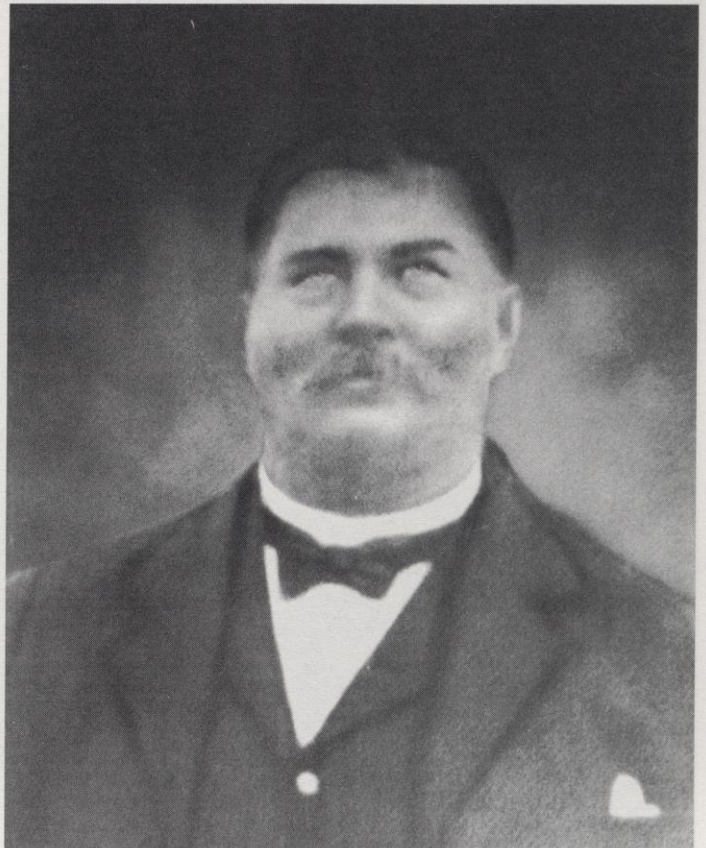
This is H. J. Thien, 1874 - 1875.





John Mueller was elected chief in May 1905. Mueller was one of the residents instrumental in getting the Village of Thiensville incorporated in 1910. After his term as chief ended in 1915, he was elected Village President in 1916.

Charles Maas served as chief from 1915 to 1927.





Ben Morhusen would serve as chief from 1927 to 1932, and from 1933 to 1941.



Louis Sitkiewitz would have the shortest term as chief, running from 1932 to 1933. He also served as the Village Marshall for many years.



Ed. Hadler served as chief  
from 1941 to 1955

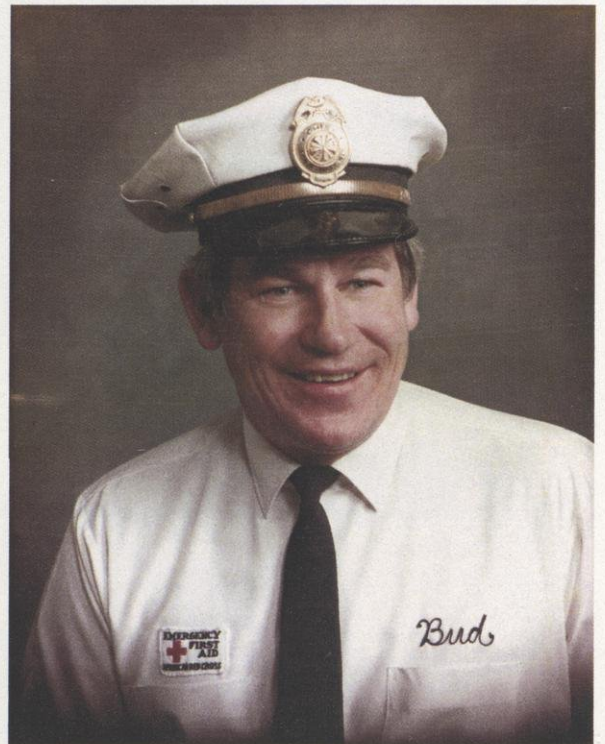


Herb Radke served as chief  
from 1955 to 1960



Kenneth Schultz was appointed fire chief in 1960. During his term, the department began operating the rescue squad.

John "Bud" Helm was appointed Fire Chief in 1965.



William F. Rausch was appointed chief in 1972, continuing in that role to the present.

# *Congratulations!*

*to you Chief William F. Rausch*  
on being elected President of the  
Wisconsin Fire Chiefs Association

The members of your department know it is without a doubt that your success in life is your "diligence combined with your innate talents, your expertise and dedication, your service to mankind, a good deed along the upward path toward the top of the hill, blended with kindness and consideration to others."

Congratulations to you on all your winning achievements from all the members of the  
**"THIENSVILLE  
VOLUNTEER FIRE  
DEPARTMENT."**



CONGRATULATIONS to Chief William F. Rausch  
on being elected President of the Wisconsin Fire Chiefs Association in 1989.



Firemen from Thiensville and Mequon crouched at the ready as the ancient Frank homestead was finally allowed to burn Sunday, March 24, 1968. Fires were started and extinguished in the house all day as a training exercise for a number of fire departments. Destruction of the building makes way for a large addition to Homestead High School.



The 1935 Seagrave pumper was always a favorite in local parades, with local children getting a chance to ride on the truck. This unit is currently undergoing restoration at a shop in Colorado.



In 1960, the department was equipped with new fire fighting coats and helmets. The members of the department show off their new gear and the newest truck, a 1959 GMC pumper.

- Row 1: John Covert, Roger White, John "Bud" Helm, Bill Rausch, unknown, Roy Oberheu
- Row 2: Chief Herb Radtke, George Dreblow, Leo Rausch
- Row 3: Stanley Detroy, Eddie Mueller, Louie Sims, Dan Bartlein, Bob Zancig, Leroy Mueller, Assistant Chief Max Poelzig, Assistant Chief Walter Schmoll,
- Row 4: Emil Verfuert, Iran Otto, Ken Schultz, Ernie Helms, Art Kiehnau, Tom Wippert, Jim Laatsch.

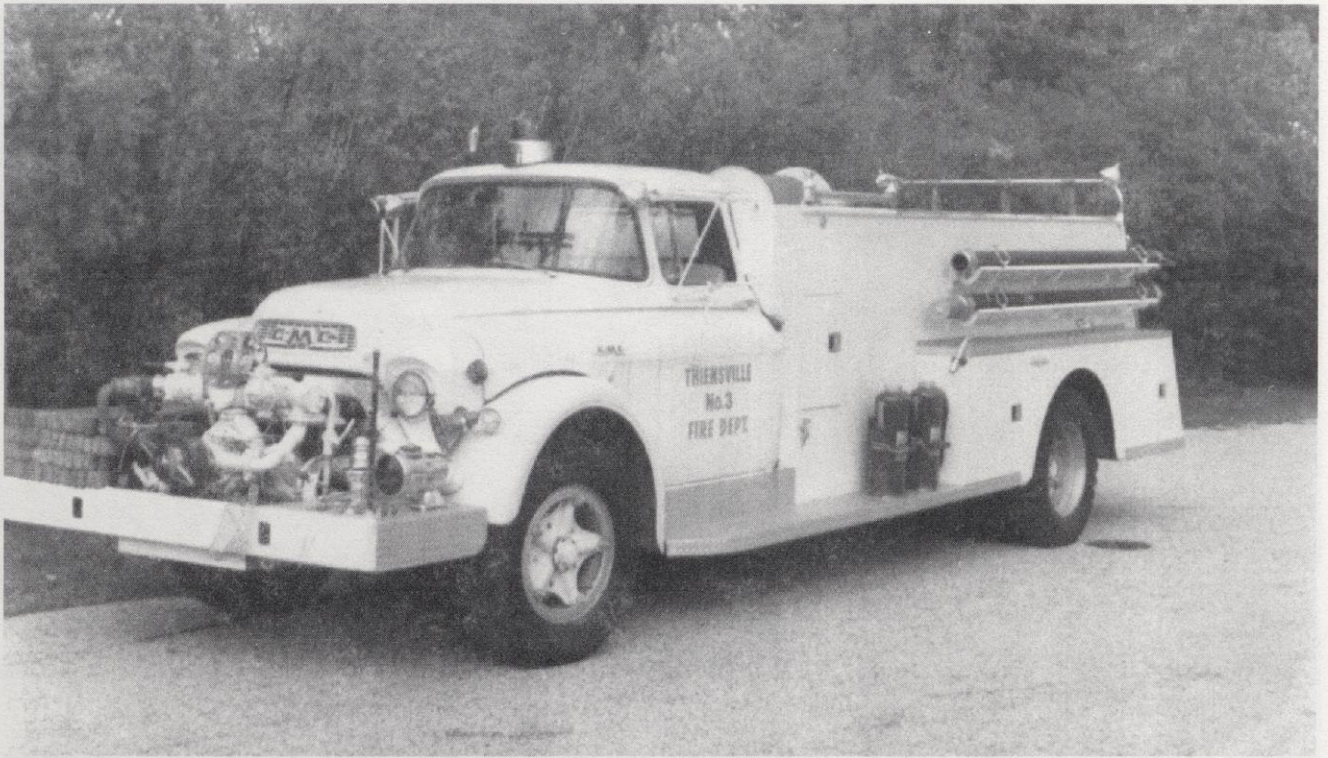


These firemen Emil Verfuert, John Covert, Ken Schultz, Bud Helm, and Geo. Dreblow sport the new Thiensville Fire Dept. hats and coats recently added to the department.



Ready to go, These new hats, and coats for the Thiensville firemen are ready to go at a moment's notice. Those white objects back of the coats are boots upside down.





A 1959 GMC.



Even after being retired from active service, the department's 1935 Seagrave pumper was used in various roles, including supplying hose lines at training sessions. It is shown drafting from the Milwaukee River in 1973,



Thiensville fire fighting equipment was moved to a new location on Elm St. directly across from the Thiensville park. Two of their units, the 1948 Chevrolet pumper, and the 1959 GMC pumper.



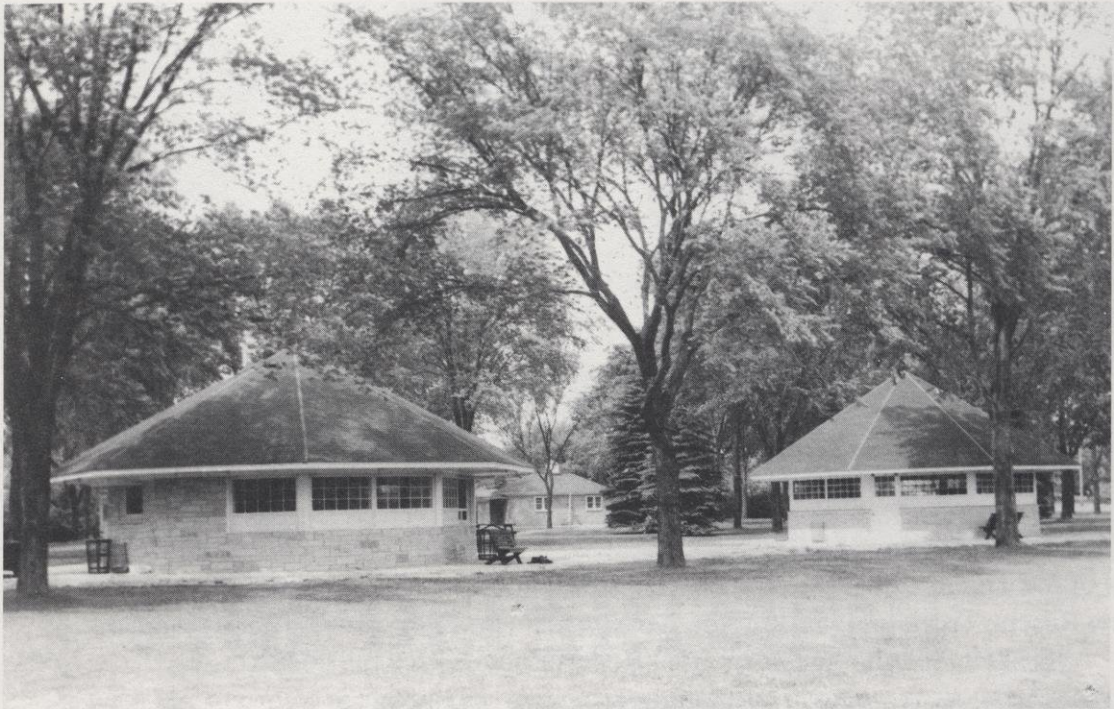
Fire Dept. equipment the winter of 1967.



Members in picture (l to r) Paul Memmler, Max Poeltzig, Ray Hiltz, Herbert Paeglow, Walter Schmoll, Ben Luedtke, Herbert Radke, Edward Hadler, Buddy Helm.



Red Cross Disaster Van Mrs. Kathleen (Pat Rausch), and Sandy Laatsch, are shown in front of the American Red Cross Canteen van that will be used in case of a disaster in Ozaukee county and also in Glendale. Mrs. Rausch has been named chairman of Disaster Services for the Northern Region of the Greater Milwaukee Chapter of the American Red Cross. The second photograph shows Sandy behind the wheel.



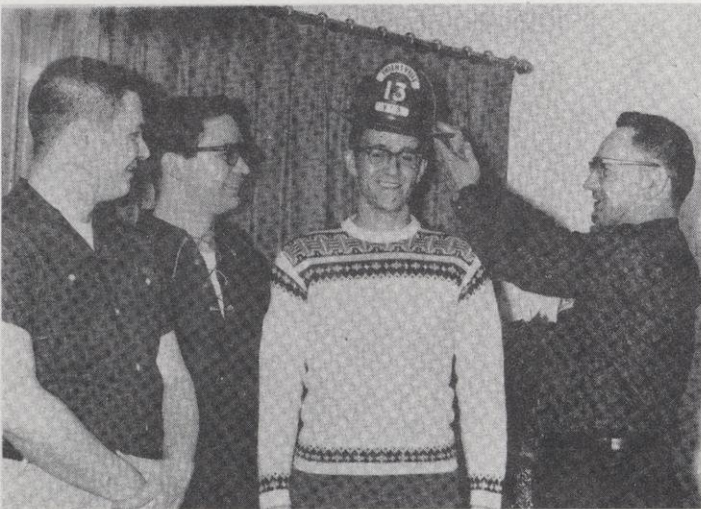
These two park pavilions were paid for by the Thiensville Volunteer firemen.



Members in picture Elroy Heuser, George Raloff, Andy Maus, Elmer Flom, Ed. Hadler, Leroy Mueller, mascot, Dan Raloff, Herbert Radke, Herb Paeglow, Eddy Kraus, Wally Schmoll, Ed. Mueller, Oscar Luedtke, Johnny Baum, Ray Hilty, Max Poeltzig, Will Haering.



Officers of the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department pictured in front of the door of their new Rescue Truck are, left to right, Lee Bartlein, secretary; Iran Otto, treasurer; Kenneth Schultz, president; and Robert Zancig, vice president.



When the roll is taken at the regular meetings of the Thiensville Fire Department and the caller comes to the name Schultz there will be a chorus of "here" as a father and three sons answer! Kenneth Schultz, assistant fire chief and former chief, is pictured as he welcomed his youngest son, Gordon, into the department. Gordon received confirmation of his appointment from the Thiensville board of trustees at their January 12 meeting. Looking on are his two older brothers, also members of the department, David, left, and Donald.

**FIREMEN GET HOUSEMAID'S KNEE and Dishpan Hands!** No job is too menial for Thiensville firemen as they get their pavilions in shape for their annual Firemen's Picnic which will be held in Thiensville village park Saturday and Sunday, July 18 and 19. Shown here are: Jim Luedtke, Dick Wester, Dave and Don Schultz, and Emil Verfueth.



**THIENSVILLE VOLUNTEER  
FIRE DEPARTMENT  
MEMBERS  
1859-2007**

<u>1859</u>	<u>1866</u>	<u>1882</u>	<u>1892</u>
Fred Casselow	Dr. Rosenthal	F. Flynn	Carl Raloff
Heinrich Gunter		August Gerlach	
Charles Laun	<u>1867</u>	C. Gerlach	<u>1893</u>
Charles Reichhardt	Wm. Jahn	F. Clasen	Otto Hadler
Dr. F. Weitze		Ben Herziger	Wm. Riemenschneider
G. Gollidner	<u>1868</u>	August Hooan	
A. G. Hayhsen	Wilhelm Alten	A. Jochem	<u>1895</u>
Diedrich Luebben*	H. Haas	L. Kopp	Louis Staudy
F. Toenniehsen	M. Haertel	Otto Memmler	John Wilson
Gustav Wiedenhoffer	Gustav Hausburg	Franz Zimmermann	
	Frank Komb		<u>1896</u>
<u>1860</u>	Christopher Kominsky	<u>1883</u>	Louis Kieker
Ernst Knauth	C. Kurz	E. Memmler	
Charles Marquardt	Ferdinand Krumhever		<u>1897</u>
	Martin Musyl	<u>1887</u>	Wm. Blaese
<u>1861</u>	Carl Nehls	John Bublitz	Gustav Conrad
O. Boselager	Gerhard Schawecke	Theodore Bublitz	John Farr
J. Hartz	Frederich Tessmann	Otto Carbys	Wm. Fischer
Theodore Mohrhussen	Gustav Siefert	Ernst Geidel	Louis Koehler
W. Mueller		Wm. Hoeft	Charles Maas Jr.
Gottfried Neuber	<u>1869</u>	Herman Hadler	Mathias Scherer
H. Newmeister	August Maas	Herman Kroehnke	
H. Struppert	Herman Behling	T. J. Kroehnke	<u>1898</u>
	Heinrich Petersen	Fritz Linden	Dr. Albers
<u>1862</u>		Christian Ruck	Gottlieb Lenz
Ernst Alten	<u>1872</u>	Otto Linden	Ben Morhusen
Ulrich Hilty	Gerhard Goellner	Ferdinand Thiermann	Wm. Siefert
Hans Heidel			
Alvin Knoll	<u>1873</u>	<u>1889</u>	<u>1905</u>
H. Mohrhussen	Henry Hilger	August Maas	Otto Bublitz
Dr. Munk		Ed. Simon	Richard Bublitz
M. Shoepperle	<u>1874</u>		James Donohue
F. Schwcke	Gottlieb Haas	<u>1891</u>	James Flynn
		Charles Ebley	Wm. Flynn
<u>1863</u>	<u>1878</u>	Henry Enders	Thomas Flynn
Dr. Fischer	Ferdinand Duwe	Gunther Fuchs	C. Gerlach
Gustav Neuber	F. Engelhardt	Frank Gerlach	Louis Greuenwald
		Mike Hilty	H. Guenther
<u>1864</u>	<u>1880</u>	Fred Knop	Daniel Heil
Karl Marquardt	F. G. Memmler	Herman Machleit	Ben Herziger Jr.
	L. Meyer	Peter Reimers	Ed Herziger
<u>1865</u>	<u>1881</u>	Henry Siefert	Arthur Peuschel
Claus Altmann	G. Dainnichen	Herman Siefert	John Stegeman
P. Daum		Frank Siefert	
Wilhelm Goldermann		Richard Siefert	
August Hodann		Moritz Zienert	

1906  
 Julius Clausing  
 Henry Morhusen Jr  
 Martin Kreiter  
 Wm. Morhusen  
 Paul Oppel  
 Julius Schafer  
 John Thiermann Jr.  
 Leo Wilson

1907  
 John Engel  
 Carl Hadler  
 Louis Novotny  
 Albert Reimer  
 Ferdinand Schwanz  
 Theodore Stieglitz

1908  
 John Clausing  
 Peter Ellenbecker  
 August Gruenwald  
 Charles Schmidt  
 Fritz Holnagel  
 Oscar Sommers

1909  
 Henry Burow  
 Paul Clasen  
 August Claus  
 Emil Kroll

1910  
 Anthony Hatzinger  
 Edwin Herbst  
 Frank Kafehl  
 A. Marquardt  
 John O'Leary  
 Phillip Strassburger

1911  
 Carl Wulff  
 Edward Chromaster  
 Peter Reimer  
 W. C. Schwalbe  
 August Thiermann

1912  
 Gerhard Aussem  
 Alvin Cross  
 Reinhold Gerlach  
 Reinhold Jeske  
 H. M. Knudson  
 Otto Lau  
 John Robel  
 Adolph Raloff  
 Adolph Scheffler

1913  
 Albert Duehring  
 J. M. Haig  
 Alex Knepel  
 Adolph Raloff Sr.  
 Alvin Rheingans  
 William Rhiengans  
 Herman Strassburger  
 George Thiermann

1914  
 Louis Bartelt  
 A.H. Carthaus  
 Fred Ferchoft  
 Henry Jaeger Sr  
 Ferdinard Knepel  
 George Lindbert  
 Phillip Meyer  
 Carl Wilbert  
 Carl Wittig

1915  
 Theodore Wegemann  
 Henry Wehrle  
 Edwin Wiese  
 Henry Wippert  
 Arthur Zancig

1916  
 Henry Blank  
 Martin Blank  
 Al Hadler  
 Edward Hadler

1917  
 Louis Sitzkiewitz

1918  
 Ben Hadler  
 Herbert Paeglow  
 Max Poeltzig  
 John Thiermann  
 A. Tischefer  
 Ed Troxel  
 Daniel Wallace

1919  
 Emil Scheffler  
 John Schuch  
 Ed. Storm  
 Alfred Whitmann

1921  
 Frank Crow  
 Conrad Plautz

1922  
 Raymond Gorkey  
 Bennard Vosen

1924  
 Fred Gehrke

1926  
 Theodore Liebscher

1933  
 Arthur Baaska  
 Herman Baaska  
 Raymond Hilty  
 Otto Kaulder  
 Edward Kraus  
 Ben Luedtke  
 Oscar Luedtke  
 Paul Memmler  
 Andrew Maus  
 George Raloff  
 Edgar Rheingans  
 Lester Rhiengans  
 Arthur Rhiengans  
 Walter Schmoll

1934  
 W. W. Rowe  
 George Hennings  
 Frank Lemanceyck  
 Herbert Radke  
 Kenneth Miller  
 Erwin Riemer  
 Walter Tretow

1935  
 Clarence Heauser

1940  
 Lorenz Fischer

1941  
 Wilmer Haering  
 Edward Kraus Jr.  
 Clarence Kuklinski

1942  
 Joseph Federick  
 Hermann Gawrisch

1943  
 George Narlock  
 Raymond Tetzlaff  
 Eugene Stern

1944  
 John Helm Sr.  
 William Stevens

1945  
 Charles Brown  
 Elmer Flom  
 Paul Frank

1946  
 Kenneth Depies  
 Melvin Holtz  
 Bruce Opsahl  
 Earl Raloff

\*Passed away while serving in the military



1947  
 Stanley De Troye  
 John Ehlers  
 Lester Loppnow  
 Wayne Merrit  
 Raymond Reuter Sr.  
 Kenneth Schultz

1948  
 John Behling  
 Frank Boltz  
 K. Chinnock  
 John Sommers  
 John Stowell  
 Robert Stowell

1949  
 Fred Brown  
 Henry Dei  
 Elroy Depies  
 John "Bud" Helm  
 William Rausch  
 Leo Rausch  
 Emil Verfuert  
 Thomas Wippert  
 Robert Zancig

1950  
 Clifford Bergin  
 Clarence Boesch  
 Robert Rabel  
 Louis Schimmelpfenig  
 (Sims)

1952  
 Elmer Bert  
 Mick Colgrove  
 Romie Cook  
 John Covert  
 Ernst Helms  
 Gerald Radke  
 Raymond Hadler  
 Leroy Mueller  
 William Schultz

1953  
 Stanley Gehrke  
 Fred Carter  
 Iran Otto

1954  
 John Sitkiewitz  
 David Dorman  
 Lee Bartlein  
 Edward Mueller  
 Roger White  
 Michael Verhalen

1955  
 Daniel Bartlein  
 Robert Frank  
 Alvin Verfuert

1956  
 George Helm  
 Paul Schultz

1957  
 Monroe Hall  
 Arthur Kiehnau  
 Roy Oberheu

1958  
 Frederick Gossfeld

1959  
 George Dreblow  
 Charles Densow  
 Joseph Nawrocki  
 Joseph Pintor Sr.

1961  
 Robert Otto  
 George Kallenbach  
 Richard Anzia  
 James "Pinky" Luedtke  
 Richard Wester  
 William Wilde

1962  
 Elwood Grube  
 William Hughes  
 James Laatsch  
 Thomas Laatsch

1963  
 Joseph Krauthramer  
 Alvin Richson  
 Donald Schultz

1964  
 Earl Hauser  
 Lester Thompson

1965  
 James Legault  
 Edward Michalski, Sr

1966  
 Thomas Biga  
 Arthur Demerath  
 Frank Dobranski  
 Robert Gehrke  
 Ronald Gengler  
 Paul Michaels  
 Lenard Schmit  
 Gordon Schultz  
 Robert Warber

1967  
 Roy Gehrke  
 Jack Haas  
 Richard Kuklinski  
 Stanley Kuklinski

1968  
 Guy Chinnock  
 Gerald Demerath  
 John Demerath  
 Christopher Engelhart\*  
 Dennis Hauser  
 Rodney Verfuert

1969  
 Thomas Schultz  
 David Dolata  
 Allen Praefke  
 Roger Kuklinski  
 Joseph Pintor Jr.  
 Richard Plutowski  
 Fredrick Siemann  
 David Johnson

1970  
 Albert Fakes  
 Ervin Helms  
 James Stamm

1971  
 Terrence Gengler  
 Richard Hansen  
 Edward Michalski Jr.  
 James Schnoll

1972  
 Jack Duffman  
 James Gehrke  
 Dennis Helms  
 John Long  
 Wendel Pierner  
 William Rausch Jr.

1973  
 Gary Casadonte  
 Dale Engel  
 Fredrick Gawrisch  
 Chester Laatsch  
 Robert Lauer  
 Scott Shanahan

1974  
 Carl Bublitz  
 Jeffery Bublitz  
 Charles Mierzwa  
 Blake Reichgeld

<u>1975</u> Harold Kissler Peter Maynard Brian Schumaker	<u>1982</u> Terry Bartlein Scott Kuehn Daryl Laux Charles Schaenzer Charles Wilde	<u>1991</u> Rich Ellner	<u>2003</u> Sarah Kretchmar Kurtis Wueher Regan O' Neill Rod Mc Williams Terry Mc Williams Theodore Jenkins Andrew Siefkes
<u>1976</u> Kevin Andre Jay Hartgarten James Rosenberg Paul Javins Michael Wolf	<u>1983</u> Julie Brady Carol Faller	<u>1992</u> Chris von Briesen Randy Short Rick Borkin	
<u>1977</u> Scott Bartlein Donald Curran Jeffery Dernehl Jeanne Ewens Mark Goelz John Hamm Kathleen Rausch	<u>1984</u> Diann Luedtke Lawrence Owens Vernon Reichgeld	<u>1994</u> Patrick Koerner	<u>2005</u> Karen Erickson Keith Franklin Joshua Lipp William Rosenberg Eric Ploeckelman Jayne Eernisse Audra Westbrooke
<u>1978</u> Mark Adrian Clyde Hutchinson	<u>1985</u> William Barth Paul Gengler Todd Miller Patrick Reindfleisch	<u>1996</u> Judy Kurszewski John Westbrooke	
<u>1979</u> James Klatt William Lesak Charles Walsh Gary Wichgers	<u>1986</u> John Gregoriou Jan Reindfle-Starznski	<u>1997</u> Andrew La Fond Jason Garbisch Barb Chamberlain	<u>2006</u> Kurt Zellmann Jennifer Koerner Denise Wuehr Kathryn Frame Craig Gengler
<u>1980</u> Steve Bartlein Tracy Bartlein Todd Faller David Michalski	<u>1988</u> Nancy Hutchinson Karen Chamberlain Ted Gengler Hans Longo Brian Bublitz Joel Jacobson	<u>1998</u> Kevin Luedtke	
<u>1981</u> Andrew Egelhoff Mark Helm Thomas Jacobson Richard Kass Patrick Page Mark Regnitz	<u>1989</u> Mary Abramovich Sharon Barth Brad Chamberlain John Kukla Laurie Kukla Brian Reiels Patrick Williams	<u>1999</u> Scott Nicholson Andrew Match	
		<u>2000</u> Amy Gehrke Toni Ihler Kristin Nagel Chris Valtente	*Passed away while serving in the military
		<u>2001</u> Jon Franken Elliot Schnieder	
		<u>2002</u> Jonathan Gengler Daniel Ulrich Jason Flegner Joel Schnieder	



VILLAGE OF  THIENSVILLE  
**HONOR ROLL**

Franklin Boesch	Kenneth Miller
Leroy Bublitz	Donald Miller
Jacob Bauer	Richard Miller
Edward Boesch	Max Poeltzig Jr.
John Bauer	Norman Pipkorn
Melvin Bergin	Herbert Paeglow Jr.
Manford Blume	Karl Kaloff
Charles Brown	Earl Kaloff
Ralph Blaubach	Arthur Ricmer
Ervin Barth	Wayne Reich
Geo. Dreblow	Howard Schroeder
Donald Demerath	Leroy Schroeder
Joseph Fetzer	John Sitkiewitz
Stanley Gehrke	Arthur Wagie
Geo. Hennings	Carl Wiese
Ralph Hein	Leroy Polzin
Harold Hiltgen	William Ross
Theo. Konitzer	Harold Post
Richard Lovell	Edmund Greese
Harold Krueger	Stanley Kuklinski
Elroy Heuser	Bruce Opsahl
Lawrence Hilty	Wm. Stevens Jr.
Donald Blaubach	Geo. Ziegler
Robert Eickstedt	Herman Gawrich
Robert Demerath	Harold Poeltzig
Carl Boesch	James Perry
Alois Zenker	Paul Memmler
Joe Fedrick	Fred Hadler
Wayne Merritt	Esther Schneider
Chester Teskey	John Stevens
John Stowell	Lucille Ellenbecker
Robert Stowell	Thomas Wippert
Elmer Boesch	Rose Konitzer
Donald Baaska	Aneda Schaefer
Geo. Kaloff	Louis Zenker
Raymond Reuter Jr.	Allen Praefke
Roy Gruenewald	Clayton Loertscher
Harold Krueger	Ervin Hamann Jr.
Washington D-Kaloff	Edw. Kiehaefer

*Buy* U.S. WAR BONDS

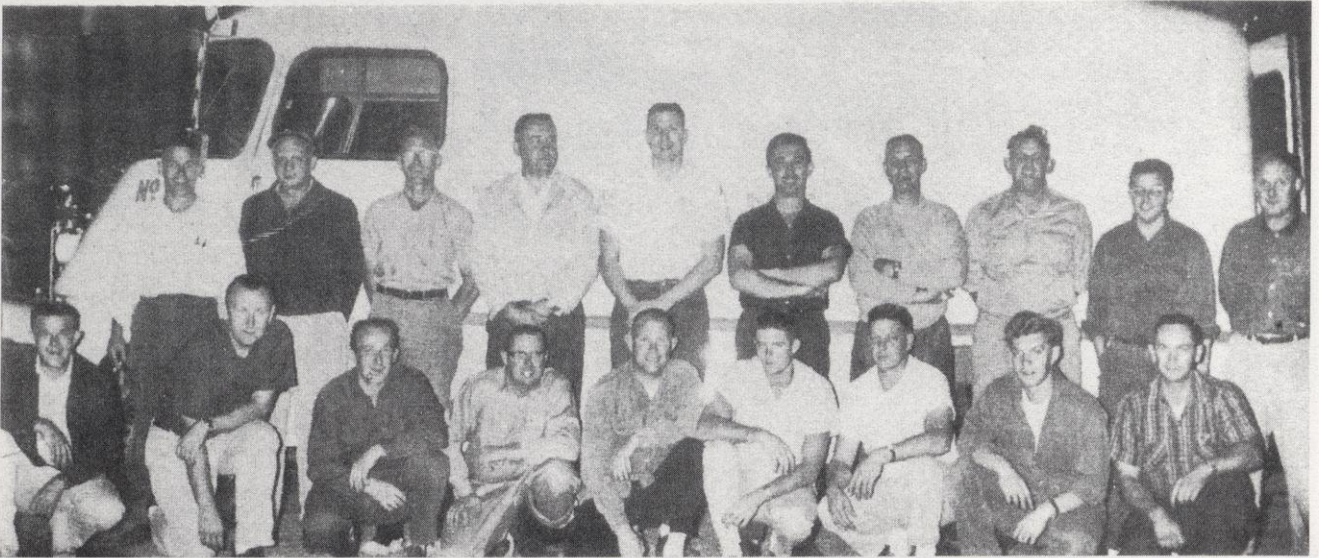
This Village of Thiensville World War II Honor Roll was once on the side of the old fire house on main street.



Row 1 (l to r) Willis Wilson, Paul Frank, Bill Rausch, Emil Verfuert, Dan Bartlein, Robert Otto  
 Row 2 Max Poeltzig, Walter Schmoll Asst. Chief, John Covert, Edward Mueller, Leroy Mueller, Louis Sims, Lee Bartlein, Roger White, Kenneth Schultz, Robert Frank, Alvin Vertuerth, Herbert Radke,  
 Row 3 Tom Wippert, Iran Otto, Fred Brown, Bob Zancig, Gerald Radke.



Members of Thiensville's volunteer fire department posed for this picture prior to one of their regular practice sessions. Standing on the truck in the back row are, left to right, George W. Kallenbach, Joe Pintor, Jim Laatsch, George Dreblow and Roy Oberheu. Middle row, William Rausch, William Wilde, Ray Hilty, Edward W. Mueller, Stanley Gehrke, Robert Frank, George Helm, Bob Zancig, Lee Bartlein, James Luedtke, Louie Sims and Robert Otto. Front row, Chief Kenneth Schultz, Bill Hughes, Joseph Krautkrarner, John Sitkiewitz, Tom Laatsch, Ernie Helms, Elwood Grube, First Assistant Chief Bud Helm, and Second Assistant Chief Walter Schmoll.



Members of Thiensville's New Rescue Squad. These are the men who served in 1963 on Thiensville's rescue squad which began operating recently.

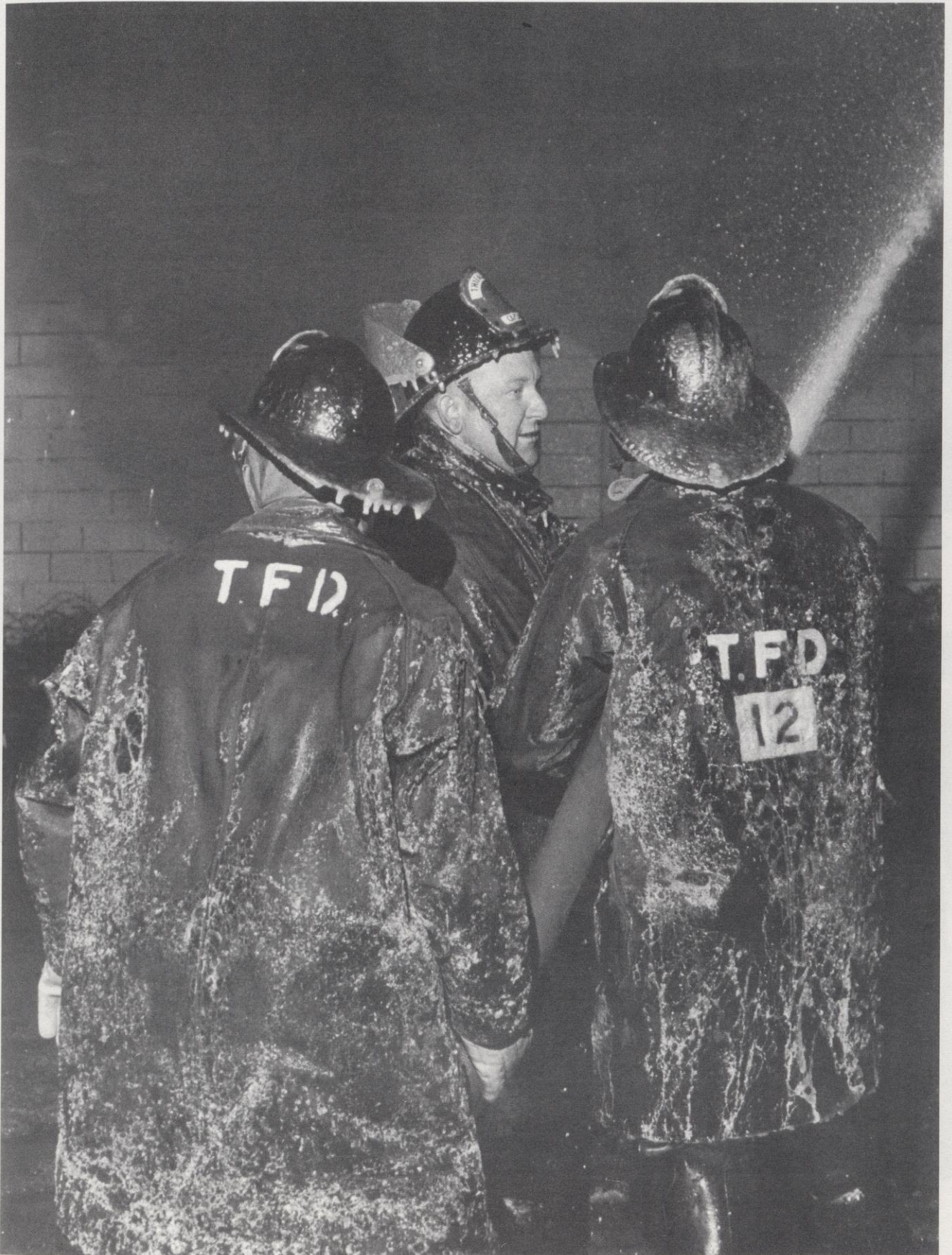
Row 1, (l to r) Rescue Captian, William Wilde, Rescue Lieutenant, James Luedtke, Ernie Helms, William Rausch, Roy Oberheu, Tom Laatsch, Lee Bartlein, Bill Hughes and Kenneth Schultz,

Row 2, Bud Helm, George Kallenbach, Stanley Gehrke, Louis Sims, George Helm, George Kallenbach, Edward Mueller, Elwood Grube, Robert Otto and John Sitkiewitz.



#### FATHER & SON FIREFIGHTERS.

Here are pictured fathers and sons who are members of the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department. They have served a total of 127 years of service. Pictured in the first row left to right Fire Chief Bill Rausch, Firefighter Bill Rausch, First Assistant Ernie Helms. Firefighter Ervin Helms, Firefighter Dennis Helms, Firefighter Don Schultz, Past Fire Chief Ken Schultz, In the second row, Fire Captain Tom Laatsch, Fire/Police Chet Laatsch, Chief Engineer Jim Laatsch, Ladder Lieutenant Ed. Michalski, Firefighter Ed. Michalski, Jr., Firefighter Jim Gehrke, Firefighter Stan Gehrke, Assistant chief engineer Bob Gehrke. Not pictured are Jack Helm, Fire Police, and Bud Helm, Jr., Past Fire Chief. March 21, 1973



Fire fighting takes place in all sorts of weather, as these firefighters discovered at Formart Container in Cedarburg in 1969.



Over the years, the department has taken part in many training sessions with other fire departments. This picture shows two Thiensville firefighters at a house burning in Saukville in 1971.

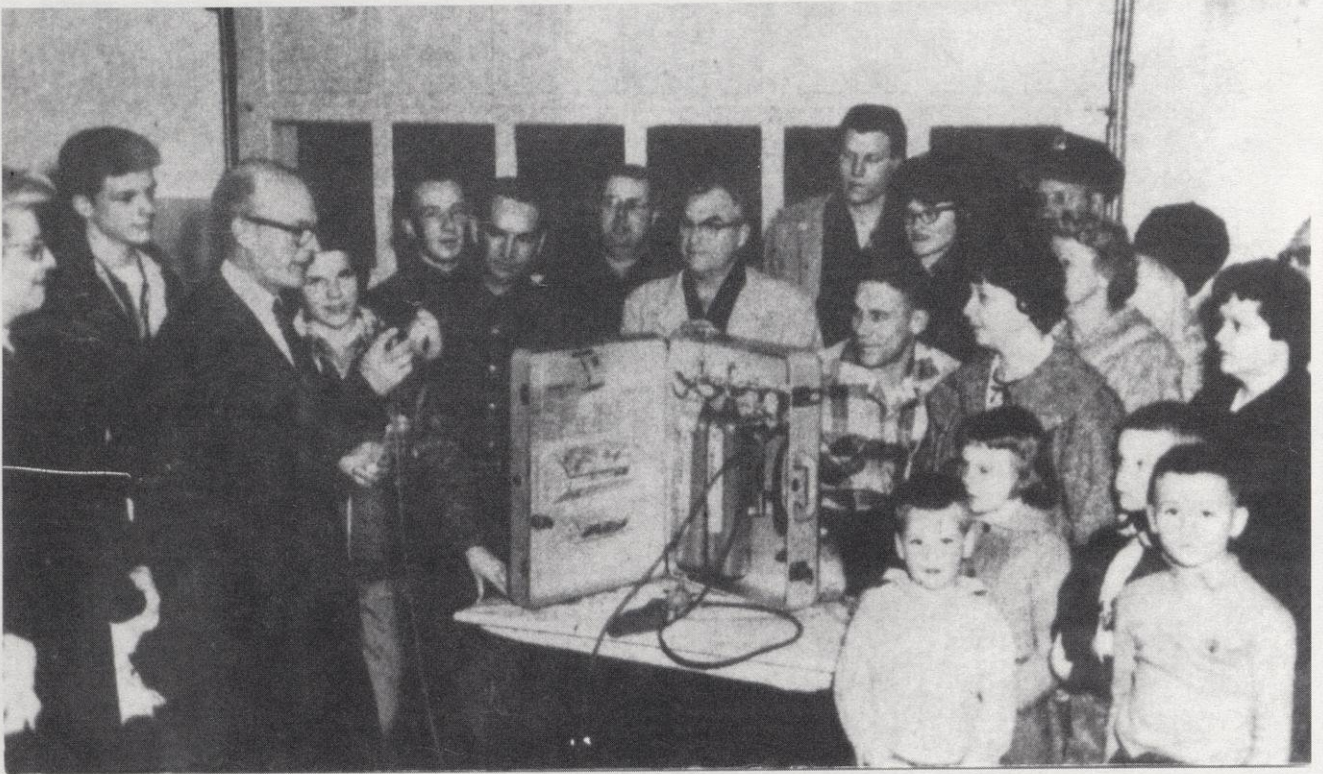


**GIRLS TAKE AIM AND GET ALL WET.** The Fair Damsels of Thiensville defeated the Wet Hens also of Thiensville in the wild water fight at the firemen's picnic. Lois Helms led the fight at the nozzle, other fair damsels are. Helen Mueller, Rene Verfeurth, Pat Rausch, Irene Kiehnau and Betty Sims. They are called Fair Damsels because they look so stylish in their new type of fire fighters uniform.



For many years, the village has recognized members of the department for their years of service. This photograph shows Corporation President James Luedtke presenting service pins to five members. Ed Mueller, Emil Verfurth, Bill Rausch, John (Bud) Helm, Al Richson.





The Thiensville Rescue members are shown an oxygen unit at a training session.



After being housed at the Highway Department garage for a year, the department moved to the present firehouse located at 250 Elm Street. This view shows the apparatus being readied for the new firehouse.



The primary donors for the Thiensville Ambulance, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Johnson, are shown here with the first ambulance in 1974.



At a open house, EMT Pat Rausch checks a resident's blood pressure.



The fire department's equipment passes in review!  
From Left to Right the rescue/ambulance,  
the quick attack truck, truck No. 2, and truck No 1.



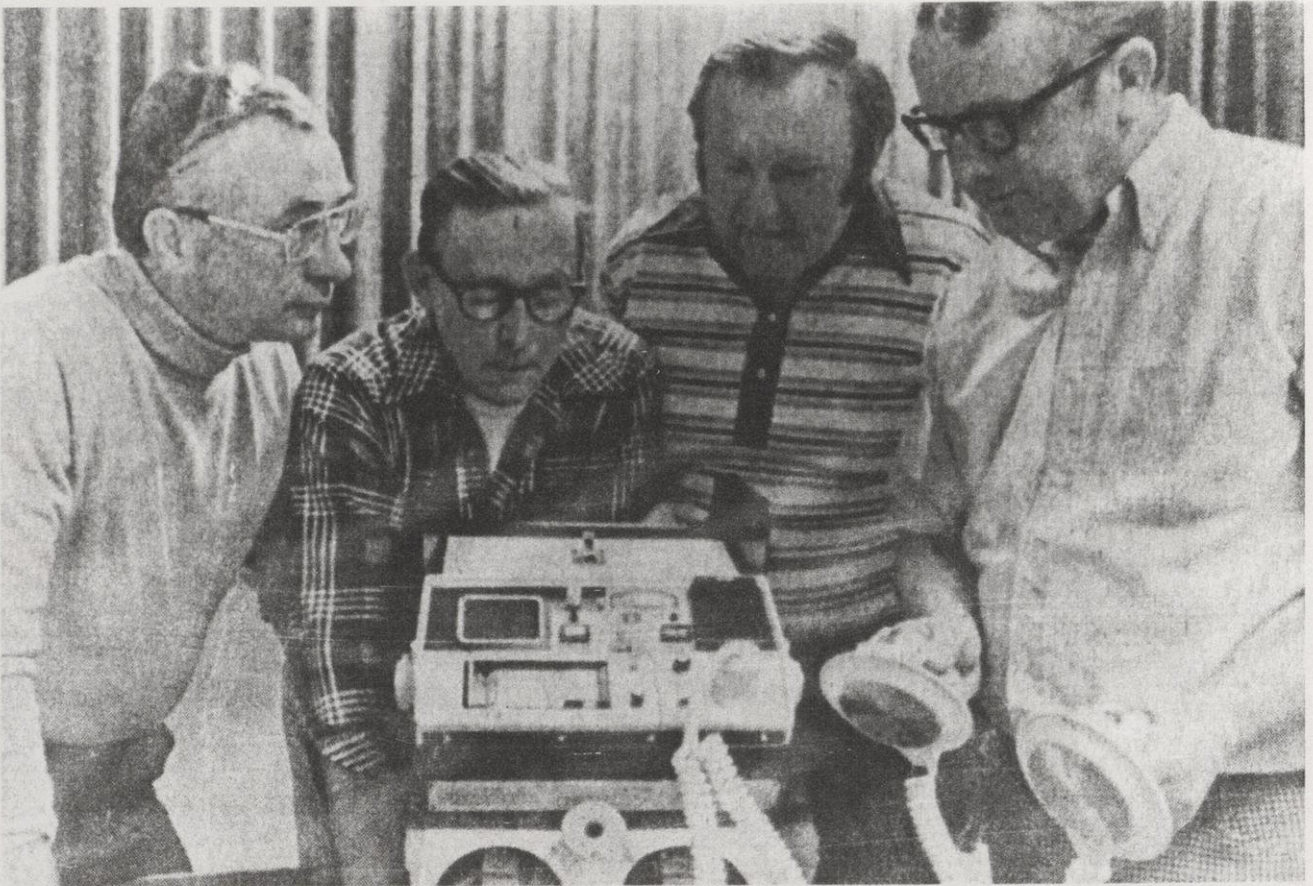
For many years, the Thiensville Fire Department picnic was a highlight of the summer in Thiensville. The picnic always included a parade. This picture shows how the truck's lined up by the Grand Avenue School in 1979



In advance of the 1976 Firemen's Picnic, firefighter Fred Gawrisch is shown selling tickets for amusement rides at the picnic. The two girls were the daughters of firefighters Wendell Pierner and Gary Casadonte.



The presentation of the new \$53,614.00 fire truck with a 1,000 gallon water tank was made April 17, 1976. Left to Right are, Chief William F. Rausch, Trustee William Sampe, Public Safety Chairman of the village board, twins Matt and Chris Finger, Mrs. Pearl Heidel Stadelmann, and James (Pinky) Luedtke, President of the Department's Executive Committee.



In 1976, the department purchased it's first defibrillator. Shown here inspecting the unit are Dr. James Hamm, Edward Michalski Sr. and James Luedtke and Robert Warber on the far right.



In 1979 a second ambulance was purchased, this Chevy-Pierce unit.



On New Year's Eve 1978, the Willowbrook complex suffered heavy damage from a fire started in the kitchen of the restaurant. Here is how the building looked on New Year's Day 1979.



Extinguisher demonstration 1978.

**COME  
TO THE**



**THIENSVILLE  
FIRE DEP'T.**

**PICNIC JULY 22 - 23 - 24**

**Advance  
Ride Tickets  
4 for \$1.00**

**Friday Nite**

**DISCO  
8 P.M. - 12 P.M.**

**Sunday**

**BIG PARADE  
AT 12 NOON  
STARTS AT GRAND AVE.  
SCHOOL, GREEN BAY TO  
RIVERVIEW TO PARK  
AFTERNOON & EVENING  
NASHVILLE REJECTS**

**Saturday**

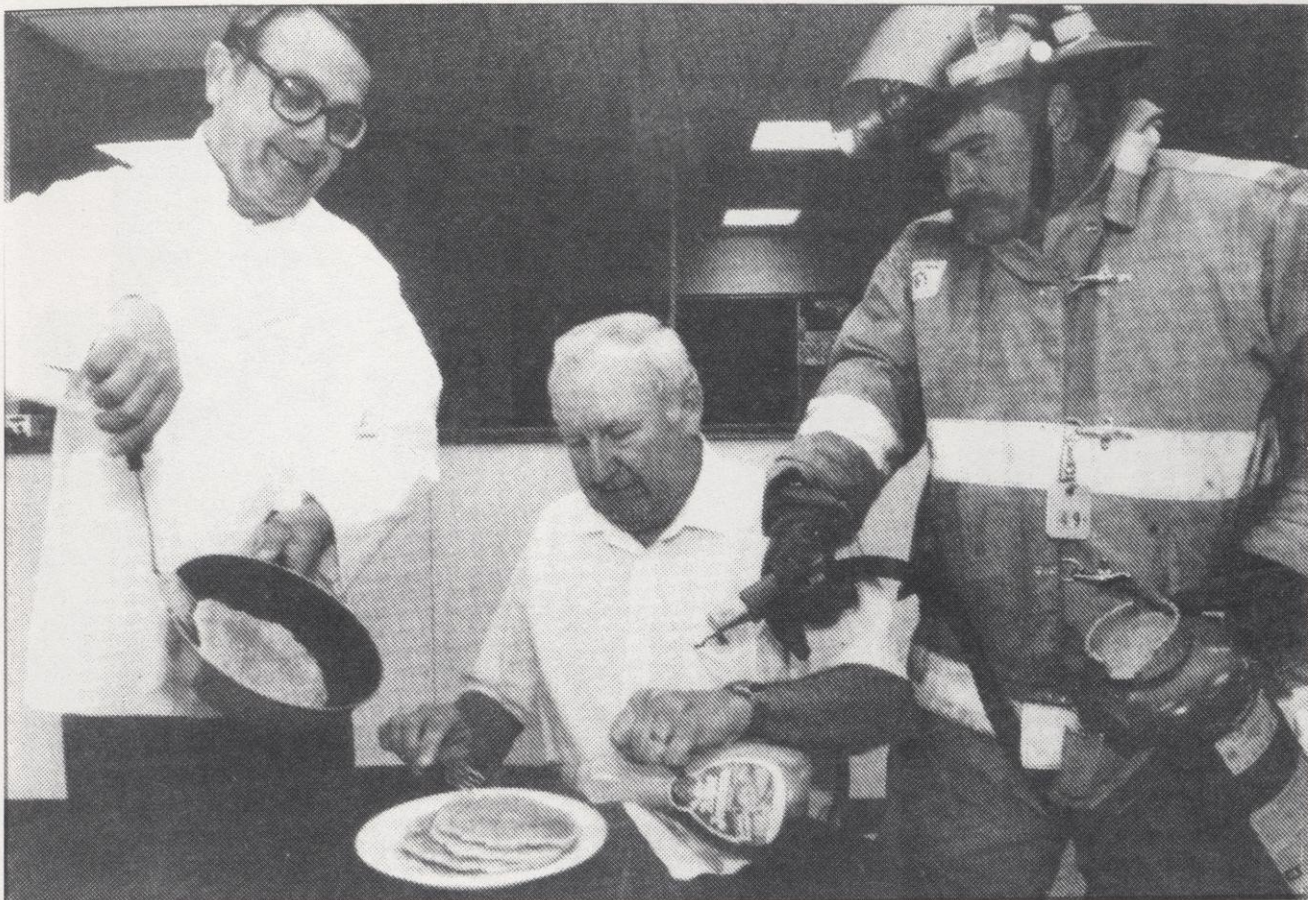
**AFTERNOON  
NASHVILLE REJECTS  
6:30 P.M. - SKY DIVING  
EVENING  
NASHVILLE REJECTS**



**We Need Your Support**

**Thank You**

In 1977, this was an ad for the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Dept. Picnic July 22-23-24



Extinguish your hunger. The Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department is inviting area residents to extinguish their hunger at an all- you-can-eat pancake breakfast on Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the fire station. In a practice run for the event, Jim "Pinky" Luedtke (seated) tried out some "firehouse flapjacks" prepared by Chef Robert Warber (left) while firefighter Paul Javins stood by on "hunger extinguishment duty." Tickets for the breakfast will be available at the door for \$4.00 per adult and \$2.00 for children.





This boy and girl won these bikes at a Fire Prevention open house. Firefighter Jim Rosenberg and Ed Michalski made the presentation.



Chief William Rausch presenting service pins to Pinky Luedtke and Dick Wester.



A new era in the Thiensville  
Volunteer Fire Department,  
Jean Ewens and  
Kathleen (Pat) Rausch  
become the first females to join  
the Thiensville Volunteer Fire  
Department in 1977.

Richard Hansen made the  
presentation for the  
Public Safety Committee for  
the Village of Thiensville.

Firefighters entering smokehouse  
with Mequon firefighters 1979.





Stringing up the ball to be used by the Thiensville firemen in practicing for water fights is John Sitkiewitz, Jim Luedtke, Bill Hughes, Tom Laatsch, and Dave Schultz. Also, members of the Thiensville fire department hold the ladder which rests against a wire stretched between two poles. The firemen are getting ready to try to beat the Random Lake firemen's team in water fights scheduled during the Thiensville firemen's picnic to be held July 18 and 19 in the Thiensville Village park.



Water fights were a popular event at the firemen's picnic. Mark Helm, Ernie Helms, and Chief Bill Rausch serve as judges at the 1983 picnic.



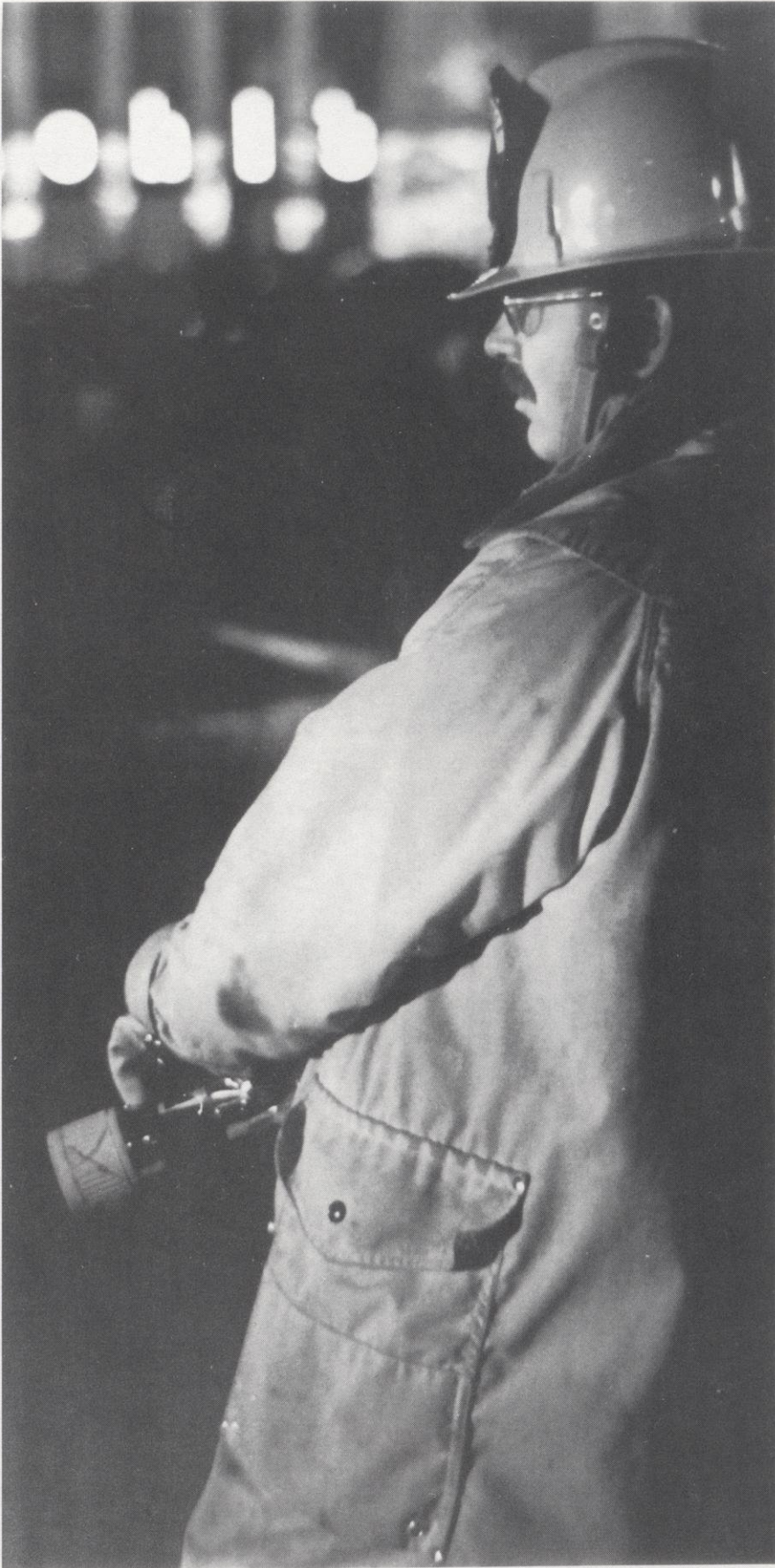
Firemen battled to win the annual water fight at the Thiensville firemen's picnic at the village park. The object of the contest is to push the round target to the opponent's side of the rope. In the process, most everyone involved gets a shower. Cedarburg, the defending champion, won the contest. Fredonia was second, and the Kewaskum department was third. Fire departments from Mequon, Jackson, and Brown Deer also competed.



At the Thiensville Lumber Company fire, engine 561 begins the attack with the truck mounted deluge set.



This group of firefighters prepares to use a 2 1/2" hose line at the lumber company fire, April 1982.



Pictured is Guy Chinnock at the 1975 Fire Expo.



Sparky the fire dog meets a young girl at the department's 1985 open house.



These children get to experience using a hose line at the open house in 1985



These picnic attendees are cooling off in the water runoff from the water fights.



This automobile accident occurred at the intersection of Freistadt Road and Main Street in the early 1980's.





Antique Fire Bell - Thiensville officials who posed with the memorial fire bell that served the area from 1914 to 1975 are (left to right) - Capt. Jim Laatch and Chief Bill Rausch, both of the village fire department, and village President Robert Warber.



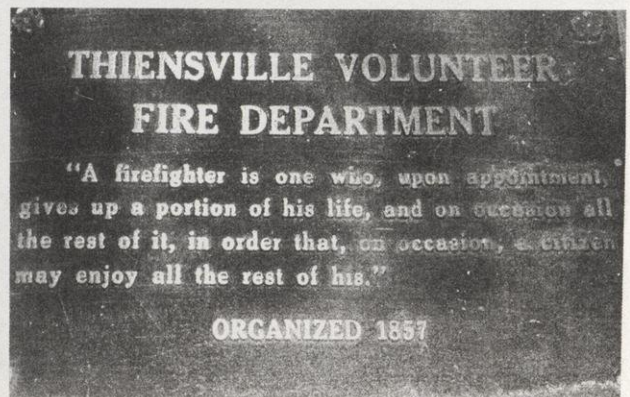
Antique Fire Bell outside the present fire house.

The plaque under the bell reads,

Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department

“A firefighter is one who, upon appointment, gives up a portion of his life, and on occasion all the rest of it, in order that, on occasion, a citizen may enjoy all the rest of his.”

Organized 1857.





Emergency Medical Technician's (left to right), Blake Reichgeld, Julie Brady, Hans Longo, John Kukla, Laurie Kukla, Brian Bublitz, and Assistant Chief Robert Warber.



1988 New Intermediate EMT's (left to right), Pat Rausch, Steve Bartlein, Chief Rausch, Julie Brady, Blake Reichgeld, Jan Starznski, Diann Luedtke, Tom Jacobson, and Assistant Chief Robert Warber. Missing Paul Javins.



The current Assistant Chief of the department Ervin Helms is shown pumping the department's 1967 FWD pumper.



The new and the old. The new truck 563, a 1984 FWD and the old a 1959 GMC.



Lieutenant John Westbrooke is shown with a cat which was a victim of an apartment fire in July 2006.



Emergency Medical Technician's Toni Ihler and Audra Westbrooke give first aid to a resident at the same fire call in July 2006.



Santa and Mrs. Claus make a grand entrance atop a different type of sleigh.



The backdrop of a fire engine has always proven to be a popular photo spot at the tree lighting in the village.





Fire at Regatta's bowling center.



House fire on Freistadt Road.



New 562 - 1997 Pierce Quantum tanker, 2000 GPM pump, 2000 gallon tank, class A foam system.



The new fire truck getting sprayed by neighboring fire departments.



In 1970 a boat was donated by Robert C. Warber and R.C. Frankulin, and equipment was purchased for rescue work on the Milwaukee River by the Thiensville Fire Dept.



In 1974, two 30 h.p. snowmobiles and trailer were donated for rescue work by the Robert Warber family.





The art of survival. Supporters of the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department paused to admire the artwork now sported by the department's Survive Alive House. Assistant Fire Chief Robert Warber (far left) and Fire Chief William Rausch (second from left) showed off the project to representatives of the three major contributors to the fire-safety learning center (left to right) Robin Olson, representing the Thiensville - Mequon Lions Club, Darshan Dhaliwal, president of Bulk Petroleum Inc, and Beverly Thorn, representing the Mequon-Thiensville Optimist Club. Artist Les Nadasdy (far right) designed and painted the graphics on the mobile center.



#### BANK DONATES JUMPERS

The Colonial State Bank in Thiensville recently donated jumpers to the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Dept. - rescue squad. Shown above during the presentation are William Rausch, Chief, Thiensville Fire Dept., Ray Otto, Vice president Customer Relations Colonial State Bank, Bob Warber, Capt. rescue squad-ambulance and Dick Hansen, Lt. rescue squad-ambulance.



The Ozaukee Insurance Agency is again sponsoring the distribution of National Fire Protection calendars. The calendars are being distributed by members of the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department. Fire Chief William Rausch is shown receiving one of the calendars from John Burbank of the Ozaukee Insurance Company.



Engine 563, 1984 FWD pumper, 2000 gallon per minute pump from a 1000 gallon tank. It is also a mutual aid engine.



Engine 558 - The Internation/Pierce mini pumper used for brush fires and auto accidents, pumps 275 gallon per minute from a 250 gallon tank. Another accessory to the pumper is a class B foam proportioner.



The 556 Ford Van used for inspection and training.



The new Kubota 4x4 rescue vehicle.



Service 554 – The 1982 GMC 3-D Apparatus equipment truck, carries additional fire fighting and EMS equipment.



Ambulances 551 and 552 – The first paramedic units in Ozaukee County, the 1005 GMC Medtec ambulances.



The 1997 Quantum.



The Dive/Rescue Truck. This truck was purchased by TFD from Pike Township, Indiana in 2004. This unit was converted into a dive truck by the members of the Thiensville Volunteer Dive Team.



Thiensville firemen took their favorite girl for an afternoon ride. That enthusiastic No 25 is Carole Maahs, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Maahs, who has been adopted as the department's sweetheart.

# Fire Department Sweetheart



The Fire Department Sweetheart. Pictured here are the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department's Princess, Joann Rausch, Fire Department Sweetheart, Carol Maahs, and Fire Department Queen, Vicki Warber. Carol Maahs was made fire department sweetheart after a story was written about her stay at St. Michael's Hospital and her wish for Christmas cards. She had no kidneys and had to go into the hospital every two days for treatment on the dialysis machine, a form of artificial kidney. She had a kidney transplant on March 16, 1971 with the kidney donated by her father.



Thank you from Ned



Dear Thiensville Firefighters  
and families,

We knew before Sept 11  
just how special firefighters  
are. Bob Warber's spirit is  
alive and well.

Ned tried to bring your  
prayers and good wishes to  
this tragic site. It will be  
a trip he will always  
remember along with the  
many kindnesses from  
the TFD and his special  
connection to the state of  
Wisconsin - (he is an avid  
sports fan of all you teams!)

At this special time of  
year we join Ned in our thanks  
for you ~~all~~ The Bjorkmans

**Thank you Ned!!**

Approximately 10 years ago, Assistant Chief Bob Warber received a request from an individual in Massachusetts for a TFD Patch. We receive these requests frequently, but Bob knew there was something special about this person and little did he know how much of an impact this person would have on the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department.

This special person's name is Ned Bjorkman. Bob did send a patch to Ned, and in the years to follow had an opportunity to visit with Ned and his family out east. While visiting Ned, Bob presented him with a TFD jacket, t-shirt, wallet and badge and named him Honorary Firefighter. Ned was so overwhelmed when he was named Honorary Firefighter with the Thiensville Fire Department. In 1995, Ned moved into his own home at a supported living residence with 6 other young men and women who also can live independently with support. As his mother Elizabeth wrote, "I wish you could see his new room-walls decorated with his patch bulletin boards, fire helmet over dresser, citation, picture of the department and birthday greetings over his desk. He is proud of his new home and you (TFD) have contributed greatly to this feeling."

We have been a big part of Ned's life. Ned always thanks us, now it is time for our entire Department to say "Thank You Ned". As a member, Ned represented the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department at the site of the tragedy at the World Trade Center. On these two pages, you will see pictures of Ned placing flowers he purchased for the Thiensville Fire Department as well as first hand pictures he sent to us from his visit.

Ned, our entire department is truly grateful and thankful to you for representing our department and bringing the flowers along with our prayers and good wishes to the tragic site. You are a very special person, and we are proud to have you as an Honorary Member.

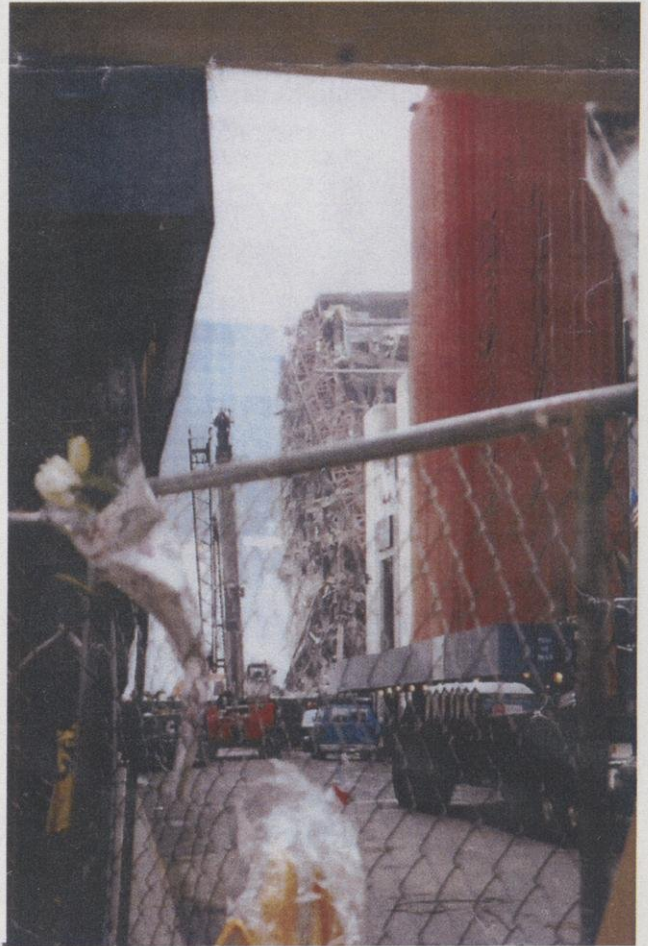
Your mother said it all in her note, "Bob Warber's spirit is alive and well". His spirit is alive and well through you, because this is something Bob would be proud to see!!

**Happy Holidays to you and your family!!!!**

Ned Bjorkman

Dear Fellow Firefighters  
Here are some pictures from  
the site. I took some  
flowers from our  
Department. I'm thinking  
about you.

Love,  
Ned



Picture of Ned at Ground Zero.



Old vehicles can be cranky, as this picture shows. The 1935 Seagrave occasionally needed some “manpower” to get it going.



After being housed at the highway department garage for a year, the department moved to the present firehouse, located at 250 Elm Street. This view shows the apparatus floor being readied for the equipment.



The Thiensville Fire Department is represented nicely in the parade.



TFD July 2006. Blake Reichgeld, Rick Borkin, Craig Gengler, Chief Rausch, Brian Reiels, John Westbrooke, Rod McWilliams, Denise Wuehr, Karen Erickson, Toni Ihler, Amy Longo, Elliot Schneider, Pat Koerner, Regan Schneider, Jon Franken, Dan Ulrich, John Kukla. In Cab - Jason Flegner, On Truck - Andy LaFond, Kurtis Wuehr, Andy Siefkes, Jonathon Gengler, Pat Williams.

## THE THIENSVILLE RESCUE SQUAD

The dream of the members of the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department came true on April 1, 1963, when they put their first rescue squad into operation.

The first rescue squad was built into a van purchased by members of the fire department who then traveled all over the state looking at various types of squads and the equipment they carried. They then painted it and built in the necessary racks, cots, storage units, etc, to carry the basic equipment they needed to begin operation. The men who were instrumental in working on the first squad were George Dreblow, Jim Luedtke, Ken Schultz and Bill Wilde.

In 1974 a new rescue-ambulance was added to the department equipment. This equipment was made possible by a generous gift by Mr. And Mrs. Howard Johnston.

The Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department rescue squad has a proud and long history of providing superior medical and transportation to the citizens of the village and in the county.

Another "first" to be proud of is the long-standing use of cardiac monitoring and defibrillation in Thiensville. Long before, this service became the common standard of care in the EMS community. Dr. James H. (Lefty) Hamm, MD was a strong and successful influence in making sure Thiensville was the first in Ozaukee County to provide this service.

In addition, Dr. Hamm served the community and county as the first medical director for the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department. The Thiensville rescue squad has evolved into a leading provider of Emergency Medical services in Ozaukee County, and is now the only Paramedic level service in Ozaukee.

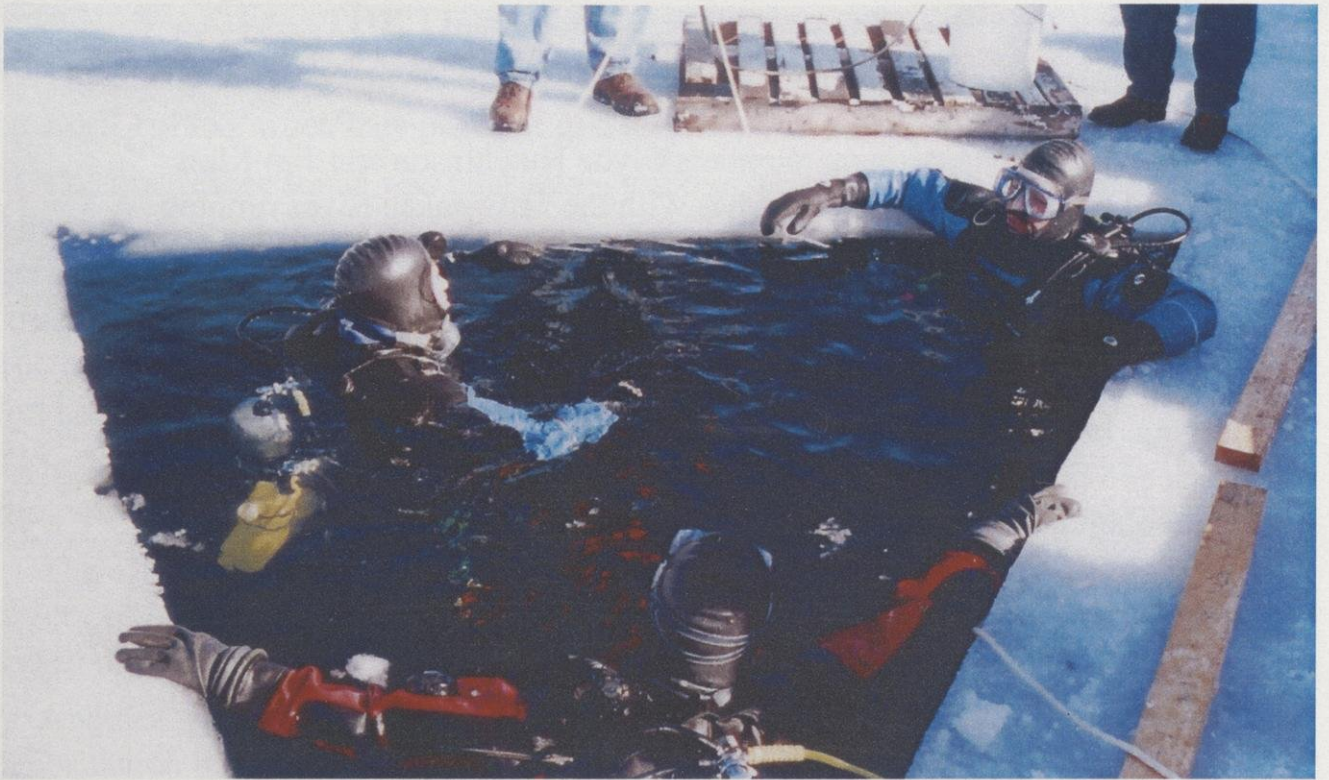


The first Thiensville ambulance was this unit, shown shortly after delivery in 1974.

## Thiensville Fire Department Dive/Rescue Team

Thiensville fire department members Clyde Hutchinson and Jim Klatt formed a dive/rescue team in 1984. With the Milwaukee River running the entire width of the village, pigeon creek, several ponds, and a flood reservoir water rescue and recovery are a major concern. This was even more evident after several drownings at the Thiensville dam. The current team of eight trains extensively in swift water, ice rescue, and scuba diving. In 2005 the dive team purchased the department's first Dive Rescue vehicle. The truck was bought by the Thiensville Fire Department Corporation using fundraised money, and donated to the Village.





Ice practice with the dive team.



Rich Ellner sitting on the edge of the ice.

During Fire Prevention week the  
Thiensville Volunteer Fire Dept.  
holds a Fire Expo.



Fire Expo. This is an exercise on how to extricate a patient from a car.



Firefighter Randy Short with dalmatian Ashes at a fire prevention presentation.



Members shown by ambulance at a fire prevention day.



Firefighters Elliot Schneider and Andy Match appear delighted to be wearing decontamination suits at a hazardous materials call in 2002.



The scenario of an hazardous materials incident is explained to Thiensville firefighters by County Emergency Management Director William Stolte. Below, contamination suits keep rescue workers safe as they move a “victim” from the site of a leaking gas accident.

The Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department started an Explorer Post in 2005. The Explorer Post is for young men and women from the ages of 14 to 18 years old who are interested in careers in the field of fire service and emergency medical service. The post is headed by advisors: which are Elliot Schneider, Regan Schneider, and Jonathan Gengler. The post helps youths gain insight into a variety of programs that offer hands-on career activities as well as community service.

**MEMBERS:**

Craig Gengler (now an Active Firefighter), Dave Pipkorn, Danny Knorr, Josh McWilliams, Andrew McWilliams, and Kaitlin Ziarkowski.



Explorer Dave Pipkorn showing the proper technique to start a saw.



Explorers Craig Gengler and Dave Pipkorn show the proper saw handling.



Explorers showing two - person rescue technique.



Thiensville Volunteer Firemen help sand bag at the time of flooding.



Truck 561, a Pierce Quint pumper & ladder truck, with a 500 gal water tank, is Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department's first aerial ladder truck.



# 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

ERNIE HELMS

JOHN HELM

RAY HILTY

PAUL MEMMLER

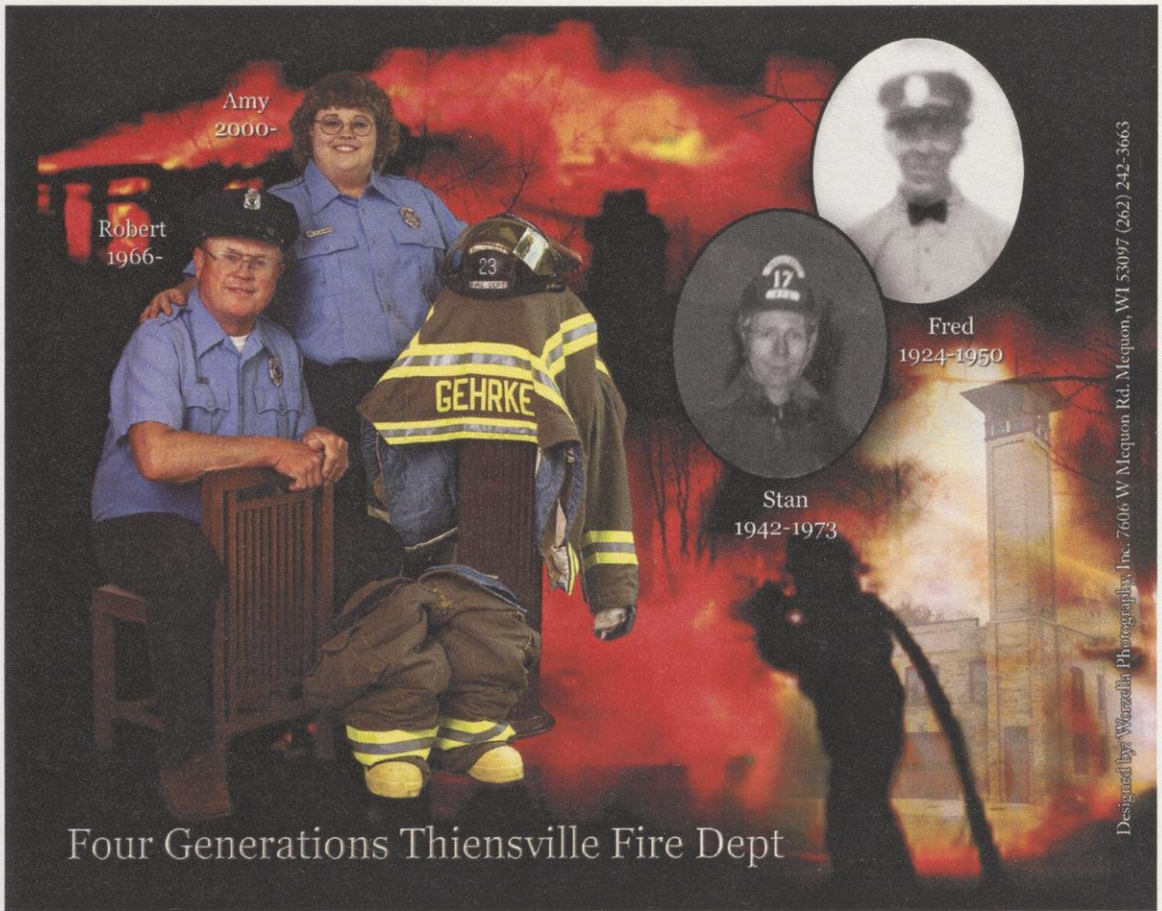
ROY OBERHEU

LEO RAUSCH

WILLIAM F. RAUSCH

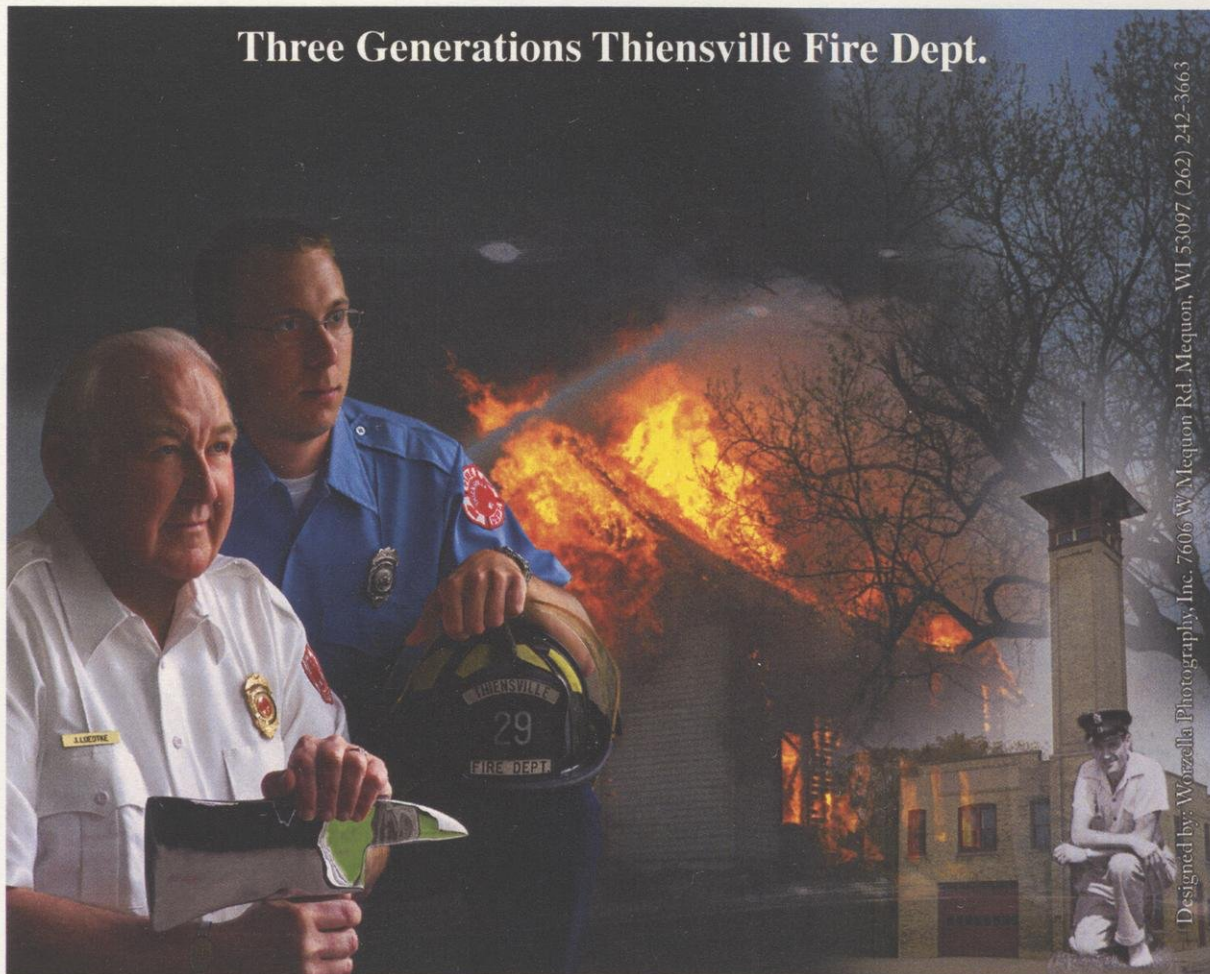
KENNETH SCHULTZ





Assistant Fire Chief Ernie Helms with his son in-law, Terry Gengler  
Ernie's Two Grandson's, Craig J. Gengler, and Jonathan Gengler.

## Three Generations Thiensville Fire Dept.



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### Luedtke Family

Jim (Pinky)	Kevin	Oscar
1961	1998	1933

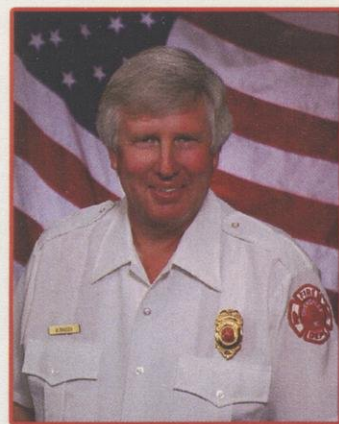
### Chief Rausch Family



*Pat Rausch*  
1977



*Chief William F. Rausch*  
1949



*William Rausch*  
1972



## THE THIENSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT CORPORATION

The Thiensville Fire Department Corporation was formed on August 15th, 1961.

The Thiensville Fire Department Corporation operates as a private non profit organization that continues to be the source of replacement of ambulances for the fire department. It also promotes and supports the fire department through various fund raising activities.

In 2007 the corporation has funded the renovation of the original fire house on Main Street that will be used as a museum. The 1935 Seagrave Fire engine will be housed in this museum.

The Corporation is made up of a seven member volunteer board of directors that is backed by a corporation membership which, at present, consists of over 50 members. The membership is made up of fire department members and their families, friends of the fire department, and village residents that take pride in volunteering their time to help the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department.

The Thiensville Fire Department Corporation would like to congratulate and thank the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department, and its members, for providing 150 years of dedicated service to the Village of Thiensville.

John P. Kukla  
President  
Thiensville Fire Department Corporation

### 2007 Boards Members

John P. Kukla	President
Terry Gengler	Vice President
Andy Egelhoff	Treasurer
Amy Longo	Secretary
James Luedtke	Members At Large
Pat Koemer	Members At Large
Bob Gehrke	Members At Large



*Chief William F. Rausch*



*Assistant Chief Andrew Egelhoff*



*Assistant Chief Ervin Helms*



*Deputy Chief Blake Reichgeld*



*Deputy Chief Brian Reiels*





## *Captains*



*Rich Ellner*



*John Kukla*



*Andrew LaFond*



*Judy LaFond*



*Patrick Williams*



## *Lieutenants*



*Jon Franken*



*Jason Flegner*



*John Westbrooke*

# *Active Members*



*Rick Borkin*



*Julie Brady*



*Karen Erickson*



*Craig Gengler*



*J.J. Gengler*



*Toni Ihler*



*Ted Jenkins*



*Jen Koerner*



*Patrick Koerner*

# *Active Members*



*Sarah Kretchmar*



*Laurie Kukla*



*Josh Lipp*



*Amy Longo*



*Hans Longo*



*Scott Nicholson*



*William Rosenberg*



*Elliot Schneider*



*Joel Schneider*

# Active Members



*Regan Schneider*



*Andrew Siefkes*



*Chris Valente-Frey*



*Audra Westbrooke*



*Denise Wuehr*



*Kurtis Wuehr*



*Kurt Zellmann*



*David Pipkorn*  
*Explorer*



*Kaitlin Ziarkowski*  
*Explorer*



# Corporation Members



*Margie Canham*



*Todd Canham*



*Carla Ellner*



*Joanne Franken*



*Robert Gehrke*



*Terry Gengler*



*Chris Koerner*



*James Luedtke*

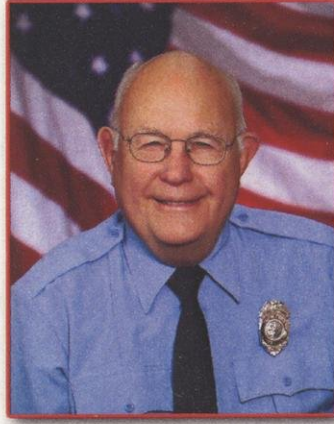


*Kevin Luedtke  
U.S. Army*

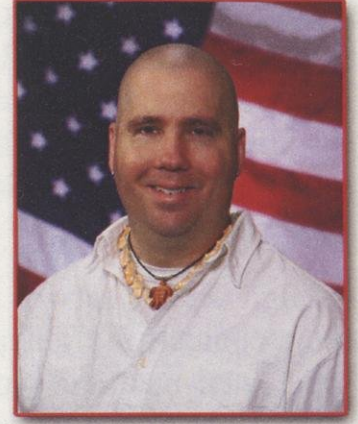
# Corporation Members



*Andrew Match*



*Roy Oberheu*



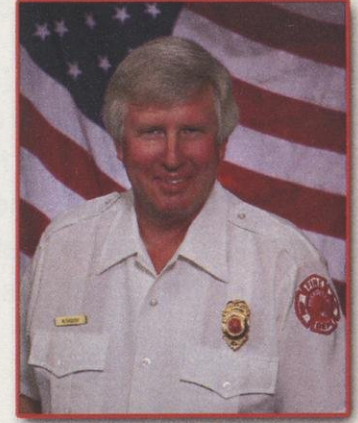
*Eric Ploeckelman*



*Pat Rausch*



*Rita Rausch*



*William Rausch*



*Kenneth Schultz*



*Paula Tomczyk*



*Shirley Warber*

The Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department has a rich history of service to the community. The spirit of volunteerism began in 1857 when John Henry Thien, for which Thiensville was named, organized the Thiensville Fire Engine Company to protect the life and property of this growing area. Interestingly, the area had been settled by German immigrants so all department records were written in German up until 1910 when the Village was founded. The department, made up of volunteers, had a humble beginning consisting of a crude horse drawn hand-pumper and traditional bucket brigade equipment. Although primitive by today's standards, the Thiensville Fire Engine company was the only one of its kind in the area. The Thiensville Fire Engine Company was never satisfied with status quo, so the volunteers worked tirelessly to fund-raise money to improve their equipment.

Although the fire service techniques, equipment, and personnel have become infinitely more technical, the Thiensville Fire Department remains a volunteer fire department of dedicated men and women with the unwavering commitment to protect and serve the residents of the Village. To this day, members of the Thiensville Volunteer Fire Department dedicate countless volunteer hours to fund-raise to help defer the spiraling cost of equipment replacement for the Village.

Thiensville continues to play a leadership role in Ozaukee County with the emergency medical technicians that can start an IV to improve the already unprecedented patient care. By introducing the first 5" large diameter supply line to maximize the availability of water at fire scenes. The first fire engine to have a built-in class "A" foam to extinguish fires quicker with less damage of property, and adding a compressed air class "A" foam system to a fire apparatus helped further augment our fire fighting capabilities.



Designed by: Worzella Photography, Inc. 7606 W. Mequon Rd, Mequon, WI 53097 (262)242-3663





*~ ~ A Firemans Prayer ~ ~*

*When I'm called to duty God,  
Wherever flames may rage,  
Give me strength  
to save a life,  
Whatever be it's age.  
Help me to embrace a little child,  
Before it is to late.  
Or save an older person from,  
The horror of that fate.  
Enable me to be alert,  
To hear the weakest shout,  
And quickly and efficiently,  
To put the fire out.  
I want to fill my calling and,  
To give the best in me,  
To guard my neighbor and,  
Protect his property.  
And if according to your will,  
I have to lose my life,  
Bless with your protecting hand,  
My children and my wife*

*"God Bless Our Firefighters"*