

# HISTORY



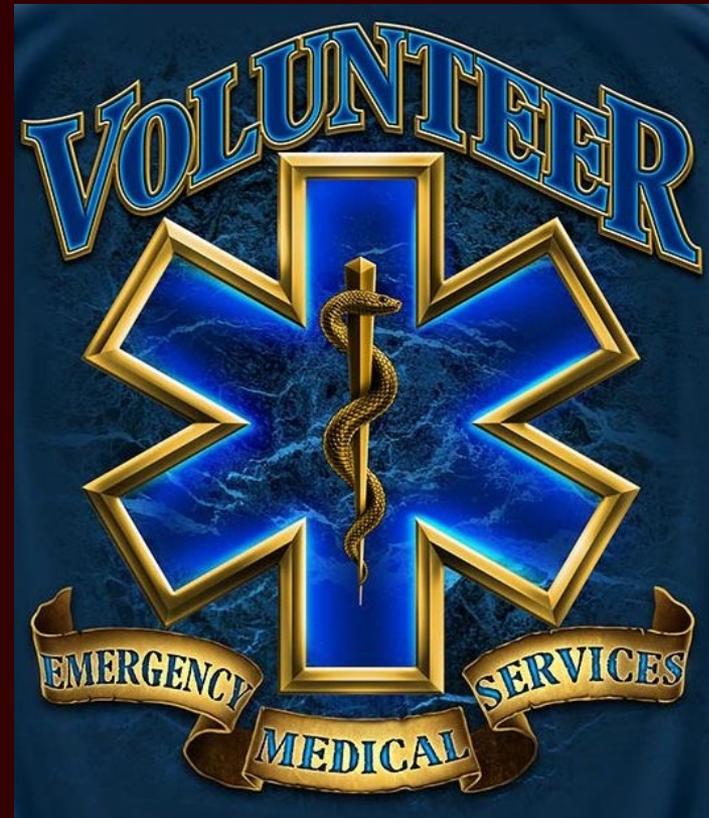
## ***REINBECK FIRE DEPARTMENT***

### ***Mission Statement***

*To provide services to our community in life and fire safety through education, innovation, commitment and compassion.*

### ***Vision Statement***

*To Serve and Protect*



# WELCOME!

- Over 120 years have passed since the Reinbeck Fire Department has developed as a volunteer community & rural Fire, EMS & Rescue organization with a high degree of professionalism.



# OUR HISTORY

- April 12, 1892 was the beginning of an organized Volunteer Fire Department for the town of Reinbeck. 15 members of the community organized themselves into a "Hose Company". One piece of equipment, the soda-acid chemical cart that was purchased in 1898 is still on display in the front foyer of the current Fire Station. On October 29, 1926 the first motorized fire truck was placed into service. It was checked by a State Inspector and approved, therefore "insurance rates will drop because of the efficiency of the new truck", as stated by W.S. Knott with the State Inspectors office. Basic by-laws and rules on the use of the truck were set-up. On January 16, 1943, The Commercial Club of Reinbeck sponsored a meeting of area farmers to discuss & organize farm & rural fire protection. Thus, the Reinbeck Farmers Fire Association began.
- The Farmers Fire Association purchased a 1941 Chevrolet truck and had a pump and box mounted on the chassis. This was the first rural fire truck to be housed and manned by the members of the Reinbeck Fire Department to be used for farm & rural fire protection. Another truck was purchased in 1951, which retired the original 1926 truck.
- In 1955, the fireman added Reinbeck's first "Emergency Unit" through hard work and a canvassing of the town and rural areas for donations. They were able to purchase a 1955 International Travel-all truck and equip it with basic first aid supplies, some rescue tools and a portable oxygen kit. This was the start of some basic Emergency Medical Services for the community of Reinbeck and the surrounding rural areas.
- In May of 1959 a new Fire Station was constructed and still serves the community today. Currently the department provides fire protection with 6 trucks (combination of tankers, grass rig, rescue and pumper) & EMS service with 2 Ambulances. For over 120 years, The Reinbeck Fire Department has sought to maintain a high level of community involvement & investment into the public safety needs of city & rural fire protection & Emergency Medical Services. History further details a constant maintenance program & replacement schedule of trucks, equipment, tools & supplies to meet these needs.

# OUR HISTORY

- For many years, Slim Burdick trained the Reinbeck Firemen in Red Cross First Aid & CPR techniques. They learned basic & advanced first aid under his guidance.
- In their desire to maintain a high standard of excellence for which the Reinbeck Fire Department is noted, members have been and are continually taking additional training classes in Pre-Hospital Emergency Medicine and current Fire / Rescue methods.
- In 1975, the first class of Emergency Medical Technicians – Ambulance [EMT-A], was completed and then there were 6 EMT's on the Emergency Crew: The first 6 were: Jonsey Watson; Wendel Mueller; Dana Linder; Warren Nabor; Mike Petersen and Dave Roberts.
- In 1979, the Jaws of Life was purchased for Rescue work in car & other accidents.
- 1980 was a big year for the Reinbeck Fire Department. 13 men completed an Emergency Rescue Technicians course [ERT]. 19 completed a Basic Life Course and 22 were trained to use the Jaws of Life. They purchased high band radios so that they could have direct communication with the area hospitals.

# OUR HISTORY

- Until 1971, most ambulance calls were referred to Ward French with the French Funeral Home. In 1971, Ward said he would no longer continue his ambulance service. This is the year the Firemen purchased a 1971 Dodge van and converted the interior for emergency and rescue service. When Ward gave up, the demand for ambulance service provided by the Firemen greatly increased. In 1970, 6 calls were logged and by 1972, there were 60 calls logged. The number of calls continued to grow through the 80's and 90's ranging from 130 – 170 annually.
- In 1977, the Firemen purchased a second Emergency Unit, a new Dodge Type II Horton. They kept the 1971 unit as a back-up. This year, 2 additional stalls were added to the Fire Station to house the emergency units.
- In 1982, a new 4-wheel drive Chevrolet 1-ton truck and utility box was purchased to be transformed into a rescue vehicle to carry all rescue equipment plus a 200-gallon tank to carry water. This unit was purchased by the Reinbeck Farmers Fire Association and the Reinbeck Firemen.
- The various emergency units were purchased with funds donated by the people of the community, not just taxes or the earnings from the July 3<sup>rd</sup> dance.
- In November of 1995, members attended a defibrillation class which taught them the skills needed to use the new Semi-automatic ZOLL® defibrillator, which was placed in service on February 1, 1996 in the primary ambulance.

# OUR HISTORY

- The membership of the Reinbeck Fire Department has always been a roster of people prominent in the community. They have given freely of their time to be of service to the residents of the city and rural areas.
- The Reinbeck Fire Department is a totally volunteer unit made up of individuals who want to help the community, who want to work with neighbors and friends to excel in preventing and controlling fires and that provides a professional type Emergency Medical Service.

- Since its' start in 1892, members of the Reinbeck Fire Department have always sought to maintain and uphold our motto "*Your Public Servant*". We seek to do this by investing money to purchase and maintain modern Fire Fighting, Rescue & EMS equipment & vehicles. We strive to invest the time to train on and with these pieces of equipment. We conduct "walk around" surveys of our local industry & businesses to pre-plan for any applicable incidents that might occur at these facilities. It is the desire of the volunteer members of the RFD to continue to improve the overall quality of the fire protection service, reliability and flexibility that is expected of us.
- The Reinbeck Fire & EMS protection district currently serves: City of Reinbeck, IA (pop. 1,800); City of Morrison, IA (pop. 100); (6) Rural Townships: [Grundy Co: Black Hawk Twp]; [Grundy Co: Washington Twp]; [Grundy Co: Grant Twp]; [Black Hawk Co: Lincoln Twp]; [Tama Co: Grant Twp] & [Tama Co: Lincoln Twp]. Reinbeck Fire & Rescue also provides EMS response with 2 ambulances and rescue response with 1 rescue equipped truck within this service area. We also have approved mutual aid agreements with the surrounding cities & fire protection districts of: Grundy Center, Dike, Lincoln, Hudson & Traer.
- We invest time in the community to provide Fire Prevention & Safety Training to our local elementary students and local residents during Fire Prevention Week in October. In November, the Fire Department participates in the Reinbeck community program called "Miracle on Main", in which the fire station is opened for tours, questions, comments and to meet & visit with members of the Fire Department. The members of the fire department meet twice per month. One meeting is devoted to Fire & EMS training and one meeting is devoted to the address the business affairs of the department.

# OUR PURPOSE

- We have significant responsibilities to the citizens of Reinbeck and the rural areas we serve & protect.
- We are stewards in our community and we work hard to preserve & protect life & property in our Fire & EMS district. We seek to maintain and uphold our motto “*Your Public Servant*”

# RESPONSIBILITIES

- Monthly equipment inspections & vehicle maintenance checks
- Helping to maintain cleanliness of all vehicles & equipment
- Personal gear & protective equipment checks
- Station housekeeping duties
- Maintaining any Fire / EMS or Rescue certifications
- Voting privileges
- We are expected to maintain our high level of professionalism within our community as we are representing all members of RFD at any time. We must conduct ourselves in a manner that is in keeping with the professionalism of this department.

# Active Recruitment continues

## REINBECK FIRE | RESCUE

LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

It is critical for the safety of our communities that we continue to have strong volunteer Fire & EMS Services now and into the future. Our organization depends on you- as the people who protect our families & communities.



**YOUR** COMMUNITY  
IS CALLING

Contact a member of RFD to Discover the Rewards of **joining** the **Fire & EMS** Service  
[www.reinbeck.org/police---fire-department-ems.html](http://www.reinbeck.org/police---fire-department-ems.html)

QUESTIONS...WE WOULD BE  
GLAD TO ANSWER THEM

