

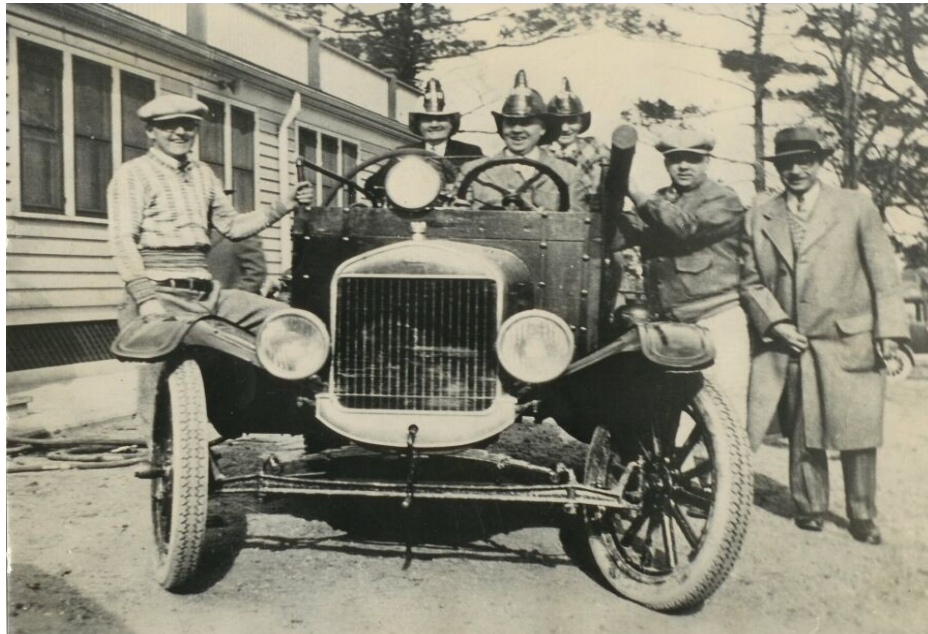
History of The Warren Fire Department

For More pictures see link to Warren Fire Dept Fotos and Warren Fire Chiefs
This little history is still being researched and more will be added. Please send additions and corrections to Wesley Arnold humble historian

wecare@macombhistory.us

There was no fire department or police department for nearly all of the history of our area. Only since the forming of a village was there any fire protection and that was next to useless until water mains with fire hydrants were activated. Until that time if the oil lamps or candles used for lighting caught the house or barn on fire all one could do was get out and try to save a few valuables. Everything you had would be destroyed. And there was no insurance. There were no phones to call for help.

There was a volunteer fire department in Warren of sorts since probably the 1850s. First it was probably just farmers who would bring buckets and rush to a fire by horseback when they saw smoke in the sky. The history of the Warren Volunteer Fire Department was not written down so is mostly lost. There may have been a portable pump which could pull water out of a well or pond and spray it on to a fire or or compressed air tank. I talked with an old guy who had a big portable compressed air tank. He stated it also had chemicals in the tank. The Warren Volunteer Fire Department was organized April 4, 1926. It secured a Model T chassis and equipped it for firefighting. Later a second Model T was equipped with chemicals. Later a Ford V8 truck was added with a 350 gallon tank 2500 feet of hose, ladders, hand extinguishers, axes and suction pump. I am still looking for early records. In 1944 the Chief was George Shoop with members Leo Roth, N. D. Eckstein, Floyd Rickabush, Peter Trombly, Ernie Steffens, Ray Lutz, Merton Lyons, Harold Squier, John Taylor, Don Cockerline and Howard Lyons. It was housed in an east addition to the township hall on Beebe Street in 1946. Where it was before is unclear, but in 1992 the fire department moved out of the Village hall on Beebe.



WARREN VILLAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT



Front Row, left to right: Leo W. Roth, John M. Taylor, George F. Shoop, Chief; Ernest J. Steffens, Don H. Cockerline, Floyd L. Rickabush.
Back Row, left to right: Clifford R. Cockerline, Merton A. Lyons, Raymond S. Lutz, Jack Eckstein.



Hloyd Pickabush
Siemen - your Dad - next to

Jack Eckstein

ε
Ray Lutz

year 737

15-6

In 1938 Chrysler Corporation donated a truck chassis. This was taken to General Detroit Fire Truck Corporation at 2272 East Jefferson and fitted as a fire truck. It was delivered to Warren Township on February 25th, 1939 and stored at Charles Blazier's Service Station at 21708 Van Dyke. George Schimmel converted his old gas station at 22730 van Dyke into a fire station and leased it to Warren Township. On May 20th 1939 the fire truck was moved to this station and became fire station No 1.

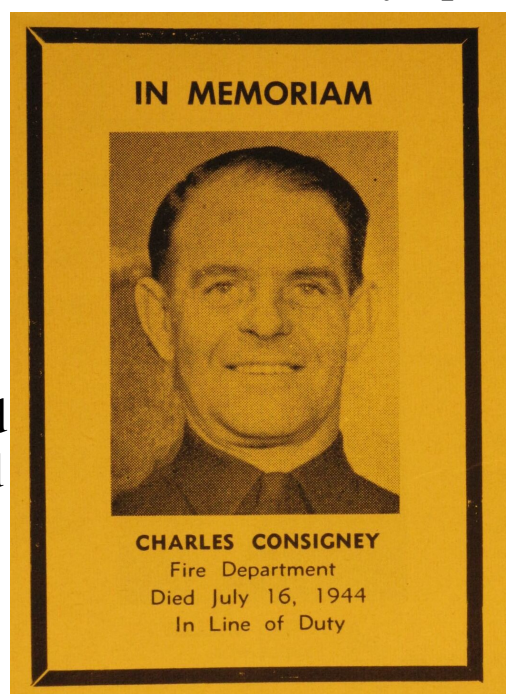
In 1939 Warren's first fire station was built. Vern Lumex and William Van Hulle were hired as fireman. They still had volunteer firefighters. The Warren Fire Department went from all volunteer to two full time firefighters to a high of 184 in 1980. On May 20th 1939 William Vanhulle was named Fire Chief and Vern Lumex was appointed Firefighter. Tenmen were assigned as volunteer firefighters by Township Supervisor William Strich. Training began on May 12st. On June 15th 1939 the fore station was officially open to serve all of Warren Township.

Two Warren firefighters have lost their lives.

CHARLES COGSIGNEY DIED

7/16/1944 Died in a barn fire.

HENRY K MORAN 1942-1973 involved in a car accident. He suffered closed head injuries and had to be confined to a nursing home.



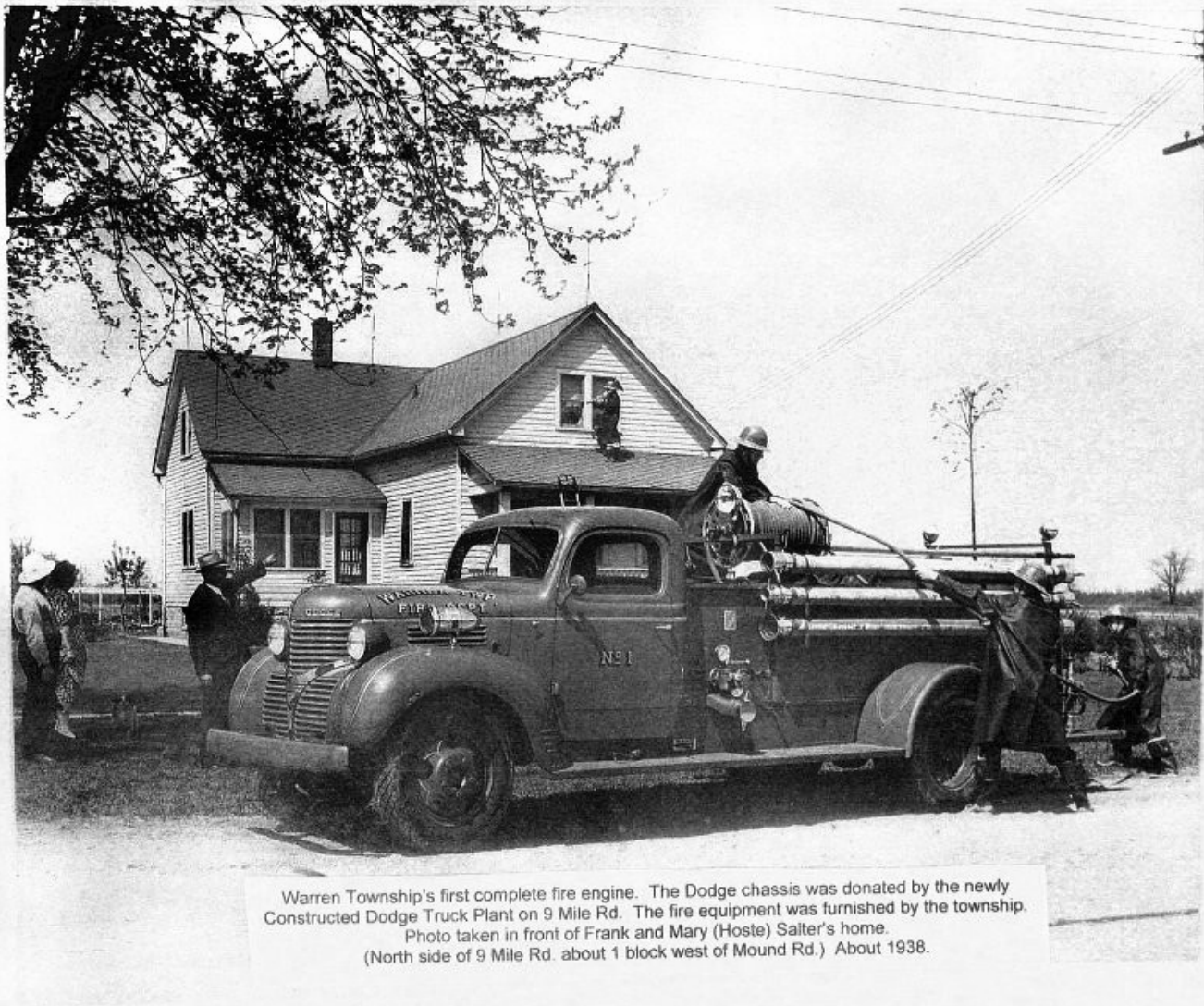
1922 VILLAGE HALL BUILT
1925 SHED NEXT TO VILLAGE HALL
See pages 4830-4833 for individual pictures



1929 APPRATUS BUILDING



1938 Chrysler Corporation donated a fire truck



1939 fire hall was built next to the old Township Hall at Van Dyke and 11 Mile roads

Fire Station No 2 at 13360 Nine Mile Rd and Fire Station No 3 at 23630 Ryan were put in operation on September 7th, 1949.

1951 VAN DYKE FIRE HALL built

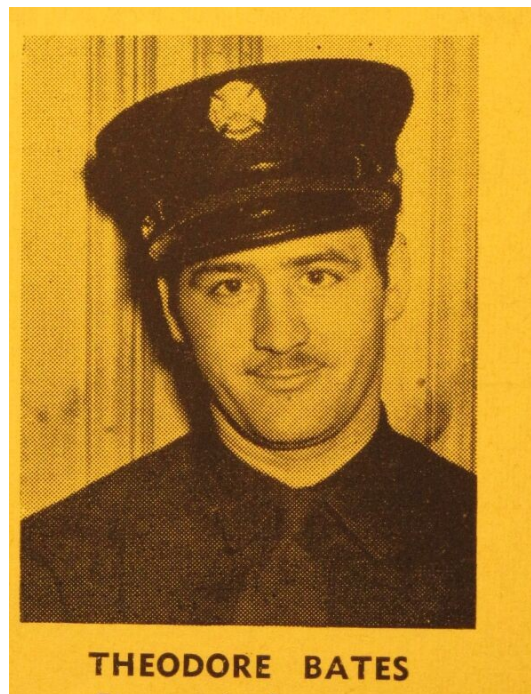


In 1951 two more fire halls were built. In 1955 the Nine Mile and Federal fire hall was built followed some time later by the fire hall on Twelve Mile Road by Common Road. The Ryan Station was built later.

STATION 1 9 MILE AT FEDERAL 1954-1955 WARREN TOWNSHIP
The New Fire Station at 8321 Nine Mile Road was dedicated on
September 17th 1955.



William B. Burr was appointed the City of Warren's First fire
Commissioner February 5th, 1957.



Here is young Ted Bates. Eleanor Bates remembers he got \$3.00 a call. The Village of Warren Volunteer Fire Department at 5961 Beebe St was put into operation as Station No 4 and 16 volunteer firefighters were given the position of regular paid firefighters On May 17th 1957.

Station No 5 was dedicated On Oct 11th, 1958 in Honored memory of firefighter Charles Consigny of the warren township Fire Department who gave his life in the line of duty on July 16th, 1944.

Station No 6 at 3090 Twelve Mile Rd was put in operation on February 1st, 1967.

The new Fire Station No 3 on Ryan near Stevens replacing the earlier station at the same location, was put in operation on May 22nd, 1986. This was dedicated to the "First Chief William Van Hule who served from 1939-1963.

The new Station No 4. was put into operation in 1991 and dedicated to Assistant Chief Henry Moran (1942-1973).

The new Station No 2 and Administration building at 23295 schoenherr Rd were put into operation in 1991 and dedicated to Fire Chief Willian Vahhulle.



Vern Lumex and William Van Hulle 1939 only two firemen
William Van Hulle was chief for a long time

H Reineli Commissioner and C Cockerline Chief in 1967

Glenn E Thom was Fire Commissioner and Clifford Cockerline
Chief 1972

James Ritchie Commissioner, Donald Soldenski Admin Chief,
Harold Church Senior Asst Chief 1975

Tom Johnson

Bill Karpinski from Dec 26, 1985 - Dec 1, 1995

Frank Sucaet Chief 1985 - 1986 and William Karpinski Fire
commissioner

Ray Shields from Feb 7, 1996 - Nov 23, 1998

Henry Gesing Dec 7, 1998-

Curtis Behnke Sept 23, 2000

Robert Vought Jan 14, 2004 - Sept 11, 2008

Fire Commissioner Skip McAdams Oct 2008 - Present
Melissa Hopkins Executive Secretary

Chiefs

Fire Chief David Frederick

Deputy Chief John Gary Wilkinson

Special Operations Chief Ken Sytefanski

EMS Chief Mark Schimanski

Battalion Chiefs

Unit 1 Donald Tharrett

Unit 2 Ken Meyer

Unit 3 John Lovins

Fire Marshall Daniel Simpson

WFD added new trucks

The Warren Fire Department has purchased two new ladder trucks for the added protection of the citizens and property in the City of Warren. These new ladder trucks feature an 85-foot platform. The platform is larger and can carry up to 4 people in fire or rescue situations. A unique quality of this truck is an "all wheel steer" capability, which allows for greater maneuverability in tight areas that, may have been inaccessible to the previous ladder trucks. With a 2,000 gallon per minute capability, these trucks will provide greater extinguishment capability for property preservation and firefighter safety. The operation of the truck has many computerized features that prevent it from being positioned improperly or operated in a manner that may be dangerous to the firefighters. The computerized monitoring also allows for quick and accurate troubleshooting and maintenance. The new ladder trucks will be assigned to Fire Stations 1 and 4.

Two Pierce Custom Dash S/S Pumper Trucks were also added to the Warren Fire Department to replace outdated pumpers. These trucks will be used as front line fire suppression response vehicles. They include a unique independent front suspension system which will increase safety for firefighters at elevated speeds that are typically achieved by emergency response vehicles. The new pumpers will be assigned to Stations 3 and 2.



The City of Warren paid \$324,358 for this Pierce Pumper

The City of Warren paid \$617,730 for this 85 foot aerial platform truck with nozzle and all steer



The City of Warren paid \$322,108 for this Pierce Pumper ladder-fire-truck

The City of Warren paid \$627,201 for this 85 foot aerial platform truck with nozzle and all steer.



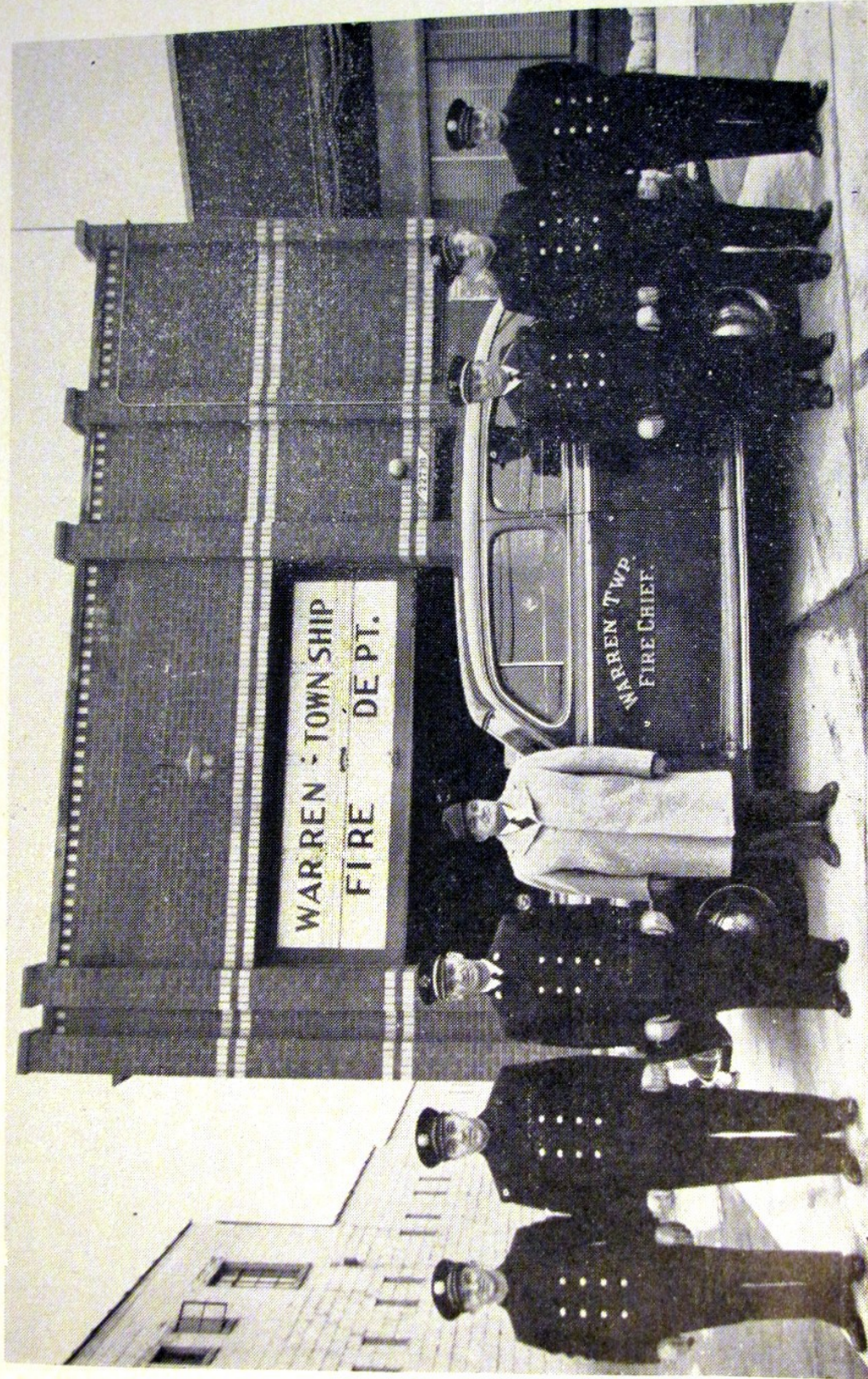
Fire Department Plans a Return to EMS Transport

For more information please call the Fire Department at (586) 756-2800.

EMT truck



WARREN TOWNSHIP—REGULAR FIREMEN



Left to Right: Joseph Sharp; Earl Hartsig; Chief, William Van Hulle; Supervisor, Earl Tallman; Capt. Chester Skarupski; Lawrence Dolsen; Charles Consigney.