The Town of Grafton extends west from Lake Michigan in Ozaukee County, encircling the Village of Grafton. Along the lakefront are breathtaking bluffs nearly 100-feet high.

About 20 years ago, Ozaukee County acquired 73 acres of the land along the lake as a nature preserve with trails overlooking the bluffs.

There is a half-mile road leading to that parkland from the nearest highway (County Road C) is aptly called High Bluff Drive.

Nearest to the highway are two upscale houses, one of them being a 7,000 square foot mansion located on a 9-acre lot, built in 2004. That structure, two stories with a large finished exposed basement and an attached 4-car garage, is located at 585 High Bluff Drive.

On Thursday evening, December 5, 2019, the occupants turned on the gas fireplace in one of the bedrooms and left the area. Adjacent to the fireplace were some foam mattresses. Later, smoke detectors sounded. The occupants discovered the mattresses on fire and tried moving them outside through a porch door. They got some out before being forced to exit the room, leaving the porch door open.

The Grafton Fire Department was notified at 4:49pm. At 4:50pm, a full still was requested, bringing in mutual aid from our two nearest neighboring departments, due to the report of smoke or fire as we were leaving for the scene. When we heard a deputy arrive and report a working fire, we requested Ozaukee County MABAS Division 119 Box Card 8-21 (Structure Fire - Non Hydrant) at 4:58pm.

It was a cold night, with temps hovering around 32 degrees and a strong 25 mile per hour wind that fed the fire in the interior through the open porch door and helped the fire on the exterior extend to the cockloft.

The house had some brick veneer, but otherwise was of lightweight wood frame that provided for quick fire-spread and destruction (Photo by Gary Schmidt).
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE  BY KEVIN BIERCE, CHIEF, PEWAUKEE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND PRESIDENT, MABAS WISCONSIN

Well here we are again, another year past and another looming. Each year we continue to see the diminishing fire resources around the State. Unfortunately that simple fact continues to drive the demand for MABAS up.

In the past several months we have experienced the uptick in calls for service from around the State. As in the past, I want to thank the Division Presidents and Regional Coordinators for their continued commitment to helping their neighbors.

We all know the effort each of us puts into the fire service. Whether volunteer, part time, or career, there never seems to be enough time. Thankfully, MABAS leaders and planners find the extra time, on every MABAS call for service, to make the plan come together.

I ask that each of you help support those who commit those extra hours, by making sure the box cards are filled in correctly, the points of contacts are correct and up to date, or simply by providing status updates.

It takes all of us to make the system work each and every time! It’s a simple “ask” to support the system that we often times take for granted.

The expectation of the system working is only valid if we have the whole team pull together. Take the time to help us help you. The Executive Board, the Division Presidents and Regional Coordinators are all here to help. Feel to reach out anytime! Till the next box. Kevin

DIV 119 USES MABAS TO FIGHT MANSION FIRE IN GRAFTON - PICTURES

Top Left: upper left corner of the rear (C-Side) of the house where the fire started. Portable lighting was needed for visibility in the pitch black darkness.

Bottom Left: the sloping yard of the B-C corner. The turf was very soft and mushy.

Bottom Right: The A-B corner (A-side is the front, then B,C,D go clockwise around the structure). Shown are the four garage doors on the B-side. Standing in front is a police officer and the occupants near a salvage tarp containing paintings and other valuables recovered by firefighters. (Photos by Gary Schmidt).
District Chief Matt Karpinski, Grafton Engine 863 and I (Fire Chief Bill Rice) arrived at the same time. Matt did the size up.

We had heavy fire conditions showing from the southwest corner of the house. The SW corner is the location of the bedroom where the fire started.

The fire had grown quite large prior to our arrival and was growing fast with strong winds. Once hose lines were laid and charged, there was more fire than our on-board supply could overcome.

We escalated to a 2nd alarm at 5:04pm and a 3rd alarm at 5:15pm.

Our challenges: a large fire requires more water and more operational tasks, a large fire requires longer duration which eventually requires replacement crews, help could only come from 3 directions with Lake Michigan being on the east (and the dead-end roadway had only one access point from Hwy C), and the large finished basement had many halls and rooms to navigate through.

The roadways leading to and including High Bluff Drive were rural two-lane lined with culverts having a sharp drop-off and little shoulder room. For this time-of-year, there already was extreme darkness.

Above: the long narrow driveway from High Bluff Drive to the house. Note the soft grass, water turning to ice, and the long lay of 5" Large Diameter Hose (LDH).
Below Top: the tenders dumping their water into the portable reservoir.
Below Bottom: the line of tenders needed to sustain the LDH water supply to the fire suppression units at the house. (Photos by Gary Schmidt).
DIV 119 USES MABAS TO FIGHT MANSION FIRE IN GRAFTON - CONTINUED

(Continued from page 3)
There was a 200’ long, winding driveway from the street to the house, surrounded by damp, soft, grass (an ambulance got stuck, sinking into the turf).

Setting up a water supply was challenging, but once it was established, it functioned well.

There was a 700’ length of 5” LDH from the engine at the portable reservoir that supplied water to our aerial ladder truck master stream as well as several hand lines.

With the fill site being several miles away, we upgraded MABAS Box 8-21 to the 4th level for Tenders Only at 5:50pm to ensure a continuous flow of water.

By 7:58pm, we struck out the box and cleared the scene by 10pm. The large turnout of tenders went very smoothly.

We had no operational problems regarding MABAS deployment.

Many turndowns but were handled well by Division 119 dispatch.

OZAUKEE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT USES DRONE DURING GRAFTON FIRE

BY SCOTT ZIEGLER, WCEM, DIRECTOR, OZAUKEE COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICE, DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Ozaukee County Sheriff’s Office Drone program has been under development since the first of the year 2019. The program is capable of 24/7 operations, weather dependent.

Drones will not be operated in rain or during active snowfall. Winds must be under 25 MPH. The Pilot in charge has the last call on a go / no-go for a flight for safety.

The response time goal is to have a drone on scene ready to fly in 30 minutes. The time to scene can be much less if pilots are on duty or in the office at the time of the call. Flights may also be pre-planned.

We fly two drones, a DJI Spark and a DJI Inspire 1 that is FLIR (advanced thermal imaging) as well as HD PTZ (Pan Tilt Zoom) camera capable.

We currently have ten pilots within the Sheriff’s Office that are a mix of personnel ranging from Deputies with the Patrol and Detective Divisions as well as Dispatchers and Emergency Management.

The goal is to have all pilots obtain their FAA part 107 pilots license. Each flight requires two people per drone being used - a pilot and observer. The pilot in charge must hold a part 107 license.

Both drones can fly for about 20 minutes with a fully charged battery under ideal conditions. The flight time is less during cold (under 32°) and higher winds - approximately half.

We are able to support multiple 20 minute flights per drone as well as charge batteries on scene.

Given the charging times and the flight time restrictions on batteries, it is important for the pilots and Command to have a clear understanding of the mission needs so it can be flown as efficiently as possible to maximize the flight time.

Your contributions to the various columns make this newsletter a success. Let us know about your MABAS response activity at mabaswinews@gmail.com. In particular, pictures are needed of actual emergencies or Division-wide training events.
I was the dispatcher for the Grafton incident once MABAS was requested for their mansion fire on High Bluff Drive.

From the onset, I knew we needed to be proactive. The Box level listed a tender from Cedarburg. The Cedarburg Fire Department had sold their old tender and the new one hadn’t been placed in service yet, thus being our home department, we were aware of no tender available, making Grafton’s 1st alarm box short one tender.

So we took from the 2nd and, as escalations occurred, did so thru the 4th alarm. When the Incident Commander (IC) went to the 4th alarm I did make the IC aware that there were only two tenders left in the 5th box, thinking that if they needed more water, we might have to go interdivisional.

For all other resources, Grafton was at the 3rd alarm level and I had passes to fill for Change of Quarters:

- Thiensville Ambulance took a pass on the 2nd alarm level, so I used the next ambulance listed (none at the 3rd, so I went to the 4th level) from Saukville
- Belgium Engine passed on the 3rd level, so I used West Bend from the 4th alarm level.
- Belgium Chief passed on the 3rd alarm level, so I contacted Germantown (listed on the 4th alarm level). They also passed, so I used Hartford Chief from the 5th alarm level.

The completeness of the box card allowed me to make these decisions without having to bother Incident Command.

Change of Quarters (COQ) is important, as during the MABAS Box, Grafton had a call for a party not breathing and the Saukville ambulance responded to that call from the Grafton Firehouse.

I then advised the IC and asked if he wanted another replacement for Saukville at Grafton for COQ (he did).

While all of this was happening, my community (Cedarburg) had multiple EMS calls at the same time. So, I was juggling COQ for Cedarburg during the Grafton MABAS call.

As other volunteers reported for duty and crews freed up, including Thiensville paramedics, they were used to replace Saukville in Grafton until Grafton got additional staffing.

Bottom line: routine calls do not stop during a MABAS event.
John’s Disposal Service handles the garbage and recycling pickups from a large number of communities in the counties of Dane, Jefferson, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Racine, Rock, Walworth and Waukesha. Imagine the issues arising from a disruption in service. That fear almost became a reality on **Sunday July 1, 2018** as their processing center became engulfed in fire at **12:27pm**.

A huge column of thick black smoke was seen for miles as bales of recycled material were on fire with popping and snapping noises – possible explosions – occurring.

The location of the fire was **7311 Omega Circle** in Racine County (MABAS Division 102). The property abuts US-45 just north of CR-G (also known as 6 Mile Rd).

US-45 (also known as 124th Street) is the border between the Town of Raymond (on the east side) and the Town of Norway in the jurisdiction of the Wind Lake Volunteer Fire Department. A mile and a half to the north on US-45 is the boundary between MABAS Divisions 106 and 107. Calls were coming into many dispatch centers.

(Continued on page 7)
The Town of Raymond Fire Department responded, and upon arrival, pulled their Commercial Non-Hydrant Structure Fire Box Card 400-12 at 12:41pm.

The problem was that the business was actually in the Town of Norway and the Wind Lake Fire Department was the authority with jurisdiction (the property was on the west side of US-45). This added a layer of complexity into the event.

A 2nd alarm was transmitted at 12:58pm, a 3rd alarm at 1:12pm, and 4th & 5th alarms at 1:32pm due to many passes occurring.

As being quite common with this type of fire, getting to the root of the fire is difficult making extinguishment challenging and time consuming.

Interdivisional Strike Teams (a grouping of the same type of resource from an outside Division) were needed to replenish spent crews.

A Tender Strike Team from Div. 106, a Strike Team of Engines from Div. 103, a Div. 107 Ambulance Strike Team, and a special calls for the Racine and Milwaukee County Airport Fire Department foam trailers, were eventually requested.

The next morning, a Task Force (engine, trucks, chiefs, etc.) was requested from MABAS IL Div. 4.

(All photos by Timothy J. Stein. These photos are located at www.fyrpix.com in the “Fire Photography Gallery”)
Are You Reporting Your MABAS Incidents?

This newsletter reports on only selected MABAS deployments of a particular interest, however, MABAS is used every day to prevent local incidents from becoming large, thereby saving lives, minimizing property loss, and reducing impact to your community. The value of MABAS cannot be understated, yet it is difficult to communicate that message to those that can provide funding mechanisms and other support without an effective method to track the MABAS success story.

Listed below are all the incidents entered by each Division for each of the last nine years. Are these grossly undercounted? Please contact your Division President or Regional Coordinator with suggestions as to how this reporting can be improved or made easier. It is not too late to go back and enter missing incidents.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>102</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>103</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>104</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>105</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>134</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>107</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>112</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>114</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>116</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>117</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>38</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>53</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>111</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>122</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>123</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>124</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>125</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Divisions not listed have not reported any incidents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>127</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>128</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>129</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>130</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>131</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>132</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>133</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>134</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>135</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>137</td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>23</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>140</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>141</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>142</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>143</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>144</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>145</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>146</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>147</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>148</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>149</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>152</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>154</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>155</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>156</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>157</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>158</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>160</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grand Total: 12 51 59 85 105 122 133 161 140 868

Mutual Aid Labs provides world-class software to emergency services agencies without regard to their size. For too long size and budget has dictated the quality of technology available to these agencies, Mutual Aid Labs will provide software that revolutionizes processes and procedures, in such a way that it does not place undue burden on an agency's budget.

Mutual Aid Labs is the provider of EMABAS full electronic implementation of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS).

EMABAS converts box cards from static data to dynamic documents that change as departments and agencies change. EMABAS transforms the manner in which you plan and respond.

The desktop version of EMABAS provides the main interface for creating and using box cards. It also provides interfaces into resources, contacts, dispatch and reporting. Additionally the system has the ability to aid agencies in the use of MABAS during actual Calls.
Did you know, that once a month, the MABAS Wisconsin Division Presidents meet via a phone conference? Whether it be legislation, infrastructure, new technology, communication advances, or Homeland Security updates, there are several people involved from MABAS Wisconsin that participate in those areas and the results of their meetings are presented at the Presidents’ meetings for the purpose of disseminating the information to you.

The objective is to continually improve the MABAS experience while retaining the standardization that allows seamless integration with neighboring MABAS States.

If you have an interest in leadership role in MABAS or just want to get a deeper insight into MABAS, you are welcome to attend. Contact your Division President for the dates, times, and call-in numbers.

**Statewide Div. President’s Meetings**

*First Thursday of Each Month at 7pm*

At these meetings, the Officers of MABAS Wisconsin, the standing committees, and other ancillary areas provide updates to the Division Presidents. A typical agenda may be:

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call – Attendance (Secretary Goplin)**
4. **Secretary’s Report/Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes (Secretary Goplin)**
5. **Treasurer’s Report (Treasurer Popp)**
6. **Officer’s Reports/Correspondence:**
   - President Bierce
   - Vice President Pickering
   - Additional from Secretary or Treasurer
7. **Committee Reports**
   - Communications (Chair Hansen) Chief Hansen attends many Statewide meetings and provides updates. This includes possible grant opportunities.
   - Website (Chair Hansen)
   - MABAS Training & Education (WEM Fire Service Coordinator Tim Haas)
   - Policies, Procedures & Guidelines (Chair Rice)
   - Finance and Funding (Treasurer Popp)
   - Public Information (Chair O’Leary)
   - Newsletter (Chair Schmidt)
8. **BadgerRED Center Update (Brian Becker)**
9. **WEM Update (FSC Tim Haas)**
10. **Old Business (Example: Division 101 taking the lead on researching wide-area search model protocol and training)**
11. **New Business**
12. **Region/Division Roundtable (Regional Coordinators / Division Presidents)**
   - Regional Reports (SE, SW, EC, WC, NE, NW)
   - Division Reports
   - MABAS-IL Update from Liaison to MABAS-WI Patrick Gallagher (example: MABAS IL has 20 mission tasks right now in the flood zone and multiple single resource requests).
13. **Announcements**
14. **Next Meetings**

**Division President Winter In-Service Meeting**

*February 21-22, 2020*

*Location: Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells*

The Winter In-Service is an opportunity for all Division Presidents and MABAS-WI officers & leaders to meet face-to-face to tackle issues faced during the previous year’s MABAS activations and other matters that require in-depth strategizing.

The most cost-effective, yet centrally located venue is sought out each year. Availability is often the deciding factor.

This year, we were fortunate to find a place that the family can also enjoy. Here are some questions & answers (provided by Randy Pickering):

1. **Who can attend the meeting?**
   - *Our goal is to get (at least one) someone from each Division:*
   - *The focus of the In-Service is for the Division President; but,*
   - *Other Division Officers, and individual Division Member Department MABAS Coordinators are welcome to attend.*
   - *Good news this year is, we do not have a space limitation.*

2. **The venue agreed to accept the State Rate. What is the State Rate?**
   - *$82.00/night, and Tax Exempt if the person provides their Department Tax ID number. This is for a single occupancy room.*
   - *Exec Board, Committee Chairs, etc. can be covered under the MABAS-Wisconsin Tax ID number.*

3. **The In-Service starts early Saturday morning on 2/22/2020. The day before (Friday 2/21/2020) is reserved for “pre-meetings” conducive to face-to-face exchanges during the day and a round-table discussion in the evening. Basically, topics that needed more time than a monthly call-in. When can the State Rate be used?**
   - *The State Rate applies for single occupant rooms Thursday and Friday nights (Thursday is for those who want to come up early for the Regional Coordinator sessions on Friday).*

4. **Can one bring their family for the Resort activities and what is the special rate for a 2nd day if they choose?**
   - A Special Group Rate ($149) applies:
   - *For family rooms (i.e., 2-4 occupants) Thursday, Friday and Saturday.*
   - *For anyone who stays under the State Rate for Thursday/Friday and wants to stay Saturday night as well (1-4 occupants).*
   - *For anyone who stays just Saturday night (1-4 occupants).*
   - *Arrangements can be made for families who need room for greater than 4. That will be handled on a case-by-case basis.*

5. **What Resort perks do they get?**
   - *State rate and Special rate includes water park passes (at no additional cost) for all registered occupants.*

6. **What are the approximate timings of the meeting on each day?**
   - *Friday 10am – 5pm (Regional Coordinators Meetings with WEM, WFSCA)*
   - *Friday night Division Presidents Roundtable (7 - 9 pm)*
   - *Saturday In-Service (9am – 4pm)*
A VISIT TO THE MABAS-ILLINOIS READINESS CENTER
BY RANDY PICKERING, CHIEF, EDGERTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, AND VICE-PRESIDENT, MABAS WISCONSIN

On October 23, 2019, an in-depth tour was given of the MABAS-Illinois Readiness Center located in Wheeling, Illinois.

The Readiness Center is the hub of all MABAS-Illinois operations, aka: “Headquarters”, where the MABAS-Illinois Executive Board and Readiness staff work out of.

The Readiness Center is also the “central store” for all MABAS-Illinois specialty assets and acts as the “Deployment Center” on any out-of-state (IMAC, FEMA, etc.) responses. The Readiness Center is also used to conduct a significant amount of training.

While MABAS-Illinois has assets deployed across the State in each of their regions, the specialty resources are all located at the Readiness Center.

Note that this facility differs from the MABAS-IL RED Center (RED = Regional Emergency Dispatch), of which there is a primary and backup location.

MABAS-Illinois Operations Team members show some of the resources available at the MABAS-Illinois Readiness Center.

They will gladly provide tours if you are interested.

(Photos by Bruce Hedrington.)
MABAS Wisconsin is an interstate concept. While individual States have their own MABAS organizations, it is the standardization between them that makes MABAS a regional solution. Every month, if not every week, “border crossings” occur under a MABAS activation.

In the ten years of doing this newsletter, there have been several events documented of Wisconsin resources going into Illinois, Illinois departments coming into Wisconsin, and Michigan departments coming into Wisconsin (although that still is a non-MABAS mutual-aid agreement until MABAS-WI and MABAS-MI have a gubernatorial agreement).

MABAS-IL includes some departments from Iowa and Missouri, including the St. Louis Fire Department. MABAS is also growing in Indiana and Michigan.

MABAS Wisconsin Divisions 101 (Kenosha), 102 (Racine), 103 (Walworth) and MABAS Illinois Division 4 (Lake) meet once a year to discuss topics in the area.

In addition, there also is a joint Box Card Party to work through response plans for the four divisions during the annual update of box cards.

Finally, a Wisconsin representative, currently Craig Roepke, Chief of Pleasant Prairie WI Fire & Rescue, attends MABAS-IL Division 4 meetings on a monthly basis.

MABAS-WI In Multi-State Meetings
By Randy Pickering, MABAS-WI Vice-President

MABAS-Wisconsin took the lead, starting at our 2019 Annual Conference in Stevens Point, to begin bringing the Executive Boards of all the MABAS states together.

The 2019 meeting brought Executive Board representatives from Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan together for the first time ever to discuss mutual cooperation and common challenges.

The next meeting is scheduled during the MABAS-Illinois Annual Conference in February 2020 in Bloomington, Illinois.

It will have Executive Board representatives from Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan and Indiana.

The plan is to try and bring the Executive Boards together face-to-face one or two times each year.

MABAS-WI Attends CORE State Meetings
By Randy Pickering, MABAS-WI Vice-President

CORE is “Coordinating Operational Responses Effectively” and was an outgrowth of a MABAS-Wisconsin Strategic Plan Initiative to build better partnerships with other statewide organizations. When there is a major situation somewhere in Wisconsin, and we all end up at the location, we need to be talking ahead of time to do a better job of planning and coordinating safe and effective responses and operations. We shouldn’t be meeting each other for the first time in the middle of a field someplace.

The group holds its meetings at each other’s conferences throughout the year, and the meeting is attended by representatives of the Executive Boards or representatives of each of the organizations. Much like the multi-state meetings, the topics discussed are around common issues and how to better plan and work together during emergency situations. Included is:

- APCO (Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials)
- BSSA (Badger State Sheriffs’ Association)
- HERC (Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition)
- MABAS-WI (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System)
- NENA (National Emergency Number Association)
- WCPA (Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association)
- WEMA (Wisconsin Emergency Management Association)
- WEMSA (Wisconsin EMS Association)
- WSFA (Wisconsin State Firefighters Association)
- WSFCA (Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs’ Association

Let us know when you have a circumstance where you found yourself “thinking outside the MABAS Box card”!
WHAT IS MABAS (MUTUAL AID BOX ALARM SYSTEM)? BY GARY SCHMIDT

Using MABAS, when your Fire Department responds to an incident, they respond with a preplanned set of resources/vehicles appropriate for the situation. This may be augmented further upon confirmation of a working incident.

This first alarm set of resources is described in the Local Dispatch Area of the response card.

When conditions require another “set of resources” or alarm, the Incident Commander (IC) will use MABAS Box Alarms to get help from other departments (“mutual aid”) by simply asking Dispatch for another alarm.

By using MABAS, the IC is assured of:
- A specific minimum number of firefighters per unit type
- A specific level of training/certification of responders
- The other departments will have the same radio frequencies
- The other departments will use the same terminology
- All costs and liabilities are borne by the outside departments coming to the stricken community
- Other departments will cover the community having the incident
- As many additional “sets” (alarms) as needed can be called for

This allows the IC to focus on the emergency at hand and the tactics to be deployed.

The inherent standardization by all MABAS departments enables a fast, efficient response to an escalating emergency situation.

This saves lives, minimizes property damage, and can prevent economic devastation to the local community.

In 2009, a meatpacking plant fire in Cudahy WI, had 16 additional alarm sets called for, involving 64 Fire Departments.

Shown above is the MABAS Box Alarm Card format that lists the preplanned resources. The Change of Quarters column ensures that resources are backfilling the stricken community’s firehouses for other calls that may occur during the MABAS incident. Generally, only one or two resources are used from each neighboring department so that they also do not get depleted. Each alarm level requests departments from a greater distance out.

MABAS is used in Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan, providing for a regional solution to a local problem. Since all departments in all States using MABAS listen to the same radio frequency, one transmission will notify numerous departments. Such interoperability is key to the success of MABAS.
Incident Reporting Is Important & Easy To Do

MABAS Wisconsin has a tool in place to log the use of MABAS. The Incident Entry Portal can be accessed via [http://incident.mabaswisconsin.org](http://incident.mabaswisconsin.org) or through [http://www.mabaswisconsin.org](http://www.mabaswisconsin.org) using the DBMS Login drop down box.

To enter an incident, login with a UserID of mabas and a password of wisconsin. After the initial entry, Departments need their specific credentials to alter the incident information or to alter the other information on the site about their department. Departments should contact their Division President for the login information.

### Incidents Entered September 1, 2019 thru December 31, 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date &amp; Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Div.</th>
<th>Host Agency</th>
<th>Box Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/1/2019 16:52</td>
<td>399 N Main Street</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>THIENSVILLE FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>Structure - Non Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/2/2019 13:44</td>
<td>1671 BEECH LANE</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>FREDONIA FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>Structure - Non Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/6/2019 14:11</td>
<td>1605 NAVAJO STREET</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>GRAFTON VOL FIRE DEPT INC</td>
<td>Structure - Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/12/2019 23:25</td>
<td>1802 Shepherd Ct</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>WAUKESHA FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>Structure - Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/19/2019 0:26</td>
<td>7263 Cth A</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>BELLEVILLE VOL FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>Structure - Non Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/28/2019 21:44</td>
<td>1896 130th Avenue</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>UNITED FIRE &amp; RESCUE DISTRICT</td>
<td>Structure - Non Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/30/2019 0:00</td>
<td>N7490 Menominee River Drive</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>GROVER-PORTERFIELD FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>Structure - Non Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/1/2019 22:05</td>
<td>River St / Third Ave</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>BELLEVILLE VOL FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>Disaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/16/2019 20:39</td>
<td>3810 Sunburst Rd</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>SUN PRAIRIE VOL FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>Structure - Non Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/24/2019 17:53</td>
<td>1012 Criglas Rd</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>WALES GENESEE FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>Structure - Non Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/31/2019 7:32</td>
<td>N3351 Jefferson Road</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>HARTFORD VOL FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>Life Safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/5/2019 21:46</td>
<td>4984 Irish Ln</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>FITCHBURG FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>Commercial - Non Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/20/2019 5:04</td>
<td>1327 WISCONSIN AVE</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>GRAFTON VOL FIRE DEPT INC</td>
<td>Structure - Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/2/2019 2:32</td>
<td>555 Oconto Ave.</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>PESHTIGO CITY FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>Structure - Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/10/2019 10:13</td>
<td>961 County Hwy. &quot;U&quot;</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>NULL</td>
<td>Structure - Non Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/13/2019 4:29</td>
<td>7922 CEDAR CREEK ROAD</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>CEDARBURG VOL FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>Structure - Non Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/23/2019 19:19</td>
<td>1361 State Street Houlton WI</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>ST JOSEPH VOL FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>Structure - Non Hydrant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/28/2019 1:07</td>
<td>1330 W GRAND AVE</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>PORT WASHINGTON VOL FIRE DEPT</td>
<td>Structure - Hydrant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MABAS - Wisconsin
Mutual Aid Box Alarm System
Organized 2004

MABAS Wisconsin Regional Coordinators

Northwest Region
Phil Bochler
Ph. (715) 492-7235
assessor@cityofparkfalls.com

Northeast Region
Josh Klug
Ph. (715) 218-0815
Ph. (715) 536-2233
josh.klug@ci.merrill.wi.us

West Central Region
Thomas Barthman
Ph. (651) 246-8333
mabaswibarthman@gmail.com

East Central Region
Ben Schoenborn
Ph. (920) 418-3215
sben@charter.net

Fire Service Coordinator
Wisconsin Homeland Security Council
Tim Haas
Ph. (608) 220-6049

Kevin Bierce
Ph. (262) 691-5610

Red Center - WEM Duty Officer
Ph. 800-943-0003 (Press 3)

MABAS OPERATING FREQUENCIES
IFERN  MABAS Alerting & Intra-Divisional Responses
IFERN2 Alternate Intra-Divisional Responses
MABAS1 (WISCOM) Inter-Divisional Responses
Contact with Wisconsin Red Center
MABAS2 (WISCOM) Regional Coordinators - WEM Coordination

MABAS WI Divisions
101 - Kenosha County
102 - Racine County
103 - Walworth County
104 - Rock County
105 – Green County
106 – Waukesha County
107 – Milwaukee County
108 – Grant County
110 – Portage County
111 – Washington County
112 – Brown County
113 – Sheboygan County
114 – Oneida County
115 – Dane County
116 – Wood County
117 – Dunn/Pepin County
118 – Jefferson County
119 – Ozaukee County
120 – Fond du Lac County
121 – Vilas County
122 – Calumet County
123 – Winnebago County
124 – Iowa County
125 – Lafayette County
126 – Eau Claire County
127 – Outagamie County
128 – Manitowoc County
129 – Dodge County
130 – Marathon County
131 – Sauk County
132 – Chippewa County
133 – Shawano/Menominee Cnty
134 – La Crosse County
135 – Columbia County
136 – Juneau County
137 – Oconto County
138 – Kewaunee County
139 – Jackson County
140 – Trempealeau County
141 – Green Lake County
142 – Waupaca County
143 – St. Croix County
144 – Marinette County
145 – Monroe County
146 – Florence County
147 – Langlade County
148 – Buffalo County
149 – Price County
150 – Richland County
151 – Waushara County
152 – Clark County
153 – Forest County
154 – Door County
155 – Lincoln County
156 – Pierce County
157 – Vernon County
158 – Ashland County
159 – Taylor County
160 – Sawyer County
161 – Polk County
162 – Crawford County

Map showing MABAS WI Divisions with various counties marked.