



Annual review 2021

#### **Foreword**



# Dear Citizens, Dear friends of the Texing volunteer fire brigade

In the annual review we look back on the events and successes of the past year. There were some challenging missions to tackle.

There were several flood missions and many technical missions in our operational area. The demands on the equipment and the crew were great.

In the fire brigade work, great emphasis is placed on training. Much could not be carried out in the last year, so the focus will be on this area in the coming year.

Many thanks to the people of Texing for their multiple support and thanks to the Texing municipal council for the very good cooperation.

Naturally, our youth fire brigade is always happy to welcome new members. Interested girls and boys between 10 and 15 years of age can register for youth at any time. There is more information on the inside of this review.

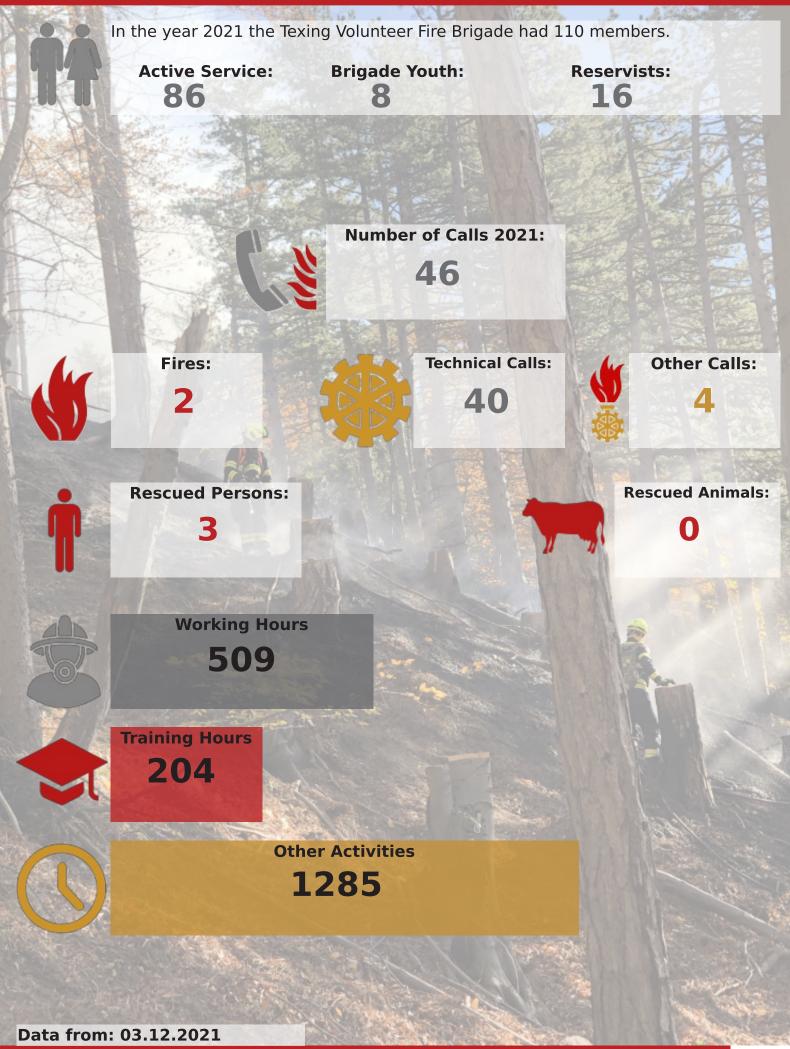
In the year 2022 the "Florianifestival" is planned again for the last weekend in July. Please visit this beautiful festival as numerous as before. The fire brigade is looking forward to seeing you.

The Texing fire brigade is ready for you at any time and so I wish you a happy new year 2022 and my fire brigade members an accident-free return home from all missions.

Fire Brigade Commander

Johann Waxenegger, HBI

#### **Statistics**



# **Commanding Officers**



Fire Brigade Commander Johann Waxenegger Member since: 01.01.1985 In charge since: 08.01.2016



Johann Seiberl jun.

Member since: 01.05.1994
In charge since: 04.01.2008



Head of Administration
Markus Freinberger
Member since: 01.01.2000
In charge since: 08.01.2021

# **Specialized Officers**



Christian Brunnbauer
Chief Mechanic
Platoon Leader



Helmut Brunnbauer **Group Leader Deputy Platoon Leader** 



Hannes Freinberger

Deputy Platoon
Leader

Group Leader



Michael Grubner
Group Leader

Daniel Hayden



Reinhard Lugbauer
Officer of
Communications

Gerhard Klauser

**Deputy Head of** 

**Administration** 



Walter Eigenthaler jun. **Group Leader** 



Christian Emsenhuber

Deputy Ordnance

Master



Kurt Fahrngruber **Group Leader** 



Christoph Freinberger
Group Leader



**Protection**Christian Heindl

**Ordnance Master** 

Officer of Respiratory



Gerhard Heindl
Platoon Leader



Matthias Heindl
Instructor
Deputy Chief Mechanic



Walter Seiberl jun.

Officer of Fire Brigade

Medical Service



Johann Waxenegger jun. **Youth Instructor** 



Johann Waxenegger sen.
Reservists'
Representative

# **Emergencies**

At the beginning of the year we were called to several vehicle salvages due to heavy snowfall. Both trucks and cars got into trouble on the mirror-smooth roadways and were rescued by us.







Paul Plutsch © www.fotoplutsch.at

In March we were called to help the Kirnberg volunteer fire brigade to rescue a truck in Kimming. We supported the Kirnberg volunteer fire brigade by securing the vehicle with the winch of our rescue vehicle. This operation once again showed that the cooperation with our neighboring fire brigades works well.

At the end of April we were called to Rosenbichl for a pollutant leak. At the place of use it turned out that large amounts of liquid manure had leaked into the nearby river. With the help of tarpaulins and pallets, a barrier was built at the bridge near the soccerfield to stow and suck off the liquid manure.







On May 10th, 2021 the Texing, St. Gotthard, Kirnberg and Mank fire brigades were alerted to rescue a person in Plankenstein.

A paraglider fell over a piece of forest and landed unharmed on a tree. With the support of the turntable ladder of the Mank fire brigade, the person was freed from the predicament.



# **Emergencies**

On July 18, the rivers Texingbach, Fischbach and Mank broke out of their banks in a very short time due to the heavy rainfall. 10 affected homeowners reported within a very short time. Some basements were flooded, objects had to be protected with sandbags, a landslide with a damaged house wall had to be overcome, a sawmill was threatened with an engine drowning in the water and the road to Sonnleitboden was polluted in several places.

The Texing and St. Gotthard volunteer fire brigades were alarmed with all their vehicles and around 50 men were deployed.



On the night of September 4th, we were alerted to a traffic accident.

A car had drifted off the road, slid over an embankment and came to a stop in a wooded area. During the accident, the vehicle was deformed in such a way that a rescue opening first had to be created using a hydraulic rescue device in order to be able to rescue 2 of the 3 occupants from the wreckage.

After the first aid on site, the partially seriously injured were brought to the surrounding hospitals by the Red Cross. After the police recorded the accident, the wreck could be safely recovered with the winch.







#### **Emergencies**

On October 28 in the late afternoon, our deputy commander, Johann Seiberl jun.got the marching orders for the 1st platoon of the desaster relief service (DRS) of the Melk fire brigade district. The reason was the forest fires in Hirschwang on the Rax.

The DRS commander of Melk district, EABI Johann Jindra, platoon commander Johann Seiberl jun. and his deputy Stefan Daxböck moved out on October 29th. at 4:00 a.m. together with the vehicles of the 1st platoon to Hirschwang. 5 members from Texing volunteer fire brigade were in action with a vehicle.

A total of 44 firefighters and 7 vehicles supported the local firefighters in fighting the forest fire in Hirschwang an der Rax. The tasks extended to extinguishing work in steep, impassable terrain with an acute risk of falling rocks and mostly in a smoky environment.

After a total of 18 hours in action, our members were able to return to the fire station at 10 p.m. and the operational readiness could be restored.



# **Subject Area: Respiratory Protection**



Respiratory protection means all actions that pursue the goal of keeping away harmful substances (respiratory toxins) that could get into the body via the respiratory system. The respiratory protection officer is responsible for maintaining the breathing apparatus and for the training of the members.



Officer of Respiratory Protection Daniel Hayden

**In charge since:** 10.01.2020

Due to the ever-present corona pandemic, the activities and exercises in the area of respiratory protection were unfortunately severely restricted.

The last exercise in Texing took place a long time ago, it was held on February 14th, 2020 at the property of our member Walter Huber. Here the exercise assumption was a fire suspected due to heavy smoke development in the stable or hayloft, and that there may be people in this area who had to be rescued.







The handling of the repsiratory protection device as well as working with it requires regular practice and routine, so we hope to be able to hold more exercises again in the near future, since there are not many trainings on behalf of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Since the breathing apparatus of our fire brigade is getting on in years, and some costs for necessary maintenance and inspections are pending in the near future, we have decided to exchange our 2x200 bar devices for new 1x 300bar devices in order to be equipped up to date for the future as well, and before above all, to be able to act safely during operations and exercises.

Another point that speaks in favor of purchasing new equipment is the compatibility with the neighbor fire brigades so that we can support each other in an emergency.

A brief comparison of the 2x200bar devices vs. 1x300bar .:  $2 \times 200$ bar x 4litres volume = 1600litres breathing air supply Weight approx.  $2 \times 5.8$ kg = approx. 11.6kg  $1 \times 300$ bar x 6.8litres volume -10% = 1854litres breathing air supply Weight approx. = Approx. 6.2kg



Two-bottle device 200 bars



One-bottle device 300 bars

This comparison makes it easy to see that with the 300bar bottles you not only have more air available, but that the weight of the bottles is almost halved.

Furthermore, with the new respiratory protection devices, new positive pressure masks are being purchased, which make inhalation behavior a lot easier. The new devices result in many advantages for the device carrier in order to be ready for the possibly decisive additional minutes.

#### **Training & Education**



Every craft needs to be learned, and the appointment of "volunteer fire brigade member" demands the same. For all operational requirements, the fire brigade members should take the correct tactical and technical measures for combating or remedying cases of damage within the shortest possible time.



Instructor
Matthias Heindl
In charge since: 01.01.2016

Despite the numerous restrictions, the training operations could also be carried out as well as possible in 2021. At the beginning of February, a technical training exercise was carried out with the newly transferred members. Particular attention was paid to the correct securing of the deployment site.

Also in February, the members in Hannes Freinberger's group devoted themselves to the subject of "collecting liquids". Under the expert guidance of Markus Freinberger, the construction of collecting and catch basins, as well as the sealing of sewer shafts and barrels were explained and practiced.

In May there was an exercise on the areas of "Rescuing people from vehicles" and "Pumping water". With the help of a station operation, the handling and operation of the rescue kit were practiced and tips & tricks for pumping water were shown.

On September 24th, 2021 a special kind of fire service exercise took place: The use of various extinguishing agents and their effectiveness was practiced and demonstrated with a discarded and set on fire rubbish bin.

The focus of the training in autumn was on the basic training of the newly transferred members. After numerous exercises within the fire brigade, as well as together with the fire members from the Mank, St. Gotthard, Kirnberg and Kettenreith fire brigades, the members took the final exam on November 13th, 2021.

This was mastered successfully, we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our members Julian Fahrngruber-Biernbaum, Michael Groiss and Marcel Kasser very warmly!







#### Fire Brigade Youth



With the youth fire brigade, the continued existence of the voluntary fire service is secured in the long term. Many fire brigades mainly recruit their offspring from the youth of the fire brigade, thereby ensuring their continued existence and doing valuable youth work in the process.



Youth Instructor Johann Waxenegger jun. In charge since: 01.01.2016

The Texing fire brigade youth consists of 9 youth fire brigade members. Last year 4 youth members left the group and 2 new members were accepted.

The knowledge test, which deals with general knowledge about fire fighting, was held in the spring. In mid-March, the two commanders and the section commander of Mank fire brigade section were able to convince themselves of the kids' knowledge.

The radio operator skill badge took place at the Texing Volunteer Fire Brigade this year. All the kids who took on the challenges, mastered them with ease and now proudly wear the radio operator skill badge. Operating a handheld radio is no longer a hurdle.

In fall, learning was done for the "Erprobung" skill test. Here, training was given about the equipment in the vehicles of the local fire brigades. After a few exercises and an overnight stay in the St. Gotthard fire station, the kids were able to demonstrate their skills again and all participants passed the exam successfully.

If you are interested, you can visit the website of the Texing volunteer fire brigade. You can find all the information here: <a href="https://www.feuerwehr-texing.at">www.feuerwehr-texing.at</a>

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and all the best for the coming year.

The kids of the Texing fire brigade youth





# Subject Area: Vehicle and Equipment Service



This subject area covers a very wide range of tasks and activities. In addition to the care, maintenance and purchase of equipment and vehicles, the training and further education of drivers and operational machinists plays a central role.



Ordnance Master Christian Heindl In charge since: 01.01.2015

The equipment team is responsible for the maintenance of devices, operational clothing and the rental of devices and equipment. For this purpose, equipment and devices are checked annually and witnesses and checked for their functionality. Defective or non-functional equipment is replaced in order to be able to provide help quickly and efficiently in the future.

Since new members are constantly being accepted into the youth fire brigade and into active serving, protective and work clothing must be procured here on a regular basis. Re-equipping a member in active service costs the fire brigade around 1800 € per person.

Over the winter we worked on a concept to equip the second roll container of our existing fire truck for flood operations.



Chief Mechanic Christian Brunnbauer In charge since: 01.01.2012

The mechanical team is responsible for the maintenance and repair of the fire brigade vehicles, as well as for the education and training of the drivers and machinists.

In 2021, in addition to the regular maintenance of the vehicles, the planning of the new tank tender, which will be put into service in 2023, also took place together with the command and the Equipment team.



# **Subject Area: Communictions**



A diverse range of Tasks within the Lower Austrian Fire Services is subsumed under the term Communications Service. Without an Alarm, there is no Operation and without functioning Communication, an optimal operational sequence is unlikely to exist.



Officer of Communications
Reinhard Lugbauer

**In charge since:** 12.01.2018

This year in September we were invited to a radio exercise in Kilb, in which 4 members from the Texing Volunteer Fire Brigade took part. The exercise scenario was a forest fire in the Kilb area. Furthermore, the last Lockdown was used for the maintenance and inspection of all radio devices.

#### Reservists



Reservists Representative Johann Waxenegger sen.

In charge since: 08.01.2016

Our activities are not as extensive as those of our active members.
Unfortunately we had to give our member Mr. Walter Seiberl sen. to be buried in July. We will always keep him in good memory.

Also this year new comrades moved from the active service to the reserve:

Karl Huber Friedrich Gansch Herbert Kerschner Karl Lugbauer

We also supported our active members in collecting the COVID-19 test kits from Tulln, as well as in collecting the remaining materials from the communities in the Mank fire brigade section.

Funerals were attended again this year at the neighbor fire brigades:

On February 12th, 2021: Franz Zöchbauer from the Vol. Fire Brigade St. Gotthard
On February 24th, 2021: Karl Schuhmaier from the Vol. Fire Brigade Hublehen
On June 1st, 2021: Hermann Wurzenberger from the Vol. Fire Brigade St. Georgen / Leys
On September 17th, 2021: Ignaz Lugbauer from the Vol. Fire Brigade Hublehen

We will also support our active members in 2022 if possible.

#### **Administrative Service**



The administrative service is responsible for correspondence with authorities, municipalities, section and district fire brigade commands and the state fire brigade association. But just like the correspondence, the finances of the fire brigade are among his tasks.



Head of Administration
Markus Freinberger
In charge since: 08.01.2021

The year 2021 was relatively calm in the fire brigade, which had an impact on the one hand in the amount of work in the administration and in the way of working on the other hand.

Since the administration team has been doing a lot digitally for many years and the coordination with each other is mostly done electronically in the form of emails, text messages and phone calls, we were able to continue working here relatively unchanged.

In spring there was an Easter collection, here I would like to thank the citizens of Texingtal very much for the generous support and the warm welcome, as always, even if the collection could not take place at New Year's as usual.

In the course of the year, the plans for our new fire truck took on concrete form. Since our existing fire truck will be 25 years old by 2023 and will have to be replaced, intensive planning and discussions with the Texingtal municipality took place here in order to implement timely procurement.

The vehicle was be ordered at the end of October so that it can be delivered in the spring of 2023.



Deputy Head of Administration Gerhard Klauser In charge since: 13.01.2017

The year 2021 began, as could be seen in the election of the fire brigade commander and his deputy, with restrictions. Mask requirement and only necessary activities in the fire station were allowed, which also had an impact on the activities of the fire brigade as a whole, as well as on the work of the administration.

Due to the postponement of the New Year's collection in spring 2021, the administration team also faced considerable additional work. Due to the donation transfers - we would like to thank the many donors very much - more bookings had to be recorded in the cash register system on the fire department account.

Due to the recent cancellation of the two events, the fire brigade ball and the "Florianifestival", this time was a little quieter for the chief administrator Markus Freinberger and administrator Gerhard Klauser.

Nevertheless, the planning for possible events and activities in 2022 is already in full swing.

#### **Local Activities**

We are not only active in our own town, but also support other fire departments throughout Lower Austria. At the section and district level, two of our members regularly participate in the training of other firefighters.

Every year, our chief Mechanic Christian Brunnbauer actively supports the training of operational machinists in the Mank fire brigade section with his specialist knowledge as an instructor.

Our platoon commander Gerhard Heindl, as an instructor in the preparatory courses in the Melk fire brigade district, annually prepares members for the fire service badge in gold ("fire service graduation"). He also works as an evaluator for the acceptance of the performance badge in Tulln.







Another focus of activity is the Lower Austrian Disaster Relief Service (DRS). It is divided into platoons all over Lower Austria, with each district providing a standby consisting of 6 platoons made up of Fire Brigade members from the entire district.

Our deputy commander and member Johann Seiberl jun. has been working here for many years as the commander of the 1st platoon. He has been supported for many years by his deputy comrade Franz Hiesberger from the Mank Volunteer Fire Brigade.

After years of working with deputy Hiesberger Franz, the role of deputy was handed over to Stefan Daxböck from Mank Volunteer Fire Brigade for reasons of age. In October, the handover took place over a joint snack, to which DRS platoon commander Johann Seiberl jun. invited.

Just one week later, the new commanding team went to Hirschwang an der Rax for their first mission.



#### **Local Activities**

On January 8th, 2021 the election of the fire brigade commander and his deputy took place in the Texing Fire Station. In strict compliance with the COVID-19 hygiene rules, the election was carried out in the vehicle hall under the supervision of election supervisor Mayor Mag. Gerhard Karner.

The incumbent command, consisting of Commander Johann Waxenegger and Commander Deputy Johann Seiberl jun. was confirmed with a clear majority.

In the course of swearing in the elected fire brigade command, the fire brigade commander appointed the members Christian Brunnnbauer as platoon commander of the 1st platoon and Freinberger Markus as head of the administrative service.



On July 16, the 137th general meeting took place in the Haselsteiner inn. The past year 2020 was looked back and 4 young members were solemnly sworn in.

Shortly afterwards, on September 10th, the Fire Brigade Day of the fire brigade section Mank took place in St. Leonhard / Forst. Several members of the Texing Volunteer Fire Brigade received awards.





On September 24th, grade 4 of primary school visited the fire station in Texing. There the young visitors were able to gain an insight into the life of the voluntary fire brigade. A tour through the premises of the house, the garages, the crew room, the command office and the youth room on the upper floor were on the program.





#### **Donationinfo**

Would you like to support the **Texing Volunteer Fire Brigade** financially? Donations to the relief organizations are tax deductible. You will get part of your donation back from the tax office. That means: You can donate more without paying more! When making the transfer, please give us your first and last name and your date of birth. It is important that you provide your details correctly and, in particular, that the spelling of your name matches that on the registration form.

Freiwillige Feuerwehr Texing

IBAN: AT76 3247 7000 0010 4000

Purpose: first and last name, date of birth

We are grateful for any support!

**THANK YOU!** 

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