

A Freightliner FL80/E-One Rescue, designated Rescue 3, featuring a 1250 gpm pump with a 500 gallon water tank and 30 gallon foam cell was also placed in service in 1993. Rescue 3, the department's first rescue unit, carried all of the department's rescue tools and equipment including an Amkus Rescue Tool System.

In 1995, the department replaced the Boston Whaler Fire Boat with a new Winninghoff 28' V-Hull Fire Boat featuring a 500 gpm pump. Boat 3 is powered by twin Evinrude 250 hp outboard engines and is housed on a lift at the Solomons Pilot House.

In 2006, the department placed a new Ford brush unit with a skid package in service.

In 2013 a GMC Yukon, Command 3, was placed in service.

In 2014, after serving for over 20 years, three of the E-One's were replaced with new 2013 Rosenbauer units, all featuring the department's new color scheme of black over red.

Engine 31, a 2013 Rosenbauer Commander R711 pumper, featuring a 1500 gpm pump and a 1000 gallon tank. Unit is powered by a Cummins ISL9, 450 hp diesel engine with an Allison automatic transmission.

Engine 33, is also a 2013 Rosenbauer, Commander engine/tanker, with a 1500 gpm pump and 2000 gallon tank. Unit is powered by a Cummins ISL12 500 hp diesel engine.

Rescue 3, the third unit, is also a 2013 Rosenbauer Commander Rescue Unit, with a 750 gpm pump, 750 gallon tank and 30 gallon foam cell. Unit carries all of the department's rescue tools and equipment including a complete Holmatro Rescue Tool System. Unit is powered by a Cummins ISL9 450 hp diesel engine.

Since 1955, when the Calvert County Volunteer Rescue Squad was formed, there have been many different types and styles of ambulances used by the Rescue Squad over the years. The Rescue Squad started with a 1955 Studebaker ambulance and 60 years later the department runs three state-of-the-art ambulances, the newest being, Ambulance 38 a 2014 Freightliner M2/PL Custom ambulance, that are rotated between the two stations, all staffed with volunteer members.

Today, under the leadership of Chief Joseph Ford, Sr., on the suppression side and President Bernie Shea on the Administration side, the department is 100% volunteer, operating out of two stations with 2 engines, 1 engine/tanker, 1 rescue engine, 1 ladder, 2 brush units, 3 ambulances, 1 fire boat, 2 command units and various other support vehicles.

The main station in Solomons houses Engine 31, Engine/Tanker 33, Truck 3, Rescue/Engine 3, Brush 3 and two ambulances, both BLS or ALS, depending on staffing.

The sub-station, on Little Cove Point Road, in the northern section of Solomons first due area, houses Engine 34, BX 3 and one of the ambulances.

The department ran 715 fire/rescue calls, 2497 EMS calls and 19 water incidents in 2015. The department has a total membership of 125, with 80 riding members, covering 29 sq. miles, with a population of about 21,000 that increases 3 fold during the summer months.

Solomons has a suburban type setting with some commercial and retail businesses in Solomons Island and along Rt. 765.

The department covers the Dominion Cove Point Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) terminal. The LNG terminal, has the capacity to hold 14.6 billion cubic feet of LNG in its seven storage tanks. The terminal has an off shore dock in the Chesapeake Bay where state-of-the-art LNG ships off load LNG thru pipe lines underwater that go to the terminals insulated storage tanks. The department holds regular drills with Dominion and carries specialized equipment, bought by the Dominion, to use in the event of an incident at the terminal.

Solomons also covers about 230 miles of shoreline along the Chesapeake Bay, Patuxent River and the many Creeks along the shorelines.

The department funds its annual operating expenses thru an annual fund drive, several concerts, a golf tournament, hall rental fees and several other fund raisers during the year. It also receives some funds from Calvert County.

The department has also received several grants. One was from MIEMSS (State) for new AED's on all of Solomons apparatus. They also received a grant from Calvert Memorial Hospital for a Lukas Compression Tool.

The leadership of the Solomons Volunteer Rescue Squad and Fire Department has set a forward looking path for the future with the recent purchase of four new units, an engine, an engine/tanker, a rescue and an ambulance.

The state-of-the-art equipment will enable the department's dedicated and well trained officers and members, to be able to continue to serve the Solomons community and surrounding areas, with second to none Fire/Rescue/EMS services, well into the future.

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SOLOMONS SUB-STATION



ENGINE 34



BX-3



AMBULANCE 37

Howard Meile III, Photos