

Booster Line

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“911, What’s your Emergency?”

Our current reporting period covers the activities that Schiller Park responded to in the last month. The following incidents are the firefighters and paramedics more unique calls. As always Schiller Park members responded to any call for help.

This month we begin on January 10th when Lt. Leiser on Engine 5, gold shift, was returning from a call and flagged down by a passerby. The person indicated that he was locked out of his car. After verifying with Schiller Park Police that this was the owner, members were able to gain access to the car.

A bit later in the shift an extra alarm fire in Des Plaines in a car repair shop had Truck 5 and Battalion 5 take in the call. B/C Hatcher became the Operations Officer in Sector D as he supervised the defensive operations. A front end loader was brought into his section to help breach walls and reduce the danger of collapse. Upon a report of another fire in Des Plaines, Battalion 5 was reassigned to take in the second fire along with our truck.

This second fire in Des Plaines had our truck and battalion arrive and be told they thought the fire was out. Truck 5 did a secondary search of the second floor and checked for fire extension. After an ALL Clear was given by this Incident Commander, Schiller Park returned to quarters.

Black Shift on the 14th had Engine 5 respond to ventilate a building after the owner called to say they burnt plastic in the oven. The homeowner stated she accidentally left a plastic container in oven and forgot about it after turning the oven on. It did not cause any fire, only a lot of smoke and a ruined container.

A smoking vehicle on the same day had engine 5 show up. No fire was apparent and further investigation revealed that the car had just overheated.

January 15th saw an automatic fire alarm in a hotel. The fire investigative team climbed to the third floor where the alarm panel indicated and found an activate detector in the elevator lobby. It was assumed that a smoker in this area activated the detector.

B/C Leiser and his Black shift crew responded to an automatic fire alarm (AFA) on the 17th. At the apartment building nothing was showing but there was evacuation in progress. The firefighters entered and found that on the second floor a person had burnt food.

The On duty fire investigator on January 19th was Lt. Leiser. A Box Alarm in Maywood had them request all available investigators to the scene. Lt. Leiser was detailed to pick up Fire Unit Investigative 20 (FU-20) in Franklin Park and bring it to the scene in Maywood. The resources for the investigators were utilized in determining the origin and cause before returning FU-20 to quarters.

After returning to Schiller Park companies were directed to another call this time for a vehicle versus a gas meter. Municipal Consolidated Dispatch (MCD) was asked to call NICOR en-route. Upon arrival a very audible leak was heard with severe damage to the meter. Severe damage was also sustained by the vehicle. Members attempted to shut the meter off but a small leak persisted. The home was monitored for elevated levels while we awaited the arrival of NICOR. Ventilation of the premises was conducted by the truck company.

A carbon monoxide call on the 20th had Black shift investigate. No elevated levels were found and the chirping from the detector was caused by it being out of date. Carbon Monoxide detectors expire after 10 years.

An ambulance assist on the 21st had Red shift respond after a friend of the occupants said she tried calling this house with no answer. She came over to the house and found one person on the front room floor unable

to get up and the other occupant on the basement floor unable to get up. Lt. Budnik requested a second ambulance and both persons were transported to Lutheran General hospital.

Lt. Budnik's crew next took in a call for arcing wires. Upon arrival they found an occasional sparks coming from the pole behind the building. Com Ed was notified and police indicated they would stay on scene until Com Ed arrived.

January 26th had Gold shift take in a fire alarm in a commercial building. Pulling up to the scene B/C Hatcher heard the audible alarm and saw evacuation. The fire investigative team searched the building and found a broken sprinkler head. Members shut down the system and drained it to prevent further damage. B/C Hatcher informed the business that the system was out of service and needed immediate repair. A fire watch was in place until the sprinkler company arrived.

Black shift on the 26th took in a multi vehicle crash on the toll way. The Toll way authority notified our dispatch that a second ambulance would be needed. Chief 5 and Battalion 5 arrived first to find an incident involving semi trucks and cars. An ambulance was requested from Rosemont and Berkeley was also pulling up. One of the patients was in critical condition and the three patients were all transported to Level I trauma centers. Additional personnel responded with the ambulance to the hospital. (see photos).

Their next call was for a well being check. Engine 5 responded and found that the occupant accidentally hit their medical alarm that they carry with them.

January 27th found a working structure fire in Broadview that was raised to the Box Alarm. MCD notified Chief Chiodo that he was due on the Box Alarm. After he was en-route he was held up by command.

Usually a trouble alarm is difficult to

trace, however on January 27th Red shift was able to find the source at a hotel when the maintenance worker showed Lt. Budnik's crew that someone had removed the smoke detector from the hallway on the seventh floor. The alarm was silenced and maintenance replaced the missing detector.

The next day on January 28th, Lt. Leiser the on duty investigator responded to a fire in Maywood. Again he was detailed to pick up FU-20 and bring to the scene for the investigators. Upon completion he returned all equipment to quarters.

A truck fire on the toll way January 29th had B/C Leiser request an engine for additional water from Rosemont. Our engine dropped an 1 ¼ inch line and went to work. Truck 5 cut open the sleeper portion for additional access to the motor compartment of the truck. Rosemont's engine completed the extinguishment and helped wash down the scene.

Immediately after picking up from this scene both Rosemont and Schiller Park were dispatched to a rollover accident and crash a few miles north of where they were operating on the toll way. At this scene we helped Rosemont with extrication and dropped a line to help protect the scene. This incident involved three semis and a mini van. The tanker semi rolled over and one driver needed extrication. Both Chief Chiodo and Chief Stephens (RSMT) were on scene (see photos).

An ambulance assist on the 31st found red shift arrive and find that a life alert button had been depressed accidentally.

Ground Hog day had Black shift take a call for car that hit the building. There were no injuries and the Building department was notified.

Later in the shift a fire alarm had our still response find the occupant meet us at the door. She said she burnt food on the second floor and showed the members.

February 2nd also saw red shift

respond for a gas leak at the oasis. The responding companies found a 2 inch gas main broken off at a "T" connection behind the grills in the restaurant. There were high levels of natural gas and the feed was shut off. The area was ventilated and the restaurant closed down until repairs could be made.

A dispatch of a reported wires down had Gold shift respond on the 4th. Pulling up FF/PM Niemand in charge of the engine found that it was not wires down but rather a car that hit a light pole and exposed wires at the base. The car was removed via a tow company from atop the base and engine 5 returned in service.

Red shift engine 5 under the direction of FF/PM Bubis responded to a call of a child locked in a car. Members were able to get into the car all while the child slept peacefully in the rear seat. After gaining access the mother refused to have the child being locked at.

February 10th had the third incidence of a resident activating their life alert alarm by accident. Gold shift and Lt. Leiser's engine responded to verify no medical services were needed.

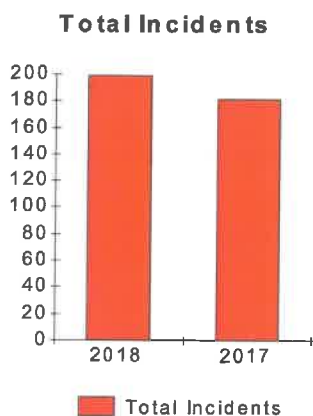
After shift change Black shift was called to the scene of a car fire on the toll way. Members arrived and found the car on the shoulder with the motor compartment fully involved. The fire began to extend into the passenger compartment and 500 gallons of water were used to put out the fire.

On February 13th while Lt. Budnik was working Housing, he noticed a possible indoor natural gas leak while doing an inspection. He requested engine 5 to come out and monitor the boiler room. A small leak was detected and Lt. Budnik stated he would follow up with landlord to make sure it was properly repaired.

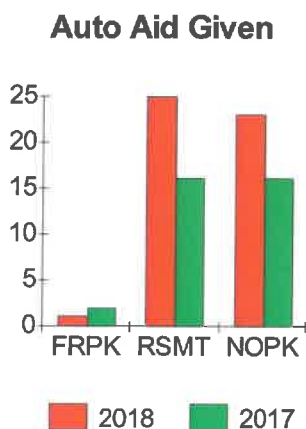
The last call for this reporting period came on February 14th when an automatic fire alarm had red shift find a pull box that was frozen with ice on the exterior of the building causing it to somehow trip. After removing the ice the box was reset and all

members returned to quarters awaiting their next response.

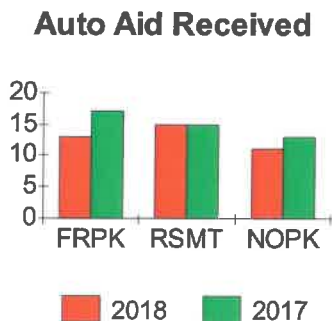
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2017:



The run summary for Automatic Aid as of January 31st "To":



The run summary for Automatic Aid as of January 31st "From":



	2018	2017
Total Incidents	199	181
Auto Aid to:		
Franklin Park (FRPK)	1	2
Norwood Park (NOPK)	23	16
Rosemont (RSMT)	25	16

Auto Aid From:		
Franklin Park (FRPK)	13	17
Norwood Park (NOPK)	11	13
Rosemont (RSMT)	15	15

I Chief's Corner

We Stagnate When Caution Prevails

Our end of the 2017 year for runs provide us with the following data:

Squad 5	93 runs
Engine 5	1500 runs
Truck 5	311 runs
Amb. 461	2 runs
Ambulance 6	205 runs
Ambulance 5	1166 runs

FF/PM Piculas application for a non-duty disability pension due to a knee problem has been granted and approved by the Schiller Park firefighters pension fund.

Our condolences to the Zurawski family on the death of George. George passed away this past month. George was a Sergeant on the Schiller Park Police Department for over 20 years. He lived in town and was an active member in several organizations (see photo).

Our condolences also to the Bensenville Fire Protection District on the passing of their former Chief Willard Schoppe. Chief Schoppe served as Chief from 1982-1993.

The Fire and Police Commission

continue with the hiring process, 144 applications were purchased, 127 persons showed up for the orientation and written exam and roughly 60 candidates will be moving on to the Oral interviews. The oral interviews are scheduled for March. We are currently one member short with FF/PM Piculas being granted a pension.

The Vacation/PD calendars are circulating. To balance seniority, acting officers and departmental needs a few shift changes were necessary. I appreciate the understanding that the four members have with this disruption.

Our congratulations to Angel Reyes of the Bensenville Fire Protection District on his promotion from Lieutenant to battalion Chief and Nevin Hahn also from Bensenville to Lieutenant from FF/PM.

A thanks to FF/PM Niemand who helped create a fillable PDF form for the Village website for Mass Notification (Blackboard Connect). Residents can go to the page fill it out and it will be sent electronically to Dee Casey for updating the database. We are also in the process of cleaning it up as more and more people have number portability and may have given up landlines or moved out of Schiller Park and use only their cellphone which was in our database as a contact number.

East Leyden will be ground breaking on March 15th for a multi million dollar building project. It will include new locker rooms, pool and cafeteria.

A thanks to Marjorie for coordinating the Employee Appreciation Lunch on the apparatus floor. It was a combination of Polish, Chinese and Mexican cuisine, Enjoyed by all!!!

B/C Leiser has applied for grant through the Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) program. We are

applying for a grant for a secondary set of turn out gear as a safety concern over contaminated equipment. A second grant for a vehicle was upheld due to family medical issues in B/C Leiser's life.

We are also looking at the OSFM small tool grant program for a posi check and porta count machine.

A third grant is from Com Ed that we are applying for looking at additional battery operated hydraulic tools. Keep your fingers crossed.

The new air exhaust system is completely installed. This came from the membership as a health issue so please make sure that it is used each and every time the vehicles are in use.

ISO came out January 25th to review our department. ISO's new grading schedule which could be favorable to us in lowering us from a Class 4. New areas of grading include Fire Prevention, Fire Investigations and Public Education. With a new ladder truck, village wide water plan and dispatch center, that may all work in our favor. B/C Cesaretti and FF/PM Bubis will be spearheading this effort.

I have a draft budget for the 2019 fiscal year. I will be meeting with the Finance Director and Village Manager in the next week followed by the full Village Board.

We are still trying to sell Tower Ladder 454. We have it listed on 15 brokers besides Ebay, State Fire Marshal and Govdeals.com.

Tools / Equipment and Other FYI's

A number of items have been worked on this past month.

FYI, the IRS has raised the travel mileage reimbursement 1 cent from

the 2017 rate. For 2018 business travel it is now 54.5 cents per mile.

Items worked on and happenings around the firehouse this month include:

Our mechanic Tony Calafati also worked on multiple items during his preventive maintenance and emergency maintenance.

EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

The County has distributed through Loyola Medical Center Narcan to our Schiller Park police officers. They will be trained in when and how to use it to help reverse the effects of opioid use.

Lt. Swiontek has re-written the infectious control program with the blessing of Loyola Medical Center. They have reviewed and approved it. It can be found on the shared drive for review.

Kevin Buhs from Loyola Medical EMS system has resigned to take a position with the Arizona Department of Public Health. As of this writing we do not know who will replace him.

Chief Chiodo met with the CEO of Resurrection and his staff for a quarterly meeting on EMS issues for paramedics and the emergency room.

We have also reviewed our CPR teaching schedule and trends. As a result of dwindling enrollment and student cancellations at the last minute, we will now offer CPR quarterly on Saturdays. We will see how this works with residents schedules. If a special need arises that additional classes are necessary, we will arrange for special classes on additional dates provided instructors are available.

Lt. Swiontek would like to remind everyone who does EMS reports that ALL incident numbers are seven digits.

Loyola is jointly working with a vendor

on having a mobile stroke intervention unit available. We will stay in contact with them to see if this tool is an option for our residents and workers based on where it may be housed.

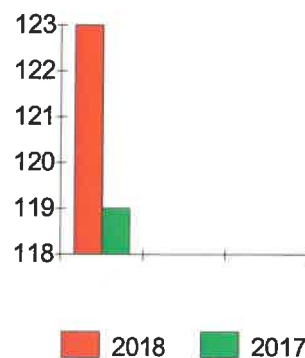
Please check to see if we have any backboards that were left at hospitals from patient transports. This will help retrieve them and cut down on the time they are out of service and unavailable.

When exchanging or retrieving drugs from the hospitals, check and verify the dosages. With different manufactures and packaging we must make sure that the correct dosages are picked up.

During the past month personnel responded to 147 emergency calls. A total of 138 patients were encountered. 96 patients were transported to area hospitals.

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Responses	123	123
ALS Transports	44	44
BLS Transports	26	26
Refusals/MPR's	33	33
Other Non-Transports	6	6
Fire Responses	14	14
CPR Students taught	1	1
Mut. Aid to SHPK	5	5
SHPK to others	8	8

EMS Total Responses



Projects in the Works

All the shifts are encouraged to take on new challenges. If you have a project or an idea, please pass it on to your Officers.

What's in the works? –

- Painting the outside overhead doors red
- New water cooler/bottle fill station
- New interior lights at station 6
- Additional outlets at station 6
- Emergency phone outside sta. 6
- paint apparatus floor border
- Paint sta.6 floor
- Door and jam simulator
- sprinkler simulator
- New high-rise load packing tool

Trivia

Answer to last month's Trivia

January Trivia

Why does the ambulance have a blue strip around it on "Chicago Fire"?

The stripe was designated by the Chicago Fire Department so that it could be distinguished from actual ALS/BLS ambulances.

Only one correct answer was submitted by Chief Belmonte (ret.) WECH.

February Trivia

In 2004, over 300 people died in a supermarket fire in Asuncion, Paraguay? Why?

Please submit your answers in writing to the *Booster Line* in order to be eligible for the prizes. Winners will be selected randomly from all correct entries.

Office of the State Fire Marshal and Training

Failure to Train is Training to Fail

The training division has been active in defining and charting a course for our department.

A number of members have been working diligently in specialized technical rescue. In particular water and ice rescue.

FF/PM Santiago attended the train the trainer Ice Rescue course.

FF/PM Jackson and FF/PM Dehmlow both completed Surface Ice Rescue classes.

The entire department had the opportunity to work with our new equipment when 5100 River Road allowed us to use the retention pond which froze over to do ice and rescue training this past month. (see photos)

Lt. Leiser has set up training with METRA to do training on their passenger rail cars and locomotives. This will be held on April 2-4th at 1PM. All fire, police and public officials are welcome to attend.

Lt. Leiser attended the Division 20 fire investigator training.

B/C Leiser completed a FEMA Fire Service Supervision course.

FF/PM Dehmlow and FF/PM Loch both attended the Division 20 Hazardous Materials training.

FF/PM Jackson attended the Division 20 honor guard training.

The State Fire Marshal has partnered again with the Illinois Fire Service Institute. Any class that the Institute gives will have the end of class test count as the State certification exam. Other agencies delivering classes will NOT have the same privilege. You will need to take a separate State test. See Lt. Leiser.

We have also set up a matrix on when fire investigators should be

called to an incident. It will provide a guideline as to calling for additional off duty and division investigators. It is a flow chart that Lt. Leiser will train the shifts on. As the Lead Fire Investigator for Schiller Park, Lt. J. Leiser should be notified of all incidents.

We have signed up several members for OSFM classes as part of their job requirements. If you know that you need a class please let me know, I will try to find one, however if you find one on your own please submit the paperwork and maintain a copy for yourself.

Members completed 255 hours of training for the month with 29 training drills. This includes outside classes.

Totals:	Month	Hrs	Year	Hrs
Drills/ Classes	29	255	29	255

B/C Cesaretti is also authorized by the State to administer exams. As a proctor he must give the State notice and obtain the secure exams. Therefore you cannot approach him and expect to be given an exam on a short notice.

Please fill the Outside Training Form on Target Solutions whenever you attend a class, seminar or training session outside of Schiller Park. This allows for accurate record keeping in those areas and credit for the hours you put into training.

Signing up for tests is considered a Duty Assignment. If you can't attend see me in advance and provide a written response for the absence.

Employee of the Month

This month we acknowledge as our Employee of the Month B/C Leiser and B/C Hatcher as our employees of the month.

Both of these men have stepped up and taken on projects above and beyond.

B/C Leiser has been working the past year on not only Emergency Management and Grants but also on verifying with his shift that our stretchers would fit in elevators and marking which elevators they would fit in with a star of life.

B/C Leiser also took over the FPB billing ensuring that the letters would go out and that when collected Dee would record all entries.

Charlie also worked on identifying which of our Siamese connections were stortz and which were two 2 ½ inch inlets. We then encouraged all those that were not stortz to change over so we could supply them. The majority came into compliance. Others who did not will be sent letters indicating we may not be able to support the system. We will now look into our legal department to see about any code changes.

B/C Hatcher has been working long days both on and off shift doing fire prevention. He was tasked by the Mayor to do several special projects in the bureau and in conjunction with Community Development. With his efforts we are moving forward on stalled issues and effectively moving forward again.

Thanks for your time and dedication, you make us proud to be firefighters and in the fire service and village employees.

If you would like to nominate a firefighter, paramedic, officer or other persons for recognition, please submit the action or the incident in writing to the editor Chief Chiodo.

Fire Prevention

An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure

Shifts have completed their 2017 inspections and started their 2018 inspections. Each shift has 1/3 of the inspections or about 135 per shift. The inspections were rotated so that over a three year period each shift should have the opportunity to enter all the businesses.

Some of the highlights for 2018 in the Bureau include sending out a courtesy letter several weeks prior to the actual inspection. On the list will include the most common violations that we find. This is intended to be educational and give the business the opportunity to do some housekeeping and understand the inspectional process. It will also elaborate on the rationale of violation and to come into compliance.

The Village of Schiller Park has requested the Postmaster to split an address 4136 United Pkwy into units A and B. The tenant did not need all the square footage and as the building was divided another tenant would officially need a separate address.

Business licenses will also be double checked that the business complies with the code. Members are to check with Kara Blomquist prior to going out on inspections to verify that applied for and were issued a current license.

Members of our department are working with putting Pre-Plans on our Mobile Data Terminals (MDT'S) in our vehicles. They will be found in the GIS map section.

Our fire prevention bureau conducted acceptance tests of new installed fire alarm systems and approved Business Regulation Certificate Data Sheets.

B/C Hatcher addressed the Trouble Alarms from the past month from both the end user and Midwest Central Dispatch.

B/C Hatcher also reviewed all the fire alarm and sprinkler system inspection reports.

When checking sprinkler/standpipe connections please see that it is a stortz fitting. If they have not complied

with our request to change the connection, please advise that we may be able to hook up to that system. Any questions can be referred to Chief Chiodo.

We are looking to bolster and strengthen our fire inspectional program. We are looking for our members to take the Inspector I certification program. All new firefighters will be required to take this class.

ISO has changed their grading system and now will give credit for Fire Prevention and Inspections. As part of this area of grading we will need to have continuing education for our inspectors.

B/C Hatcher is working with Community Development on keeping communications open and resolve problems. There are several major inspections that are jointly being worked on. The majority of businesses are in compliance.

As a reminder when we go on trouble alarms we need to contact the owner to report that the alarm went into trouble and document that on the incident report and in the trouble alarm binder. Midwest may also be doing this as a back up to our call. If you are interested in any plan review in Fire Prevention, please see B/C Hatcher. He will review what is coming into town based on what plans Community Development sends over.

Any member wishing to attend the monthly meeting of the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association should contact B/C Hatcher.

Community Engagement

Saving Lives Through Education

Members will be participating in the annual Dr. Suess reading night March 7th at Kennedy school. FF/PM Warden is looking for volunteers to read at night.

FF/PM Schneider is looking into a program to provide carbon monoxide detectors to residents similar to the program we partnered with the Red Cross for smoke alarms.

We continue to provide fire extinguisher demonstrations and CPR classes for residents and businesses in town.

Please check the bulletin board in the kitchen for other fire department fundraisers in the area.

We are also coordinating with other a fire service organizations the implementation and publicizing the "ICE" program (In Case of Emergency) for people's cell phones.

Retiree Row

This month we want to pass on retirement news from some of our neighbors.

This past month we heard from EMSD Nosek (ret.) who stated that since his retirement his part time gig at WGN television has become more like a "full time" job. He is enjoying both retirement and his new gig. He is currently working with the new WGN show "Man of the People". We wish him and all retirees well.

Please drop a line as to how any of our retirees are doing. This is an opportunity to let others know what you are doing and how you are doing. Please email to Chief Chiodo at pchiodo@schillerparkil.us.

Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

Members are in the process of planning the 2018 year of activities and fundraisers.

For more information see the flier in the kitchen or contact one of the Association officers.

Foreign Fire

Many of the items authorized were purchased in the last month. Some of the equipment authorized including the multforce air lift bag from Paratech will be here shortly. Because of a back order issue, they will provide us with their demo until ours arrives in June. The check for the year 2017 totaled \$23,385.

Letters and Notes

We received several notes and thanks you's this past month. They include:

A thank you from the Maywood Fire Department for our assistance on several Fire Investigator Box Alarms during the past month.

We also received thanks from the Broadview Fire Department for our assistance this past month with providing a Chief on the scene of their extra alarm fire.

Chief Wax from Des Plaines thanked Schiller Park for the help at two extra alarm fires at both a car repair shop and scrap metal fire plant.

The Sztuk family also sends thanks for the service provided to them and the other residents.

We also received a note from Kayli Miller thanking us for saving her friend from a heart attack 5 years ago. Mike Bertschinger. He is doing well and lectures on learning CPR and the life saving efforts of firefighters and paramedics.

Lastly we received a thank you note from Rich Trent our interim Village Planner who is resigning to take another position in another community. He thanks everyone for their support and is appreciative that he met and worked with us all.

Emergency Mgmt.

B/C Leiser and Trustee Deegan are working with the Village Officials in completing any necessary NIMS certification. This is necessary for future funding opportunities. Some tabletop drills will be planned for the Spring.

Chief Leiser works with the Village Board on revising the Village disaster plan. It is 287 pages and is being reviewed by the Village Board prior to being submitted to Cook County Homeland Security.

We are also working to clean up the mass notification system of old numbers, bad numbers, disconnected as well as updating all employees contact info.

And Finally...

A misty morning does not signify a cloudy day.

Deadlines

The Booster Line is published monthly. All articles and suggestions are welcome. The Editor, Peter Chiodo reserves the right to edit based on content and space availability. Please submit all materials, articles, ideas and photos to the Booster Line c/o Chief Chiodo at pchiodo@schillerparkil.us.

Pictures:

Page 8 Top- Black shift responds to crash I-294 mile 32.

Page 8 Lower- In memory of Sgt. George Zurawski (ret.)

Page 9- Members practice water and ice rescue training with our new gear at 5100 River Road retention pond.

Page 10- Additional members practice rescue and buoyance with suits. FF/PM Santiago is the Team Leader and Instructor.

Page 11- Doing self rescue in frigid water and ice rescues.

Page 12 – Southbound I-294 accident involving 3 semi-trucks, a tanker rollover and a mini van. Schiller Park assisted Rosemont.

