

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.

Our reporting period from mid March to mid April occurs as we transition from Winter to Spring where we have had more than the usual amount of cold weather.

This issue begins on March 12th when a fire Box Alarm in Leyden sent on duty fire investigator FF/PM Bubis to the scene. A garage fire that was suspicious was investigated to determine the origin and cause.

During the night over 4 inches of snow fell that made travel to calls difficult. A power outage also resulted and a call for help was received from a guest in a hotel who needed assistance getting out of their room with no power. Members along with hotel staff then knocked on all occupied room doors to see if anyone else needed assistance.

Red shift then went up to the toll way for a five vehicle accident. Members assessed the persons and transported to an area hospital.

Before the shift ended red shift was dispatched to a high power line down in the street, the engine company helped Schiller Park Police cordon off the area and contacted Com Ed.

A carbon monoxide call on March 17th had Lt. Swiontek and Gold shift respond to a residents call for help. Upon entering the fire department monitors began to rise. All the rooms of the house were monitored and the vented as the furnace seemed to be the culprit. NICOR was notified and the owner advised to have a HVAC technician check out the appliance.

After shift change a resident on the 17th did not have the Luck of the Irish as they burnt food in their apartment

and set off the fire alarm system. The engine and tower ladder vented the hallway with our exhaust fan.

Black shifts next tour of duty on March 21st had them take in a car fire. On scene they found a man working on his car with no fire. He stated that while working on the car he used starter fluid in the carburetor and that it flashed. He put water on the motor and firefighters believed that it was merely a backfire of the car that caused the momentary fire.

Later in the shift the Hillside Fire Department responded to the report of a fire. On scene they out stripped their resources and elevated the alarm to the Box alarm level. This brought Cmdr. Leiser from Schiller Park to the scene where he was assigned Division C of the building. It also brought Ambulance 5 to the scene as a transport ambulance.

March 23rd Gold shift took in wires down. FF/PM Bertoncini arrived in charge of the engine to find them on the garage. The wires ended up being low voltage telephone wires and the utility was called.

They next took in a call for a gas leak. Using our monitors it was determined that gas was leaking from a union at the gas meter. Our monitors hit 50% of the lower explosive limit. NICOR was contacted and the area taped off and secured.

Black shift on the 24th took in a fire alarm at a motel. On scene the fire investigation team found a detector was activated due to a water leak that was leaking into the detector.

After midnight an alarm at the O'Hare Oasis had a fire response that found burnt food setting off the detector.

Lt. Budnik and Black Red shift responded to the toll way as morning rush hour was ending to find along with Rosemont firefighters a car off the road with rollover. The car drove through the guard rail and chain link fence. It ended up on its driver side with the roof pinned against the concrete wall.

The next call a bit later in the day was

in an apartment building on the 25th for an automatic fire alarm. Members found smoke in the hallway which activated the detector. One bashful resident owned up to burning food on the stove. A fan was used to ventilate the area.

A reported fire late in the evening had members respond to a large condominium complex. The firefighters investigating found that one of the unit owners was grilling on the balcony and exterior deck. No fire or flames were present and the members joking asked, "What's on the Barbie for dinner?"

Lt. Swiontek and Gold shift took over on March 26th and were sent to an apartment building for a natural gas leak. Using our equipment we did not detect any natural gas leak but did find a significant carbon monoxide leak. Lt. Swiontek informed the tenant that CO is a colorless, tasteless and odorless gas that can be deadly. The stove was shut down and unplugged until a qualified person could check it out.

A report of an accident with injuries came in during the evening hours that had members respond. On scene two vehicles were involved with several people wishing to go to the hospital. Cmdr. Chiodo then requested ambulances from Rosemont, Franklin Park and Norwood Park to assist with the transports.

A second instance of a NICOR gas meter leaking occurred on March 29th. Again the leak was determined to be at the union and NICROR was notified.

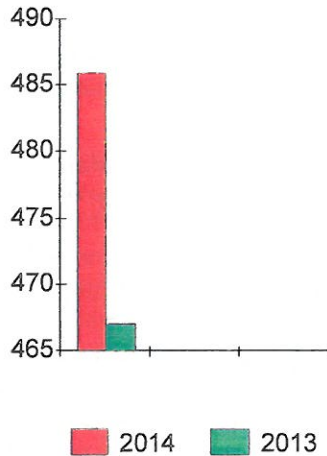
March 30th had Black shift take in a fire alarm in an apartment building. Again members found burnt food had activated the alarm.

March ended on the 31st with a response for a dumpster on fire. Red shift found the burning dumpster behind an apartment building and pushed it away from the building so that it would not impinge on the structure. Approximately 200 gallons of water were used to extinguish the fire.

The reporting period ends on April 6th when Red shift responded to an automatic fire alarm. On scene burnt food set off a detector.

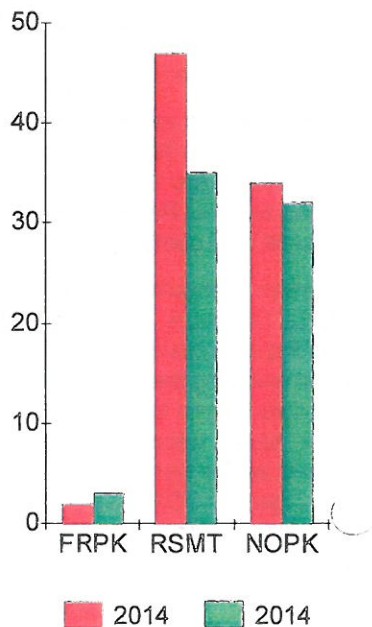
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2013:

Total Incidents



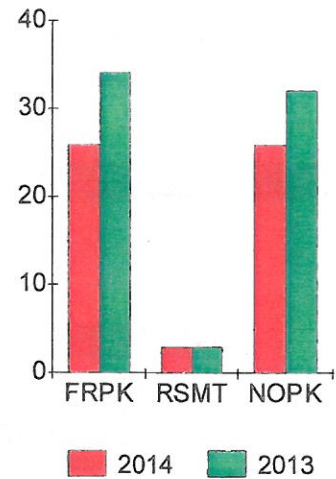
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of March 31st "To" the following communities:

Auto Aid Given



The run summary for Automatic Aid as of March 31st "From" the following communities:

Auto Aid Received



	2014	2013
Total Incidents	486	467

Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	2	3
Norwood Park (NOPK)	34	32
Rosemont (RSMT)	47	35

Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	43	39
Norwood Park (NOPK)	40	37
Rosemont (RSMT)	4	3

Commander's Cove

We Stagnate When Caution Prevails

FF/Pm Bertoncini who sustained an off duty injury which required him to be on short term disability has returned to work.

Lt. Hatcher, who injured his arm on a call, had surgery mid January. He has been coming in on light duty to run the Fire Prevention Bureau and should return in the spring.

The Police and Fire Commission swore in our newest Firefighter/Paramedic Brad Dehmlow at the Village Board meeting. Brad will attend the NIPSTA Fire Academy starting April 14th.

The Schiller Park Police and Fire Commission began the next testing process in January with the application period January 3-February 15th. 124 applications were picked up with nearly 85 being turned in. The orientation was February 27th with 67 candidates showing up. The Written was administered March 1st with 61 showing up and 31 candidates passing. The Agility portion was administered March 23rd with roughly 20 candidates making it to the Orals the week of April 14th. Our current list expired April 10th.

The fire department would like to extend its deepest sympathies to Village Clerk Claudia Irsuto on the passing of her dad Norbert Kunz on March 13th. Our prayers and thoughts are with you and your family.

A debt of gratitude goes out to our 9-1-1 Dispatchers who celebrated Telecommunicators week April 7-11th. The fire department bought submarine sandwiches as a thank you.

The State Fire Marshal is hosting the 21st Annual Illinois Fallen Firefighters memorial in Springfield on May 6th at 10:00 A.M.

Thanks to Patti Benesch for her temporary service to the 9-1-1 Board. She filled in as the resident representative while Sam DiMaggio was on medical leave.

The Village of Schiller Park continues its Centennial Celebration on April 22nd with the burial of the Time Capsule on Earth Day. The May 3rd event will be Mayor Piltaver's Victorian High Tea, followed by June 28th event our Parade. More to come.

The Village Police and Fire Departments are working on policies for calls involving persons with legally possessed concealed firearms. We expect final policies and SOG's shortly. It is our intention to make sure that both personnel and scenes are safe.

The Village of Rosemont has talked with Mayor Piltaver on their expansion of their retail space near Pearl Street and how we too may benefit.

Phase IIB of the Crystal Creek project is beginning to improve flow of the creek. Work has begun along Denley and should be completed by August.

The U.S. Department of Transportation has given final approval for the Elgin-O'Hare western access project. Part of the project will also be the ring road by-pass for the toll way. The project and infrastructure will start shortly.

IDOT has begun the widening of Mannheim from Irving north to the Kennedy. Work has already begun. Eventually a southbound ramp from Mannheim to Balmoral will be added for access to southbound I-294. The Balmoral ramp from northbound Mannheim is now closed as part of the project. It will be closed for several months.

We are looking at getting voluntary compliance with numbering or lettering the stairways in our multi-story buildings. This would aid residents and firefighters in identifying the fire attack and evacuation stairways.

Another project is to identify which elevators our stretchers can be fit in by placing a Star of Life on the elevator(s) that we can get our stretcher into. A blue bar under the Star of Life will indicate that the stretcher can be fully vertical in the elevator.

Tools / Equipment and Other FYI's

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

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

The mirror on Engine 5 on the driver's side was re-wired and repaired by our mechanic Tony. This was a design flaw by Pierce that has now been corrected. Tony also completed the required preventive maintenance on Engine 5.

A latch on Squad 5 was also repaired so that it closes properly. The air eject nipple was also replaced that had broken off.

We have also placed in service two carbon monoxide monitors that will be attached to the EMS jump bags. These are motion activated and will be another tool at our disposal when we respond to ambulance calls. It is designed to monitor and alarm so that if we are in a poisonous situation we can alerted as well as help diagnose.

Lt. Budnik has distributed the 2014 list to each shift for hydrant flushing and the hose testing schedule. Please try to stay on track as each component affects the next.

We have placed in service new thermal imaging cameras on the Engine, Tower and Battalion. This replaces our original Bullard camera.

Lt. Budnik had the regulator repaired for our air bags which are now all back in service.

A 30 gallon plastic drum has been placed on Squad 5. This has the absorbent booms inside and can be used as a collection drum.

A new rope bag replaced bag #14 which had worn out.

The spotlights on the flag at Station 6 were also replaced by members doing weekly maintenance.

Cmdr. Cesaretti and Red shift replaced the fire alarm Ni-cad

batteries in the firehouse. This will prevent the alarm from going into Trouble.

EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

Physio Control, manufactures of our Life Pak monitors, serviced all our life pak units and replaced the SPO2 sensor on Ambulance 6.

The first generation cot chargers and batteries were placed in the part time locker room. When Ambulance 461 is used we will use these tools.

As mentioned above we have attached carbon monoxide detectors to the jump bags. They are to have the batteries replaced at the beginning of the month. Any questions can be directed to Lt. Budnik.

Our three new firefighter/paramedics attended the skills session at Northwest Community Hospital on March 25th. These are mandatory for new hires.

We are still concerned about concealed carry and our personnel safety. The Schiller Park Police Department has in place a policy and we are still awaiting more input from Northwest Community Hospital, MABAS 20 and both Resurrection and Gottlieb hospitals. We will keep you informed.

FF/PM Bubis is now a certified Car Seat installer. He has a voice mail set up for anyone looking for this service. We will evaluate whether this should be a monthly service we offer or on a case by case basis.

Lt. Swiontek continues as the Assistant EMS Director learning all the aspects of the EMS Bureau

Please be sure to verify that an I.V. is required prior to opening the bag. There is now a looming shortage of .9 NS IVs. We do not want to waste supplies nor bill when unnecessary.

EMS Week is planned nationwide for May 18-24th. The theme is "EMS: Dedicated. For Life".

On the horizon is the new Mobile Integrated Health Care System/Plan. If you are not familiar with it begin to explore its impact on the fire/EMS services and the expectations. This is popping up more frequently in the literature and will affect our department. If you want more information see EMSD Nosek.

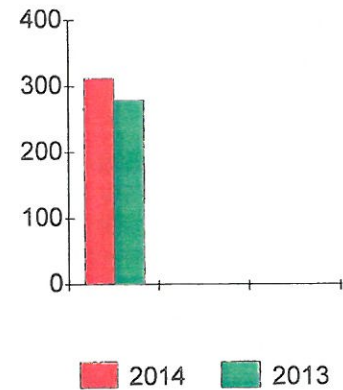
We would like to remind all personnel that when they are exchanging or retrieving drugs from the hospitals, that you check and verify the dosages. With different manufactures and packaging we must make sure that the correct dosages are picked up.

The Northwest Community Hospital website for Continuing Education has a ton of information that can assist paramedics with continuing education and also provide assistance on the monthly training. If you have not had an opportunity to check the website it would be advisable.

During the past month personnel responded to 107 emergency calls. A total of 108 patients were encountered. 61 patients were transported to area hospitals. 46 patients required Advanced Life Support care.

	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Total Responses	313	280
Cardiac	22	18
Medical Emergency	150	146
Accidents/Trauma	78	68
Fire Responses	61	46
False Alarm/Standby	2	2
Mut. Aid to SHPK	7	13
SHPK to others	10	11

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 run it past Director Deegan, Lt. Budnik or FF/PM Bertoncini.

We will be working on also adding emergency strobes on the exterior of the building on the east side of the firehouse.

New tile will replace broken ones in the kitchen and tile the baseboards. The walls up to the chair rail are also being tiled.

We are looking at insulating the old entrance to the firehouse from the radio room to make it more sound proof.

What's in the works? –

- New lights at station 6
- Additional outlets at station 6
- Emergency phone outside sta. 6
- mount patches around kitchen
- paint apparatus floor border
- Paint sta.6 floor
- Door and jam simulator
- sprinkler simulator
- New high-rise load packing tool
- fully sprinkler the firehouse

Trivia

Answer to last month's Trivia

March Trivia

Why was rescue Squad 3 used in *Chicago Fire* and during the 1980's where was Squad 3 in Chicago?

Squad numbers 1,2,5 and 7 were already in use at the Chicago Fire Department leaving No. 3 ripe for the picking. The rescue squad's symbol became Cerberus, a three-headed dog in Greek mythology that guards the gates of hell. This rig was originally 5-1-1 (Haz Mat) and Chicago has been using this same rig when not filming the show as a spare back up Squad. During the 1980's Squad 3 was running out of Engine 110's house (Foster/Western).

No one answered this month's trivia question correctly.

April Trivia

What is the significance of Ambulance 61 and Battalion 25?

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.

Cmdr. Chiodo attended the Division 20 Safety and Training Officer meeting.

Cmdr. Leiser, FF/Pm Leiser and FF/PM Gergits conducted orientation with the new candidates and monitored their progress at the fire academy.

FF/PM Bubis completed a car seat installation class.

FF/PM Leiser completed NIMS 300 and 400 classes.

FF/PM Miletta completed the Instructor I class through the Office of the State Fire Marshal in the Officer program.

Lt. Swiontek attended a Company Officer training seminar.

We will again be co-hosting a Vehicle Machinery Operations class through the State Fire Marshal May 12th 16th. The class is currently filled. Lt. Budnik, FF/PM Farias and FF/PM LiRosi are enrolled from our department.

Candidate Dehmow will attend the NIPSTA fire academy and Candidates Velesco and Leao continue probation on shift.

The Training Division has started a mentoring program with the new candidates. Cmdr. Leiser has chosen FF/PM Leiser and FF/PM Gergits to be the first lead firefighters for the next two candidates on probation.

The Daily Training Folders will be located in the Lieutenants office in the Training mailbox. All drills can be found here for the month.

Acting Officers and those wishing to take the next Lieutenants test are strongly encouraged to take the NIMS 300 and 400 classes. Upcoming classes have been posted.

OSHA is implementing new package identification labels for hazardous materials shipment. The new labels will be phased in within the next two years. Examples of the new labels and terminology can be found in the classroom and this issue.

Cmdr Leiser has received a DVD training simulator where we can use pictures of buildings in town and I will be able to set up different scenarios.

I 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.

I have also obtained railroad ties for training in using different techniques for cutting, i.e. chopping with axes, mauls, saws. They are located behind the firehouse.

Members completed 287 hours of training for the month with 22 training drills. This includes outside classes. Our Paid on Call had 5 meetings for 30 hours.

The second Thursday of each month the State Fire Marshal has a testing site at Triton College. They have also instituted a new policy of a government issued picture ID at the test site. If you cannot produce one you will not be allowed in. Likewise they are requesting that all phones be left in the test takers car to help with the integrity of the test (too many camera phones). If you would like to sign up see Cmdr. Leiser.

Please fill an Outside Training Form 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.

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Employee of the Month

This month we acknowledge several members for their contributions. PM Francoeur and Lt. Swiontek are our Employees of the Month.

PM Francoeur made a presentation at Gottlieb concerning a trauma case that he was on with our department last September. He attended Loyola University Medical Center for the

presentation where he covered the call from our perspective. He discussed response times and communications and allowed all those present including the Emergency Room Doctor at Gottlieb and the Trauma Surgeon at Loyola to learn about the entire incident.

Our second nominee is Lt. Swiontek for being the liaison for the fire department in the April Fishes and Loaves held at the Community Center. Greg coordinated the firefighters and the meal along with other volunteers from the community. (see photo).

For your time, persistence and endeavor in trying to make our department, residents and visitors with the best possible service, we make you our Employee of the Month

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 Cmdr. Chiodo.

Fire Prevention

An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure

Shifts have begun their 2014 inspections. Each shift received 1/3 of the inspections or about 135 per shift. The inspections are rotated so that over a three year period each shift should have the opportunity to enter all the businesses. The

Lt. Hatcher and FF/PM Niemand are in the process of computerizing all the bureau forms and inspections. Two IPADS have been purchased and all inspections and inspectional paperwork are to be done electronically. Many of the forms that used to be filled out by businesses will also be submitted digitally. Both Lt. Hatcher and FF/PM Niemand will continue to train and evaluate the

progress. Any questions can be directed toward them.

We also received a letter from Knox that as of January 1, 2014 all Knox boxes in the 3200, 4100 and 4400 series will have mandatory tamper switches. Lt. Hatcher has all the new applications for Knox Boxes or the client can go to the Knox Box website.

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.

We also want to ensure that all PRE-PLAN sheets are returned and handed in to FF/PM Niemand. These are ESSENTIAL for us to try to complete our computer based pre-plan program. When you bring back your fire inspections, make a copy of the pre-plan forms and submit to FF/PM Niemand. He is CAD drawing the diagrams with the information. He is also using satellite imagery in each of the files. This process will take a year or more to import, draw and download to our laptops. IT IS IMPORTANT TO COMPLETE THIS PAPERWORK AS IT IS PART OF THE PRE-PLAN THAT IS ISO NECESSARY.

If you are interested in any plan review in Fire Prevention, please see Lt. 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 Lt. Hatcher.

We are also suggesting and strongly recommending that sprinkler and standpipe connections be converted to storz fittings.

The State Fire Marshal is instituting a new certification program Inspector I. Cmdr. Leiser is looking into the

program if this should replace the Fire Prevention Principles as required before third year of hire. Cmdr. Leiser will advise those needing the class when it is available.

Public Affairs

Saving Lives Through Education

We have been very pro-active in Public Relations during the past month.

FF/PM LiRosi made his infamous chili for the Kennedy school International Fair on April 10th.

Members will also participate with the Recreation Department in the annual Easter Egg hunt on April 19th at Kennedy Park.

Other ideas being explored include our next Citizen Fire academy, Jr. Fire Academy, Employee thank you.

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

We have had several updates on retired members this past month.

Cmdr. Maher (ret.) volunteered to help with the Fishes and Loaves on March 21st. He enjoyed being with the guys and said that he is lucky that everyone treated him like a brother.

Both Cmdr. Maher (ret.) and Lt. Anderson (ret.) stopped by for a visit on April 7th to see how everyone was.

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 Cmdr. Chiodo at pchiodo@villageofschillerpark.com.

Stork Report

FF/PM Farias announced that he and his wife are expecting in April.

Notes

A letter was received from our adoptive soldier thanking us for the care package. He appreciated all the thoughts, prayers and well wishes. He shared some of the items with his platoon and asked if we could adopt them by proxy.

Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

Our adopted soldier is:

SGT Kenneth Redd
D/1-227th TF Attack
Camp Marmal, Afghanistan
APO, AE 09368



The Firefighter Benevolent Ball has been postponed until September 12th. It may be less formal than dress uniform or Black Tie. See FF/PM Schneider for details.

Members of the department are competing in the 2014 Fitness Competition. Good luck to all the participants.

And Finally...

We are made wise not by the recollection of our past, but by the responsibility for our future.

Deadlines

The deadline for the next issue of the *Booster Line* will be 8:00 A.M. May 7th. Please submit all materials, articles, ideas and photos to the *Booster Line* c/o Cmdr. Chiodo at pchiodo@villageofschillerpark.com.

The Booster Line is published monthly on or about the 15th. All articles and suggestions are welcome. The Editor, Peter Chiodo,

reserves the right to edit based on content and space availability.

Photographs-

Page 7-Members of the Schiller Park Fire Department who participated in the March Fishes and Loaves.

Front row L to R- FF/PM Velesco, Rose Chiodo, Cmdr. Maher (ret.), PM Jenkins, Second row- Lt. DiMaggio (POC), Cmdr. Chiodo, Third row- FF/PM Leao, FF/PM Werner, FF/PM Bertoncini, Lt. Swiontek, PM Franceour

Page 8- The parking garage along George Street is put in place piece by piece. This is a pre-fab NFPA Type I constructed building. It will hold 2100 parking slots. It should be ready by October 2014.

