

# 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 November 15<sup>th</sup> when Red shift took in a call for a child locked in a car. FF/PM Swiontek, FF/PM Solana and FF/PM Santiago all were on the engine and helped gain entry. The child was rescued from the running car and the mom was slightly embarrassed.

Black shift took in a call for something burning on November 17<sup>th</sup>. The fire alarm revealed that a pile of paper that was burnt from grindings from a grinder smoldered.

Later that same night Gold shift took in a fire behind a townhome. Arriving the companies found a fence on fire. The built in BBQ next to the fence was used as an incinerator and trash was being burned. The radiated heat ignited the fence and firefighters extinguished the fire. Over \$1000 in damage occurred.

November 20<sup>th</sup> saw Black shift respond to a three car accident. Fuel was leaking on the ground from the accident and a hose line was deployed. Members then used Plug and Dike to control and stop the leak. A neutralizer was then applied to the fuel and the wash down complete.

Red shift took in a car fire on the Oasis on November 21<sup>st</sup>. On scene it was a tire fire and members helped put it out and make sure it did not breach the occupant compartment.

After picking up the crew responded to a fire alarm in an apartment building. At the location Cmdr. Maher was told that a pull station was accidentally tripped.

Gold shift responded to a kitchen fire on November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Lt. Cesaretti was in charge and the crew found that the

fire originated on the stove. The owner grabbed a home extinguisher and controlled it until the fire department arrived.

A call later and the shift found themselves investigating a natural gas leak. Monitors determined that it was a stove in the basement where the pilot light was not working. The pilot would not light and stay lit. Units on the scene shut off the gas supply and informed the owners that they should call a repair person.

Lt. Budnik and his crew on November 24<sup>th</sup> were dispatched to a person trapped in the elevator. The engine arrived at the apartment building and checked the elevator. The person was able to self extricate.

The crew responded to the above location two more times rescuing occupants. The doors malfunctioned and would not open on the appropriate floor. From the outside when the “call request” was made the doors opened. Lt. Budnik tagged the elevator and forwarded to Community Development.

Red shift had another fire alarm in an apartment building after shift change. Cmdr. Maher and the group investigated and learned that a tenant burned food in the oven and as they tried to clear out the smoke in the unit, set off the fire alarm.

November 26<sup>th</sup> had a fire in Bensenville where Cmdr. Leiser as the on duty Safety Officer responded.

A fuel leak on the toll way November 27<sup>th</sup> at the Oasis had a fire response. The original VW Beetle was leaking both gasoline and oil. The owner claimed that as he was driving on I-294 he hit some debris and ran over it. He then re-located to the Oasis to assess the damage and noticed the leaking fluids. A containment pool was placed under the vehicle to collect the fluids.

A fire alarm in a school on November 28<sup>th</sup> had Gold shift respond. On scene the Dean of Students informed the fire department that it was burnt popcorn in the microwave.

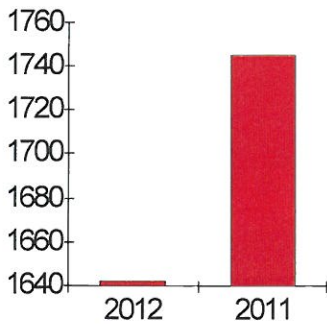
November 29<sup>th</sup> had black shift drop cotton on a car fire. The fire in the engine compartment was more intense on the driver side and the 1 3/4" line was used to extinguish the fire.

December 8<sup>th</sup> had a more unusual move as Schiller Park changed quarters to Brookfield. An inter-divisional Task Force was requested from Division 20 as LaGrange (Division 10) had a third alarm house fire and stripped the resources in the division. EMSD Nosek and PM Lange responded to the rally point and proceeded to the change quarters. The task force consisted of an engine, truck, squad and two ambulances along with two chiefs.

The last call of the reporting period occurred on December 9<sup>th</sup> when Lt. Budnik and the crew went on a garbage can fire. They found the trash can in the park on fire and used 100 gallons of water to put out.

The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2011:

### Total Incidents

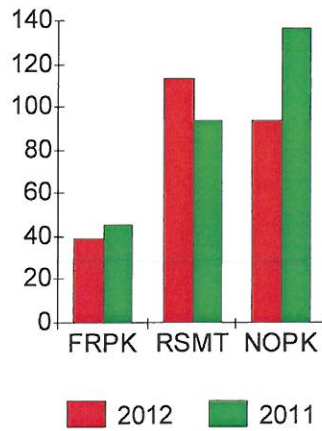


■ Total Incidents



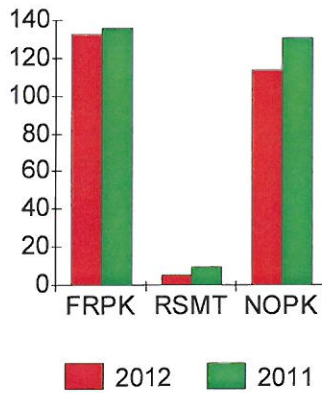
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of November 30<sup>th</sup> "To" the following communities:

### Auto Aid Given



The run summary for Automatic Aid as of November 30<sup>th</sup> "From" the following communities:

### Auto Aid Received



	2012	2011
Total Incidents	1642	1745

### Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	39	45
Norwood Park (NOPK)	94	136
Rosemont (RSMT)	113	94

### Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	133	136
Norwood Park (NOPK)	113	130
Rosemont (RSMT)	5	10

## Commander's Cove

### *We Stagnate When Caution Prevails*

FF/PM Rupsis continues to be on extended medical leave. We anticipate his return by the start of the new fiscal year.

POC Lt. Sam DiMaggio was released to full duty from his medical leave.

As part of the reconstruction project on Mannheim road, the State has now installed a curb along Berteau making it impassable. United Parkway is now open eastbound. This will be the route when responding to 10249 Irving. (see photos).

The Foreign Fire Insurance Meeting held on November 28<sup>th</sup> approved the purchase of several items including a new computer and monitor for the classroom. Other items can be viewed in the preliminary minutes.

Director Deegan has suggested that we use a new callback and hireback program. It is computer based that will allow all members access to request vacation, personnel days trades etc. We are using a free demonstration version for 30 days and then will vote on whether this is a program/system we want to adopt. Your feedback is important.

The Bensenville Public Works department is applying hydrant locks on their hydrants north of Irving. If we need to "catch" a hydrant and we do not have a key, they recommend that you use a halligan bar to snap it off (see photo).

Director Deegan has realigned the shifts starting May 1<sup>st</sup>. Those getting shift changes have been spoken too by Director Deegan. The new calendars are circulating via the internet to make vacation and personnel day picks. Our next issue will document shift changes.

Director Deegan is also working with the staff on the End of Year Reports. As part of the entire process he is also in the preliminary stages of preparing next fiscal years budget and is looking for input.

The new Aldi's opened December 13<sup>th</sup>. Plans are in the works by the owner of the Schiller Commons to bring a new tenant into the old building.

Our new Tahoe, Battalion 5 is fully in service. A compilation of its progress from dealer to its finished is included in this issue. (see photos).

The Horseshoe bar is in the process of being demolished and will be rebuilt. The damage from a fire earlier this year made the structure unsound and unable to use. A new Horseshoe will rise from the ashes. Photos in this issue show the demolition taking place.

A single family home on Lawrence, the site of a previous fire in November 2011, has also been razed and will become a parking lot for PSI.

IDOT has approved funding for the widening of Mannheim road from Irving north to the Kennedy. We are not sure at press time when this project will begin.

We are also 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 accommodated 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:

Lt. Budnik has developed new maintenance forms for both Battalion 5 and Car 5. They are now in use. He also has installed two Impress battery chargers in the back along with two spare batteries should we need to change them on scene for personnel. A separate fuel card was added to Car 5.

Tower ladder 5 went to the shops when it was found that motor mount bolts were broken. At the same time they found a set of leaf springs broken that needed replacement. All items were repaired and the vehicle is back in service.

Lt. Budnik has ordered new 2 ½ inch hose to standardize all our rigs. It has arrived and will be numbered and stamped prior to be placed in service.

If you would like to view all completed reports for each division of our department, training, EMS, inspections, station maintenance, vehicle maintenance and public education can be found in the Chief's Monthly Report posted on the board and submitted to the Village Board.

## EMS Director's Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

We are still keeping in close contact with the vendor of our new ambulance. The committee has reviewed each step and stage of the building process. We will meet again to discuss other updates.

When doing run sheets please verify that you have the correct incident number. All incident numbers from Schiller Park dispatch are seven digits. Also to help prevent the computers from overheating, leave the lid open.

As part of training and teaching department we have partnered with Northwest Community Hospital with the training of paramedic students. During the past month the two students have ridden several times as observers. It is anticipated that we will have the two new students sometime around October while in paramedic school. FF/PM Bubis and PM Jenkins will be proctoring these students. A new set of guidelines has been developed to evaluate the program including our needs and the students.

Worldwide there continues to be a shortage of certain drugs that we administer. It may be impossible to exchange certain drugs at the hospital because of the shortage. I will be coming out with an FYI to inform you of any developments.

Please remember that any unused or empty controlled substance vials must be brought into the hospitals for them to replace. If you have any questions or concerns, please see EMSD Nosek.

This months "Tip of the Month" is to review the NWCH Policy on Invalid Assists to properly document incidents and runs.

Please consult the FYI's on the EMS Clipboard in the kitchen for complete info and updates.

## Other EMS bits...

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.

EMSD Nosek has placed in service new bags for take-in and oxygen. Please do not change the layout or equipment without going through the EMS Bureau. If you have suggestions make them to the Bureau for evaluation.

We also obtained spare "O" rings for the oxygen tanks. They are in the EMS office on the board.

EMSD Nosek has re-issued the Replacement Oxygen Policy. It spells out that when we need to order oxygen, drop off and pick up oxygen from our vendor. Please continue to check on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

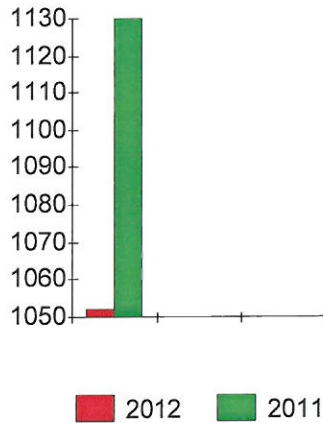
Please refer to the clipboard in the kitchen for any new updates in the Bureau.

During the past month personnel responded to 106 emergency calls. A total of 113 patients were encountered. 70 patients were transported to area hospitals. 49 patients required Advanced Life Support care.

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2011</u>
Total Responses	1052	1130
Cardiac	82	100
Medical Emergency	566	593
Accidents/Trauma	249	211
Fire Responses	145	182
False Alarm/Standby	12	16
Mut. Aid to SHPK	24	34
SHPK to others	33	49



## 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.

The new 1 inch water line to supply the kitchen was installed and a small 10 gallon hot water tank placed under the sink.

A new Sloan valve replaced the last electric eye in the men's bathroom.

We are also in the process of framing out the west overhead garage doors which have not been used in over 30 years. More in our next issue.

We also obtained a used floor scrubber that FF/PM Bertoncini is working on to see if it is viable.

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

The last sheet of drywall will be installed in the part time locker room covering the exposed studs.

Lt. Budnik and his Bureau have also embarked on the following projects—a new exhaust fan will be installed at the top of the stairway in the firehouse to help vent heat that comes up the stairs from the

apparatus floor. Hopefully this will help remove the high heat and humidity that plagues us during the summer.

The Bureau also is replacing the doors in the firehouse with new 6 panel doors. There are 13 doors in the firehouse that will eventually be replaced. To date the entrance to the kitchen, lieutenant office and hallway to laundry room have been replaced.

What's in the works? –

- Second circuit for electric in office
- New lights at station 2
- Additional outlets at station 2
- Emergency phone outside sta. 2
- mount patches around kitchen
- paint apparatus floor border
- Paint tool room floor
- Install window in TV. Room
- 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*

### **November Trivia**

What was the first working fire Tower Ladder 5 fought pumped at and who was the crew?

The first fire the tower fought was in Norwood Park at a single family residence loaded with ammunition. FF/PM Swiontek, FF/PM Rupsis, FF/PM Davila and Cmdr Chiodo were present January 21, 2003 8220 Eastwood, Norwood Park.

No correct answers were submitted.

## December Trivia

When was the first standpipe for tall buildings created?

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.

All members should have registered to get a FEMA student identification number. This will be required for registration for future fire classes and is already being instituted by the Illinois Fire Service Institute. Keep your number readily available for the rest of your career.

FF/PM LiRosi completed the State Fire Marshal Confined Space Operations class as part of Technical Rescue program.

FF/PM's Leiser, Gergits, Santiago, Hudacek and Miletta attended the "Light and Burn" live fire training at the Illinois Fire Service Institute in Champaign

FF/PM Leiser completed Tactics and Strategy I as part of the Fire Officer I program through the State Fire Marshals office.

I have 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 am looking into the possibility of hosting some State Fire Marshal classes including technical rescue and fire apparatus engineer. I will notify personnel if openings occur.

We will also have in the new future a

Fire Service Vehicle Operator class (FSVO).

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.

The OSFM has also created its latest flow charts for certifications through their office. A copy is posted in the kitchen.

Members completed 283 hours of training for the month with 23 training drills. This includes outside classes. Our Paid on Call had 4 meetings for 14 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.

## Employee of the Month

This month we nominate and acknowledge as our Employee of the Month—FF/PM LiRosi.

FF/PM LiRosi has immersed himself in technical rescue training and has recently completed several state fire marshal classes.

He recently trained all three Schiller Park and Franklin Park shifts on slope rescue at the O'Hare water retention pond.

FF/PM LiRosi is trying to update and put in place equipment, training and personnel to be at more than the awareness level for technical rescue incidents.

For your commitment to our department and training we are honored to call him 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*

Members are in the process of completing their 2012 inspections. Each shift received approximately 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. We are in the process of finishing those assigned to each shift and completing the re-inspections.

Beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> Cmdr Maher will create a form to help track water usage on sprinkler systems. We will now ask the inspectors to do a meter reading AT the sprinkler system. Cmdr. Maher will provide training on where to look and how to document.

Our Water Department has also

requested that on any new or upgraded fire suppression system that the by-pass meter on the backflow protection be either a Neptune or Census water meter. These are compatible with our MXU system.

Please remember on emergency numbers forms to circle which shift the inspection is assigned to. That way it can go in the correct file and may save a re-inspection trip if that was all they required.

We also want to ensure that all PRE-PLAN sheets are returned and handed in to Cmdr. Maher or FF/PM Niemand. These are ESSENTIAL for us to try to complete our computer based pre-plan program. Cmdr. Maher will begin to strictly enforce the policy on completing these documents with possible disciplinary action for non-compliance. 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 of more to import, drawn and download to our laptops. IT IS IMPORTANT TO COMPLETE THIS PAPERWORK AS IT IS PART OF THE PRE-PLAN THAT IS ISO NECESSARY.

I am reviewing several new businesses in town. We have several major projects that are in the works.

For newer members once a class for Fire Prevention opens up you will be enrolled as part of your hiring process.

If you are interested in any of the plan review in the Fire Prevention office please see me. I 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 Cmdr. Maher.

We are also suggesting and strongly recommending that sprinkler and

standpipe connections be converted to stortz fittings. Please consult with Cmdr. Maher.

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 now required of all probationary members. Cmdr.'s Leiser and Maher will advise those needing the class when it is available.

I also plan on retiring in the near future. As such I am beginning a transition to my replacement Lt. Hatcher. I hope you support him as well or better than me. More to follow.

## Public Affairs

### *Saving Lives Through Education*

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

Members helped the Village with its annual Santa House by tending the Bon Fire on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Black shift also hosted a school classroom pizza party.

Members of the Public Relations bureau met to plan upcoming events and met with vendors on promotional items.

FF/Pm LiRosi also continues to work in training and teaching CPR classes.

FF/PM LiRosi now has a voicemail for Public Education. If any calls come in please forward to his voicemail.

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.

## Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

FF/PM LiRosi will begin to collect House Dues for 2013. Please pay

him the fee (\$60.00) so that we can continue to buy common supplies for all three shifts.

Members contributed to the Salvation Army Angel Tree program. Members donated \$10 each then bought presents that were age appropriate. They were picked up and Santa will deliver in time for Christmas.

The Association has held on December 9<sup>th</sup> its annual Christmas party. Santa was on hand to deliver gifts to the firefighters children.

## Retiree Row

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](mailto:pchiodo@villageofschillerpark.com).

## And Finally...

You can find on the outside only what you possess on the inside.

## Deadlines

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

*The Booster Line is published monthly on or about the 15<sup>th</sup>. All articles and suggestions are welcome. The Editor, Peter Chiodo, reserves the right to edit based on content and space availability.*

Photos-- Page 7 As the Tahoe was received  
Page 8- With the Black "saddle" roof painted  
Page 9-Battalion 5 lettered

Page 10- Battalion 5 with its light and siren package

All photos courtesy of Cmdr. Chiodo







