

# BOOSTER LINE

## “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 issue begins on October 12<sup>th</sup> when Gold shift responded to a fire on the roof in Norwood Park. Members responded with the tower ladder and aided Norwood Park.

October 14<sup>th</sup> had Black shift respond to a motel for a fire alarm. The crew found the detector in the food area activated due to a guest burning popcorn in the microwave.

The Red shift fire investigator FF/PM Leiser responded to the structure fire in Leyden. Here he assisted in the fire investigation with other division 20 investigators.

A hit and run accident on October 15<sup>th</sup> had Gold shift respond and transport some of the six patients (see photo).



Later in the shift members then responded to a child locked in the car. After getting permission to use the necessary tools to gain access, members were able to use a mini air bag and open the door.

A call on October 18<sup>th</sup> was received for a resident could not turn off the gas on her stove. Gold shift members responded and were able to shut off the gas for the elderly woman.

The early morning on October 19<sup>th</sup> Gold shift responded to a smoke detector going off in an apartment. Gold shift responded and made entry into the apartment with no one home. As they were investigating the cause the tenant arrived to say that there was no heat and he was using the stove to heat the apartment. The tenant was advised that this was unacceptable and the dangers of this practice.

Late in the evening on the 19<sup>th</sup> Black shift responded to a resident locked out of their home. Lt. Hatcher and his crew arrived and were able to ladder the building and enter a second floor to help out the owner re-enter.

Red shift on October 20<sup>th</sup> sent their on duty fire investigator FF/PM Leiser to Leyden for the structure fire. Here he assisted their department with the origin and cause investigation.

A fire response for Gold shift on October 24<sup>th</sup> had members go to a hotel in town. On the fourth floor they found an activated detector because of burnt popcorn in a room.

Just after midnight Red shift took in an accident with entrapment. Members of the Squad put to use the extrication equipment to free the subject. The victim was removed and transported.

FF/PM Schneider in charge of the 4 engine on October 26<sup>th</sup>, responded to a person trapped in the elevator. Using the elevator key to open the stuck doors the crew was able to remove the person unharmed.

Cmdr. Chiodo responded to Bellwood on October 28<sup>th</sup> as a Safety Officer for a fire in a multi-story and unit apartment building. The suspicious fire started in the basement stairway and spread up the stairs to the third floor.

After shift change Black shift took in an elevator emergency. A power

### Inside This Newsletter

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outage in the area affected the operation of the machinery. Members went to the second floor to rescue one person while the second elevator was stuck on the lower level.

A dispatch on October 28<sup>th</sup> had members respond to a fire in Schiller Park. Battalion 5 arrived first on scene and found smoke pouring from the front door of a 2 ½ story building. Lt. Budnik entered and located the fire in the kitchen on the stove extending to the cabinets. A pump can was used to knock down the fire and was followed up by a hand line. Members of the truck and tower ladder companies made the primary searches. The cause appeared to be a pot of cooking oil on the stove that overflowed when it was heated.

November 1<sup>st</sup> had Lt. Hatcher and his shift respond to a motor vehicle accident where a person was hit by the car. The person was transported to Gottlieb.

Rosemont requested our assistance on November 2<sup>nd</sup> when a smell of gas in a residence had Rosemont ask for the full still. Companies from Schiller Park, Park Ridge and Des Plaines all responded.

A water flow alarm on November 6<sup>th</sup> had Red shift take it in only to find a forklift had clipped a sprinkler head. The system was shut down so that it could be serviced. A fire watch was then put in place.

Red shift took in a fire alarm in a condominium building on November 10<sup>th</sup>. On scene the fire investigating crew found a discharged fire extinguisher which activated the alarm system.

A multi-car accident November 12<sup>th</sup> had property damage to a street light and wires down on a garage. Red shift isolated the area and Schiller Park Police secured the area.

A hazardous materials incident on November 12<sup>th</sup> had both Schiller Park on duty technicians FF/PM Chung and FF/PM Hudecek respond to Northlake. They were met there by other Division 20 members on the

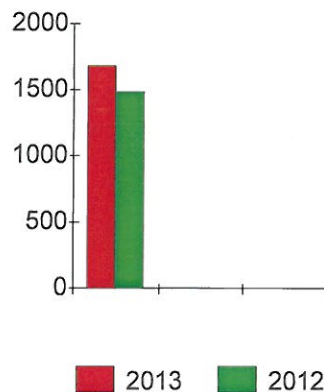
Box alarm and Cmdr. Leiser responded to assist off duty. The team worked on identification of the product and monitoring while the entry team worked on containment.

The 13<sup>th</sup> had our department aid the Toll Way Authority with a car fire on I-294. The car fire was put out with 375 gallons of water and foam.

The last call of the reporting period was for a car smoking in a parking lot. This was the car from the previous call on the toll way and the tow truck driver saw steam emanating from the car and thought it was smoke. Additional water was applied to the car for complete cooling.

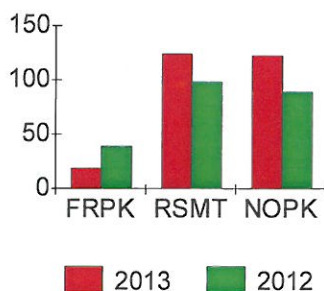
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2012:

### Total Incidents



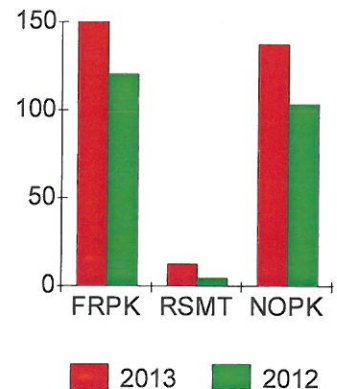
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of October 31<sup>st</sup> "To" the following communities:

### Auto Aid Given



The run summary for Automatic Aid as of October 31<sup>st</sup> "From" the following communities:

### Auto Aid Received



	2013	2012
Total Incidents	1686	1481

### Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	19	39
Norwood Park (NOPK)	122	89
Rosemont (RSMT)	124	99

### Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	150	121
Norwood Park (NOPK)	138	103
Rosemont (RSMT)	13	5

## Commander's Cove

### *We Stagnate When Caution Prevails*

FF/PM Warden injured herself while in the Vehicle Machinery Operations class. She cut her hand and ligament requiring surgery. She has been coming in on light duty where she is working with the Maintenance, Training and Public Relations Bureaus. She hopes to be back to full shift duty after the first of the New Year.

Cmdr. Maher also injured himself off duty during a biking accident. The

result was that he had to have surgery on his left thumb with a torn ligament and a torn right shoulder rotator cuff. As a result of his injury and the extended recovery time Cmdr. Maher has decided to retire effective November 2, 2013. Our best to him in his recovery and new endeavors.

The department also received letters of resignation from FF/PM Hudecek and FF/PM Solana who have both chosen to take jobs as firefighters with the City of Chicago. Our best to these former members.

FF/PM Santiago who enlisted in the military can be reached at:  
Recruit Santiago, Nicholas  
MI2RD Bn Fox Co. Plt.  
2131 35051 Midway Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92140-2142

We played the 8<sup>th</sup> grade basketball team on October 25<sup>th</sup> along with our Police Department. The fundraiser at Lincoln School along with a spaghetti dinner was successful as the Public Safety employees won again.

Our congratulations to Battalion Chief Hamilton of the Franklin Park Fire Department on his recent retirement. A replacement will be named shortly.

We also said good bye to Paul Christiansen who has left the Village as the finance officer. He has taken a position in Woodstock.

Our congratulations and Thanks to our Veterans who partook in the 1<sup>st</sup> Pancake Breakfast on November 10<sup>th</sup>. Our on duty members were present and enjoyed breakfast with them. A special thanks to the Boy Scouts who coordinated the event.

Members of our department were invited to the schools for Veterans Day activities on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Our members were humbled in the presence of true heroes.

A meeting of the Foreign Fire Insurance Fund will be held on November 27<sup>th</sup> in the firehouse. An agenda has been posted.

Effective October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 0900 hours NORCOMM officially took over dispatch duties for the Westchester Fire Department.

Hillside Fire Department has now included storz fittings on both their sprinkler connections and their steamer ports on their hydrants.



There are tentative dates for the next hiring process of the Police and Fire Commission. The process will open January 3, 2014.

One of our uniform vendors, VCG, has developed for us an on-line way of ordering uniforms and clothing allowance items. They have our current policy and will soon be out to measure everyone and keep those sizes in their database. This will allow you to order items anytime. If the item is not on the approved list, you must get permission from the Chief.

October 26<sup>th</sup> the Schiller Park Police and Fire Departments partnered with the DEA for a Prescription Pill Take Back Day. The collection netted 60 pounds of unwanted and expired medications.

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 approved funding for 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.

The Village has removed the sand bags from station 6 and placed them in the Emergency Sandbag Container located outside this firehouse. It is one of three containers in town with sandbags.

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:

Members of the maintenance bureau replaced the headlights on Engine 5 this past month.

Three new Stihl chainsaws were also placed in service. These replaced the Cutters Edge which served us well for the last 15 plus years. The costs of the repairs were outweighing the costs and new ones were already in this year's budget.

A new type of emulsifier was also purchased to be used on spills. This product is on our vehicles now.

Two SCBA's were repaired by Air One and are now back in service.

We are designating on the tower ladder a rope bag for RIT. This will be used for emergency operations as practiced during training drills this past month (see photos).

## EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

All our ambulances had their State certifications and inspections conducted this past month. The Illinois Department of Public Health comes out and does this rigorous inspection.

We also will be going to a new drug exchange format. We will now exchange them on the last Monday of the month. This will hopefully alleviate the problem of the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month if it falls on a weekend.

A new cot was also placed in Ambulance 5. This has newer amenities and newer technology.

We also have printed up new Notice of Privacy notices. These are to be given to all patients and the appropriate box checked off on your report.

Lastly all the Life pak units were serviced this past month.

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.

FF/PM LiRosi has taken over all of the CPR classes and instruction. He will coordinate both the private and the village sector. FF/PM Hudecek, Niemand, Bubis and PM Jenkins and Kosar are all still instructors helping out. We are averaging 3-4 classes per month with 50 plus students.

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.

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.

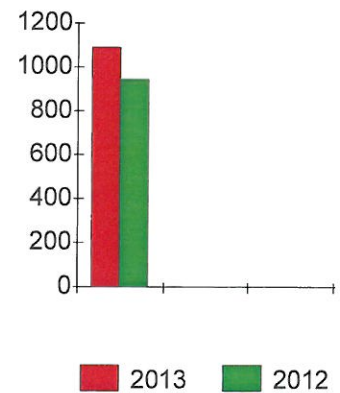
The Northwest Community Hospital website for Continuing Education has a ton of information that can assist paramedics with continuing education and also provide assistance on the monthly training. If you have not had an opportunity to check the website it would be advisable.

During the past month personnel responded to 125 emergency calls. A total of 128 patients were encountered. 73 patients were transported to area hospitals. 53 patients required Advanced Life Support care.

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Total Responses	1091	946
Cardiac	68	73
Medical Emergency	551	506
Accidents/Trauma	289	228
Fire Responses	172	129
False Alarm/Standby	11	12

Mut. Aid to SHPK	41	22
SHPK to others	46	32

## 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.

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

New airlines have been moved on the apparatus floor and markings on the floor have changed.

What's in the works? –

- New lights at station 2
- Additional outlets at station 2
- Emergency phone outside sta. 2
- mount patches around kitchen
- paint apparatus floor border
- 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*

#### **October Trivia**

What is the significance of the name "Otis" in the fire service and the role?

Otis is the designation given to the firefighter who is assigned elevator control on incidents. This person takes their name from the oldest and biggest elevator name brand.

No correct answers were received

#### **November Trivia**

Where and when was the first Heavy Rescue used in the United States?

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.

FF/PM Bubis completed the Vehicle Machinery Operations class this past month.

Cmdr. Chiodo attended the Division 20 Safety and Training Officer

meeting.

Cmdr. Chiodo also attended the Fire Investigators Strike Force seminar on chimney fire and wood burning appliances.

FF/PM Gergits and FF/PM Leiser taught all three shifts in the use of struts and stabilization. We have budgeted these items and they will make a recommendation.

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.

We are 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.

Members completed 401 hours of training for the month with 30 training drills. This includes outside classes. Our Paid on Call had 4 meetings for 12 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 FF/PM Adam Niemand as our Employee of the Month.

Adam worked on a federal grant for fire prevention to totally upgrade our archaic and burdensome file system and inspections. Unfortunately after making it through several rounds of eliminations we were cut n the final round.

For your time, persistence and endeavor n trying to modernize our bureau we make you our Employee of the Month. Adam is not stopping here but working on implementing a similar more cost effective system with our budget.

With the departure of Cmdr. Leiser from the Bureau, we would also like to acknowledge an adjunct employee Lt. Dan Johnson from the Norwood Park Fire Protection District. Dan is the Chief Inspector there and is making himself available should we need him as we transition to Lt. Hatcher on our department.

Because of space limitations last issue we would like to print the pictures of the awards the Schiller Park Police Department received at a recent Board Meeting.

Officer Marrazzo – Lifesaving Award  
Officer Kubychek-Lifesaving Award

Officer Bernacki – Unit Citation  
Officer Kaiser – Unit Citation  
Officer Roberts – Unit Citation

Sgt. Lee – Unit Citation  
Officer Chernikovitch - Unit Citation -

Officer Cavaliere – Unit Citation  
Officer Klug – Unit Citation

Officer Rosenstein – Merit Award  
Officer Cherikovich – Merit Award

For your commitment to our department we are honored to call 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 are working on their 2013 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. To date about 360 total inspections have been completed.

The alarm at 9671 Cary has been totally removed. When a new occupant moves in it will be determined if they need an alarm.

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 of 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 Maher.

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.

We have purchased fire extinguisher literature in both English and Spanish. We have noticed that we are doing more presentations and instead of using translators where we can't assure the correct messages are being given. We also got DVD's in both English and Spanish.

Open House photos will be included in this issue from Fire Prevention Week along with the Invisible Fence mask donation.

The Illinois Fire Inspectors Association has decided to move its Public Education Conference from Galena to East Peoria next year. The dates will be April 30-May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

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

Lt. Anderson (ret.) recently visited the firehouse on October 18<sup>th</sup> during lunch. He commented on how fast time goes by and how fast his kids had grown up.

Get well wishes also go out to FF Ireton (ret.).

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).

## Stork Report

FF/PM Gergits and his wife had a baby girl Victoria on October 22, 2013.

FF/PM Bubis and his wife Beth had a baby boy on November 16<sup>th</sup> weighing n at 5 lbs. 11 oz. and 18 inches. His name is Jeremiah Samuel.

Cmdr. Leiser became a grandfather this past month with his daughter giving birth to his granddaughter.

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

## Notes

A note from Mike and Kim Jenkins thanking members for coming to the services for her mother at her wake.

A letter was also received from Dr. Boryszewsk of District 81 thanking the members for our participation in the charity basketball game at Lincoln school.

A thank you was also received from the St. Maria Goretti school board for our help with their bonfire and the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Fall Fest.

## Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

Members and the community supported the Wounded Warrior

Project helping Veterans by wearing and selling fire department camouflage uniform t-shirts and rubber wristbands. A donation to the project of \$10,000 was made by the Association.

The Association has also framed the last two years charity shirts which are on display in the stairway.

### And Finally...

Never neglect an opportunity for improvement.

### Deadlines

The deadline for the next issue of the

*Booster Line* will be 8:00 A.M. December 7th. 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.*

Photographs-

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Page 8- Vehicle Machinery Extrication Class

Page 9- Division 20 Extrication class

Page 10- 11—RIT team training in FRPK

Page 12- Saving our own training



