

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 August 12th when the Schiller Park Fire Department provided the Police Department with a ladder to assist in an investigation. The assistance led to the retrieval of evidence.

Cmdr. Chiodo responded on August 13th to Bensenville as a Safety Officer for a fire. The fire started in a car port and spread to the house.

Red shift took in a dumpster fire on August 14th in an alley. Residents attempted to control the fire which was completed put out by fire personnel.

Later in the shift a fire in Elmwood Park had FF/PM Swiontek respond as the on duty fire investigator. Several garages had been set on fire and we worked with other division investigators.

August 16th had Gold shift respond to an incident off Mannheim road where a motorcyclist was cut off and laid his bike down. Firefighters and Paramedics transported the victim to the hospital.

Cmdr. Maher and the crew responded to a roll over crash on I-294 on August 18th. Members assisted the ambulance before transporting to a level one trauma center.

While returning to quarters, Cmdr. Maher heard a bell ringing inside a building on August 20th. Investigating he found that water was coming out of the Main Drain on the sprinkler system. Accessing the keys to the building he notified dispatch and entered the building. He located a problem with the sprinkler system and had the owner notified.

August 23rd had the fire dispatched to a call for a person hit by a car. On scene members found that the victim was a dog and not a person. Members assisted the best they could with the problem.

Gold shift helped out a family on August 24th when a child was locked inside an apartment and the mother outside panicking. Lt. Cesaretti had the engine company ladder the building and make entry into the living room window. Police on scene checked all identification prior to allowing entry. The nine month old baby was happy to see the firefighters.

Their next call was for a gas leak. Using monitors the shift traced the odor of gas to the stove which was malfunctioning. The gas to the stove was shut off and the owner was advised to have it repaired prior to turning back on.

A carbon monoxide call on August 27th had FF/PM Schneider investigate with the engine company. They found levels in the apartment at 30 ppm. Elevated levels were found in the kitchen and the stove's gas was shut off. Ventilation occurred and CO levels began to drop. The tenant was advised to call a service technician.

The engines next call was for a smell of gas again. This time it was found outside at the meter. NICOR was advised of the situation.

Black shift on August 28th had a gas odor investigation of their own. Residents of the house were found outside upon arrival and monitors were taken inside to find the source. In the basement near the furnace gas piping a leak was found.

August ended for the department on the 31st with a Box Alarm fire in Berkeley. Cmdr. Leiser responded as the Safety Officer.

The Illinois Toll Way dispatched Schiller Park and Des Plaines for a car fire on the toll way at the 41 mile marker on September 12th. Des Plaines being the closer unit arrived first and were assisted by our engine

and squad companies.

A fluke on September 13th had several fire departments responding to "smoke in the area" and the smell of something burning. Red shift went in search of the possible incident. On the radio multiple division 20 towns were being dispatched for similar incidents. NORCOMM finally advised all responding towns that the incident was located several hundred miles away in Minnesota with the wild land fires ravaging that area.

Before their Red shift ended on September 14th a fire alarm in an apartment building had the fire department take it in. On scene they found that the smoke detector on the third floor was tripped. Firefighters could tell the smoke smelled like burnt food and began knocking on doors to locate the source. The unit was located and a sheepish occupant admitted the mistake.

September 17th had Lt. Hatcher take in a vehicle accident with injuries. On scene the members found a motorcycle on the ground and a victim in serious condition. Lt. Hatcher scanned the woods with hand lights and thermal image camera to verify no other persons were involved. Because of the seriousness of the incident and the nature of the traumatic injuries, two additional firefighter/paramedics accompanied the ambulance to the hospital. The victim succumbed to his injuries.

Black shift on September 18th responded to an electrical fire that was reported out. On scene members found that it was an ice machine that was plugged into an outlet that became over loaded heated up, melted and ignited. The circuit was shut off and an electrician from the maintenance staff was called.

Wires down on September 19th had Red shift arrive to find high voltage wires come down. The area was cordoned off and Commonwealth Edison was called.

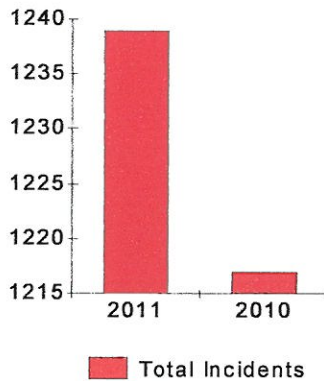
Burnt popcorn was the culprit on September 20th in a manufacturing

plant. The employee left the item in the microwave a bit too long. The fire department aided in ventilation with fans.

The final call for the period was a working fire in Bensenville on September 20th. Cmdr. Chiodo was called to the scene as a Safety Officer. The fire in a single family home started on the first floor and smoldered for several hours before breaking out. Extensive smoke damage was throughout the building and the family dog perished.

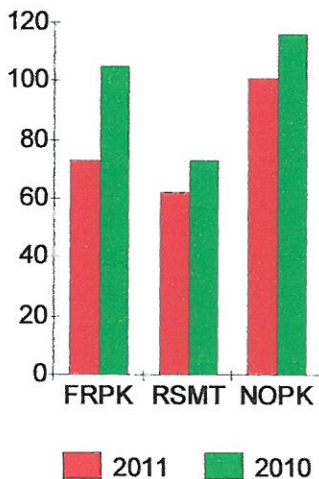
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2010:

Total Incidents



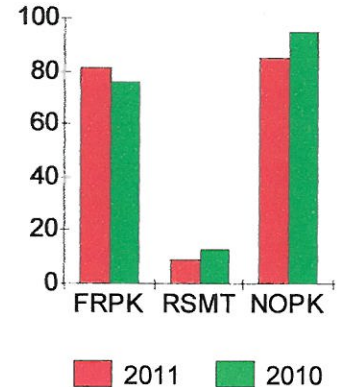
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of August 31st "To" the following communities:

Auto Aid Given



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

Auto Aid Received



	2011	2010
Total Incidents	1239	1217

Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	73	105
Norwood Park (NOPK)	101	116
Rosemont (RSMT)	62	73

Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	81	76
Norwood Park (NOPK)	85	95
Rosemont (RSMT)	9	13

Commander's Cove

Lt. Anderson, who was injured at a fire in Northlake last July 2010, has been advised by his doctor to be off of work. He also is coming in on light duty.

Our deepest sympathies to FF/PM Santiago on the passing of his grandmother this past month. A memorial service is planned in October. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Another death to report is Chief Ed Karas. Ed was a member and Chief of the former CD/EPDS in the Chicago Fire Department. After leaving the Chicago Fire Department Ed took a job as an auxiliary with the Rosemont Public Safety department rising to the rank of Captain. Ed's two sons work in Rosemont one as a Public Safety Officer assigned to the firehouse and the other as a dispatcher. Ed showed up at many of our fires to videotape and take photographs. Ed was a true firemens friend and will be missed. May you rest in peace.

There are two retirements in Division 20 coming up. Both are officers in the Maywood Fire Department. Captain Molinaro and Lt. Wurtz will have there parties on October 14th.

Director Deegan reminds all members and former members to keep your pension files up to date. If you have any change in status please notify the board so that there will be no conflicts or interruptions in any current or future benefits.

We are currently replacing our old parka jackets with a new winter coat. This will try to bring into line one standard coat. This will be the designated winter coat that should be worn. Bunker coats will not be acceptable and will only be used when appropriate.

Our thanks to all the members who helped work the Village Third Annual Car Show and the 10th Anniversary of 9/11. Pictures accompany at the end of this issue.

We were fortunate to have the Oscar Mayer Weiner Mobile visit the firehouse on September 20th. The crew ate dinner and shared their experiences with our members. See photos in this issue.

Chief Ivonelli has informed us that Rescue 1 is out of service and no longer available. They will be selling the vehicle as it took in only 2 calls last year.

The FCC will be changing many of the radio bands in the next year and going to narrow banding. As part of that we have determined that our current HT 1000 radios will be incapable of this. Motorola has also informed us that they will no longer support this radio. We have investigated this and determined that our best option is to purchase the XTS 5000 radio for the Officers. Currently the Command car has been outfitted with this radio. We will switch to the XTS 1500 as a replacement for the HT 1000's.

FF/PM Budnik is working with Lt. Anderson on ensuring that maintenance in and around the firehouse is completed. As such he has come out with the 2011 fire hydrant list. The shifts will begin flushing and testing. As part of the exercise program they will also grease lubricate the threads.

Because we tone out each dispatched call, there is no longer a need to place you in service when doing inspections, shopping etc. that are not dispatched calls.

Please remember to fill out the fuel logs for each vehicle and to let the shift officer know for tracking in the Pass On Book.

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:

The siren on engine 456 was repaired. The cowl was reshaped and replaced on the rig by Tony.

Tony also worked on the preventive maintenance on tower ladder 454. The truck is eleven years old and is in very good condition due to the diligence of Tony and the members of our department.

Members also worked over eight hours on a Saturday de-greasing the main ladder on 454 and re-greasing.

We were unable to start our tower ladder during the month and Tony was able to diagnose it as a leak in the fuel filter. After determining that this was the problem and re-tightening the truck runs very well.

Other things going on around the firehouse include the completion of the annual service testing on all ground ladders. This was done in house and saved over one thousand dollars from having them sent out.

We are also currently working on doing all the annual testing for SCBA's and fit testing. Again this will be done in house by our trained personnel and again several hundred dollars in expenses saved by the fire department.

Our annual fire pump service testing will be completed this month in Rosemont. The annual test stresses the pump to ensure that it meets and exceeds capacity. This in house testing will save over one thousand dollars that a vendor would charge.

We had the opportunity to field test two rotary saws. We are looking at replacing our K-12 saws that have been re-built several times and are no longer serviceable. Two current saws have been taken out of service and the committee has made a recommendation to Director Deegan for replacement saws.

We also had returned our Sensit Gold monitor. This four gas monitor is one of our workhorses. It was also recalibrated along with a new sensor.

We also received our new rescue tool this past month. It was placed in service on 455 and the older Holmatro tool is going in service on our Squad 453. We were able to trade in our old Hurst equipment.

The opticom at Lawrence and 25th was repaired by Meade electric.

We received back from Air One one of our Air Packs that during a regular daily test indicated an ERROR. It was not possible to repair in house and the lifetime warranty covered the issue.

Our firehouse is being tuckpointed along with the rest of the Village Hall. The tuckpointers will ensure that the galley ladder is secured to the building on the east upper side of the firehouse.

A new digital thermostat was installed in the bunkroom. Our Heating and a/c people tell us that with it being more accurate we will save money compared to a mercury type.

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 Coord. Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

I have also continued to work with the software vendors on our EMS computer reporting programs. We are still working out some bugs and I appreciate the input that many of you have suggested. I also am thankful for the members who have worked within the EMS system at Northwest in education quality control and other areas you have volunteered for.

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

Other EMS bits...

This past month both ambulances 461 and 463 went to the safety lane for their inspections. Both passed the inspections that are required every six months.

As part of the re-shuffling of areas and room, we have moved the part time lockers into the old storeroom. This will give some privacy and also make needed room for the possible laundry room.

A new SPO2 sensor was put on the life pack on 461.

Tony had to send out ambulance 461 when we found a radiator leak. The rig was back in service in less than a week. The air conditioning was also looked at.

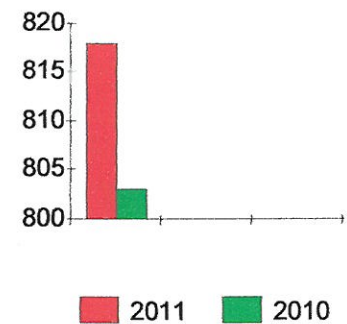
Please refer to the clipboard in the kitchen for any new updates in the Bureau.

During the past month personnel responded to 133 emergency calls. A total of 129 patients were encountered. 93 patients were transported to area hospitals. 68 patients required Advanced Life Support care.



	2011	2010
Total Responses	818	803
Cardiac	75	72
Medical Emergency	426	408
Accidents/Trauma	152	207
Fire Responses	122	100
False Alarm/Standby	13	16
Mut. Aid to SHPK	26	18
SHPK to others	33	101

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, Cmdr. Chiodo or FF/PM Bertoncini.

We will be looking into running a separate electrical circuit to the Commanders office. With all the electronics that our job requires, we are finding that the current single circuit is not adequate. During certain power outages the voltage drops and spikes corrupt files on our computers.

The rear apparatus tool room is being contemplated to have a door installed.

Cmdr. Leiser has indicated that Black shift will take on the project of the lights at station 2 that will be worked on this Fall/Winter.

Cmdr. Chiodo will work with Gold shift on the washer and dryer on the second floor.

Additionally we will take a look at washing walls in the firehouse and update of the unisex bathroom.

What's in the works? –

- Second circuit for electric in Cmdr office
- Deep cleaning of all the rooms
- Creating a laundry room
- Completing the deck
- New lights at station 2
- re-do firehouse rear entrance
- 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.2 floor
- Door and jam simulator
- sprinkler simulator
- Sta. 2 classroom
- Adding a rotating light on the front bumper of 454 to be seen better in traffic
- Man station 2
- re-direct second exit stairway
- New high-rise load packing tool

Trivia

Answer to last month's Trivia

Only one correct answer was submitted by Jim "Jimmy Z" Ziebka.

August Trivia

What was the name of the shrieking whistle device that was attached to a fire engines exhaust that was used to clear the path of vehicles and

pedestrians?

The shrieking whistle was called a buck eye.

Three correct answers were submitted by Jim "Jimmy Z" Ziebka and Chief Belmonte (ret. Westchester) and Chief Jim Adams, current Chief in Westchester.

September Trivia

What were 19th Century four wheeled hose reels also known as?

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

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

The Training Division has issue a new Standard Operating Guideline entitled "Fire Certification, Training Paths and Requirements". This policy will outline all the requirements for firefighters, those aspiring to be lieutenants or commanders. Please consult so that you can meet and achieve all the mandatory requirements.

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.

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.

Cmdr. Leiser, FF/PM Swiontek and FF/PM LiRosi all attended the Size

Up Seminar.

Cmdr. Maher and Lt. Cesaretti completed the State Fire Marshal Incident Safety Officer class. They challenged the state test and await certification.

FF/PM LiRosi took the Leadership I class in the state fire officer program. FF/PM LiRosi is on the lieutenant list and is an acting officer.

FF/PM Bubis completed the State of Illinois EMS Lead Instructor Course.

FF/PM Niemand completed the Juvenile Fire Setters Course with the State Fire marshal. He is the third person on the department with this training. He will take the certification test shortly.

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

Members completed 229 hours of training for the month with 27 training drills. This includes outside classes. Our Paid On Call had 5 meetings for 25 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 remember to 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.

Remember signing up for tests is considered a Duty Assignment for being there. If you cannot attend see me in advance and provide a written response for the absence.

Employee of the Month

This month we acknowledge as our Employees of the Month FF/PM Budnik, FF/PM Bubis and our mechanic Tony Calefati.

All three members took time out of their Saturday schedule on their off day and started at 7:00 A.M. in the morning with stripping all the old grease off of tower ladder 454. The de-greasing and power washing is a dirty messy job that had been sent out to Wirf's in the past to be done.

The on duty shift did assist with the work that took over nine hours to complete and re-grease.

For their taking time off during one of the last nice weekends of summer and help coordinate this job we appreciate their help.

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

Members are in the process of working on their 2011 inspections. Each shift received approximately 1/3 of the inspections or about 150 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 we have completed 120 inspections and have 292 that either need to be done or have re-inspections.

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.

I am reviewing several new businesses in town. We have several major projects that are in the works. These include a new addition to the library and a new bank. Ground was broken for the new Chase Bank Branch. This will be followed by a new Aldi's being built. A new eatery is also planned for the old Brown's Chicken.

When you bring back your fire inspections, make a copy of the pre-plan forms and submit to FF/PM Bubis. Tim is working on a computer fire prevention pre-plan that incorporates the information we bring back. 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, drawn and download to our laptops. If you are interested in helping Tim, please see him.

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.



Notes

Several notes were received for the fire department this past month.

Our first note came from the family of Mr. Glenn Rawski of the Police and Fire Commission who thanked the fire department for those who attended either the wake or the funeral services.

Chief Ivonelli also thanked our department who responded automatic aid leading to a 3rd alarm for the Super 8 fire on Mannheim.

Chief Cadigan also thanked us for our response to their 3rd Alarm fire on August 10th.

St. Maria Goretti thanked the fire department for our donation to their Parish Picnic.

Chief Moran from Willow Springs thanked our members for helping him with his dissertation research project.

Our last letter comes from the Gorr family thanking the members of Schiller Park and Norwood Park for an ambulance transport. We treated their dad as if he was our own and treated them all with patience and kindness.



Public Affairs

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

FF/PM LiRosi is planning Fire Prevention Week and looking for help with the classes.

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

We held our annual Back to School Ice Cream Social on September 23rd. While the weather was a little nippy over 300 persons attended.

FF/PM Niemand is our third Juvenile Fire Setter specialist. If we encounter any problems refer to our certified.

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 is also collecting \$60 per member for the house fund. This fund is what pays for all the common food items we use such as salad dressing, butter, spices, PAM, wrap, dairy creamer, etc. For a listing of items or purchases see Vito. He will not buy any new supplies until all members are paid up.

FF/PM Miletta is coordinating Cancer month in October. We will be selling shirts with our logo and designed specifically for October. Director Deegan has authorized us to be able to wear the t-shirts as an optional uniform item for the month. Specifically we will support the Lynn Sage Foundation.

Our thanks to Jason Peace of both the Chicago Fire Department and River Grove Fire Department for playing the bag pipes during our 9/11 Remembrance.

Our thanks to all the members who worked the pop booth during the Annual car Show.

The Association has a new vending machine on the apparatus floor. Hopefully we will have no problems with the machine. Please continue to

support the association with this machine and the gumball machine in the firehouse.

The Association also paired with Starbucks on the 19th of August to support cancer research. Members sold our cancer t-shirts.

Members have created our own website, www.schillerparkfa.org for members and visitors who want to know more about the Association or its charities.

The Association received a piece of scrap metal from the World Trade Center. The Association presented it during the 9/11 Memorial after the Car Show.

The Police and Fire Annual picnic was a success despite the rainy weather. Our thanks especially to the cooks who were out there from morning on cooking and roasting the pig. See you next year.

Retiree Row

Lt. Kwiat (ret.) was at our annual pig roast. He misses all the hoopla of riding and being on the job.

We also saw FF Schuyler while doing hydrants who also missed doing hydrants in the summer and meals in the firehouse. We told him to visit his 9 squares.

Stork Report/ Announcements

The Stork landed for Krissy and Greg Swiontek as they received a new baby boy Michael Robert Swiontek born 8-31-11 at 1118 hours. He weighed in at 7 LBs 6 Oz and 20 inches.

We have a first on the Schiller Park Fire Department as FF/PM Collette Hudacek is the first firefighter to be pregnant. She is expecting after the 1st of the year. Congratulations!

Word has also come down the pipe that PM Kostal is expecting a baby in November. As more information is available we will let you know.

Any word on the horizon please drop us a note.

And Finally...

Action speaks louder than words, but not nearly as often.

Deadlines

The deadline for the next issue of the *Booster Line* will be 8:00 A.M. October 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.

Pictures:

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Pictures of the 3rd Annual Village of Schiller Park Car Show held September 11th

Patriot day 9/11 Remembrance and presentation of a piece of the World Trade Center. Speakers include mayor Montana, Director Deegan, Officer Klug, American Legion member Mr. Don Lohenry and FF/PM Schneider.

The Honor Guard and Police and Firefighters escorted our Memorial. Bagpiper played and the Lincoln Band and Choir played and sang.

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The Oscar Meyer Weiner Mobile Visits the Schiller Park Police and Fire Departments. Departments consider this as new response vehicles. FF/PM Miletta models side job uniform.





