

# 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 issue begins on September 10<sup>th</sup> when a women in distress over her children being locked in. She was washing her clothes at the Laundromat when she exited to load the clean clothes in her car. The door behind her locked trapping the children inside the store. Members of Black shift were able to use the Knox Key and gain entry.

The 11<sup>th</sup> of September found members respond to a vehicle accident on Irving in the woods had two cars involved and four persons. Ambulances from Franklin Park and Norwood Park were requested.

Gold shift responded to a battery on September 12<sup>th</sup>. The two persons involved required a second ambulance.

A smell of natural gas on September 115<sup>th</sup> had Gold shift respond to the scene. Lt. Budnik and the crew used their monitors to check the underground vaults.

September 17<sup>th</sup> when a call was received of a child locked in a car at a hotel. Members of Red shift responded and were able to unlock the car with no damage.

Gold shift took n an accident with injuries on September 21<sup>st</sup>. En-route police informed the fire department that a second ambulance was needed. Upon arrival members found a three car accident and an ambulance from Franklin Park was dispatched. While triaging it was found that there would be a total of seven patients. This required Lt. Budnik to request a third and fourth ambulance from Norwood Park and Rosemont.

September 23<sup>rd</sup> saw Black shift respond to the toll way for an accident with injuries. Upon our arrival Northlake was on scene with a three car motor vehicle accident. We assisted with triage and transport.

A Pin In response was requested by Cmdr. Chiodo on September 24<sup>th</sup> when the shift responded to a rollover accident. One car was on the roof with a person hanging upside down in the seatbelt. Members got the hydraulic rescue tools to extricate the person prior to Franklin Park Ladder 2 arriving. The door was removed and the patient taken out and transported.

The next call this shift was for a reported fire n Rosemont in a hotel. Arriving Schiller Park staged while the fire investigative team found a burnt rag or towel in the fifth floor stairway.

September 26<sup>th</sup> Black shift arrived on scene of an accident to find a motorcycle accident where the driver was killed and the passenger checked by the ambulance.

A fire alarm on September 26<sup>th</sup> had members find burnt food set off a detector in the lower level of an office building.

FF/Pm Swiontek then responded as the on duty fire investigator to Westchester for a structure fire. He was the first investigator on scene and requested an Investigator Box Alarm for the origin and cause.

Schiller Park then had its own fire in a business when a machine caught fire and got into the duct work. Lt. Budnik became the Interior Operations while Cmdr. Chiodo took Incident Command. Engine 5 hooked up to the sprinkler system, Leyden went to the roof and Franklin Park and Norwood Park backed up the first in crews with 1 ¾ inch lines.

Lt. Hatcher on September 28<sup>th</sup> had another child locked in a car. The vehicle was running and the child sleeping. Members of Black shift were able to gain access without awakening the child.

They next took in a medical alert

alarm. On scene they found the resident with no problems and who inadvertently activated the alarm.

After picking up from this call they took in a call for an oven that would not turn off. They got on scene and found the control valve to be damaged and unable to shut off the gas. Members disconnected the power and shut off the gas at the gas cock.

September ended for the department on the 30<sup>th</sup> with two calls. The first for Gold shift was for a call of smoke from the new Fashion Outlet mall. After arriving Battalion 5 met Battalion 13 where Battalion 5 was told there was no problem at the mall. It was quickly determined that the smoke might be coming from Schiller Park and the likeliest culprit was the cheese smoking factory a block away. Investigating this found this to be true for the source and smell of smoke.

The second call was for a fire in the duct work of a factory. Lt. Cesaretti and his shift found the fire and dropped a 1 3/4 inch line to attack the fire. The fire was contained and 375 gallons of water used.

October 1<sup>st</sup> had Black shift respond to smoke in the building. On scene the smoke was due to a bag being used as a shade in the bedroom and catching on fire. (See photos).

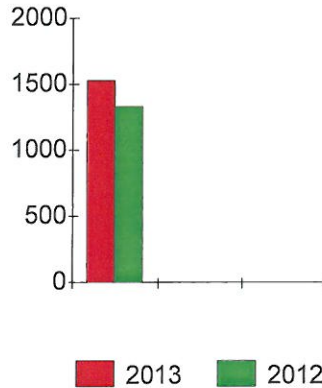
Black shift then took in power lines down. A guide wire had broken and come into contact with other wires causing a power outage in the area.

Their next tour of duty on the 4<sup>th</sup> had them respond to wires down and across the street. The area was cordoned off while Com Ed was notified for an ETA to make repairs.

The last call of the period came on the 4<sup>th</sup> with a toll way call for a motor vehicle accident. The call had five patients in three vehicles. All persons were assessed for injuries.

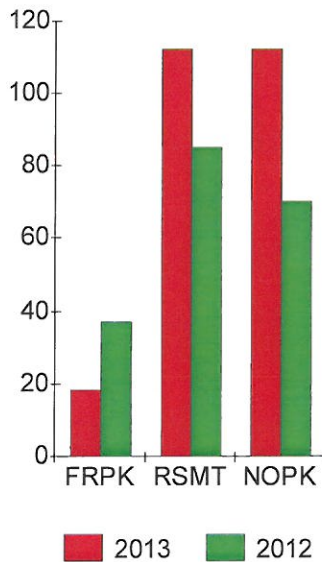
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2012:

### Total Incidents



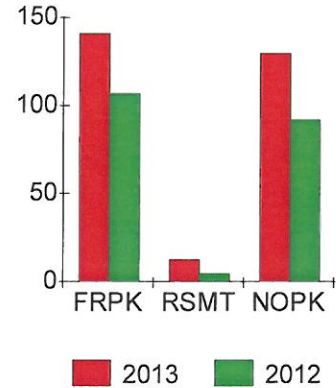
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of September 30<sup>th</sup> "To" the following communities:

### Auto Aid Given



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

### Auto Aid Received



|                 | 2013 | 2012 |
|-----------------|------|------|
| Total Incidents | 1532 | 1327 |

#### Auto Aid to:

|                      |     |    |
|----------------------|-----|----|
| Franklin Park (FRPK) | 18  | 37 |
| Norwood Park (NOPK)  | 112 | 76 |
| Rosemont (RSMT)      | 112 | 85 |

#### Auto Aid From:

|                      |     |     |
|----------------------|-----|-----|
| Franklin Park (FRPK) | 141 | 107 |
| Norwood Park (NOPK)  | 129 | 92  |
| Rosemont (RSMT)      | 13  | 4   |

## 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 in eight to twelve weeks.

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. He will be out for some time.

Our prayers and thoughts go out to PM Mike Jenkins and his wife Kim on the passing of Kim's mother Mrs. Johnnie Reedy. Members were able to attend both the wake and funeral.

We will also be playing the 8<sup>th</sup> grade basketball team on October 25<sup>th</sup> along with our Police Department. T will be a fundraiser at Lincoln School along with a spaghetti dinner. A sign-up sheet is in the kitchen.

Congressmen Quigley visited the firehouse last month and was shown some of the tools and equipment that we have. He also tried to turn out gear and worked a hydraulic tool. He finished his visit with a view from the tower ladders basket at 100 feet elevation.

The Schiller Park Fire Department donated a visit to the firehouse and Family Services. Their gala and auction will be held in November.

After the Car Show we realized that we could use some insulated beverage containers. We have since purchased two hot/cold containers.



We also received new Box Cards from Prospect Heights. They have added us to their ambulance Box Card on the 7<sup>th</sup> alarm.

Our congratulations to Battalion Chief Mark White of the Franklin Park Fire Department on his recent retirement. He will assume a new part time career as a civilian fire inspector. As of press time no replacement was named.

The Maintenance Bureau has determined that the best preventive maintenance for our vehicles would be to alternate the use to provide some wear and tear on each vehicle. As such we will have the first three days of each month Ambulance 6 to take in the front runner runs. We will also detail to the Paid On Call that Engine 6 be driven to get it up to operating temperatures and fluids moving through systems.

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.

Stone Park has decided to renumber their vehicles and station effective October 1<sup>st</sup>. They will take the number 21 and be Station 21 and corresponding vehicles i.e. Engine 21, Ambulance 21. Their spare engine will take on Engine 22.

October 26<sup>th</sup> is the next date that the Schiller Park Police and Fire Departments will be partnering with the DEA for a Prescription Pill Take Back Day. The collection point will be the rear of the firehouse from 10-2.

We also would like to share with our readers that FF/PM Santiago has enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps

reserves. Nick will be shipped out to San Diego in the beginning of November for 9 months of training. We appreciate the sacrifice that he is making to serve his country and every one of us. Nick is the second member of our department serving in the military. It is rumored that FF/PM Solana may be deployed again shortly. To Nick, Semper Fi.

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. Later this summer the Balmoral bridge over I-294 northbound will be re-built after a dump truck had its trailer unexpectedly rise and crash into the bridge doing extensive damage.

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:

FF/PM Bertoncini has been working on all the SCBA PASS devices by cleaning the lens with the dremel tool. They now look crystal clear.

Lt. Budnik and FF/PM Gergits had all of our pumps tested this past month in Rosemont. All pumps successfully passed. Lt. Budnik will look into budgeting next year for a pump testing piece of equipment to do the tests in our own station.

Lt. Budnik also has scheduled ladder testing for this past month. All ground ladders were tested by the shifts with the main ladder being cleaned and greased by Gold shift.

Lt. Hatcher had our Star Com interoperability radio re-banded. This radio is currently carried in Battalion 5.

Members also were able to clean out the loft and make additional space. (See photos).

Our Alt Air monitored went out to Air One for repairs. Because it could not be repaired it was replaced at no cost to the Village.

Gold shift replaced the aging lights in front of the firehouse. The new lights are commercial grade and preserve our tradition of Red and Green lights.

During weekly tool inventory, we found the T-Rex saw case to be beyond repair. It is currently being stored in a compartment with the blades. Lt. Budnik will look into some other options for storage.

Service was completed on several vehicles this past month. Included was Tower Ladder 5 getting new tires along with a new directional turn signal in the cab. A new hydraulic line also needed to be replaced.

Squad 5 also had the slow leak on one of its tires side walls replaced.

## EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

Ambulance 6 (462) had our mechanic repair the side step this past month.

EMSD Nosek has replaced the Ni-Cad batteries on the Life Paks with Lithium Ion batteries. This should assure longer life for the batteries.

He also has updated the HIPPA forms on all of the vehicles. Please make sure that on each run you are providing the patient with this form.

It was found during the weekly checks that the pediatric inflatable seats in both ambulances showed signs of dry rot and air leakage. They have been taken out of service. Ambulance 5 has a built in child seat and we are working on a replacement for ambulance 6 or a change in policy on how to request a seat.

As mentioned above we will rotate ambulances the first three days of the month. This will provide a more balanced wear and tear without beating up any rig and having costly maintenance repairs.

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.

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

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.

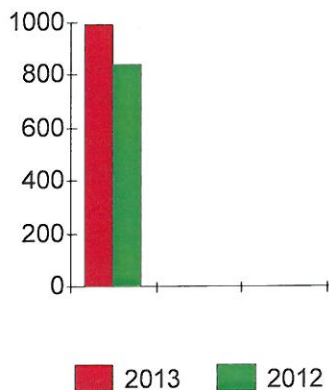
Please refer to the clipboard in the kitchen for any new updates in the Bureau.

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     | 996         | 843         |
| Cardiac             | 61          | 65          |
| Medical Emergency   | 493         | 450         |
| Accidents/Trauma    | 270         | 207         |
| Fire Responses      | 161         | 113         |
| False Alarm/Standby | 11          | 10          |
| Mut. Aid to SHPK    | 41          | 20          |
| SHPK to others      | 45          | 26          |



## 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.

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

#### September Trivia

What was the Schiller Park Race track also known as?

The O'Hare Stadium (see photos)

There were two correct answers submitted by both Jim "Jimmy Z" Ziebka and Chief Belmonte (ret.) Westchester.

Jimmy stated that he actually went to O'Hare Stadium with his folks who moved to Schiller Park in 1954. He remembers hearing the races Saturday summer evenings. At the time he said, O'Hare was open but only had prop planes so you would only hear the roaring car engines every turn and there was also no toll way at that time. Thanks Jimmy "Z".

#### October Trivia

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

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.

We co-hosted a Vehicle Machinery Operations Class September 23-27<sup>th</sup>. It was limited to 20 students and held in Schiller Park/Northlake. We had

three of our members, FF/PM Swiontek, FF/PM Hudecek, FF/PM Schneider attending as students and two as instructors – FF/PM Leiser and FF/PM Gergits. We hope to be able to train then in house members who could not attend the class. A waiting list of 8 persons for the division is in place. The Division may hold another class in the Spring. (See photos next issue).

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

FF/PM LiRosi completed the Trench Rescue class. He has now completed all TRT courses and is capable of being deployed statewide in an emergency.

FF/PM Santiago completed the State Fire Marshal Confined Space Operations class.

FF/PM Niemand completed the Inspector I course. This course is being considered to replace fire prevention principles as a mandatory class.

FF/PM Gergits completed a week long Rapid Intervention course.

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

along with several other members was able to see nearly 1800 students in Schiller Park. Students in the lower grades went through the smoke house while upper grades were provided with fire extinguisher training.

We also hosted our Open House on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Nearly 300 residents visited the firehouse. Our guests were able to see our equipment, try on bunker gear, put out a simulated fire, feast on hot dogs and lemonade and see a presentation from Invisible Fence who donated 5 pet resuscitation masks to our department. (See photos next issue).

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

Cmdr. Chiodo ran into Mrs. Knuth (wife of Lt. Knuth ret.) this past month. She stated how much her husband missed the fire department and looks forward to reading the newsletter each month.

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 are expecting their first child in October. Ed is preparing the baby's room and completed birthing classes.

FF/PM Bubis and his wife are expecting a baby at the end of

November. They too have prepared the baby's room and await their bundle of joy.

## Notes

A note and cookies were delivered to the firefighters by Mrs. Vogel for coming to her aid on August 21<sup>st</sup>. She says that she is doing better now and that we are terrific!

## Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

Members are supporting the Wounded Warrior Project helping Veterans by wearing and selling fire department camouflage uniform t-shirts and rubber wristbands. So far over \$8,000 has been raised.

The Firefighter Association also held its Annual Picnic Pig Roast for Family of Firefighters and Police Officers on September 14<sup>th</sup> in Robinson Woods #2. (See photos).

## And Finally...

Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things.

## Deadlines

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

Page 7- new XJ 85 wooden -joists

Page 8- Memorabilia of O'Hare Stadium

Page 9- Tool room/loft cleaned /straightened

Page 10- 11 Pictures of Firefighters Association picnic

Page 12- pictures of origin and cause fire Oct 1



