

# Booster Line

## Proudly Serving Since 1925

### Our Mission Statement-

***We, the Members of the Schiller park Fire Department, are dedicated professionals committed to safely serving our community by protecting life, property and the environment through prevention, education and emergency services.***

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 April 12<sup>th</sup> when Red shift responded to a motor vehicle crash with a rollover and pin In. Members found a rolled over vehicle in the grassy area with one occupant and significant damage. Member were able to extricate the occupant and treat on scene.

April 14<sup>th</sup> next saw Gold shift take in another accident. This time it was a car that hit a light pole. Members again were able to remove the patient for paramedics to evaluate.

Tax Day, April 15<sup>th</sup>, had Black shift take in a natural gas leak. The leak was in the parkway and NICOR was notified along with the area residents.

April 17<sup>th</sup> had the Fire Department dispatched to a hit and run. Schiller Park Police were already on scene as the offender fled leaving the patient behind. Ambulance 5 transported after treating on scene.

The next day Black shift took in a trouble alarm. Upon arrival FF/PM Schneider in charge of the engine found that water was leaking into the pull station causing the false alarm.

FF/PM Bubis running Engine 5 on April 19<sup>th</sup> took in wires down. Arriving they found wires hanging low which were telephone lines. A T and T were notified.

Later in the shift a smell of burning wires in the boiler room had Red shift respond. Using the Thermal imaging camera members were able to locate potential problems.

After Gold shift began their tour of duty on April 20<sup>th</sup>, Lt. Leiser and his crew took in an automatic fire alarm. The alarm panel showed detector on the second floor. The fire investigative team ascended the stairs and found a resident meet them indicating that she had burnt food in the apartment.

Next up on the 20<sup>th</sup> another fire alarm. This time the alarm was in a six story building. Indications showed that the alarm was on the third floor. Finding no cause there the fire investigative team search all floors locating a pull station on the sixth floor that had been maliciously tripped.

Gold shift after returning to quarter had Engine 5 dispatched to a working fire in Elmwood Park. On the Box Card we change quarters to cover their jurisdiction. Elmwood Park did also request a Fire Investigator Box Alarm where we assisted in the origin and cause.

A possible pin in on April 21<sup>st</sup> had a car into the building. Lt. Swiontek had a pin in response bringing in another truck from Franklin Park and an ambulance from Rosemont. Besides the building damage there was also damage to the support cable for the utility pole. Com Ed was called to make repairs.

The next call was for a person not breathing. Schiller Park Police were on scene performing CPR and had administered Narcan. Schiller Park fire personnel took over and transported the patient in critical condition.

April 22<sup>nd</sup> had Red shift take in a possible car fire. Enroute dispatched called the engine and stated that it was cardboard and wood that were burning along the should of the road. A pump can was used on scene and the State Police took over.

### Inside This Newsletter

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Golds shift on the 23<sup>rd</sup> was dispatched to a call for a man trapped in a machine. When members arrived the man had freed himself and was transported for treatment.

A motorcyclist versus car accident on April 23<sup>rd</sup> had Gold shift take it in. This was in the intersection of Mannheim and Irving and Chicago also showed up to the scene.

A person trapped in an elevator on April 25<sup>th</sup> had Red shift respond. Schiller Park police on scene aided in getting the door open after securing the power source. The person in the elevator was thankful but refused medical attention.

A smell of gas on April 26<sup>th</sup> had engine 5 bring their monitors to the scene of the outside smell. The area was checked and no trace found.

A fire alarm in a hotel on April 26<sup>th</sup> had Red shift take in the call. On scene members found a pull station on the sixth floor activated for no reason. Hotel staff said that kids were playing in the hall and may have set off.

April 29<sup>th</sup> saw another person stuck in an elevator at a hotel. Gold shift and Lt. Leiser arrived and worked with building maintenance to remove the person. No EMS services were needed.

A Medic Alert device was set off and Schiller Park Police responded. They could not get in and firefighters using a coded lock box were able to gain access. Searching the home no one was found and the police locked up and secured the scene.

April ends on the 30<sup>th</sup> with a call for a person bit by a dog. The mother had paramedics look at the child and refused treatment or transport to the hospital.

May Day had an automatic fire alarm set off in a business. Fire personnel responded and found that a smoke detector was set off by workers dust.

On odor similar to that of burning wires had a fire department response on May 2. The fire investigative crew

found an overheating circuit breaker. When the panel cover was removed the circuit was melted. The Main breaker was shut off and the owner was advised to call a licensed electrician.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of May had wires down in a commercial area. The wires were laying across the street and police were cordoning off the area. The phone company was called to reposition.

A resident called the fire department on May 4<sup>th</sup> for water in the basement. Companies arriving on scene found about 4 inches of water in the basement. The sump pump was not working properly causing the back up. The resident was advised to call a service repair person who might be able to fix or replace.

An automatic call to Rosemont on May 6<sup>th</sup> was for smoke in the building. While responding it was confirmed that Rosemont had a working fire in a residence. Black shift went to the roof and cut the ventilation hole above the bedroom. They then reached in and poked down the ceiling in the room. Rosemont also asked for fire investigators and FF/PM Bertoncini the on duty investigator responded and assisted in the origin and cause.

Next up for the shift was wires down in a residential area. Again members found that the wires were not electrical but cable television. Comcast was called and told of the problem.

While a building was being renovated, the fire alarm was tripped. Gold shift and B/C Hatcher arrived and found that the plumbers were doing work and the sprinkler system was accidentally tripped.

May 8<sup>th</sup> had Gold shift take in an automatic fire alarm in a multi unit residence. The crew was met at the front door by a tenant who told them that it was an accident when she burnt food from the oven. The crew verified this and returned to quarters.

Construction and demolition of a business on May 9<sup>th</sup> cause a fire

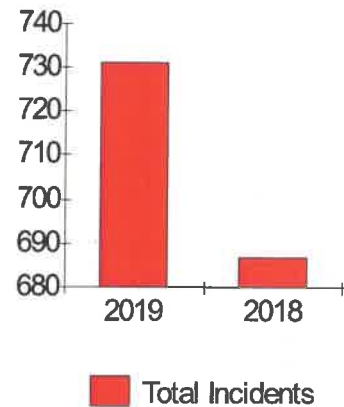
alarm. Members found no permits for the work or business license and the demo of the ceiling and walls caused the alarm.

May 10<sup>th</sup> had a baby locked in a car. The 18 month old was sitting in car seat when mom accidentally locked the doors. Firefighters verified that the car belonged to mom and had waivers signed before gaining entry.

The final call for this reporting period was on May 11<sup>th</sup> when a person was locked out of their home. After Lt. Leiser verified with police that this was indeed their home the "W" tool was employed to get into the house.

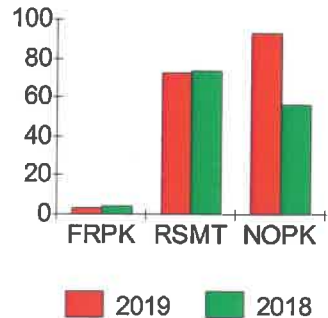
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2018:

### Total Incidents



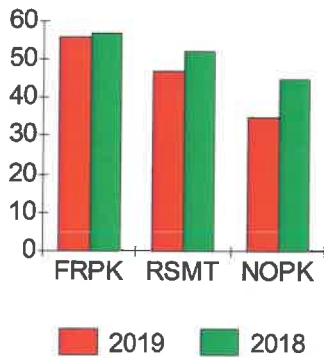
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of April 30<sup>th</sup> "To":

### Auto Aid Given



The run summary for Automatic Aid as of March 31<sup>st</sup> "From":

### Auto Aid Received



	2019	2018
Total Incidents	731	687

#### Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	3	4
Norwood Park (NOPK)	93	56
Rosemont (RSMT)	72	73

#### Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	56	57
Norwood Park (NOPK)	35	45
Rosemont (RSMT)	47	52

## Chief's Corner

### *We Stagnate When Caution Prevails*

Mayor Caiafa has sent a letter to the Fire and Police Commission to begin processing the next firefighter candidate. The Commission has contacted those on the list and are processing our next candidate.

I have scheduled the 2019-2020 mental Health check-ups and Physicals. PLEASE make sure that you complete the Mental health wellness paperwork and give to Teri ASAP. The medical paperwork will be provided shortly before appointments. Remember these are duty assignments.

The House Fund is low. This is the common fund that all firefighters pay into out of their own pockets for common items like ketchup, mustard, salad dressing, butter etc. Please have your money for full time members (\$60) and part time personnel (\$30) ready as soon as possible for FF/PM Velasco.

The Fire Department and the Village have issued a new policy on Pregnancy, Breast feeding, and Alternate Duty Requests (General Order #900.12).

Our congratulations to Lt. Dave Richter (FRPK) who retired after 30 years on the job. We wish him well in his future endeavors.

We are sad to report that Lt. Bob Hjellum (ret. FRPK) passed away this past month. Internment Services were private.

Also passing away this past month was Chief Marvin Cox (ret. MAWD). Info will be passed on when available.

Our condolences also go out to Tina Setzer (Library Director Schiller Park) who lost her mother this past month.

To even out the wear and tear on our vehicles and with a new engine cut from the budget, we have sent our Engine 453 to Global for preventive maintenance and repair. We estimate the complete overhaul to be around \$20,000. We pushed this back a few years in anticipation of a new pumper. We will rotate on a MONTHLY basis when she returns.

Broadview Fire Department has a new Call Center. You may hear on the radio its new name IKE when responding mutual aid.

The Village and Lions Club are hosting an Appreciation Dinner June 12<sup>th</sup>. FF/PM Santiago will be recognized as the 2018 Firefighter of the Year.

## Tools / Equipment and Tidbits

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

Tony Califati has worked diligently on preventive maintenance and keeping our vehicles in service.

This past month Tony replaced the starter on Car 458 and also sent out the vehicle to have the transmission re-built (back up gear failed). It is now back in service.

As mentioned above 453 was sent out for major preventive maintenance. Tony will work on as much as he can to reduce overall costs.

In the firehouse the odds and ends include-

A new TRT bag was placed in service for technical rescue gear.

Hose testing has begun and will continue through June.

A new proposed Water Box Card was introduced by Chief Brehm (FRPK) it will be discussed by the Technical Rescue Committee before adoption.

The W tool was moved and placed on Engine 5.

Our mechanic Tony Calafati also worked on multiple items during his preventive maintenance and emergency maintenance.

## EMS Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

To off set some of our rising costs for CPR, we are charging for materials. Recently we taught ARPAC employees and they reimbursed the Village \$690.

We also have billed School District 81 for teaching all their employees. We await approximately \$2000.

Our new ambulance has arrived and in service as of May 9<sup>th</sup>. We installed the radio. We also had our Medical Director from Loyola come out and inspect it along with the Illinois Department of Public Health.

A reminder that Resurrection wants on STEM patients a 12 LEAD which we CAN do. This helps in pre-treatment and in getting the STEM team there going as early as possible in potential stroke cases.

We also received a resignation from PM Luciano Laterza who was hired as a full time member in Naperville. As such they are not allowed to work secondary employment as a PM or FF.

Ambulance 6 (463) passed its Safety Lane testing.

Members received training on the new stryker cot power load system for the new Ambulance 5.

We also received new cot batteries for both ambulances and new front foot rests for the stair chairs.

Loyola has updated their website with new versions of forms including drug exchange, ambulance inspection, non-transport vehicle inspection and controlled substance inventory.

Loyola has also made available on its website its new Standing Medical Orders. If you choose to print them they will not have the auto updates. Therefore you would have to download them again to ensure you had the most current copy.

The status of Westlake Hospital is in the courts. If you have a request to go to Westlake or if it is the nearest appropriate hospital contact Loyola Medical Control for further instructions.

Lt. Swiontek and Donna Schmidt (Human Resources) continue to interview part time paramedics to help fill our need and void.

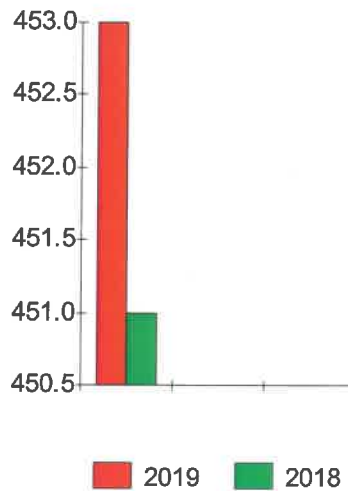
When exchanging or retrieving drugs from the hospitals, check and verify the dosages. With different manufactures and packaging we must make sure that the correct

dosages are picked up.

During the past month personnel responded to 103 emergency calls. A total of 92 patients were encountered. 57 patients were transported to area hospitals.

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Responses	103	453
ALS Transports	44	170
BLS Transports	13	86
Refusals/MPR's	23	94
Other Non-Transports	5	23
Fire Responses	18	80
CPR Students taught	63	86
Car Seats Installed	0	3
Mut. Aid to SHPK	14	28
SHPK to others	5	18

### 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 pass it on to your Officers.

What's in the works? –

- Mount association shirts
- New interior lights at station 6
- Additional outlets at station 6
- Emergency phone outside sta. 6
- paint apparatus floor border
- Paint sta.6 floor
- sprinkler simulator
- New high-rise load packing tool
- Receive Division 20 asset
- new rear exterior service door
- new water hose reel on apparatus floor
- plaque for department ceremonial bell

## Trivia

*Answer to last month's Trivia*

### April Trivia

What was the precursor of the Tele-Squirt?

The articulating squirt first went into service in FDNY 1968 by Snorkel. It was an articulating boom compared to the subsequent tele-squirt which had a ladder and no articulation.

Correct answers were submitted. by Chief Belmonte (ret. WECH).

### May Trivia

What is a Jerkin Head roof?

Please submit your answers in writing to the *Booster Line* 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.

Lt. Swiontek and Chief Chiodo attended FDIC this past year. Lt. Swiontek was a full participant and Chief Chiodo attended the exhibits.

FF/PM Warden attended a Tactical EMS conference.

FF/PM Santiago attended Rescue Task Force training.

We have reserved a spot in the October NIPSTA fire academy for our next candidate.

We have been informed by the State Fire Marshal that we will be reimbursed for training last year totaling \$2,139. We await the check.

Many of the OSFM classes will require continuing education. Please review if any certification you hold requires Con Ed. If you would like to be certified in the future also check what the requirements will be. The OSFM is reviewing the required con ed in all areas.

All members are reminded that we have a large chunk of credit at Triton College for classes for our firefighters. This was in exchange for our donation of engine 456. Please consider taking classes and earning your Associate degree at the minimum.

The State Fire Marshal is transitioning to computer based testing. Twenty-five state written examinations will be available with this new process. As certification programs are revised to the updated NFPA standards, more examinations will become available. As with most of the revised programs, continuing education hours or points accompany the certification. Please talk to Lt.

Leiser for complete information and requirements.

The State Fire Marshal has partnered again with the Illinois Fire Service Institute. Any class that the Institute gives will have the end of class test count as the State certification exam. Other agencies delivering classes will NOT have the same privilege. You will need to take a separate State test. See Lt. Leiser.

Members completed 330 hours of training for the month with 34 training drills. This includes outside classes.

Totals:    Month   Hrs   Year   Hrs

Drills/ Classes	34	330	106	1384
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B/C Cesaretti is also authorized by the State to administer exams. As a proctor he must give the State notice and obtain the secure exams. Therefore you cannot approach him and expect to be given an exam on a short notice.

Please fill the Outside Training Form on Target Solutions 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 acknowledge as our Employee of the Month FF/PM Dehmlow.

Brad has taken over the last year team leader for our Haz mat team. Brad has gone above and beyond in keeping our team relevant in the

division. Brad has volunteered twice to go to Denver (on the Federal government dime) for Haz Mat advanced training.

For his work we nominate him as our Employees 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 Chief Chiodo.

## Fire Prevention

### *An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure*

Shifts have started the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of calendar year 2019 with their inspections. Each shift has 1/3 of the inspections or about 135 per shift. The inspections were rotated so that over a three-year period each shift should have the opportunity to enter all the businesses.

We will be working this year with the Village Administration and Community Development on the possibility of adopting and updating new Codes.

Community Development and the Fire Department are working are many significant new development projects that will be coming or moving into town. With this progression we are taxing the bureau and any help that can be given to B/C Hatcher would be greatly appreciated. We are looking for members to go to advance training for Fire Prevention and Inspection/Inspector.

Our fire prevention bureau conducted acceptance tests of new installed fire alarm systems and approved Business Regulation Certificate Data Sheets.

B/C Hatcher addressed the Trouble Alarms from the past month from both



the end user and Midwest Central Dispatch.

B/C Hatcher also reviewed all the fire alarm and sprinkler system inspection reports.

When checking sprinkler/standpipe connections please see that it is a storz fitting. If they have not complied with our request to change the connection, please advise that we may be able to hook up to that system. Any questions can be referred to Chief Chiodo.

We are looking to bolster and strengthen our fire inspectional program. We are looking for our members to take the Inspector I certification program. All new firefighters will be required to take this class.

ISO has changed their grading system and now will give credit for Fire Prevention and Inspections. As part of this area of grading we will need to have continuing education for our inspectors.

Any member wishing to attend the monthly meeting of the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association should contact B/C Hatcher.

## Community Engagement

### *Saving Lives Through Education*

With the end of the school year we have participated in a number of graduations. These include B/C Hatcher representing us at the Pre-School graduation at the Community Center and at the Lincoln Middle School graduation at the Rosemont Convention Center.

Chief Chiodo attended the D.A.R.E. graduation for the Kennedy fifth graders.

Members also attended the annual Wall of Honor ceremony where additional names were added of veterans.

We plan on attending the Flag

Retirement ceremony on June 14 at Clock Tower Park and

We continue to provide fire extinguisher demonstrations and CPR classes for residents and businesses in town.

Please check the bulletin board in the kitchen for other fire department fundraisers in the area.

## Retiree Row

Our quasi-retired member B/C Leiser visits for coffee on a regular basis. We wish more would come and see us.

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 Chief Chiodo at [pchiodo@schillerparkil.us](mailto:pchiodo@schillerparkil.us).

## Letters and Notes

We received several notes and thanks you's this past month. They include:

The Recreation Department thanked the fire department for driving the Easter Bunny for the annual Egg hunt in Kennedy Park on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

At The Village Board meeting May 16<sup>th</sup>, resident Korey Gibala-Kraster thanked FF/PM Blum for the help he provided on three calls.

A thank you from the Rosemont Fire Department for our help on a working fire there on May 6<sup>th</sup> and the assistance with a fire investigator.

A thank you from District 81 for all the help, support and visits during the last school year.

Finally a thank you from MCD on the pizza that we sent them for Telecommunicator week.

## Foreign Fire Insurance

The Foreign Fire Insurance held a meeting on April 30<sup>th</sup>. FF/PM Loch can provide an approved set of minutes for review.

## Emergency Mgmt.

The Operations Committee will aid in deciding which Officer will assume these duties.

## Association News

FF/PM Miletta has taken the order of shirts to be sold for this year's charity. Chief Chiodo will allow shirts to be purchased from members clothing allowance. They may be worn from May 1<sup>st</sup> as the Summer Class C uniform until September 14<sup>th</sup>. The charity, The 100 Club of Chicago, provides assistance to members of area fire and police departments who are killed in the line of duty. A Top Golf charity event will be held June 21<sup>st</sup>. A donation of \$60 will include three hours of golf and food. More to follow next month.

## And Finally...

Be an encourager. The world has plenty of critics already.

## Deadlines

*The Booster Line is published monthly. All articles and suggestions are welcome. The Editor, Peter Chiodo reserves the right to edit based on content and space availability. Please submit all materials, articles, ideas and photos to the Booster Line c/o Chief Chiodo at [pchiodo@schillerparkil.us](mailto:pchiodo@schillerparkil.us).*

## BEING A FIREFIGHTER

"We take it for granted that we all complain endlessly about our jobs, the bosses, the department, the patients, working conditions, the pay, and almost every possible aspect of what we call our job but, not surprisingly to any of us, none of the good ones leave. Yes, we all endlessly gripe about everything and everyone, but we all stay. We stay because we belong here, we fit in here, we get one another.

"That awareness of our commonality is our sense of belongingness. That belongingness is comprised of many things: legend, tradition, history, principles, character, virtue--things that have inspired firefighters generation after generation to perform at a level far beyond anything that anyone thought was possible. Belongingness, membership is precious; it makes us able to do things that baffle doctors, astound engineers, upset folks in central planning, and impress outsiders in general.

"Our belongingness is treasured, protected. Those in command at every level must always be made mindful that to be a good officer, you must know what your people are going through and what is expected of them or you don't know what you are doing.

"We hold Sextus Empiricus' mantra as fundamental: 'Those who talk should do and only those who do should talk.'

"Unfortunately, there is a lot of talking going on these days by a lot of very well-intentioned people who really don't know what we are going through or what is expected of us and maybe, more importantly, what we expect of ourselves.

"Seemingly everywhere we go today, we are being bombarded by terrifying revelations, reports, and findings from some doctor, psychologist, researcher, or therapist--all experts and all truly concerned, all predicting the seemingly inevitable fate every firefighter is destined to befall. It is as if firefighting must be some kind of Greek or Shakespearian tragedy. We are confronted endlessly about horrible things, terrible fates, and seemingly overwhelming challenges for firefighters: cancers, addictions, emotional issues, physical injuries, autoimmune diseases, and mental health disorders.

"Routinely, well-intentioned supporters who have no bloody clue what is expected of us or what we are going through insist we embrace a victim status. Firefighters never bought in to this fatalistic victimization because we operate forward in the real world, in real time, against real threats involving real people's lives and often our own. We deal with real victims, and we recognize their suffering. We see real pain and tragedy. And we never would do anything to belittle or minimize those we care for.

"We do this all the while staying focused on the mission; on our families; on our fellow firefighters; on our friends; and often, lastly, to our detriment, on our own personal health and well-being. Every single firefighter in this room knows why, and we say it without hesitation, because firefighting is the best damn job we've ever had, and if you don't understand that, then I can't help you.

"We love this job because we love each other. We love fighting fire, fighting mother nature, fighting fate, fighting bad days, and fighting stupidity because we get to do it together.

"We live in, are protected by, and are the protectors of the world's greatest nation. We live in, are protected by, and are the protectors of the world's greatest just culture--the American fire service. We fight for the chance to tilt at windmills, to stand against hurricanes, to chase tornados, to march into hell if someone needs us or is in trouble. Those things make us come together in ways that those who never did could never understand.

"When we find ourselves in chaos, when we face overwhelming odds, when our bonds are strong and our culture just, we can get knocked down, jammed up, and crushed; but with the right help and strong teammates, we grow, we thrive, we come back.

"For us firefighters, along with God, family, and country, we have each other, we belong. We believe in each other, we love each other, and that is what makes this the best damn job we ever had.

"We know we are facing overwhelming odds, but we are not victims, we are not fated, and we are not tragic. We accept the challenge. We know that we must protect ourselves from acquirable cancers; we must maintain healthy lifestyles, exercise, have strong relationships, pray, work out, and care for one another.

"We grow physically, emotionally, and spiritually because we are connected to and we belong to the best damn people in the world. We get to stand tall and proud as American patriots who have accepted the challenge, who are willing to face overwhelming odds, who defy the odds of survival, who can always be counted on to do what damage we can because for us, this is and will always be the best damn job we've ever had."