

# Booster Line

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## “911, What’s your Emergency?”

**O**ur current reporting period covers the activities that Schiller Park responded to in the last month. The following incidents are the firefighters and paramedics more unique calls. As always Schiller Park members responded to any call for help.

This month we begin on November 23<sup>rd</sup> when Gold shift responded to a carbon monoxide activation alarm. When speaking with the occupants they informed the firefighters that they were using the stove went the alarm went off. After going to the kitchen and turning the stove ON, readings began to rise significantly. The owner was then advised not to use the stove and call a qualified technician to inspect the stove.

November 25<sup>th</sup> had Black shift take in a car fire. As members approached they found a gray van fully involved on the road way. Engine 5 dropped a line and used 500 gallons of water to put out.

While a business was cleaning their office area on November 25<sup>th</sup> they tripped the fire alarm. Lt. Budnik and Red shift arrived and found a detector set off from dust from a vacuum cleaner.

Red shifts next tour of duty on the 28<sup>th</sup> responded to a dumpster fire in the Schiller Woods. Engine 5 pulled up to find a 55 gallon drum with smoke emulating from it. A 2 ½ gallon extinguisher put out the fire.

Members of Red shift were called to the toll way on December 1<sup>st</sup> for a hit and run accident. Members treated and transported the party who was left behind and struck.

Early the next morning, around 4 A.M., Red shift was called to Franklin Park for the structure fire. Truck 5 and Battalion 5 responded. On scene incident command asked truck 5 to force a door and check for fire extension in the front portion of the building. After the fire was out

Command requested the truck 5 set up a positive pressure fan to help clear smoke.

After shift change, Gold shift was dispatched to a report of a man slumped over the steering wheel of a semi-truck on the toll way. Battalion 5 arrived first on scene and held up the ambulance as the semi-driver was taking a 30 minute nap. This break is part of the mandatory rest period that CDL drivers must take as they can only drive a maximum of 12 hours a day and have to log all their activity.

Next up Gold shift took in an outside gas leak. The leak was traced to an area outside the apartment building and NICOR was notified to respond.

At 4 A.M. on December 3<sup>rd</sup> a fire alarm was received in a condo building. All Schiller Park units responded to the scene. The alarm was going off and people were evacuating the premises. Members found a smoke detector activated and upon further investigation, including talking to residents, it was determined that a Bug Bomb was being used to fumigate the building and this set off the alarm.

December 5<sup>th</sup> had a report of “smoke in the building”. Gold shift arrived and tenant said that there was a loud noise was noted smoke in the laundry room. Members began checking the area and the adjacent boiler room and found a rupture in the boiler room. Power and water were shut off to the boiler and Community Development was also notified. The management company was called and representatives came to order repairs which were subsequently inspected by Housing.

Before Gold shift was relieved of their tour of duty, they responded to a commercial building for a fire alarm. B/C Hatcher was told by workers that the alarm was set off inadvertently during fumigation of the business.

Red shift took in a fire in the open lot on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Engine 5 arrived to fire two cars burning in the lot with

limited access. Lt. Budnik requested the truck and Battalion 5 to the scene. Because of the limited access and location of the fire, over 200 feet of hose was dropped to make the hydrant. The cause is under investigation.

December 8<sup>th</sup> had Battalion 5 respond to the working fire in Westchester with Battalion 5 acting as the Incident Safety Officer. The fire in the townhouse was eventually raised to a 2-11 (2<sup>nd</sup> Alarm). Investigators Box Alarm was also called for this fire.

December 8<sup>th</sup> also had Red shift take in a call for leaking natural gas. On scene the crew found that a forklift had struck a gas line in the building. Workers were evacuating and fire companies shut off the gas to the entire building. NICOR was called to the scene to help assist.

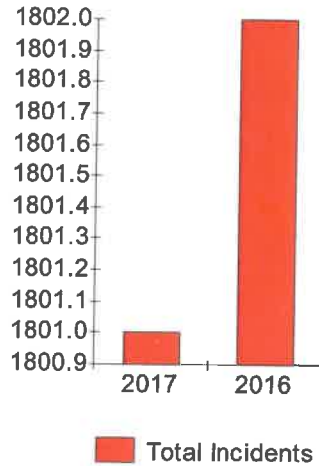
A fire alarm on December 10<sup>th</sup> had Red shift respond to the scene. The fire investigative team was met at the door by the occupant who told them there was smoke coming from the washing machine. The crew entered the laundry room and found the washing machine already de-energized. The detector was activated because the belt had worn out. A fan was used to clear the building and the occupants were advised to call for service on the machine.

The last call for this reporting period occurs December 12<sup>th</sup> with members responding to a fire alarm. On scene Black shift found a home owner meet the firefighters and tell them that she burnt food. Engine 5 verified and held up other incoming companies.



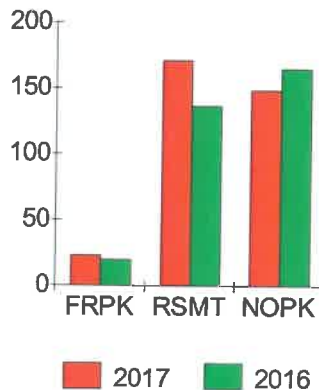
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2016:

### Total Incidents



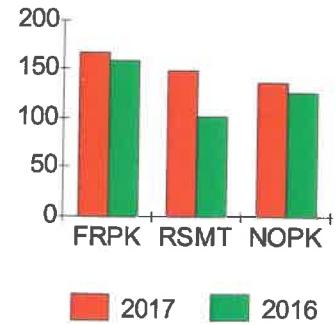
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of November 30<sup>th</sup> "To" the following communities:

### Auto Aid Given



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

### Auto Aid Received



	2017	2016
Total Incidents	1801	1802

### Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	23	20
Norwood Park (NOPK)	149	165
Rosemont (RSMT)	171	137

### Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	167	160
Norwood Park (NOPK)	136	127
Rosemont (RSMT)	149	103

## Chief's Corner

*We Stagnate When Caution Prevails*

FF/PM Piculas has applied for a non-duty disability pension due to a knee problem.

The Fire and Police Commission continue with the hiring process with over 65 persons applying. The next step will be the orientation and written exam. We hope to have a final eligibility list by February. We are currently one member short with FF/PM Piculas on medical.

FF/PM Rusciolleli completed and

graduated from the NIPSTA Fire Academy. He has returned to Red shift to complete his probation.

We would like to congratulate Chief Mike Paige (STPK) on his retirement. Chief Paige has spent the last 10 years at the helm of Stone Park. Mike is now pursuing other avenues in the fire service.

Our congratulations also go out to B/C Don Tessler (BENV) who is retiring after 41 years in the fire service including being an Explorer here in Schiller Park. Don will be missed on Red shift and in the area.

Our fire department welcomes a new Schiller Park Patrol Officer Conner Emmett who was sworn in at the December 7<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. We wish you a safe 30 year career.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Jerry Stone. Jerry was a long time Paid on Call member with our department throughout the 1980's and 1990's.

Our condolences to the family of Chief Alan Brunicini, Phoenix Fire Department. He was a man who has shaped the fire service for the last 40 plus years. He wrote several books on fire ground operations and safety and was not only nationally renowned but internationally. Much of what we do today in the fire service is attributable to him. His forward thinking and wit will be missed. Many of us had the pleasure of hearing him as he was a fixture in most FDIC conferences. This past year B/C Hatcher and Lt. Budnik dined with him in Indianapolis (see photo).

The Schiller Park Fire Department has been awarded a grant from Illinois Public Risk Fund for over \$6,200. The grant will be used to purchase a battery operated hydraulic tool.

Engine 456 (1995 Pierce Saber) has been donated to Triton College in exchange for classes. Recently it took its last ride down our apron as it drove off to Triton. It was a great rig to ride, pump and operate. (See photo)

A look around our auto aid communities and you will notice that the storage tanks at Williams Pipeline have all been removed. This target hazard will now be redeveloped by Franklin Park.

MABAS Division 20 has distributed a new asset list of all equipment available to us. Copies have been placed in all our vehicles.

The Village of Schiller Park is sponsoring a Schiller Park Night Out for its employees. Brian Bursiek is coordinating an outing to the Northwestern v. Wisconsin basketball game at the Allstate Arena on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please see him if interested in tickets.

Our well wishes also go out to three members of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District who were appointed and promoted this past month. Dave Blondell was appointed Deputy Chief, Jeff Piestrup was appointed Commander and Dan Davila was promoted to Lieutenant. Good luck to all. (See photos)

I have finished reviewing all the Rules and Regulations and will have an updated version January 1, 2018. There will be hard copies and also an electronic version on our shared drive. They had not been revised since 1995. I am also reviewing all of our SOG's and coming up with a new template. This second phase of review will take several months.

ISO is coming out this January and reviewing our department. ISO has a new grading schedule which could be favorable to us in lowering us from a Class 4. New areas of grading

include Fire Prevention, Fire Investigations and Public Education. With a new ladder truck, village wide water plan and dispatch center, that may all work in our favor. B/C Cesaretti and FF/PM Bubis will be spearheading this effort.

I have a preliminary budget for the 2019 fiscal year. I will be meeting with the Finance Director and Village Manager after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year.

We are still trying to sell Tower Ladder 454. We have it listed on Ebay, Brindle Mountain, F&P brokers and Govdeals.com.

## 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:

Grace Community Church has given us permission to remove a section of guardrail along the south side of their property which has been hit in the winter by several vehicles returning to quarters. The turn into the driveway is tight with our vehicles and this new set back will greatly improve our safety and our vehicles.

We purchased a new projector for computer presentations that now have multi ports for different inputs. It will be kept in the Chief Office in a pelican case labeled "Projector".

Ben Delany, our Village Generator person, recently worked with Alternate Power to install new pieces for high temperature controls and ensure that it is ready should the power fail.

Working with our Water Department it was determined that the bullet hydrant caps on the toll way hydrants are no longer necessary. They were originally installed to prevent persons

from stealing water on the toll way. This was done under Ron Sieracki. Mario Jos, Water Department Superintendent, and fire department personnel know of no incidents where this has happened. We have also removed the special hydrant wrench from our vehicles.

Our E-One Truck was recalled because of a steering issue. It has been sent to E-Ones local dealer for any necessary work.

We had Gracie Taylor repair our pump can bags and strap this past month.

Lt. Leiser has dedicated 3 lengths of 2 ½ inch hose for a hi-rise pack to be placed on Squad 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...

We finished the semester with hosting EMT students from Triton and Oakton. Next semester we have requested fewer days to have them ride. Triton was able to get more departments involved in the training and thus fewer days for us to proctor.

Members of the department all participated in the PHTLS classes that are mandatory for Loyola system paramedics. Classes were held in Franklin Park. If you missed, please see Lt. Swiontek.

We were able to replace the cot mattress on ambulance 5 (463) this past month per IDPH recommendation.

Lt. Swiontek would like to remind everyone who does EMS reports that ALL incident numbers are seven digits.

Loyola is jointly working with a vendor on having a mobile stroke intervention unit available. We will stay in contact with them to see if this

tool is an option for our residents and workers based on where it may be housed.

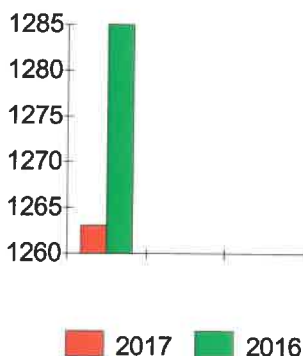
When at the hospital as a matter of habit please check to see if we have any backboards that were left there from patient transports. This will help retrieve them and cut down on the time they are out of service and unavailable.

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.

During the past month personnel responded to 123 emergency calls. A total of 129 patients were encountered. 76 patients were transported to area hospitals.

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Responses	123	1263
ALS Transports	45	526
BLS Transports	31	304
Refusals/MPR's	27	221
Other Non-Transports	3	36
Fire Responses	17	174
CPR Students taught	0	24
Mut. Aid to SHPK	3	49
SHPK to others	5	68

### 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? –

- Painting the outside overhead doors red
- New interior lights at station 6
- Additional outlets at station 6
- Emergency phone outside sta. 6
- paint apparatus floor border
- Paint sta.6 floor
- Door and jam simulator
- sprinkler simulator
- New high-rise load packing tool

## Trivia

*Answer to last month's Trivia*

### November Trivia

Why do the Lieutenants in Chicago Fire" wear gray shirts?

The producers wanted to differentiate them from upper management and thought it would be confusing if the Battalion Chief and Lieutenants both wore white shirts. So gray was the in between. The viewers would not understand the bugle(s) on the collar and did not want to see "multiple bosses.

No one got this month's answer. Please try again.

### December Trivia

Why does the San Francisco Fire Department still use wooden ladders?

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.

Members are quarterly participating in the State Fire Marshal Cornerstone program for training. Classes are held free of charge for fire department personnel. This past month members participated in the Illinois Fire Service Institute class on car fires and hands on extinguishment. Members of the Division 20 investigators later went out to explore and look at burn patterns and accelerants.

Lt. Steker (FRPK) is setting up next year's classes to include RIT under fire, truck company operations and engine company operations.

FF/PM Loch and FF/PM Dehmlow both attended the State class for Fire Inspector I they will test to be certified.

FF/PM Jackson attended the Division 20 honor guard training.

Lt. J. Leiser attended Division 20 fire investigator training.

FF/PM Rusciollelli completed his fire academy class at NIPSTA.

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.

We have also set up a matrix on when fire investigators should be called to an incident. It will provide a guideline as to calling for additional

off duty and division investigators. It is a flow chart that Lt. Leiser will train the shifts on. As the Lead Fire Investigator for Schiller Park, Lt. J. Leiser should be notified of all incidents.

We 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.

Members completed 365 hours of training for the month with 22 training drills. This includes outside classes.

Totals:	Month	Hrs	Year	Hrs
Drills/ Classes	22	365	261	4190

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 Employees of the Month FF/PM Loch and FF/PM Velasco.

Both of these men have stepped up and run the Foreign Fire Insurance activities by being secretary and treasurer.

As such they have organized meetings, posted notices and materials, managed the books and expenses, kept us on budget and kept the books, history and documents.

These are all in addition to their regular tasks throughout the day and your work does not go un-noticed.

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 are completing their 2017 inspections. Each shift received 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 are working on rotating the 2018 inspections and will be distributed shortly.

Some of the highlights for 2018 in the Bureau include sending out a courtesy letter several weeks prior to the actual inspection. On the list will include the most common violations that we find. This is intended to be educational and give the business the opportunity to do some housekeeping and understand the inspectional process. It will also elaborate on the



rationale of violation and to come into compliance.

Business licenses will also be double checked that the business complies with the code. Members are to check with Kara Blomquist prior to going out on inspections to verify that applied for and were issued a current license.

Members of our department are working with putting Pre-Plans on our Mobile Data Terminals (MDT'S) in our vehicles. They will be found in the GIS map section.

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.

A letter has gone out to all the businesses with sprinkler systems. After asking for voluntary compliance we are now mandating that all sprinkler connections be outfitted with a stortz connection. Because of our hose lays it is easier to support the system with more water and less friction loss. Those not complying will be turned over to our legal department.

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 given credit for Fire Prevention and Inspections. As part of this area of grading we will need to have continuing education for our inspectors.

B/C Hatcher is working with Community Development on keeping communications open and resolve problems. There are several major

inspections that are jointly being worked on. The majority of businesses are in compliance.

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 n the trouble alarm binder. Midwest may also be doing this as a back up to our call. If you are interested in any plan review in Fire Prevention, please see B/C 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 B/C Hatcher.

## Community Engagement

### *Saving Lives Through Education*

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

Our thanks to members of our department who participated in Operation North Pole. This activity is designed to provide warm clothing and jackets to students. The activities took place in Des Plaines. Because of a surplus of coats and jackets Operation North Pole visited Kennedy School on December 20<sup>th</sup> to provide every student with a coat or jacket.

FF/PM Schneider attended and participated in the Career Day at East Leyden for those who are considering a career in the fie service.

Members also attended the Veterans' Day concerts at Lincoln school with performances by the Kennedy school children and also at East Leyden.

Members completed the month by doing fire prevention teaching at Washington, Lincoln and Kennedy schools.

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

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

This month we want to pass on retirement news from some of our neighbors.

Chief Traiforos (ret. FRPK) has returned to this area and is teaching part time at NIPSTA while living in Ann Arbor. After his retirement he went to Detroit as a dispatcher but left that job in early 2017. Welcome Back!

Deputy Chief John Kolvalcki (ret. NOPK) took a position in Des Plaines with Emergency Management. When Division Chief Forest Reeder took another Chief position, John was assigned as the new Division Chief of Training. Congratulations!

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).

## Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

The Association held its Christmas Party on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Members and their families were paid a visit by Santa at Short Fuse. All the boys and girls were on the NICE list. Where will you be?

Members will also be Ringing the Bell and Filling the Red Kettle for the Salvation Army. We will be at Walgreens on December 20, 21 and 22 from 1-3 P.M.

Santa was driven for the Fraternal

Order of Police on December 15<sup>th</sup> to all the schools where treats were handed out to all the boys and girls.

For more information see the flier in the kitchen or contact one of the Association officers.

## Foreign Fire

A meeting of the Foreign Fire Insurance was held on Tuesday November 28, 2017. Some of the equipment authorized includes a trailer for our new boat, rescue/ extrication equipment and technical rescue equipment.

## Letters and Notes

Mayor Caiafa sent a letter to the fire department thanking us for our participation in the Santa Wonderland.

A letter was sent to Cross Fit Darien thanking them for the donation of jump ropes to our work out area.

Chief Spain (BENV) sent a note from Bensenville thanking our Department for our help during their 3-11 Alarm fire on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Members helped out for over 4 hours in the multi-unit building fire.

Steve Ivonelli (Chief FRPK ret.) is still recovering from his motorcycle accident. Steve was broadsided at about 55 MPH. He has broken arms, pelvis and back. He has had several surgeries at Loyola and was released from Marion Joy. He is now at home in Joliet.

## Emergency Mgmt.

B/C Leiser and Trustee Deegan are working with the Village Officials in completing any necessary NIMS certification. This is necessary for future funding opportunities. Some tabletop drills will be planned for the Spring.

Chief Leiser works with the Village Board on revising the Village disaster plan. It is 287 pages and is being reviewed by the Village Board prior to being submitted to Cook County Homeland Security.

We are applying for a grant from Firehouse Subs for RIT (rapid intervention tools). This will be a total kit rather than throwing tools together and have some consistency.

We are also working to clean up the mass notification system of old numbers, bad numbers, disconnected as well as updating all employees contact info.

We are working on a beta version of a tweeter account that we hope to see up and running soon.

## And Finally...

If you want the best the world has to offer, offer the world your best.

## 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).*

Pictures: Page 7- (right side) B/C Hatcher and Lt. Budnik with a Fire Service Legend-Chief Alan Brunicini (ret.) Phoenix. (left side) Division 20 fire investigators train on origins and causes of vehicle fires.

Page 8- Dep. Chief Blondell, Cmdr. Piestiff and Lt. Davila are all sworn in for the Norwood Park Fire Protection District.

Page 9- Top left clockwise – The Village raises the Illinois Bicentennial flag, Chief Chiodo at BENV fire Nov 19<sup>th</sup> taking the "C" sector. Veterans attend the Village Veteran Pancake Breakfast

Page 10 – Veteran Day Breakfast



