

# 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 October 15<sup>th</sup> when Red shift responded to a person trapped in an elevator. Lt. Budnik and his crew arrived and after securing the elevators opened up both banks of elevators to access the cars.

October 17<sup>th</sup> had the Illinois State Police request us to the toll way for a motor vehicle accident where CPR was being performed. Members arrived took over patient care and used an additional two firefighter paramedics to go to the hospital.

The next day a motor vehicle accident involving a pedestrian versus car Red shift took the patient to a Level 1 trauma center due to the seriousness of the incident.

Red shift then took in an automatic fire alarm in a residence. Upon arrival the homeowner met B/C. Cesaretti who stated his smoke detector activated after he burned food in the kitchen.

After picking up from this call an accident on Mannheim had a dual response with Chicago. The Chicago Fire Department waved us off as they arrived first on scene.

Lt. Leiser on Gold shift responded October 19<sup>th</sup> to Elmwood Park for a working fire. On scene the Incident Commander assigned Schiller Park to be the Rapid Intervention Team (RIT). After completing a 360 degree walk around a 35 foot ladder was thrown in the rear where companies were working. This allowed for a secondary escape from the second floor should interior companies need to bail.

After returning to quarters the Illinois

Toll way requested our assistance for a motorcycle and semi accident. Members of Gold shift arrived and created a safety zone while treating the motorcyclist.

October 20<sup>th</sup> had Black shift take in a call for an elevator rescue. Upon arrival FF/PM Schneider in charge of the engine had the receptionist at the front desk tell personnel that it was accidental as persons moving in banged up the elevator.

A called in car fire at the oasis had Black shift then respond to the fuel station. When firefighters arrived they found no car fire but a car that had overheated.

Gold shift was dispatched to the toll way on October 21<sup>st</sup> for a vehicle accident. On scene our personnel found six patients that wanted to be seen. Paramedics triaged and transported the one person who wanted to go the hospital.

Four hours later Gold shift was requested back to the toll way for another accident. Here five persons were seen and one transported.

A water flow alarm had Gold shift respond to a commercial building where Lt. Leiser was told that they were working on the sprinkler system.

October 22<sup>nd</sup> saw a fatal fire in Berkeley where they requested fire investigators. Gold shifts on duty investigator was detailed to Franklin Park to pick up Fire Investigative Unit 1 (FU 1) and bring to the scene. Investigators worked to determine the origin and cause of the fire.

B/C Hatcher and his crew responded on the 23<sup>rd</sup> to a multi unit apartment building where the fire alarm was going off. The fire investigative team found a pull box activated for no reason.

After normal business hours a fire alarm in a factory had Gold shift take in the call. It was reported as smoke coming from the roof. Members found that it was a factory where they process smoked cheese and this was a normal process coming from the chimney not the structure.

A car crash at Irving and Mannheim had Red shift arrive to find multiple patients. B/C Cesaretti sizing up the situation requested a second ambulance from Rosemont. Both Schiller Park and Rosemont transported a total of three persons.

October 24<sup>th</sup> had Red shift called to a scene of natural gas smell. Lt. Budnik arrived and found that NICOR had previously been to this location and was already working there. Gas was emulating from the hole and he requested NICOR return to the scene. A 30 minute ETA was given the engine company.

Late in the evening an elevator rescue call came in for Red shift. FF/PM Santiago took his engine to the scene and after lock out tag out procedures were followed, accessed the cars.

A forty unit apartment building had the fire alarm go off on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Gold shift responded and found that the resident in one of the units tell the fire crew that he burnt food. Horizontal ventilation was performed in the unit and the hallway and the fire alarm panel reset.

Gold shift on the 28<sup>th</sup> took in another person trapped in an elevator. Lt. Leiser and the group were able to recall the elevators in the apartment complex only to find that no one was present.

They picked up from this call and took in the next call which also happened to be for people trapped in the elevator this time in a hotel. After securing the power source fire department members were able to gain access and remove three persons from the elevator.

B/C Leiser and Black shift on the 29<sup>th</sup> responded to Franklin Park when all their fire companies were committed on other calls. The fire alarm in the towers had our members ascend to the fire floor to find that it was a smoke detector set off by construction being done on the floor.

A reported structure fire in Franklin Park on October 30<sup>th</sup> had Red shift

take it in. On scene members stood by as an extra crew until released.

Red shift ended October's unique calls with a lock out from a vehicle. Members of the shift were requested by a cleaning person to help get back into her car. After verifying the identity of the person and the vehicle by Schiller Park Police, a waiver was signed and the firefighters were able to get into the locked car.

Black shift started the November calls on the 1<sup>st</sup> with a gasoline spill from a vehicle accident. Arriving on scene fire department personnel found a car in the ditch leaking gasoline. Unable to control the leak do to the position of the car a hose line was dropped and charged while the surrounding area was secured. A towing company was called to the scene to pull the car from the ditch and booms were placed in the ditch to catch any fuel that spilled. MWRD was notified of this incident.

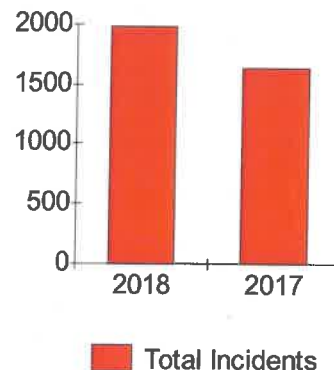
Next up for this shift was a natural gas leak. Bringing in to the apartment monitors it was determined that the gas leak was from the units stove. The stove gas supply was shut off and the tenant advised to contact an appliance repair place.

November 8<sup>th</sup> saw Red shift take in a car fire on the toll way. Pulling up to the incident members found no driver or occupant. Only steam was noted from an overheated car. Toll way authorities were advised of the situation and that no one was present.

The last call for this reporting period was an automatic fire alarm in a hotel. Black shift arrived and assigned Engine 5 as the fire investigative team. Members were told that it was smoke coming from a heater. The room where the heater was searched with no smoke and no apparent problems. All automatic units were returned and Schiller Park Fire units stood down.

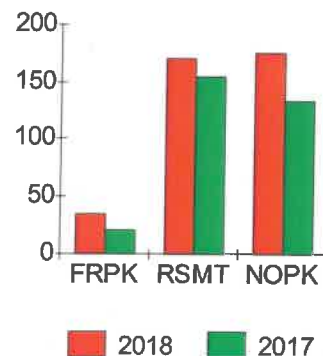
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2017:

### Total Incidents



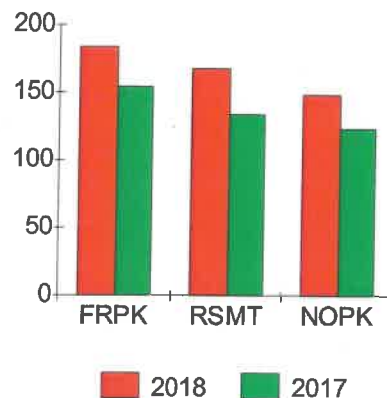
The run summary for Automatic Aid as of October 31<sup>st</sup> "To":

### Auto Aid Given



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

### Auto Aid Received



	2018	2017
Total Incidents	1974	1633

**Auto Aid to:**

Franklin Park (FRPK)	34	21
Norwood Park (NOPK)	175	134
Rosemont (RSMT)	171	154

**Auto Aid From:**

Franklin Park (FRPK)	184	154
Norwood Park (NOPK)	148	124
Rosemont (RSMT)	167	134

thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Administrative General Order 18-02 was issued to standardize Shift Officers assignments.

Toll way work continues with changing patterns on a regular basis. The oasis is still scheduled to come down early October.

## Tools / Equipment and Tidbits

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

Our breathing air main compressor and cascade system has had its quarterly air quality testing done. We await results.

The overhead door springs on Engine 5 bay blew this past month requiring an emergency repair and replacement. It is now back in service and a spare set of springs are available so there is no need for special order if they break after hours.

Tony repaired the heat exchanger in 458. The car now has heat for driving in this inclement weather.

We also placed a huskey case in the rear of 458. This case is to be used when transporting gear or equipment. It has wheels so that items being carried to schools can be easily moved without having boxes.

A new bracket was installed on Engine 5 to secure the exhaust. Also members removed the slide out tray on the passenger side so that the fire extinguishers and other equipment are secured.

Engine 5 also was sent out for new front tires. The old ones did not meet DOT requirements.

Battalion 5 Toughbook computer crashed and can not be repaired. It is a 2010 version. We have moved the MDT from the Truck to the Battalion. We have requested a replacement

and it is in the budget.

New Sawz Alls have been placed on both Engine 5 and Truck 5. We are trying to standardize all our tools and batteries.

FF/PM Bertoncini has finished the aluminum capping of all the windows.

Lou also painted the rear overhead door red as a pilot for possibly painting and lettering the front doors. We will seek permission from the Village Manager.

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...

The Ambulance committee has put out to several vendors our specifications for a new ambulance. Bids were opened and a recommendation made to the Village. It was referred to committee for a future meeting.

The blower for heat in the rear of Ambulance 5 was replaced.

Ambulance 5 also had to have its fuel tank replaced as it rotted out. The fuel gauge was then checked to ensure accuracy.

IDPH and Loyola both came out this past month and did State and System inspections on both our ambulances. Both passed their inspections.

The pulse ox on the ambulance was also replaced this past month.

We have been told that IDPH has lowered the number of continuing education hours needed for re-licensure to 100 hours for paramedics and lower for EMT's. Please remember that we fall under Loyola Medical Directors license and he will dictate the number of hours necessary over four year period.

In order to keep the department at

## Chief's Corner

### *We Stagnate When Caution Prevails*

The Fire and Police Commission have announced the process intention of giving a Lieutenant promotion exam. They have provided the fire department an updated reading study list which is posted in the kitchen. Lt. Leiser has all books available and kept in the Fire Prevention Office. They should not leave the firehouse. The written test will be administered on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Letters of intent for those eligible are to be turned in to Chief Chiodo by December 14<sup>th</sup> at noon.

FF/PM Rusciollelli broke his ankle in a car accident off duty. He is anticipated to be off until December. Members will fill the vacancy until he returns.

The Illinois Professional Firefighters have provided us with the most recent pension numbers. They are posted in the kitchen.

The Village also authorized purchase of a recorder so that Fire and Police can listen to MCD calls.

We extend all our fire department condolences to Deputy Chief Joe DeSimone from our Police Department on the passing of his father Gaetano DeSimone. Our

minimum staffing and within our fiscal budget, Chief Chiodo has asked Lt. Swiontek to use part time paramedics as often as feasible. This is a short term solution until we can master the budget and see where finances take us.

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

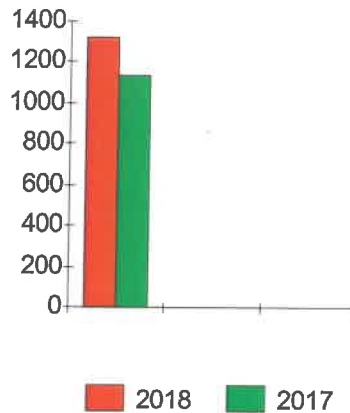
When exchanging or retrieving drugs from the hospitals, check and verify the dosages. With different manufactures and packaging we must make sure that the correct dosages are picked up.

The Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Transportation have issued a bulletin concerning refreshers on nerve agents. This is posted in the kitchen for review.

During the past month personnel responded to 134 emergency calls. A total of 120 patients were encountered. 81 patients were transported to area hospitals.

	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Total Responses	134	1321
ALS Transports	56	502
BLS Transports	25	300
Refusals/MPR's	26	242
Other Non-Transports	6	86
Fire Responses	21	195
CPR Students taught	3	10
Mut. Aid to SHPK	6	53
SHPK to others	8	59

## 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 (rear done-proto-type)
- Mount association shirts
- Bell stand for ceremonies
- New floor covering for safety on apparatus floor
- 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

### October Trivia

During size up an acronym that is often used is COAL WAS WEALTH. What does it stand for?

**C** onstruction  
**O** ccupancy  
**A** rea  
**L** ife hazards

**W** eather  
**A** Apparatus/Personnel  
**S** Special Conditions

**W** ater  
**E** xposures  
**A** uxillary appliances  
**L** ocation  
**T** ime  
**H** eight

Two correct answers were received from Chief Belmonte (ret. Westchester) and Jimmy "Z" Ziebka.

### November Trivia

The U.S. Department of Transportation (US DOT) designates gasoline tankers as MC (motor carrier) built to this standard. What is the current standard?

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.

FF/PM Warden and FF/PM Loch both completed Hazardous Materials

Technician A class in the OSFM program.

FF/PM Velasco attended the Instructor I class as part of the Basic Company Officer classes.

We had three members attend the state fire marshal new Fire Inspector I class. These include FF/PM Farias, FF/PM Jackson and FF/PM Blum.

FF/PM Dehmlow completed a Pre-hospital trauma life support class.

Company Officer academy in Romeoville.

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 378 hours of training for the month with 23 training

drills. This includes outside classes.

Totals:    Month   Hrs   Year   Hrs

Drills/  
Classes    23    378    250    3716

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.

## I Employee of the Month

This month we acknowledge as our Employee of the Month FF/PM Warden, FF/PM Schneider, FF/PM Miletta, FF/PM Leao, FF/PM Niemand, FF/PM Linehan and FF/PM Loch.

All of these firefighters volunteered their time on off days to work Fire Prevention Month in the schools. They developed a program for each grade level including doing fire extinguisher demonstrations.

Each member could have worked 24 hour overtime shifts to staff our shortages due to injuries and non-replacement but chose to spend their time with our youth.

We commend them and their

dedication to Community Engagement. If you would like to participate see FF/PM Schneider or FF/PM Warden for training in this specialty.

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.

## I Fire Prevention

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

Shifts are over three quarters through their inspections for 2018 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 have completed fire hydrant flushing and doing fire flows in a grid type pattern so that we have accurate data. We have also gone out and done specific flows in areas where new businesses are looking to relocate so they have accurate numbers.

We are proud that three more members of the department have gone to Fire Inspector I class. This will prepare them for the future and our department.

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 stortz 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 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.

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*

The Village of Schiller Park now has two certified car seat installers. Recently Police Officer Jim Klug was

certified and FF/PM Bubis was recertified. Appointments can be made by appointment. This should allow the public to have a certified person available most days.

The Schiller Park Fire Department and the Knights of Columbus hosted the sixth annual Veterans Day Pancake Breakfast for Veterans and their families on November 11<sup>th</sup> at the Community Center.

Also for Veterans Day a concert was held at Lincoln Middle school on November 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 AM and a Hometown Heroes concert on November 8<sup>th</sup> at East Leyden 7PM.

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

This past month a number of retirees contacted us with their activities.

Cmdr. Maher (ret.) visits the firehouse while at community Development and has coffee with his former shift. Feels like ya never left. Thanks Dano.

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:

Notes were received from Dana Nesbitt family thanking us for attending her wake and funeral and being in the procession. They were grateful for the thoughts and prayers expressed during a tough period.

Thank you notes were also received from the families of two of our members whose Grandfather-In-Laws passed away this past month. Both FF/PM Warden and FF/PM Rupsis suffered losses of their spouses grandparents. Our thoughts continue to be with you all.

## Foreign Fire Insurance

The Foreign Fire Insurance meeting was held in the Firehouse classroom on Tuesday November 27<sup>th</sup>. An update will be in our next issue.

## Emergency Mgmt.

A new proposal for updated computers for the vehicles has been submitted for approval.

B/C Leiser completed work with MCD on the software for the recorder to review calls in Schiller Park.

We are now looking at possible AFG grants fore next year.

## Association News

The Association is beginning to work with the Operation North Pole. B/C Leiser and FF/PM Miletta are spearheading the project.

## And Finally...

Don't belittle yourself. Be Big yourself

## 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).*



