

Booster Line

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“911, What’s your Emergency?”

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

This month we begin on December 15th when red shift responded to an ambulance call. With both our ambulances on previous calls, Lt. Hatcher requested an ambulance from Norwood Park.

A car crash was the next call for Red shift and they found two severely damaged vehicles. Due to the nature of the accident and injuries, Cmdr. Maher requested an additional ambulance from Franklin Park.

Lt. Cesaretti responded to the toll way on December 16th looking for a motor vehicle accident. Per our policy the ambulance and squad responded also. Dispatch said that the State Police were on the scene but we were unable to locate. After radioing back and forth with dispatch and the State Police it was determined that the call was actually on I-290 in Westchester and not I-294.

Christmas Eve found a reported chimney fire in Norwood Park for Red shift. Cmdr. Maher responded with the truck to provide automatic aid.

Open Burning on December 26th had Lt. Budnik and the engine take in the call. On scene an unattended fire was burning in the back yard. Lt. Budnik advised the renter as to the Village Ordinance on open burning and the fire was put out.

December 28th had red shift respond automatic aid to Rosemont for the reported smoke in the building. The smoke ended up being the result of someone burning food in the unit.

The new year started for our department on January 2nd when Red shift took in a call for people trapped in an elevator. Lt. Hatcher and the

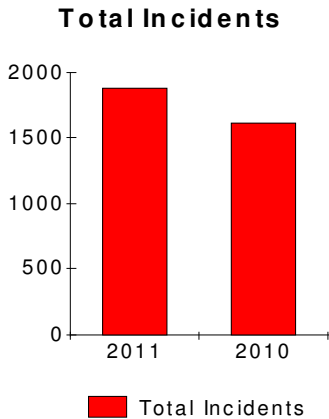
crew took it in. On scene they found a power failure in the building and the person in the elevator stuck on the fourth floor. Because the freight elevator only has doors on the 1st and 5th floor, the rescue was made more difficult. With the building engineer they were able to use the buildings emergency generator to get enough power to energize the hydraulic pump and move the elevator in order to then safely remove the worker trapped.

Not far from this incident Lt. Hatcher and the engine took in the suspected culprit of the previous call with downed power lines. With Com Eds assistance the situation was turned over to them.

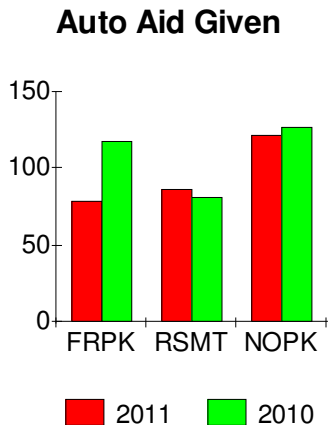
The Schiller Park Police Department requested the assistance of the Fire Department on January 4th with a ladder. The police had a wanted suspect jump from the second floor window of one of our hotels and had locked the room door. The police needed to know if there was anyone else inside the room. The offender locked it with the dead lock and locking mechanism preventing use of the master key. After laddering the building police officers climbed and entered. No one else was found and the offender hopped in a taxi trying to make a getaway. Police caught up with him in the north suburbs on the toll way.

Our last call for this reporting period occurred January 7th when FF/PM Schneider and the engine company took in a call for the smell of natural gas outside. Monitoring the area it was determined that a leak existed in the parkway. NICOR was notified to respond.

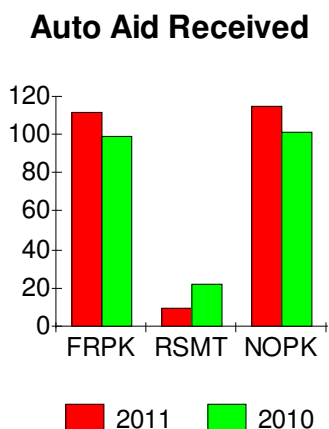
The following is the total run count compared with the same reporting period from 2010:



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



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



	2011	2010
Total Incidents	1874	1754

Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	78	118
Norwood Park (NOPK)	121	127
Rosemont (RSMT)	86	81

Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	112	99
Norwood Park (NOPK)	115	101
Rosemont (RSMT)	9	22

Spring.

The Police and Fire Commission also swore in a new Police Officer with Jessica at the Board meeting. Our congratulations to Sam Anderson on his appointment. (see photos).

The department of Homeland Security has made available through MABAS Mobile Ventilation Units. The closest one for our use is housed in Wheeling (Division 1). This is available to any department needing this resource. (see photo).

The Illinois Department of Transportation is starting their Yellow Dot program. This is similar to the Vial For Life program. Here the occupant of a car will identify they are participating with a yellow dot on the rear window and with medical information in the glove box.

Director Deegan has formulated seven bureaus within the fire department. These include EMS, Fire Prevention, Maintenance, Administrative, Training, Special Operations and Public Relations. Members have volunteered to be on these committees to recommend policy and review current practices.

Director Deegan also made the 2012-2013 shift assignments. For the most part the shifts will stay intact. The only changes were FF/PM Piculas being re-assigned to Black and FF/PM Solana being moved to Red. As stated earlier FF/PM Arquette will be assigned to Gold after successful completion of the fire academy and hazardous materials school.

Director Deegan completed the annual run survey for 2011. We ran 1874 fire calls and 1036 EMS calls. This is an increase of 117 calls over the previous year.

The new ramp at Balmoral on I-294 northbound is now open. This will

Commander's Cove

We Stagnate When Caution Prevails

FF/PM LiRosi had additional surgery for a shoulder injury he received related to the job. Vito will be off several months rehabilitating.

FF/PM Hudacek went on light duty as a result of her pregnancy. She is assigned to days and is working on data entry for the Training Bureau.

We also welcome a new member to the family with the hiring of part timer Chris to our clerical staff. Chris will be taking over the duties that Rosie had previously done. He is a fire science student at Triton and will be working 3 days a week.

The Police and Fire Commission swore in our newest full time firefighter/paramedic on January 10th. Jessica Arquette took badge number 65 and will be attending the NIPSTA fire academy starting January 17th. Our best to her on a new career. She will be assigned to Gold shift upon her return. (see pictures).

The Police and Fire Commission are distributing applications for the entry level position of Firefighter/Paramedic. A new list should be posted by the beginning of

provide us with another exit when on the toll way. For personnel use this exit is only an I-PASS exit with no cash being accepted.

Bensenville will be utilizing the IFERN frequency to tone out their calls. This will free up air space on our primary dispatch channel. They will use their tones on the MABAS frequency.

We are working on replacing the radio on 454. The unit went belly up and the cost to repair is only slightly less than replacement. For nearly the same money we will get two independent radios that if one goes bad we will still have the second instead of a dual head radio. Lt. Budnik and Lt. Hatcher are following up on this. We are currently using a 2 channel radio until a new one arrives.

FF/PM Rupsis is again sponsoring the firefighter fitness challenge. All members are encouraged to participate. The Recreation Department is also hosting a Village employee wide challenge.

Effective January 1st we have instituted a new BOX 100 card. This will bring in mutual aid and change quarter companies earlier. It will also provide NORCOMM the ability to assign responding chiefs to designated positions on the fire ground.

The fire department escorted one of our local wounded warriors home this past month. Retire Police Officer Bob Stanton coordinated the welcome home by having both police and fire involvement.

We were also given the 2012 local adjudication hearing dates from the Police Department. If we need to write local ordinance tickets consult the dates, write the ticket and make sure you are available to appear.

We are also looking at getting

voluntary compliance with numbering or lettering the stairways in our multi-story buildings. This would aid residents and firefighters in identifying the fire attack and evacuation stairways.

Another project is to identify which elevators our stretchers can be accommodated in by placing a Star of Life on the elevator(s) that we can get our stretcher into. A blue bar under the Star of Life will indicate that the stretcher can be fully vertical in the elevator.

Tools / Equipment and Other FYI's

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

Items worked on and happenings around the firehouse this month include:

FF/PM Chung has purchased bins for all members to be kept above their lockers. This will add to the storage capacity for members rather than the clutter now seen above the lockers in the bunkroom.

Lt. Budnik and Black shift cleaned all the carpet in the firehouse and the upholstery.

Lt. Budnik also purchased through the foreign insurance fund a pitot tube kit for our department. This will eliminate having to borrow when it comes time for pump testing and will ensure accurate results.

All the pre-emption devices in Schiller Park attached to traffic control signals are now running and functional. H&H electric made the last repairs and installations. If we find one not operating correctly notify the shift officer.

FF/PM Gergits made several repairs to hand lights. This now has placed back in service lights that were broken.

On a similar note FF/PM Bertoncini

has repaired several of our SCBA air packs. Three more are now back in service. We will fit test and flow test when we get the equipment from Norwood Park.

Our mechanic Tony also worked on several projects this past month. One of the area he worked on was the pump panel on Squad 453. The flood lights on 455 were also repaired. Tony next worked on 456 making all repairs and adding a lock to one of the compartments should we carry EMS drugs.

Engine 455 will go out for annual maintenance and any other repairs. This will complete the two year warranty and bumper to bumper protection that they gave us when we got 455 two years ago.

We have added additional "Caution" tape to all our vehicles.

B 451 went in for its yearly emissions test and passed.

If you would like to view all completed reports for each division of our department, training, EMS, inspections, station maintenance, vehicle maintenance and public education can be found in the Chief's Monthly Report posted on the board and submitted to the Village Board.

EMS Coord. Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

A big thanks to all who have helped with the new oxygen protocol in replacing empty cylinders. This has saved the Village hundreds of dollars.

I would like to thank PM Mike Kostal for his service to the Village as a part time paramedic for the last several years. Mike was recently sworn in as a full time firefighter/paramedic in Berwyn. We wish him well on his new opportunity. As a result he will be resigning from our department.

I have also worked with Community Development on refining the

Emergency Response Guidelines Protocol Involving Food Facilities. Copies of the matrix can be found in the firehouse and on the rigs.

When replacing our "H" tanks for oxygen use wipe off the chalk marks that indicate FULL when they are placed in the cage. Re-mark them Empty with chalk. This will eliminate the problems of looking at them and determining if they are full or empty. We will look into purchasing a portable gauge so that the tanks do not have to be dragged to the ambulance and hooked up to see if they are FULL.

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.

Other EMS bits...

Tony was able to repair the rear door and locking mechanism on ambulance 462. We should no longer have to struggle opening the door from the outside.

Lt. Budnik also has created new weekly and monthly inspections sheets for ambulances 461 and 462. This will better reflect maintenance.

We are in the preliminary stages of getting information on a possible replacement ambulance. EMSC Nosek and the committee will keep all members informed. They have met already and are solicited input from the department. We intend to have this vehicle delivered by mid 2012.

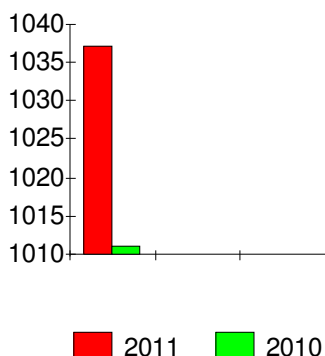
Please refer to the clipboard in the kitchen for any new updates in the Bureau.

During the past month personnel responded to 93 emergency calls. A total of 81 patients were encountered. 68 patients were transported to area

hospitals. 49 patients required Advanced Life Support care.

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Total Responses	1130	1085
Cardiac	100	97
Medical Emergency	593	544
Accidents/Trauma	211	289
Fire Responses	182	137
False Alarm/Standby	16	19
Mut. Aid to SHPK	34	25
SHPK to others	49	113

EMS Total Responses



Projects in the Works

All the shifts are encouraged to take on new challenges. If you have a project or an idea, please run it past Director Deegan, Cmdr. Chiodo or FF/PM Bertoncini.

We had the plumbers come in and rough in the new laundry room and bathroom re-modeling. Members will complete the build out with the units, cabinet, counter and new shower. The area will be tiled and painted.

The long sought project of adding lights to truck 454 was made a reality by Lt. Budnik. On the underside of the basket we now have additional LED lighting, at the corners of the basket and the old flashing red bulb has

been upgraded. From one who leads the truck this will be a big safety issue for visibility when responding to calls.

With the Directors policy of assigning rooms to the shifts we have seen some of the deep cleaning we desired in previous issues of the Booster Line. Lt. Budnik has started the ball rolling with carpet cleaning, upholstery, floor scrubbing and grout.

We are also working with the Village on the tuck pointing issue that has now caused mold growth in the classroom.

We are also working on getting the air quality testing done and should be completed by May.

What's in the works? –

- Second circuit for electric in office
- Completing the deck
- New lights at station 2
- re-do firehouse rear entrance
- Additional outlets at station 2
- Emergency phone outside sta. 2
- mount patches around kitchen
- paint apparatus floor border
- Paint tool room floor
- Install window in TV. Room
- Paint sta.2 floor
- Door and jam simulator
- sprinkler simulator
- Sta. 2 classroom
- Man station 2
- re-direct second exit stairway
- New high-rise load packing tool
- New LED lighting for front of firehouse
- re align staff offices
- fully sprinkler the firehouse
- prevent hose tower from flooding

Trivia

Answer to last month's Trivia

December Trivia

What did a 16 rib fire helmet signify?

16 Rib helmets were those that were assigned to fire chiefs

There were no correct answers this month.

January Trivia

Originally fire helmets were made with "high" eagles. Why were they lowered to the height on current helmets?

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.

The fire alarm display board in the classroom is now hooked up to the dispatch center so that we can do live training. Please refrain from making unwanted activations and call down to dispatch when we will be using it for training so that they can put in test mode.

Cmdr. Leiser is working on a training schedule for the New Year. If you have any ideas or training suggestions please see him.

I have 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 will be looking to complete the quarterly training for each shift. Please remember to fill out these forms.

I am looking into the possibility of hosting some State Fire Marshal classes including technical rescue and fire apparatus engineer. I will notify personnel if openings occur.

I am planning on having a refresher class for FAE in the near future.

We will also have in the next month Fire Service Vehicle Operator class (FSVO), Polaris ATV mandatory training and METRA training.

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 the firehouse.

This past month we had Lt. Hatcher and FF/PM Swiontek attend a Haz-Mat Division 20 monthly training.

Cmdr. Leiser attended the Training and Safety officer monthly meeting.

FF/PM Swiontek and FF/PM Leiser attended the Fire Investigator monthly meeting.

Lt. Hatcher attended the StarCom21 radio training seminar.

Lt. Budnik attended the EMS Advisors course held in Schiller Park and sponsored by Division 20.

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

Members completed 302 hours of training for the month with 30 training

drills. This includes outside classes. Our Paid On Call had 4 meetings for 22 hours.

The second Thursday of each month the State Fire Marshal has a testing site at Triton College. They have also instituted a new policy of a government issued picture ID at the test site. If you cannot produce one you will not be allowed in. Likewise they are requesting that all phones be left in the test takers car to help with the integrity of the test (too many camera phones). If you would like to sign up see Cmdr. Leiser.

Please remember to fill an Outside Training Form whenever you attend a class, seminar or training session outside of Schiller Park. This allows for accurate record keeping in those areas and credit for the hours you put into training.

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

Employee of the Month

This month we nominate and acknowledge as our Employees of the Month Lt. Cesaretti, Cmdr. Maher and Cmdr. Leiser.

Each of these men has volunteered to sit on the "Trouble Alarm" committee.

Recently we have gotten numerous trouble alarms and these men will be looking at implementing new policy on responses. They will also work with training dispatch on the codes associated with the alarm board.

We have already seen progress in responses by waiting until the system cycles to see if it is a momentary glitch and it restores before dispatching and responding.

They will also work with trying to resolve some of the chronic

problems associated with the Trouble alarms.

We also wish to apologize in forgetting to mention Lt. Cesaretti last month as one of the employees. He worked with Lt. Hatcher and Lt. Budnik with all our radios and narrow banding.

Thanks for your time and dedication, you make us proud to be firefighters and in the fire service and village employees.

If you would like to nominate a firefighter, paramedic, officer or other persons for recognition, please submit the action or the incident in writing to the editor Cmdr. Chiodo.

Fire Prevention

An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure

Members are in the process of working on their 2011 inspections. Each shift received approximately 1/3 of the inspections or about 150 per shift. The inspections are rotated so that over a three year period each shift should have the opportunity to enter all the businesses. We are in the process of finishing those assigned to each shift and completing the re-inspections.

Please remember on emergency numbers forms to circle which shift the inspection is assigned to. That way it can go in the correct file and may save a re-inspection trip if that was all they required.

I am reviewing several new businesses in town. We have several major projects that are in the works. These include a new addition to the library and a new bank. The new Chase Bank Branch plans on opening soon after the New Year. This will be followed by a new Aldi's being built and occupying the former Chase site. A new eatery is also planned for the old Brown's Chicken.

When you bring back your fire inspections, make a copy of the pre-

plan forms and submit to FF/PM Bubis. Tim is working on a computer fire prevention pre-plan that incorporates the information we bring back. He is CAD drawing the diagrams with the information. He is also using satellite imagery in each of the files. This process will take a year of more to import, drawn and download to our laptops. If you are interested in helping Tim, please see him.

For newer members once a class for Fire Prevention opens up you will be enrolled as part of your hiring process.

If you are interested in any of the plan review in the Fire Prevention office please see me. I will review what is coming into town based on what plans Community Development sends over.

Any member wishing to attend the monthly meeting of the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association should contact Cmdr. Maher.

We are also suggesting and strongly recommending that sprinkler and standpipe connections be converted to stortz fittings. Please consult with Cmdr. Maher.

The State Fire Marshal is instituting a new certification program Inspector I. Cmdr. Leiser is looking into the program if this should replace the Fire Prevention Principles now required of all probationary members. Cmdr.'s Leiser and Maher will advise those needing the class when it is available.

Notes

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

Thanks were received from the Schiller Park FOP and their Santa visits the schools program. The fire department provided an engine to drive Santa and FF/PM LiRosi as the driver.

We also received a thanks from Barbara Hayes who thanked us for

our kids page on the department website. She works at an after school program and has used several of the resources on our website. She appreciates the website and all that we do.

Public Affairs

Saving Lives Through Education

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

The Public Relations Bureau that Director Deegan created is headed by Cmdr. Chiodo with FF/PM LiRosi, PM Jenkins, FF/PM Werner and FF/PM Arquette assigned.

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

We are also coordinating with other A fire service organizations the implementation and publicizing the "ICE" program (In Case of Emergency) for people's cell phones.

Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

The Association recently made its donation to the Breast Cancer Society. A total of \$10,000 was raised and handed over in a presentation at the Prentice Hall Hospital at Northwestern University. (see photos).

A total of \$748.76 was raised for the Salvation Army and their Christmas Bell Ringing drive. Red shift took in \$229.18, Gold shift \$263.60 and Black shift \$217.98.

Your 2012 Association dues are to be paid as soon as possible. Gold shift is 100% compliant. Is your shift? Payments came be made to any of the Association officers. Late fees are

in place for those not paying on time. A receipt will be issued to you.

With FF/PM LiRosi going on short term disability FF/PM Niemand will take over and collect \$60 per member for the house fund. This fund is what pays for all the common food items. For a listing of items or purchases see Adam. He will not buy any new supplies until all members are paid up.

Please support the Association in fundraising with our pop machine and M&M machine in the kitchen.

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

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

Patrick Rodriguez who arrived on January 5th at 8:44 P.M. and weighed in at 8 lbs. 14 oz. He was 20 inches long.

Any word on the horizon please drop us a note.

And Finally...

Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties.

Deadlines

The deadline for the next issue of the *Booster Line* will be 8:00 A.M. February 7th. Please submit all materials, articles, ideas and photos to the *Booster Line* c/o Cmdr. Chiodo at pchiodo@villageofschillerpark.com

The Booster Line is published monthly on or about the 15th. All articles and suggestions are welcome. The Editor, Peter Chiodo, reserves the right to edit based on content and space availability.

Pictures:

Page 7 –Photo Courtesy Lt. Hatcher

FF Association \$10,000 donation presentation at Northwestern University prentice Woman's Hospital and the Lynn Sage Foundation

Page 8- Photo Courtesy of Sgt. Scheib

FF/PM Jessica Arquette is sworn in by Police and Fire Commissioner Chairman Glenn Rawski, Director Deegan welcomes FF/PM Arquette. P.O. Anderson is sworn in by Mr. Glenn Rawski.

Page 9- Photo Courtesy MABAS

The new mobile ventilation unit available to all MABAS departments.

Retiree Row

Cmdr. Jeffrey (ret.) was a part of the Village of Schiller Park Santa House this past December. Chuck was very instrumental in being Santa's helper for several hours being as jolly as ever. "Santa" also took his annual picture with the on duty shift as he sat in his sleigh surrounded by the Gold shift crew.

Stork Report/ Announcements

FF/PM Collette Hudacek continues with her pregnancy and continues to work. She is expecting in early February 2012. Congratulations!

POC Patrick Quinn has informed us that he just became a grandfather. His grandson is named Aiyden