

Booster Line

Inside This Newsletter

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 1 | Our Runs
Fire and Incident Responses
this reporting period |
| 2 | Commander's Cove
The Who's, What's, Where's
When's and Why's of SHPK |
| 4 | EMS News
EMS news, bits, and pieces |
| 6 | Employee of the Month
Who went above and beyond |

“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 February 15th when Black shift took in a gas leak. On scene Lt. Budnik and his engine crew found it was a gasoline leak from a SUV. Water and an emulsifier were used to wash down the spill.

Their next call took them to the toll way for a car under a truck. Upon the Squad and Engine company went to work to secure the scene and treat the patient. The victim was taken to a Level One trauma center Loyola Medical Center.

The engine was then requested by police to enter a dwelling unit that the occupant said he left the stove “on”. The occupant was in custody and the engine company did find food on the stove with the burner “ON”. The stove was turned “off” and the unit secured.

Black shifts next tour of duty on the 19th had them respond to a pole fire. The pole was burned nearly all the way through with the wires supporting the upper half. Com Ed was notified and would arrive within thirty minutes.

After shift change Lt. Hatcher and his Red shift crew took in a child locked in the car. The parent dropped off her children at school and accidentally locked the car. The car was running and a third child was in car seat while she ran the others to the front door of the school. Members were able to gain access with no damage to the vehicle.

February 20th had a working fire in River Grove and a request for fire investigators. FF/PM Leiser a fire investigator for Schiller Park and Division 20 was detailed to help with their investigation and cause/origin.

Just after midnight Gold shift responded automatic aid to Rosemont for a possible grease duct fire at McDonalds. Tower Ladder 5 and Battalion 5 responded to the scene.

A trouble alarm on the 20th then had the engine respond to investigate. FF/PM Chung found that the jockey pump was running and a low air alarm on a dry sprinkler system. Fortunately this was found and alleviated a broken sprinkler pipe later on.

A 3 A.M. call for a fire alarm found Gold shift respond to an apartment building. Lt. Cesaretti looking through the glass doors saw what appeared to be smoke. After making entry it was found that someone had discharged a fire extinguisher and the powder was aerosolized in the hallway. No tenant owned up to the episode.

February 24th saw a fire in Westchester. On the Box Alarm, Schiller Park is due with a fire investigator. Cmdr. Leiser responded as the on duty fire investigator.

Another major snow storm of the season and this time Gold shift was working on February 27th. A call was received for a head on collision and simultaneously another call for an accident with injuries on the toll way. Cmdr. Chiodo sent the engine and ambulance to the toll way while he took in the head on collision with our second ambulance and upon confirmation of a bona fide incident would request a Pin In response.

Lt Hatcher took in a car fire in a service station on February 28th. On scene smoke was pouring out of the engine compartment. A line was pulled and the motor compartment was accessed and the fire extinguished.

After returning to quarters the station was dispatched for the Still alarm at one of our hotels. Looking at the annunciator panel, it indicated a water flow on the 7th floor. The fire investigative team hiked up the stairs with their gear to check the location.

No problems were found on this floor and the members subsequently checked the floors above and below.

Red shift started March with an odor investigation on the 1st. A tenant awoke to the smell of something burning. The entire building was checked and no problems found other than the smell of incense.

A working fire in Bensenville march 5th had Cmdr. Leiser respond as the Safety Officer. Cmdr. Leiser was responsible for both the firefighter safety and the overall safety at the incident. The Safety Officer on scene has the same authority as the IC to halt operations.

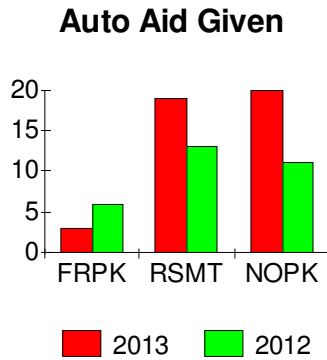
FF/PM Swiontek riding the Engine on March 6th took in a trouble alarm. On scene the crew found that water was dripping in the alarm panel and causing it to send the errant signal.

March 9th had Black shift go to a report of an alarm going off. At the location a neighbor stated that the alarm was actually coming from the unit above hers. Members went to the upper level where no one was suppose to be living. The doors were locked and it was determined that the alarm was going off and entry was needed. The truck company used the irons and rabbit tool to gain entry. The detector going off was the carbon monoxide device. No elevated levels were found and members continued to search for the cause. When they checked another unit they found that when the stove was turned "ON" the level shot up to 100 ppm.

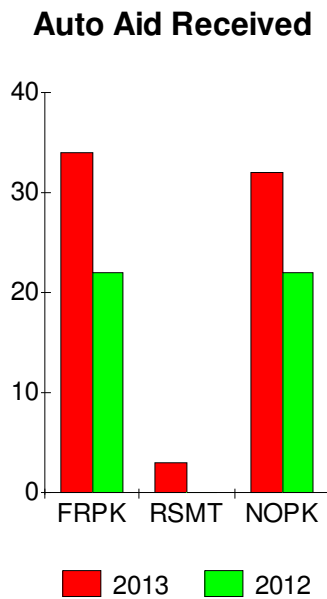
The last call for this reporting period occurred on March 10th when police requested the fire department to check for live wires. On scene FF/PM Bertoncini found that an older couple drove across the median, over a curb and smashed into one of the decorative light poles knocking it down. The wires were checked and the electrical contractor contacted to make the temporary repairs.

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

The run summary for Automatic Aid as of February 28th "To" the following communities:



The run summary for Automatic Aid as of February 28th "From" the following communities:



	2013	2012
Total Incidents	307	253

Auto Aid to:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	3	6
Norwood Park (NOPK)	20	11

Rosemont (RSMT)	19	13
-----------------	----	----

Auto Aid From:

Franklin Park (FRPK)	34	22
Norwood Park (NOPK)	32	22
Rosemont (RSMT)	3	0

Commander's Cove

We Stagnate When Caution Prevails

FF/PM Rupsis continues to be on extended medical leave. We anticipate his return by the start of the new fiscal year.

Director Deegan has signed into policy a Pin In Response that will be effective immediately. This policy will allow dispatch to start in Truck 2 from Franklin Park and an Ambulance from Rosemont on the report of an accident involving an extrication or rollover. The Incident Commander can also request one if they feel it is necessary. This will provide an additional ambulance for EMS and may free up a firefighter paramedic as well as providing additional personnel and tools from a truck company. If Schiller park's Squad company is unavailable then Truck 2 can fill in.

A second policy that will be implemented will be the Drug Exchange policy. This will help exchange controlled substances that are near their expiration dates.

A third policy that was instituted is a Trouble Alarm policy, tracking and follow up. Each officer is given a code to work with dispatch on how long an alarm can be taken out of service or shunted.

Division 20 is working on a Benevolent Fund for all members in the entire division. The first fund raiser will be held at the Beau Jolie on April 19th and be a formal event. More information can be found in the

firehouse.

Bensenville and the State of Illinois are embarking on another overpass/underpass at Irving and York. The first under/over pass was completed and much to the dismay of drivers, both sets of tracks were not moved onto the abutment. The state has opened a new website to see the improvements planned on this intersection and can be found at the Illinois Department of Transportation Website "Illinois 19 at York Road". The project is expected to start in the spring. (see photo).

The Crystal Creek project has moved into its next phase. With the completion of its initial phases the work trailer that was at Station 6 for the last year plus has been removed.

The State Fire Marshal has invited the Fire Service to attend the Twentieth Annual Fallen Firefighters memorial and Firefighter Medal of Honor Ceremony on May 9th in Springfield. The ceremony begins at 9:00 A.M. If anyone is interested in attending and representing our department, please see Director Deegan.

Elections for the Firefighter's Pension Board will be held on April 15th. Up for election is the seat currently held by FF/PM Swiontek. Voting will be from 7AM to 7 PM.

With the Akoo Corporation going bankrupt and out of business, the Village of Rosemont has decided the renamed Akoo Theater revert back to the Rosemont Theater.

With the retirement of Battalion Chief Larry Karp in Bensenville, Chief Spahn of the Bensenville Fire Protection District has announced that Lt. Charlie Johnson be promoted to Battalion Chief. Our congratulations to Chief Johnson.

The Schiller Park Fire Department will be escorting the Easter Bunny to the annual Easter Egg Hunt on March 30th at Kennedy Park.

Our fire department and police department will be working together on some joint training in the coming months. Situations will include incidents where we both respond. It will be a chance to work on Incident/Unified Command and show where we can do better and develop new policies. It may also help us tweak current policy.

The NFPA is having its national conferences here in Chicago along with Fire Rescue International. Several of our staff members will be attending these prestigious seminars and conferences.

With the Village of Schiller Park entering its' Centennial year, the fire department will be issuing Centennial throwback Badges.

The Village of Schiller Park Centennial Year culminates in March 2014 with a gala dinner celebration. Many activities are planned and the fire department is a part of the process. Plans are for monthly events sponsored by the Village. The Schiller Park Fire Department will scoop ice cream on May 25th at the Pool at the Opening of the Pool for the season. The fire department will also be participating in the Village-wide

parade to kick off on June 22nd. We will need volunteers for these projects to help out in many areas.

The Fire Department worked with the Police department and the Police and Fire Commission on March 10th at the agility exam for the new Police Officers. Members of both departments look forward to working with the new recruit/candidate upon hiring.

Our congratulations to Jim Davis one of our part time paramedics for the last 19 years on his promotion to Lieutenant in the Chicago Fire Department.

Our State Fire Marshal Fire/Arson Investigator Mitch Kuschner is getting a new partner May 1st. His canine partner Raider is being retired and his new partner Zoe a yellow lab will take over. Mitch will attend a one month certification period in the Northeast to certify his dog.

Director Deegan has realigned the shifts starting May 1st. Those getting shift changes have been spoken too by Director Deegan. The new calendars are circulating to make vacation and personnel day picks. All three Lieutenants are being re-assigned and a balancing of seniority forced several other changes.

IDOT has approved funding for the widening of Mannheim from Irving north to the Kennedy. This should begin this summer.

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

Another project is to identify which elevators our stretchers can be fit in by placing a Star of Life on the

elevator(s) that we can get our stretcher into. A blue bar under the Star of Life will indicate that the stretcher can be fully vertical in the elevator.

Tools / Equipment and Other FYI's

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

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

Lt. Budnik scheduled maintenance of Truck 5 at Global. It went out for its annual and returned in service. Any deficiencies will be repaired and the U.L. testing of the ladder will be done.

Truck 5 also had the pump panel radio replaced. This was in the budget as the one replaced was defective.

A new mirror was installed on Engine 5. The internal components are plastic along with the gears and adjustments are ONLY to be made using the provided "allen" wrench.

Members also repaired the rabbit tool and placed it back on engine 5.

EMS Director's Briefs

Just an update on activities within the bureau...

We are still keeping in close contact with the vendor of our new ambulance. The committee has decided on a fob/entry system for the drug compartment and the new mobile radios have been sent to the vendor for installation. We will meet again to discuss other updates.

FF/PM LiRosi has taken over all of the CPR classes and instruction. He will coordinate both the private and the village sector. FF/PM Hudecek, Niemand, Bubis and PM Jenkins and

Kosar are all still instructors helping out. We are averaging 3-4 classes per month with 50 plus students.

We have two Northwest Community Hospital paramedic students riding with us. They are currently assigned to riding on Red and Gold. They are in Phase I of their training and observing. They will move into Phase II where they will be active participants. The preceptors for Schiller Park are PM Jenkins, FF/PM Leiser, FF/PM Bubis, FF/PM Gergits and EMSD Nosek. The students will be with us until they complete Phase III. Good luck to these men and offer guidance when necessary.

When doing run sheets please verify that you have the correct incident number. All incident numbers from Schiller Park dispatch are seven digits. Also to help prevent the computers from overheating, leave the lid open.

Worldwide there continues to be a shortage of certain drugs that we administer. It may be impossible to exchange certain drugs at the hospital because of the shortage. I will be coming out with an FYI to inform you of any developments.

Please remember that any unused or empty controlled substance vials must be brought into the hospitals for them to replace. If you have any questions or concerns, please see EMSD Nosek.

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

Other EMS bits...

Tony Calefati is working to repair Ambulance 6 after it went for its Safety Lane inspection and an exhaust leak was detected. Tony has ordered the parts and will make the repair in house. It will then be sent back to the safety lane for compliance.

EMSD Nosek has placed new

Elder/Child Abuse forms and domestic violence forms in all EMS apparatus including the engine.

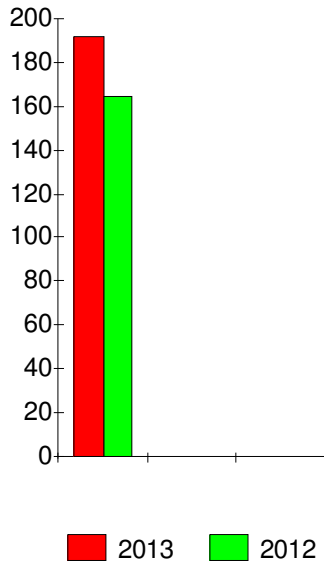
The Northwest Community Hospital website for Continuing Education has a ton of information that can assist paramedics with continuing education and also provide assistance on the monthly training. If you have not had an opportunity to check the website it would be advisable.

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

During the past month personnel responded to 93 emergency calls. A total of 88 patients were encountered. 64 patients were transported to area hospitals. 49 patients required Advanced Life Support care.

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Total Responses	192	164
Cardiac	13	8
Medical Emergency	91	89
Accidents/Trauma	47	38
Fire Responses	40	27
False Alarm/Standby	1	4
Mut. Aid to SHPK	9	4
SHPK to others	7	6

EMS Total Responses



Projects in the Works

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

All of the remaining six panel doors in the firehouse have been replaced. We are now working on the trim followed by staining.

Lt. Budnik worked diligently on cleaning and organizing the tool room. He also applied several coats of floor paint to match the rest of the apparatus floor. (see photos).

The former Westside overhead doors have been bricked up on the outside. The interior was dura-rocked and will be taped, mudded and painted.

We are looking at insulating the old entrance to the firehouse from the radio room to make it more sound proof.

Lt. Budnik and his Bureau have also embarked on the following projects—a new exhaust fan will be installed at

the top of the stairway in the firehouse to help vent heat that comes up the stairs from the apparatus floor. Hopefully this will help remove the high heat and humidity that plagues us during the summer.

What's in the works? –

- New lights at station 2
- Additional outlets at station 2
- Emergency phone outside sta. 2
- mount patches around kitchen
- paint apparatus floor border
- Install window in TV. Room
- Paint sta.6 floor
- Door and jam simulator
- sprinkler simulator
- New high-rise load packing tool
- fully sprinkler the firehouse

Trivia

Answer to last month's Trivia

February Trivia

Where was the technique of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) first developed?

John Hopkins University.

One correct answer was submitted by Chief Belmonte (ret.) Westchester.

March Trivia

Boston Firefighters are affectionately referred to by this nickname?

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.

Cmdr. Chiodo attended the Division 20 fire investigators meeting and training.

Cmdr. Leiser attended the Training and Safety Officers meeting.

Cmdr. Chiodo attended the Arson Fire Investigator meeting and training.

FF/PM Niemand attended the NFPA seminar on Standard 25.

FF/PM Gergits and FF/PM Leiser attended the State Fire Marshal Leadership I class.

FF/PM Santiago attended an ice rescue drill.

FF?PM Werner completed the State Fire Marshal Fire Prevention Principles class.

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.

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

We will also have in the new future a Fire Service Vehicle Operator class (FSVO).

I have signed up several members for OSFM classes as part of their job requirements. If you know that you need a class please let me know, I will try to find one, however if you find one on your own please submit the paperwork and maintain a copy for yourself.

I have also obtained railroad ties for training in using different techniques for cutting, i.e. chopping with axes,

mauls, saws. They are located behind the firehouse.

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

Members completed 269 hours of training for the month with 27 training drills. This includes outside classes. Our Paid on Call had 3 meetings for 12 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 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.

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 nominate and acknowledge as our Employee of the Month—PM Lange.

With the recent resignation of PM Howell, the possibility of M. Takoy being hired full time on another department and the promotion of PM Davis in Chicago, PM Lange has changed her schedule to accommodate Schiller Park by picking up the additional shifts. This has filled a void in the schedule without having to increase overtime. We anticipate having the voids filled by the April schedule.

For your commitment to our

department we are honored to call you our Employee 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 Cmdr. Chiodo.

Fire Prevention

An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure

Shifts are working on their 2013 inspections. Each shift received approximately 1/3 of the inspections or about 135 per shift. The inspections are rotated so that over a three year period each shift should have the opportunity to enter all the businesses. To date about 79 total inspections have been completed.

We may soon see some development in the West Gateway area. A proposal for a parking garage is being presented to the Village.

Openings and Closings include the following:

Aldi's opened (see photos) recently and there are plans for the old site. Leo's Pizza has closed and Hostess may open this Summer after being sold in Bankruptcy court.

January 1st Cmdr Maher began working on a form to help track water usage on sprinkler systems. We will now ask the inspectors to do a meter reading AT the sprinkler system. Cmdr. Maher will provide training on where to look and how to document.

Our Water Department has also requested that on any new or upgraded fire suppression system that the by-pass meter on the backflow protection be either a Neptune or Census water meter. These are compatible with our MXU system.

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.

We also want to ensure that all PRE-PLAN sheets are returned and handed in to Cmdr. Maher or FF/PM Niemand. These are ESSENTIAL for us to try to complete our computer based pre-plan program. Cmdr. Maher will begin to strictly enforce the policy on completing these documents with possible disciplinary action for non-compliance. When you bring back your fire inspections, make a copy of the pre-plan forms and submit to FF/PM Niemand. 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. IT IS IMPORTANT TO COMPLETE THIS PAPERWORK AS IT IS PART OF THE PRE-PLAN THAT IS ISO NECESSARY.

I am reviewing several new businesses in town. We have several major projects that are in the works.

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 as required before third year of hire. Cmdr.'s Leiser and Maher will advise those needing the class when it is available.

I also plan on retiring in the near future. As such I am beginning a transition to my replacement Lt. Hatcher. I hope you support him as well or better than me. More to follow.

Public Affairs

Saving Lives Through Education

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

The Public Relations Bureau is working with the 100 Year Anniversary Committee for different activities throughout the year.

We will have our Ice Cream Social at the Opening of the Montana Water Park Opening on May 25th. We are looking for off duty persons to help scoop. The rain out plan will move the event to Kennedy school.

We are participating and coordinating the Village Centennial Parade on June 22nd. It will begin at the Community center and move south down 25th to Irving where it will head east to Stalica park where a fun fest will begin and take place.

We also selected the winner from East Leyden for the design a Schiller Park Fire Logo. This years' winner is Emily Chiu, she actually submitted two wonderful designs. The winning design and a copy of the certificate are in this issue.

Det. Desimone of the Schiller Park Police Department has secured a Sky Box for the Chicago Steel Hockey club in Bensenville. \$10 includes pop and pizza for an April 5th game. See frank to sign up and bring family and friends.

Members also participated in the Dr. Seuss Night reading to the children at Washington school. Members included FF/PM LiRosi and FF/PM Swiontek.

Other ideas being explored include our next Gyro fest, Citizen Fire academy, Jr. Fire Academy, Employee thank you.

FF/Pm LiRosi also continues to work in training and teaching CPR classes.

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.

Notes

Several notes arrived this past month, they can from the following-

A note was received from Mrs. Lohentry thanking us for honoring her husband during the funeral procession. Mr. Lohentry was a friend of the Village and the fire department and he will be missed.

Schiller Park Fire Fighters Association

Members are considering supporting the Wounded Warrior Project helping Veterans by wearing fire department camouflage uniform t-shirts in June. More to come.

Anyone who might want to help with Camp I Am Burn Camp should contact the Illinois Fire Alliance. They will be hosting a Fill the Boot fundraiser in May.

A Firehouse Chili Cook will be held in River Grove on April 7th. This will also be a fundraiser for Burn camp. Contact River Grove FD for more info.

Retiree Row

Director Deegan hosted his annual Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner at The Great Escape on March 15th. Five retirees turned out for this event including FF Besch (ret.), Lt. Anderson (ret.), and FF Mandziara. All are doing well and miss the fire service.

Please drop a line as to how any of our retirees are doing. This is an opportunity to let others know what you are doing and how you are doing. Please email to Cmdr. Chiodo at pchiodo@villageofschillerpark.com.

And Finally...

March is the month of expectation for the things we do not know.

Deadlines

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

Photographs- Page 7- Illustration of the new Irving/York intersection

Page 8-10 the demolition of the old Chase bank and r-building the new Aldi .

Page 11-12 Certificate for East Leyden winner Emily Chiu and her design.