CRYSTAL LAKE FIRE RESCUE

Annual Report 2014



2014 Centennial Badge

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department
2014 Annual Report

Gary J. Mayerhofer, City Manager
City of Crystal Lake

Dear Mr. Mayerhofer,

It is my pleasure to present to you the 2014 Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department Annual Report. The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department has created this narrative to provide an accounting to you, the City Council, the Fire District Trustees, and the community, of the management and guardianship of the mission and resources entrusted to the Fire Rescue Department. Its contents detail the Department's efforts, challenges and accomplishments in the past year.

As the City celebrated its centennial year in 2014, it gave us an opportunity to reflect upon the accomplishments the Fire Rescue Department has achieved in the last year, as well as the last 100 years. The commitment of all the men and women who served before us is to be commended. The citizens of Crystal Lake can be proud of our collective accomplishments in this memorable year.

The Department's ability to provide service is interrelated with numerous factors. A key factor is the organizational support provided by you, the Mayor, the City Council, the Fire District Trustees and the community. The members of the Fire Rescue Department deeply appreciate this support and strive to be a "Benchmark Organization."

Listed below you will find highlights of the Department's accomplishments in 2014:

- Responded to over 5,600 calls for service. (This represents an increase from last year.)
- Obtained re-certification for the City of Crystal Lake Emergency Operations Plan.
- Completed a Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment for the City.
- Continued development of a comprehensive Master Address Repository (MAR).
- Continued Officer Development on a monthly basis.
- Continued focus on training and professional development of all personnel.
- Maintained the Crystal Lake Wireless Alarm Network (CLWAN).
- Conducted cooperative emergency operations trainings with other City Departments, as well as Commonwealth Edison.
- Completed Life Safety Inspections for over 476 occupancies in the Crystal Lake community.
- Updated the Department's comprehensive Policy and Procedure Manual to provide consistent direction to our emergency response personnel.
- Continued the Department's Observed Behavior Safety Training Program to place an increased focus on the safety of personnel.
- Continued to develop and train on fire ground operational policies.

- Provided community support through active participation in and donations to the Salvation Army and Crystal Lake Food Pantry.

On behalf of the men and women of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department, thank you for the opportunity to serve the Crystal Lake community.

Sincerely,

Paul G. DeRaedt
Fire Rescue Chief

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Department Overview

The City of Crystal Lake is located in McHenry County, Illinois, approximately 45 miles northwest of the City of Chicago. The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department provides service for the City of Crystal Lake, the Crystal Lake Rural Fire Protection District and portions of Lake in the Hills. The area served is approximately 46.2 square miles, with a resident population of over 52,000 based on the 2010 census. Services provided include fire protection, emergency medical care (Advanced Life Support), fire inspections, public education, hazardous material response, water rescue, and special team responses such as trench, confined space, rope, and dive rescue. The City of Crystal Lake is the largest city in McHenry County, and the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department's service area includes three U.S. highways, a railroad (Union Pacific), three large lakes (Crystal Lake and Three Oaks Recreation Area), and McHenry County College. The Department also provides automatic aid to the Nunda Rural Fire Protection District, McHenry Township Fire Protection District, and the Algonquin / Lake in the Hills Fire Protection District. Mutual Aid is provided to communities in McHenry, Lake and Kane Counties through the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS).

The Fire Rescue Department provides 24-hour emergency response, operating out of three stations with 70 personnel. Staffing is provided by three shifts of full-time firefighters on a 24/48-hour schedule and support from two part-time personnel. Approved full-time positions include 3 Battalion Chiefs, 9 Lieutenants, and 48 firefighter/paramedics. Full-time firefighters and Lieutenants are members of the Crystal Lake Professional Firefighters Association, Local 3926, of the International Association of Firefighters. Emergency response staffing is currently 15 firefighters per shift. Administrative staffing positions (40-hour week) include Fire Rescue Chief, Deputy Chief, Bureau Chief of Training, Bureau Chief of Fire Prevention, Fire Inspector, and (2) Administrative Assistants. In 2014, the Department responded to 5,695 incidents of which 65% of the incidents involved emergency medical care.

Year in Review

Deputy Fire Rescue Chief – Christopher Olsen

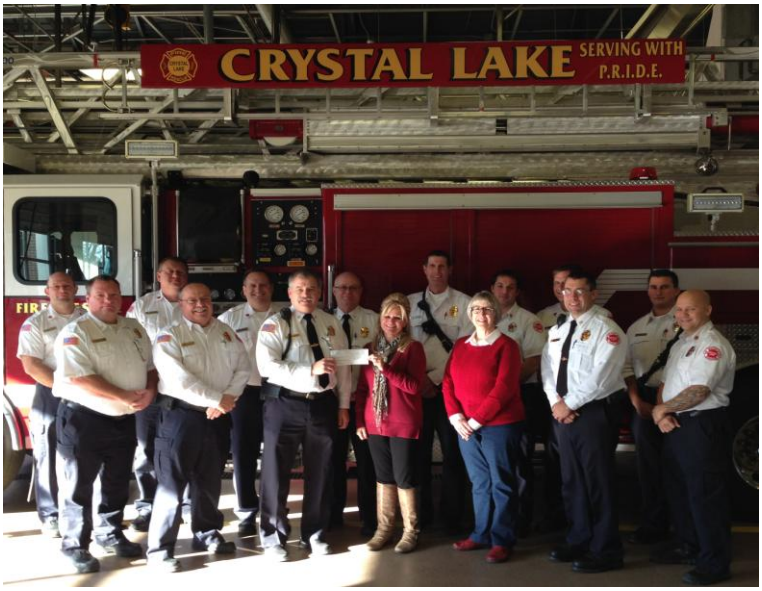
The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department continues to strive to be a "benchmark organization" in emergency services as outlined in our Vision Statement. This year was no exception. Our personnel continue their dedication to personal and professional improvement through calls, training and to community. The level of commitment that the Fire Rescue members display is unsurpassed by other fire departments and is exemplified below:

Community Fundraising
Once again, Fire Rescue personnel participated in three, off-duty fundraising events this year.

- For the ninth year, Fire Rescue personnel participated in the Salvation Army's Red Kettle fundraising campaign. In 2014, the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department raised $17,308. This accounted for 10% of the total money raised by The Salvation Army of McHenry County in their annual campaign.

- The members of IAFF Local 3926 collected $2,200 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association through the annual "Fill the Boot" campaign.

- In lieu of holiday gifts, the Officers of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department personally donated $450.00 to the Crystal Lake Food Pantry as part of the Officers' holiday tradition.



Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department Officers present a check to the Crystal Lake Food Pantry.





Promotions

In 2014, the Department celebrated the promotions of Fire Rescue Chief Paul DeRaedt, Deputy Chief Christopher Olsen, and Bureau Chief Christopher Kopera. The promotions are career milestones for these individuals and represent the leadership development that is ongoing within the Department.

New Members

Sergio Delgado was hired as a Probationary Firefighter/Paramedic in September and came to us from the Prospect Heights Fire Department. Probationary FF/PM Delgado completed the Department's comprehensive orientation program and is currently assigned to Gold Shift.

Megan Folkerts joined us in December, coming from the Berkeley Fire Department. FF/PM Folkerts has completed her orientation and was recently assigned to Gold Shift.

We welcome both of them to our family and look forward to long and prosperous careers for both.




Emergency Management Exercises

The City of Crystal Lake and Fire Rescue Department hosted a training and tabletop exercise for the Commonwealth Edison Joint Operations Center (ComEd JOC). The ComEd JOC is activated in the Crystal Lake Municipal Complex when a power outage affects greater than 20% of the McHenry County service area for more than 3 hours.

The Fire Rescue Department led a City-wide tornado tabletop exercise in February. This enabled all divisions of the City to work together cooperatively in preparedness for a real incident.

In April, Director of Information Technology, Greg Fettes and Retired Fire Rescue Chief, James Moore had the opportunity to participate in a functional exercise called Operation Cybershield. The exercise was conducted on the State and Federal level, with the Army National Guard and it focused on computer system attacks that affect our City's technology infrastructure. The City of Crystal Lake was the only municipality represented at the training which allowed us to make some key contacts for support and future development.

In June, we hosted a City-wide Cyber Attack Emergency Operations Center Tabletop Exercise. This event brought together 26 City representatives who were tasked with addressing emergency response and continuity of operations issues in the event of a long-term computer outage due to an attack on our computer network.

Two exercises were held in July to test a new database designed to capture all calls into the City's non-emergency phone system during an event when the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is activated. The EOC Input System was tested with simulated phone calls to various City staff to evaluate the functionality and ease of use demonstrated by the system that was designed for our staff.

Fire Rescue Command Staff members participated in an Active Shooter Tabletop Exercise at McHenry County College (MCC). The exercise encouraged interaction with all response agencies such as; MCC Police and Administration, Crystal Lake Police, Crystal Lake Fire Rescue, and McHenry County EMA.

Emergency Management Training

The Fire Rescue Department and McHenry County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) presented a Damage Assessment training course and practical exercise for the Building and Engineering Divisions of the Crystal Lake Department of Community Development. The training presented an overview of the damage assessment process which must be followed in order to seek reimbursement in the event of a disaster. The second day of training required all participants to evaluate flooded and damaged structures using the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) required rating system.

Twenty six City Command Staff members participated in a highly informative presentation on Weather Radar Interpretation conducted by McHenry County College Professor Paul Hamill. This presentation allowed the participants to understand radar features, including capabilities and limitations in order to make informed decisions.

Finally, with the assistance of Emergency Management intern Matt Hopkins, we were able to initiate action and develop procedures on several items such as:

- THIRA – Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment for the City
- EOC Readiness
- Resource Typing (NIMS required)
- EOC Policy & Procedure Manual

Emergency Operations Plan
On March 4, 2014, at the McHenry County Board meeting, we were honored to be awarded re-certification for the City of Crystal Lake Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). The certification of the EOP is done through McHenry County and State of Illinois Emergency Management Agencies This milestone is of great operational and financial significance and demonstrates our commitment to effectively serve the community.



Annual Department Awards

Annual awards were presented to Fire Rescue personnel. Members were recognized in three award categories: Department Service Awards, EMS Service Awards, and Department Recognition Awards.

Service Awards:

Rick Kaiser	20 years
Darrell Cook	10 years
Jim Sustek	10 years
Palmer Pace	5 years

EMS Service Awards (years certified with IL Dept. of Public Health)

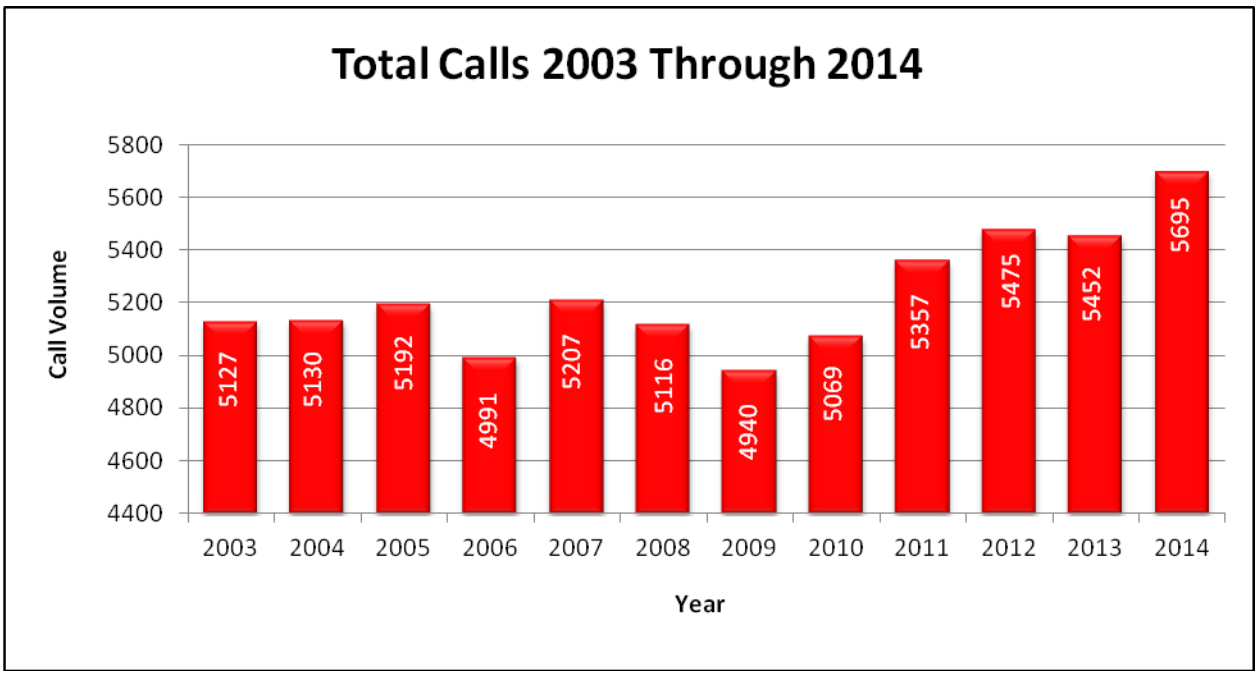
Darrell Cook	15 years
Brian Tamason	15 years
John Volenec	15 years
Tom Linneman	10 years
Jim Spivey	10 years
Mike Hurley	10 years
Tim Kerley	10 years
John Ryan	10 years
Dane Szatkowski	10 years
Joe Forsberg	10 years

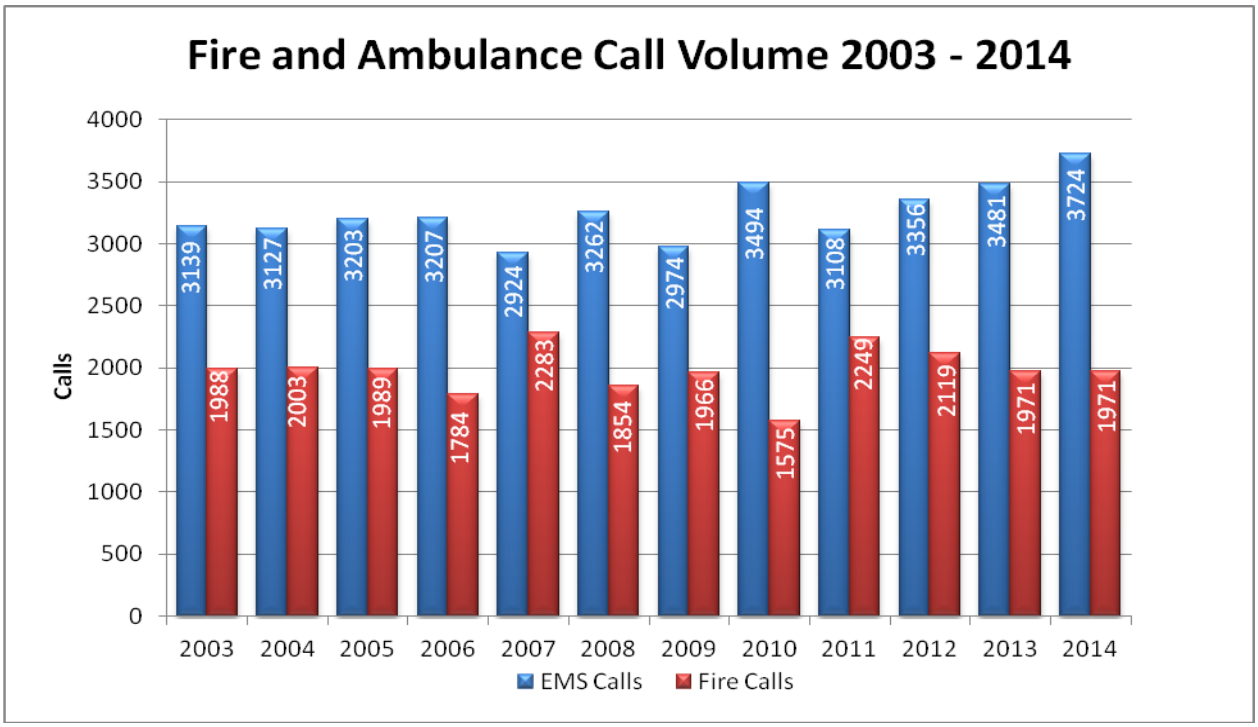
Department Recognition Awards

Type of Award	Date of Incident	Description	Crew Receiving Award
Unit Performance Award	4/17/14	Rescue of drowning person	BC's Pollnow & Olsen, Lt's. Kaiser, Cork, Angelo, Cook, FF/PM's Kownacki, Bedore, Kauke, Forsberg, Pace, Pireh, Seyl, Gundlach, Muscavich, Marino, Szatkowski, Bucheger
Life Saving Recognition Award	5/17/2014	Resuscitation of pulseless person	Lt. Cork, FF/PM's Kauke, Kerley, Ryan, Seyl
Award of Recognition	8/17/2014	Resuscitation of pulseless person	Lt. Sustek, FF/PM's Schmitt, Sypura, Wisz

Incident Statistics

Battalion Chief William Whyte





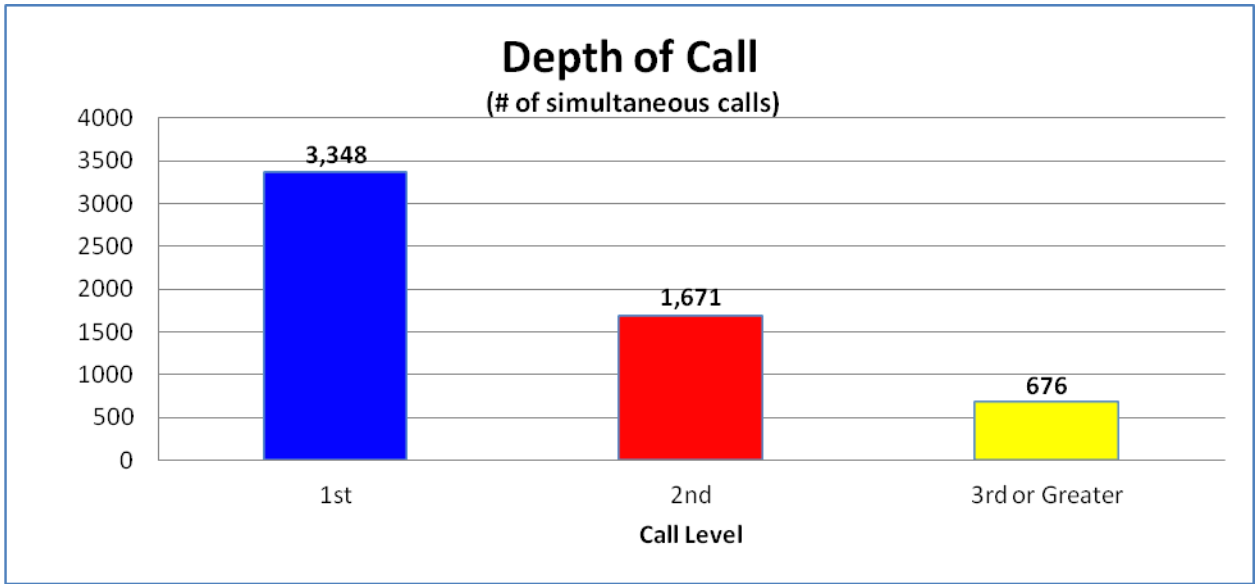
Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department Fire Suppression Response Times Within Each Response District			
	Station 1	Station 3	Station 4
Average Alarm Processing Time	01:49	01:44	01:54
Average Turn Out Time	00:52	00:52	00:54
Average Travel Time	04:25	04:26	05:31
Average Alarm To Scene time	07:06	07:01	08:19

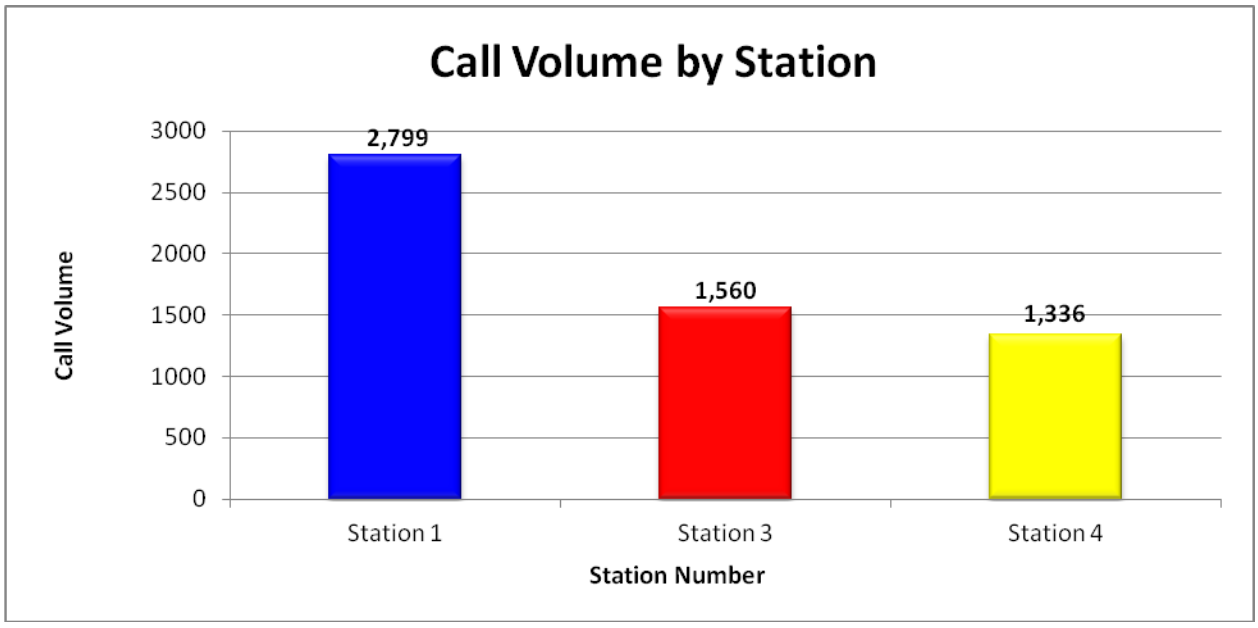
Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department EMS Response Times Within Each Response District			
	Station 1	Station 3	Station 4
Average Alarm Processing Time	01:58	01:55	01:57
Average Turn Out Time	00:30	00:27	00:29
Average Travel Time	03:53	03:58	04:57
Average Alarm To Scene time	06:21	06:20	07:23

Fire Rescue Department Calls for Service 2012-2014

Incident Type	#2012	%2012	#2013	% 2013	#2014	% 2014
Fire	110	2.01%	70	1.28%	56	0.98%
Rescue and EMS Incidents	3,768	68.82%	3,856	70.73%	4,135	72.61%
Hazardous Conditions (No Fire)	218	3.98%	204	3.74%	188	3.30%
Service Call	509	9.30%	397	7.28%	391	6.87%
Good Intent Call	188	3.43%	195	3.58%	188	3.30%
Fire Alarms	682	12.46%	730	13.39%	737	12.94%
Total	5,475	100.00%	5,452	100.00%	5,695	100.00%

Jurisdiction	#2012	%2012	#2013	% 2013	#2014	% 2014
City of Crystal Lake	4,807	87.80%	4,766	87.42%	4,974	87.34%
CL Rural FPD	550	10.05%	568	10.42%	550	9.66%
Out of District	118	2.16%	118	2.16%	171	3.00%
Total	5,475	100.00%	5,452	100.00%	5,695	100.00%


Depth of Call
(# of simultaneous calls)
4000
3500
3000
2500
2000
1500
1000
500
0
3,348
1,671
676
1st
2nd
3rd or Greater
Call Level


Call Volume by Station
Call Volume
3000
2500
2000
1500
1000
500
0
2,799
1,560
1,336
Station 1
Station 3
Station 4
Station Number

Public Education

Coordinator- Annette Kunes

Public Education is part of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department's Fire Prevention Bureau. Public Education supports the Fire Prevention Bureau by educating all age groups about fire prevention and fire safety with the goal of reducing fires, fire related injuries, and fire deaths. To deliver the message of fire safety, the Fire Rescue Department conducts station tours and fire safety talks for school children, senior groups, scout troops, businesses, and other organizations. The Department also conducts observed fire drills throughout the year. In 2014, the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department conducted 23 observed fire drills with 14,134 participants.

The majority of our public education events are directed to school children from the ages of 3 to 9 years old. Children are taught not to touch matches and lighters, to stop, drop and roll in the event their clothing catches on fire, and to know that firefighters will help them in an emergency. Older children are encouraged to create and practice a fire escape plan with their families. All children and their families are taught the proper methods as to how and when to dial 911.

The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department has five major events that provide an opportunity to teach children and adults about fire safety.

- The Crystal Lake Expo - emphasis is placed on emergency preparedness. Brochures, such as the Crystal Lake Preparedness Guide, were developed to encourage people to be prepared in case of a blizzard or severe summer storm.
- McHenry County Children's Health Fair – the Department's Safety Trailer is featured at this county-wide event.
- National Night Out - sponsored by the Crystal Lake Police Department, this national event provides an opportunity to showcase the Fire Rescue Department's equipment and talk to families about fire safety.
- Johnny Appleseed Festival – this popular family event features the Department's Fire Safety Trailer and Aerial Ladder Truck.
- Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Open House - fire equipment and Fire Station One are on display with activities for adults and children. Children have an opportunity to spray an actual fire hose, participate in a firefighting obstacle course, and "Ask the Firefighter". Everyone is welcome to view the Fire Rescue Department's

vehicles, tour the fire station, and participate in an escape drill in the Fire Rescue Department's Safety Trailer.





2014 Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Open House

Listed below is a breakdown of events and participants for the 2014 year:

Type of Education Event	Number of Events	Total Participants
Block Parties	5	205
Blood Pressure Checks	8	42
Career Presentations	1	60
Community Events	5	1,150
CPR Classes	58	342
Extinguisher Demos	6	208
Fire Drills	23	14,134
Open House	1	375
Preschool Presentation	19	696
Safety House	9	684
Senior Safety	2	52
Station Tours	41	978
Total	**178**	**18,926**

CPR Coordinator – Lieutenant Joyce Stevenson

The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department offers American Heart Association (AHA) certification for the following classes:

- Healthcare Provider
- Healthcare Provider Recertification
- Heartsaver AED

- Heartsaver/First Aid

The Department offered regularly scheduled classes each month and scheduled classes for organizations such as schools, churches, scouts, and social service organizations. The Department also demonstrates Hands Only CPR for individuals who want to administer aid but have not had a CPR class. An online course is offered for healthcare providers through the American Heart Association. After completing the online course, a Department CPR instructor tests their hands-on skills for final certification.

Listed below is the breakdown of the classes taught in 2014:

Group	Number of Students	Number of Classes
Scheduled Classes	103	16
Online Recertification	10	10
Community Private Classes	39	7
Crystal Lake Police Employees	64	9
Crystal Lake Public Works Employees	70	8
Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Employees	19	2
Three Oaks Recreation Employees	25	4
SEECOM Employees	12	2
Total	**342**	**58**

Fire Prevention Bureau

Bureau Chief of Fire Prevention - Jerry Larsen

Fire Prevention Programs focus on the three E's of Fire Prevention - Education, Enforcement, and Engineering. Providing education to building designers, contractors, and business owners and their employees about safe practices can reduce the chance of fire in their buildings. Enforcement is aimed at reducing fire hazards, as well as mandating the proper installation and maintenance of a building's fire and life safety features. Engineering is about designing buildings properly with respect to fire and life safety. Plan review is part of this process. The Crystal Lake Fire Prevention Bureau's continued focus on the three E's of Fire Prevention is a critical step in helping ensure the safety of the Crystal Lake community.

Plan Reviews
During the calendar year of 2014, the Fire Prevention Bureau completed 399 plan reviews. The Fire Prevention Bureau strives to complete reviews within the following deadline: 10 business days for original reviews and five business days for re-submittals.

The 2014 goal was to have 98 percent of the reviews completed within the established time frames. For the 2014 calendar year, 99.75 percent of the reviews were completed within the time frames. Listed below are the types and total numbers of reviews completed:

Type of Review	2013	2014
Building Permit	138	124
Sprinkler System	75	45
Fire Alarm System	73	68
Wet Chemical/Clean Agent	12	4
Planned Unit Development	7	7
Special Use Permit	5	11
Temporary Use Permit	30	38
Variation	6	11
Cursory	14	14
FOIA	44	73
County-Residential	1	2
Total	**405**	**399**

Inspections / Code Enforcement

The Fire Prevention Bureau completed 1,104 inspections in the calendar year of 2014. Listed below are the types and total number of inspections completed:

Inspection Type	Number of Inspections 2013	Number of Inspections 2014
Construction / Status	99	149
Fire Alarm	112	117
Sprinkler System	147	153
Hood or Other Suppression	13	12
Life Safety Follow Up / Target Hazard	193	177
Occupancy	280	330
Concerns / Condition Report	216	166
Total	**1,060**	**1,104**

Life Safety Inspections

During calendar year 2014, the Fire Rescue Department conducted 476 Life Safety Inspections.

Life Safety Inspections	Calendar Year 2013	Calendar Year 2014
Initial Inspections	487	355
Re-Inspections	234	121
Total	**721**	**476**

Specialized Rescue Teams

Dive Rescue Team Coordinator – FF/PM Chris Bedore

The Dive Rescue Team (DRT) is fully staffed with nine active members. During 2014, FF/PM Dan Williams and FF/PM Matthew Klug joined the team. Both divers completed Public Safety Diver, Dry Suit Diver, and Dive Rescue 1 certifications.

Training
During the months of March through November, the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Dive Rescue Team successfully completed several open water trainings. These dives allowed divers to hone skills in operational readiness and boosted confidence through various types of training. From December through February, the dive team completed watermanship skills evaluations. The dive team hosted an ice dive in February at the Three Oaks Recreation Area on the North Lake. Divers cut through 18" of ice to gain access to the dive site.

The team participated in a combined Sonar / Dive training at the Three Oaks Recreation Area on the South Lake in July. Targets were marked with the Kongsberg sonar and the divers were directed to the targets using members from the sonar team.

The team participated in a Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) readiness drill this past summer. Other departments from other MABAS divisions were tasked to respond to a simulated incident at the Three Oaks Recreation Area. The teams operational readiness for a MABAS deployment were then evaluated. Valuable lessons were learned for all participants to properly prepare for large-scale deployments with multi-jurisdictional resources.



Dive Rescue Team training at Three Oaks Recreation Area

Incidents
In 2014, the team responded to a single incident within our own community involving a teenage male who was removed from the water and transported to the hospital

SRT Coordinator – FF/PM Dan Grischow

The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department's Specialized Rescue Team (SRT) is a part of the Lake / McHenry Counties Fire Departments Specialized Response Team, which prepares for high risk, low frequency incidents. The combined manpower and specialized equipment from Lake and McHenry Counties allows for more efficient management during these complex calls for service.

Team members train in four major specialties:

- Structural Collapse
- Trench Rescue
- Confined Space Rescue
- Vertical Rescue

Incidents
During 2014, the SRT had two callouts for service. In March, SRT technicians were dispatched to the Raging Buffalo Snowboard and Ski Park for an employee caught in a conveyer lift. MABAS 4 / 5 Truck 6955 housed at Crystal Lake Station 3 responded with two SRT technicians to assist with extrication. In September, a car struck a building in Buffalo Grove. SRT technicians from Crystal Lake assembled shoring to stabilize the building. Crystal Lake SRT technicians were able to create a safe environment for rescuers and prevent further loss of the structure.

Training
Crystal Lake's five technicians attended over 150 hours of rescue training this year. Crystal Lake hosted a structural collapse drill in February and a live trench drill in September. The September drill included Crystal Lake Fire Rescue and Crystal Lake Public Works personnel. Crystal Lake Technicians attend drills throughout Lake and McHenry Counties and must complete at least eight drills and one update each year.

FF/PM Dan Williams and FF/PM Matt Klug completed their initial training and joined the team this year. It takes a commitment of four 40-hour training classes to attain the operations level certification and four additional 40-hour training classes to reach the technician level certification.

Equipment
The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue houses the McHenry County Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) truck and two roll off containers at Station 3. These containers house tools and specialized equipment that team members use to handle SRT incidents. One container contains equipment needed for vertical rescue, confined space, and structural collapse rescue (SRT 5). The other container contains the trench rescue equipment (Trench 5) and it can accommodate the large amount of equipment and lumber needed for this type of incident. All Crystal Lake Fire Rescue members are trained to drive and load canisters on the vehicle.





Pictured are roll-off containers SRT 5 and Trench 5.

Haz Mat Team Coordinator – FF/PM Dan Grischow

Crystal Lake Hazardous Materials (Haz Mat) Team members, like the SRT Team members, are part of the larger Lake / McHenry Counties Fire Departments Hazardous Materials Team. Crystal Lake's team members are certified to the Hazardous Materials Technician B level (highest level of certification). This involves an annual commitment of at least 40 hours of hazardous materials training. Technicians train with specialized monitors, fully encapsulated suits, and a host of other specialized equipment.

Incidents
Lake / McHenry Counties Hazardous Materials Technicians responded to two incidents in 2014. In March, Hazardous Materials Technicians were called out to Vernon Hills for an overturned tandem tractor trailer carrying potassium hydroxide and phosphoric acid. Approximately 450 gallons were spilled. The team monitored and contained the spill and there were no injuries.

Hazardous Material Technicians were called to Richmond in May to contain a diesel spill. The spill was contained and turned over to a cleanup company.

Training
Crystal Lake technicians attended over 80 hours of continuing education during 2014. The team attended monthly drills, seminars, and classes in Hazardous Materials Identification and Incident Management.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

EMS Coordinator – Lieutenant Heidi Olsen

State Regulations
The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department has six ALS ambulances, three ALS engines, one ladder truck, and one engine that carry basic and advanced life support equipment. The Illinois Department of Public Health inspects each vehicle on an annual basis. All of the Department's vehicles continue to successfully pass these State inspections.

Training
The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department strives to be a benchmark organization and is highly regarded as an accomplished Department for our EMS skill sets. Each new employee goes through rigorous testing on emergency medical skills prior to shift assignment. During 2014, the Department's testing requirements were updated to meet the new McHenry / Western Lake County and Region IX Standard Operating Procedures and Standing Medical Orders.

Equipment
Crystal Lake Fire Rescue implemented the use of new equipment this past year to increase the crews' efficiency.

A new medical bag system was introduced which includes a separate jump bag and airway bag. This allows crews to quickly asses the patient with the appropriate equipment without the weight of an all-in-one bag system.

New pulse oximeters were placed on each of the Advanced Life Support engines. The oximeter monitors a patients pulse and oxygen saturation levels. This tool allows the first arriving company to better assess the patient and his or her medical condition.

EMS Statistics - 2014

EMS Incident Outcome	Number of Patients	% of Patients
Hospital Transport	3,024	68.15%
Non-Transport	1,404	31.64%
Other Agency Transport	9	0.21%
Total	**4,437**	**100%**

Transport Services Provided	Number of Patients	% of Patients
Advanced Life Support	1,866	42.06%
Basic Life Support	1,158	26.10%
Non-Transport	1,413	31.84%
Total	**4,437**	**100%**
Transport Destination	**Number of Patients**	**% of Patients**
Centegra-McHenry	1,046	23.57%
Centegra-Woodstock	1,300	29.30%
Good Shepherd	433	9.76%
Sherman	245	5.52%
St. Joseph	0	N/A
Non-Transport	1,413	31.85%
Total	**4,437**	**100%**

Training Bureau

Bureau Chief of Training – Christopher Kopera

Training is a key element to ensuring the Department's vision of continuing to be the benchmark organization for emergency services. Training requirements are outlined by several organizations, such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) and National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department (CLFRD) personnel participated in over 25,000 hours of training in order to learn new skills and remain proficient in all areas of emergency operations.

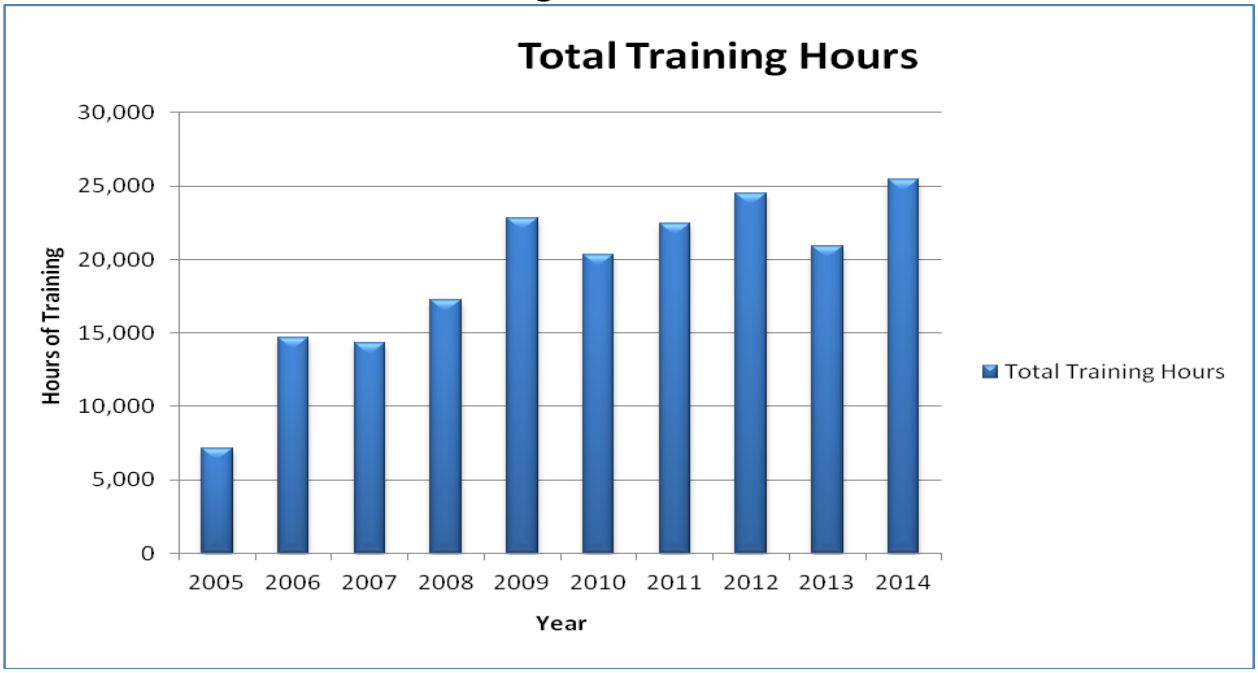
These goals were accomplished through the ongoing commitment, hard work, and support from Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department personnel.

In 2014, the Training Bureau accomplished the following:

- Provided live fire training and flashover simulation utilizing an intergovernmental agreement with the Huntley Fire Protection District for the use of their training facility.
- Received permission to use a vacant residential and a vacant commercial structure to utilize for practical "hands-on" training.
- Completed classroom natural gas safety training led by NiCor staff.
- Completed aerial ladder operations training and implemented an Annual Aerial Assessment program.

- Crystal Lake cooperated in simulated high-rise operation exercises with Algonquin-Lake in the Hills FPD at the Holiday Inn.
- Completed hands-on auto extrication training.
- Completed familiarization walk-throughs at Congress Parkway Apartment Homes, Lake In The Hills Airport, Boltswitch, and City Wastewater Treatment Plants #2 and 3.
- Completed Damage Assessment and Debris Management training by McHenry County Emergency Management Agency and Illinois Emergency Management Agency.
- Completed Enbridge online pipeline safety and awareness training.

2014 Training Bureau Statistics



In 2014, Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department personnel logged 25,454 hours of training. Each member participates in approximately 385 hours of training annually, or 32.08 hours of training monthly. The Insurance Services Office (ISO) recommends each firefighter complete 20 hours of training per month. Our members regularly surpass that recommendation.

Professional Development and Certifications
Many classes, seminars, and trainings were attended by our staff, including a large number of State certification courses. Some of the certification courses attended by Department personnel in 2014 are as follows:

- Instructor I and II
- Tactics & Strategy I and II
- Management I,II, III and IV
- Fire Prevention Principles I
- Rope Operations
- Advanced Technician Firefighter
- Specialized Rescue Operations Courses
- Fire Investigator
- CPR Instructor

Department personnel have spent many hours both in the classroom and on the training ground. The following list reflects additional educational opportunities that have been made available to Department personnel both in-house and at other locations:

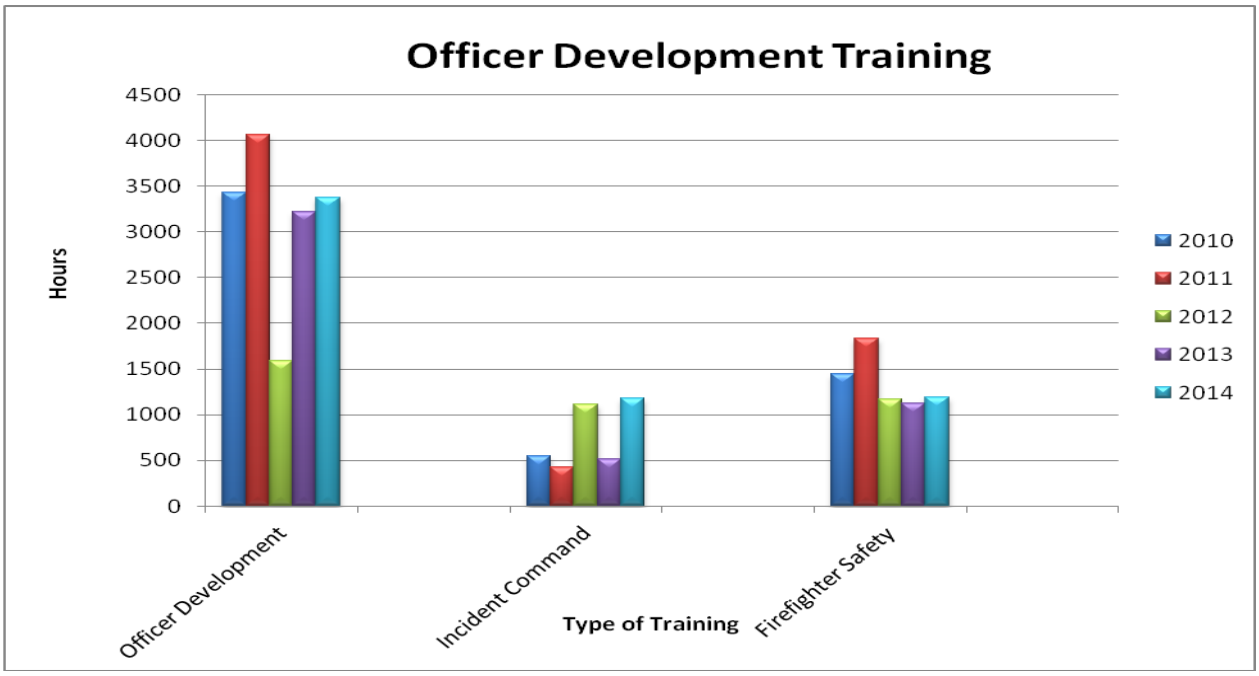
- Live fire suppression drills
- Water supply drills
- Forcible entry/exit drills
- Building tours/Pre-plans/Target hazard identification
- District familiarization
- Aerial operations drills
- Auto extrication drills
- Ladder drills
- Incident Command training
- Officer level training
- Specialty rescue
- EMS protocol, procedures and pharmacology
- Accreditation seminars
- Various NFPA and fire prevention classes
- Nicor Gas training
- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus competency drills
- Search & Rescue drills

Fire Officer Training

A safe and effective fireground operation, as well as efficient leadership depends on the commitment of our Officers to personal development. Each officer attends training classes that educate, enhance, or supplement their personal development. In 2014, Fire Rescue Department Officers logged over 3,300 hours of Officer Development specific training. Three of our members participated in the New Lieutenant Program which enables the Officer to transition from Firefighter/Paramedic to Lieutenant and have a good understanding of the expectations of a Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department manager and leader.

In 2014, courses or seminars attended by Fire Rescue Officers included:

- Fireground Command Officer class
- Ventilation, Flow Paths and Suppression Tactics
- “Blue Card” Incident Command Class Series
- Monthly Officer Development Company Drills
- Emergency Operations Center Exercises
- Command Center Operational Drills



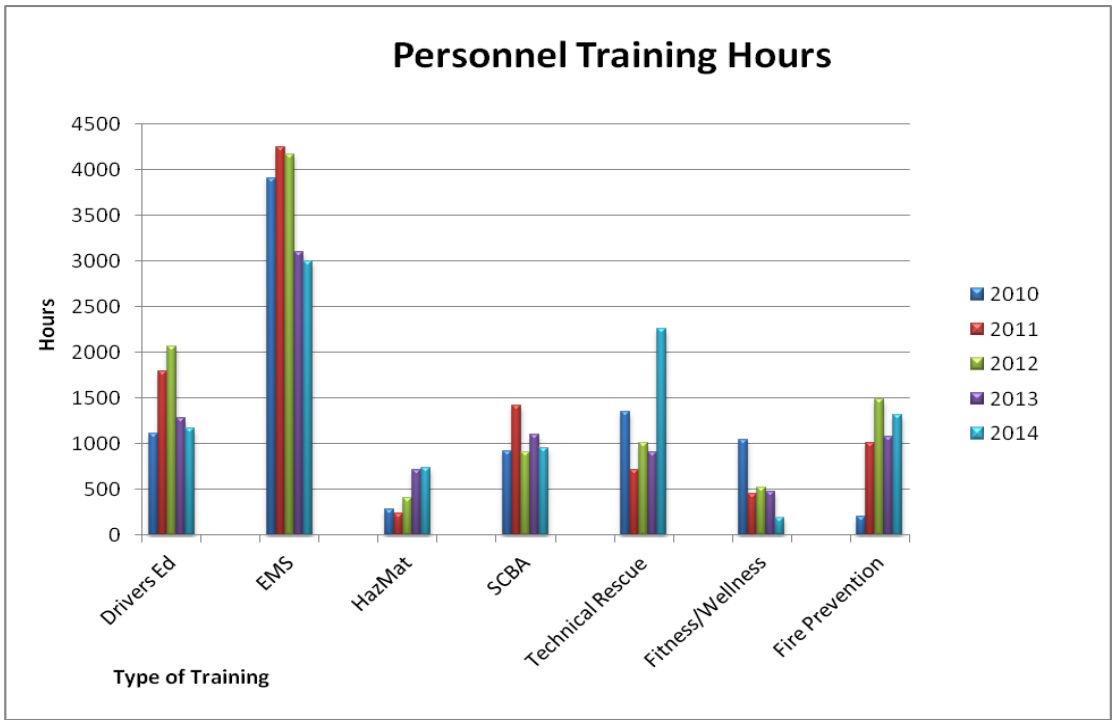
Probationary Training
The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department welcomed two new members (Delgado and Folkerts) to the Department’s roster in 2014. Our probationary members complete a minimum of 240 hours of orientation training. This comprehensive training far surpasses other fire department’s orientation programs, and compliments the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department’s dedication to providing an unsurpassed level of service. The Department’s probationary members are trained in Department policies and procedures and EMS system protocol knowledge, as well as many different firefighting skills.

Validation Training
Validation drills are completed amongst all the shifts on a regular basis. Validation drills are an essential part of any training program to ensure that the skills being taught are demonstrated by the proficiency of all personnel.





Left: A firefighter completes a portion of the fireground skills course.
Right: Firefighters advance hoses into the training tower during live burn training with their shift.



Safety Committee

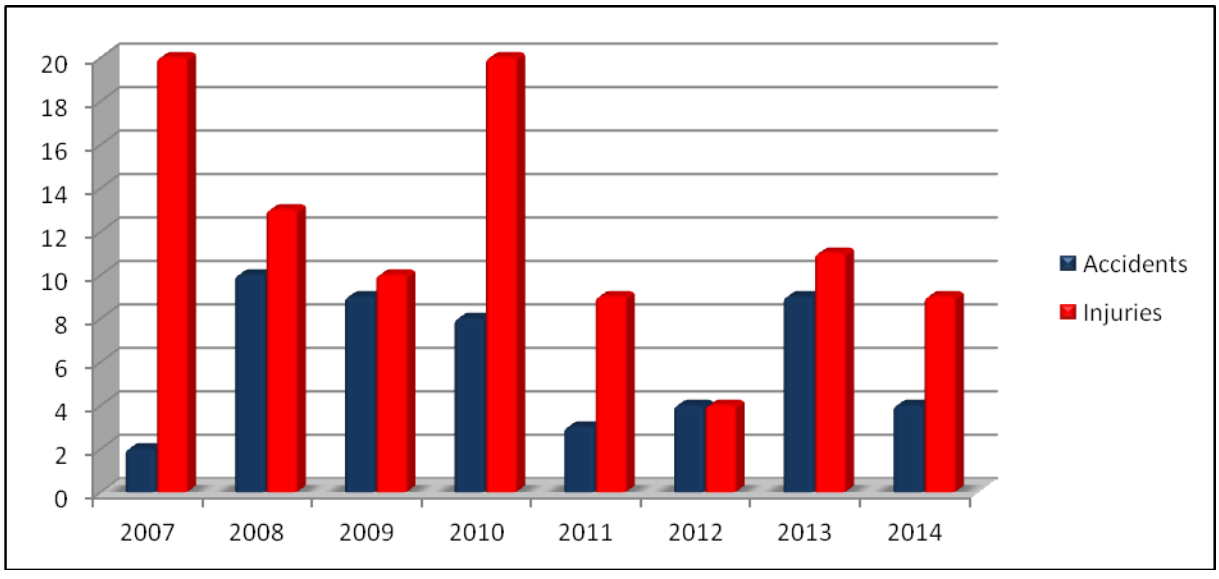
Chairman – Bureau Chief Christopher Kopera

The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department continues to emphasize safety in our work practices and procedures. The health and safety of our personnel is paramount to be able to effectively perform our duties. The Department's Safety Committee continues to be an integral part of the City's risk management plan.

Following are several of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department's accomplishments during the past year in the promotion of a safe working environment:

- Continued quarterly driver education training.
- Continued to promote the Department's Behavior Observation Program.
- Promoted the use of physical fitness equipment to improve personal strength and health.
- Continued the warm-up/stretching routine for multi-company practical evolutions.

Accident/Injury Investigations
The Fire Rescue Department Safety Committee conducted a total of 13 accident/injury investigations for the year 2014. The following graph shows a comparison between previous years' accident/injury investigations:



Behavior Observation Program
The Department's Behavior Observation Program is a major aspect of our risk management plan and consists of a monthly safety message and requires Safety Committee participation. Each month, a company officer prepares and presents a safety message to his/her shift. Areas of operational risk are identified from previous claims or observed behaviors for expanded awareness training. Additionally, shift officers attend the Department's monthly Safety Committee meetings in order to enhance each officer's knowledge of risk management as it pertains to the Fire Rescue Department and to provide the officer with a better perspective on safety within the Department. Safety behaviors during practical training exercises are promoted through a warm-up and stretching session in an effort to reduce injuries.

Fire Investigation Program

Lead Investigator - Deputy Chief Christopher Olsen

The importance of fire investigations in the fire prevention process cannot be understated. By investigating the cause and origin of fires, the fire service is better able to identify trends and motives related to arson, as well as defects in products that cause fires and then work to prevent future fires. The majority of the fires we respond to are deemed to be accidental in nature.

The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department has eight personnel trained in cause and origin fire investigations. The Department's personnel are required by the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM) to maintain 100 hours for recertification every four years. These hours are accumulated in a variety of ways, including actual investigations, training sessions, and courtroom testimony.

In 2014, our investigators responded to and investigated 14 fires.

Significant Investigations
On the early evening of March 22nd, Red Shift responded to a fully involved garage fire that resulted in a complete loss to the house and minor damage to an adjacent home. Our investigators worked closely with the Crystal Lake Police Department Detectives ultimately leading to a number of juveniles being charged with starting this fire.

On November 21st, our Department responded to a call for a fully involved barn fire. Upon arrival, our crews were confronted with a large horse barn that was heavily involved with fire. This major fire resulted in the death of 32 horses along with the complete loss of the barn, stable, and minor damage to the arena portion of the building. This was a devastating loss to the owners and the horse community. Our investigators worked with the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal, McHenry County

Sheriff's Office and multiple insurance investigators during the investigation in the days after the fire.

Fire investigations will continue to play a vital role in ensuring the safety of the citizens of the Crystal Lake area and the promotion of fire prevention activities.

Quartermaster Program

Quartermaster - Lieutenant Robert Lutherus

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue is committed to providing National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) compliant bunker coats, pants, boots, gloves, helmets, hoods, eye protection, and self-contained breathing apparatus. The Department follows NFPA 1851, which outlines maintenance, inspections, and the recommended serviceable life of personal protective equipment (PPE).

In 2014, the following was achieved:

- Quarterly inspections of all PPE as outlined per NFPA 1851
- Quarterly maintenance of all PPE as outlined per NFPA 1851
- Replacement of 10 sets of bunker gear that had reached their serviceable life.

Juvenile Firesetter Program

Coordinator - Battalion Chief Thomas Pollnow

The Juvenile Firesetter Program is an educational program designed to assist juveniles in understanding the dangers and consequences of fire play. This program is voluntary and may also be assigned as part of a judgment by the juvenile court system.

The Department had one reported Juvenile Firesetter case in 2014. The case involved a juvenile who played with matches and a candle. After educating the juvenile in the dangers of fire play and the importance of escape planning, the case was closed.

SCBA Program

SCBA Coordinator - Lieutenant Rick Kaiser

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) is a vital piece of equipment to the firefighter and is used on a daily basis as part of their personal protective equipment. The technology that is used to operate this equipment requires an active preventative and regular maintenance program. As a cost-saving measure, several of the Department's firefighters are trained to make certain repairs to the SCBA.

Having an in-house repair center allows the Department members to diagnose potential problems with the SCBA, order parts, and then make the repairs and have the equipment back in service in an expedient manner.

The cylinders used on the SCBA air-packs are required to be tested every five years and have a life expectancy of 15 years. During 2014, the cylinders were hydrostatically tested and all cylinders passed.

Fit Testing
Fit testing of face pieces used by employees in the Fire Rescue Department, Police Department, and certain Public Works employees, is conducted on an annual basis to met OSHA standards and to ensure that the face piece an employee is wearing fits correctly and does not allow any contaminated air into their respiratory system. This in-house fit testing is a significant cost savings to the City.

SCBA Air Compressor
The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department has its own air compressor that is used strictly for compressing air for the Department's SCBA and SCUBA tanks. This air is tested by an independent laboratory four times a year and is required to meet a grade "E" or better for the Department's use as required by ANSI/Compressed Gas Association Commodity Specification for Air, G-7.1-1989.

Apparatus

Apparatus Coordinator - Lieutenant Jim Sustek

2014 was a very positive and progressive year for the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department fire apparatus. An Apparatus Committee was formed to assist in basic functions that allow us to keep the department apparatus operating at above standard levels. The committee updated vehicle checks and vehicle maintenance reports to a paperless system. All of the work that went into maintaining the Department's fleet of

vehicles is attributed to a group effort by the City's Fleet Services Division and the Fire Rescue Apparatus Committee.

Equipment
New Task Force Tip (TFT) low level strainers were added to all front line engines to increase water flow in gallons per minute and efficiency with drafting operations.

All engines were further outfitted with new Hurst extrication equipment for auto extrication. Forcible entry bags were added to front line engine to assist crews in other means of gaining access to buildings.

New Apparatus
Ambulance 351 was placed into service in August of 2014. These newer ambulances are on a heavy duty pickup truck chassis and are four wheel drive to assist in inclement weather.



Bureau Vehicle 332 was purchased and placed into service in November of 2014. The Ford Escape replaced an outdated Ford Crown Victoria that originally was used by the Police Department. This SUV, with it's all-wheel drive will better allow access to construction sites for inspections.



Retired Members

This past year brought the retirement of Chief James Moore after 9 years of service with Crystal Lake Fire Rescue and 32 total years in the fire service. Chief Moore shared with us his vast knowledge of the fire service and emergency operations, as well as many years of experience. Chief Moore was instrumental in the transformation of the Fire Rescue Department and because of his leadership we have become the benchmark organization for emergency services. We wish Chief Moore the best in his retirement.



In 2014, the following Paid-on-Call members of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department retired after many years of dedicated service to the residents and business owners of the Crystal Lake community.



FF/PM Rick Stoddard
34 years



FF/EMT Todd Howell
24 Years

In Memoriam

The members of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department mourned the loss of Fire Chief Harold Krecker (Ret.) in June. Chief Krecker served as the first full-time fire chief for the City of Crystal Lake. While most of us had never worked for Chief Krecker, we knew him from various retirement functions and seeing his smiling face around the station periodically. Chief Krecker was important in the development of future leaders within the department and will truly be missed by those who knew him.





Crystal Lake Volunteer Fire Department - 1961

Back Row - Left to right: R. Behrens, R. Albrecht, M. Nelson, C. Watkins, B. Foster, C. Lockwood, J. Van Bogart, A. Querhammer.
Middle Row - Left to right: E. Gulgren, C. Pulos, B. Tilicke, R. Swanson, E. Muska, R. Enstrom, G. Kacer, L. Freund.
Front Row - Left to right: C. Gumprecht, 2nd Lt.; A. Kammin, Chief; E. Oerkfitz, Ass't. Chief (RET.); E. Gumprecht, Ass't. Chief; H. Krecker, Cap't.; F. Eibisch, 1st Lt.

Chief Krecker (ret.) is seated second from the right.

Station Locations



Fire Station One
100 W. Woodstock Street



Fire Station Three
844 Virginia Road



Fire Station Four
8705 Bard Road

Department Roster

Officers

Jim Moore/Paul DeRaedt	Fire Rescue Chief
Paul DeRaedt/Chris Olsen	Deputy Fire Rescue Chief
Jerry Larsen	Bureau Chief of Fire Prevention
Chris Olsen/Chris Kopera	Bureau Chief of Training
Tom Pollnow	Battalion Chief
Robert Kohley	Battalion Chief
Bill Whyte	Battalion Chief
Rick Kaiser	Lieutenant
James Sustek	Lieutenant
Robert Lutherus	Lieutenant
Chris Angelo	Lieutenant
Darrell Cook	Lieutenant
John Volenec	Lieutenant
Casey Cork	Lieutenant
Heidi Olsen	Lieutenant
Chris Kopera	Lieutenant
Joyce Stevenson	Lieutenant

Members

Aiello, Mike
Bedore, Chris
Borst, Nick
Brechbiel, Bob
Bucheger, Adam
Colucci, Gino
Delgado, Sergio
Folkerts, Megan
Forsberg, Joe
Fowles, Adam
Geyman, Michael
Grischow, Dan
Gualdoni, James
Gundlach, Amanda
Hagen, Scott
Havemann, Ed
Hurley, Mike
Jakubowicz, Ray
Kaltenbach, Dave
Kauke, Bryan
Kempe, Kyle
Kerley, Tim
Klug, Matt
Kownacki, Kevin
Kreher, Rich
Kunes, Annette
Landwer, Mark
Leuck, Matt
Linneman, Tom
Lucas, Mike
Lutherus, Art
Marino, Brian
Menzimer, Brian
Muscavitch, Ryan
Newton, Matt
Odishoo, Tim
Olszak, Linda
Pace, Palmer
Pireh, Martin
Rosner, Joe
Ryan, John
Schmitt, Kim
Seyl, Robert
Smith, George
Spivey, Jim
Sypura, Andrew
Szatkowski, Dane
Tamason, Brian
Thuma, Matt
Williams, Chris
Williams, Dan
Wisz, Rob