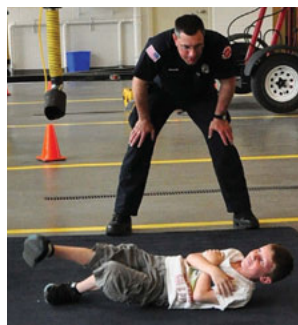




MOUNT PROSPECT FIRE DEPARTMENT



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

1913 - 2013

MISSION STATEMENT

To protect people, property, and the environment by reducing and controlling fire loss, providing emergency medical service, maintaining adequate emergency preparedness, and engaging in fire prevention and public education activities.

CORE VALUES

PROFESSIONALISM

We do all we can to ensure we deliver the best possible service to our internal and external customers/communities through smart, well trained, humble, dedicated, competent, hard working, and safe members. We are active participants in the communities where we live and work.

INTEGRITY AND HONESTY

We value the public's trust and are committed to honest and ethical behavior. We hold ourselves accountable to these values. We believe in a personal commitment to the organization and the community. Self-discipline is the foundation for managing behavior.

HONOR AND RESPECT

We are a fire department family. We are committed and accountable to each other because our lives depend on it. We value the role each member plays in our organization. We respect those that came before us and will strive to make the organization better for those who follow.

EMBRACE DIVERSITY

Recognizing the value of diversity helps us to work together as a team to serve our community. We are dedicated to reflecting and respecting diversity throughout our organization.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Mayor Juracek, Trustees, Mr. Janonis and the entire community; on behalf of the members of the Mount Prospect Fire Department, I am proud to present the 2013 Annual Report. This year, the Fire Department celebrated its 100-year anniversary. To commemorate this tremendous milestone, we designed and purchased anniversary badges, took center stage at the Village's Fourth of July parade and showcased the history of the Department and the fire service at our annual Open House. Then on September 29, the Department's actual anniversary, we invited the community to join us for a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser at Fire Station 13 to raise funds for our public education programs.

The Mount Prospect Fire Department was initially formed on September 29, 1913 by community leaders from the not yet incorporated Mount Prospect who met at the Central School. At that time, the community had a population of only 300 but realized the need to protect its citizens from the very real possibility of a destructive fire. So with nothing more than a small group of volunteers equipped with ladders, buckets and an antique hand pumper the Mount Prospect Volunteer Fire Department was born.

Over the next two decades, the Fire Department would purchase numerous pieces of equipment to further its mission. A bell and then later a siren were purchased to notify the volunteers in the event of a fire - volunteers would leave work to respond to a fire in the early days of the fire service. The Department would also purchase its first vehicle, a Buick Chassis truck, and first fire engine, an American LaFrance referred to as "Ol' Betsy." Most of the fires the Department responded to during this time period were on local farms, although the Department did battle a large fire in the Elk Grove forest preserve, which helped save thousands of acres of land for Cook County.

As time went on, and the Department responded to an increasing number of calls, pay was approved for firefighters. In the mid 1940s, the Department built its first permanent building to provide space for the fire apparatus. The total construction cost was \$122,600. The Department also continued to upgrade its equipment with a \$22,000 American LaFrance Fromite fire engine in 1952, which came in handy when a Navy jet crashed near Weller Creek in 1956.

The 1960s and 70s saw tremendous change in the fire service, including here in Mount Prospect. With the construction of Randhurst, the Mount Prospect Village Board voted in 1961 to make the Department full-time, but "supplemented by 'paid on call' (volunteer) firemen as needed." This change necessitated the addition of a second story to the downtown fire station to accommodate these firefighters and, a few years later, the construction of a second station at Golf and Busse Roads. The Department also purchased its first ambulance and welcomed a mascot, a Dalmatian named Smokey who liked to ride in and on top of the fire engines.

In the early 1970s, the Department grew again when the Village annexed and took over the Forest River Fire Protection District, adding a third fire station. The Mount Prospect Fire Department would prove just how ahead of the times it was in 1972 when it joined with Northwest Community Hospital to start one of the first paramedic programs in the country. During this time, the Department would also start a cadet program, help establish the first centralized emergency dispatch center in the Chicagoland area, hire its



2013 ACCOMPLISHMENTS & STATISTICS

first full-time Public Education Officer and call for assistance from neighboring departments to fight one of its largest fires at Goldblatt's department store. A lot of change in only a few short years!

Beginning in the 1980s the responsibilities of the Fire Department expanded significantly. The Department saw a significant increase in the role of emergency medical service (EMS) in its daily operations and formed specialized response/rescue teams for hazardous materials and technical rescue incidents. Mount Prospect also increased its resource sharing with neighboring departments through the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) - the Department is part of MABAS Division 1 as one of the program's founding members. Following a series of large scale disasters such as 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina in the early 2000s, the Department would also take on the responsibility of overseeing emergency management for the entire Village.

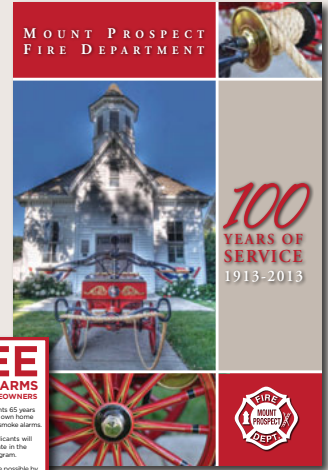
While the Department's mission has remained mostly unaltered since its inception in 1913 the people, equipment and techniques used to serve Mount Prospect residents have changed dramatically over the years. The past 100 years have brought new faces and experiences, which have kept the Department flexible and ready to adapt as the decades pass. It is this flexibility that will allow it to continue to adapt and prepare to face the challenges the next 100 years will present.

I am extremely honored to serve as the Fire Chief of an organization with such a rich history and strong core values. In closing, I wish to thank Mayor Juracek, the Trustees, Mr. Janonis and all Mount Prospect residents for their ongoing support and encouragement and for helping make our centennial year such a memorable one.

John J. Malcolm



- Recognized and celebrated the Fire Department's 100-year anniversary.
- Implemented a new fire station alerting system in all three stations.
- Conducted training and drills for operations staff on a new mass casualty incident plan.
- Updated the Village's fire codes to incorporate the 2012 International Fire Code.
- Implemented a free smoke alarm program for residents 65 years and older with funds from FEMA's Fire Prevention and Safety Grant program.



CALLS FOR SERVICE BY CALL TYPE

- Rescue & Emergency Medical Calls 67%
- Service/Other Calls 18.3%
- False Alarms 10%
- Hazardous Situation Calls 3.5%
- Other Fires .7%
- Structure Fires .5%

CALLS FOR SERVICE BY STATION & VEHICLE

STATION 12	
AMBULANCE 12	1,632
ENGINE 12	1,910
STATION 13	
AMBULANCE 13	1,741
ENGINE 13	148
TOWER 13	1,947
BATTALION 3	508
STATION 14	
AMBULANCE 14	1,116
ENGINE 14	1,260



2014 GOALS

- Purchase and provide specifications for a new fire engine for Fire Station 12.
- Recertify all operations staff in a Pediatric Education course to better prepare them for emergencies involving children.
- Develop a fire and life safety education cable TV series for MPTV together with the Police Department.



Celebrating
100
YEARS OF
SERVICE
1913-2013





MOUNT PROSPECT FIRE DEPARTMENT: SERVING SINCE 1913

2013 was a special year for the Fire Department as it celebrated its 100-year anniversary. The community at large joined the Department in commemorating this important milestone in a number of ways:

- The Village's 2013 vehicle sticker featured a tribute to the Department's 100 years of service.



- Members of the Fire Department worked with a local vendor to design and fabricate 100-year anniversary badges, which Department personnel wore throughout 2013. The overall design was based on a badge from the 1970s.

- The Fire Department was front and center during the Village's annual Fourth of July parade.

- On September 3, the Mount Prospect Village Board presented the Fire Department with a proclamation in recognition of its anniversary.
- At this year's Open House, the Department invited the community to the downtown fire station to learn about its 100 years of history and the history of the fire service. The event featured a "fire muster," with antique, vintage and modern vehicles from area departments, puppet shows and a history presentation by Chief Malcolm. The Department's antique hand pumper, in use from 1914 to the 1930s, was also on display — and provided an opportunity for firefighters, and then later children attending the event, to demonstrate how it worked.

- On September 29, the actual date of the Department's 100th anniversary, the Department opened its doors to the public for a Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser. Over 500 adults and children attended the event, which raised money for the Department's fire and life safety education programs.



- Illinois State Representative David Harris presented the Fire Department with an Illinois House Resolution in October.



16

MINIMUM DAILY STAFFING

STATION 12

1601 W. Golf Rd.

APPARATUS & STAFFING AMBULANCE 12



ENGINE 12



STATION 13 (HQ)

112 E. Northwest Hwy.

APPARATUS & STAFFING AMBULANCE 13



BATTALION 3



TOWER 13*



*Engine 13—Out of Service

STATION 14

2000 E. Kensington Rd.

APPARATUS & STAFFING AMBULANCE 14



ENGINE 14



OFFICER



FIREFIGHTER/
PARAMEDIC

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) remains a core service of the Fire Department, accounting for approximately two thirds of our total incident responses. The following are some highlights of the Department's EMS program in 2013:

- The Department took delivery of a new ambulance at Fire Station 13. Fire Department personnel were heavily involved in the design and specifications of the new vehicle which was placed into service on May 14.
- Mount Prospect paramedics and emergency medical technicians (EMTs) received an average of 42 hours of EMS continuing education training in conjunction with Northwest Community Hospital in 2013. To ensure our personnel continue to provide a high level of care to our residents, we set aside time every month for them to learn new skills and improve their existing ones.
- In 2013, paramedics and EMTs continued to learn about the ongoing development of new guidelines for the care of stroke patients. This process began in 2012 and will likely span several years. The combination of improved assessment tools for paramedics and EMTs, allowing us to transport patients more quickly, and new treatment technologies at area hospitals, means patients are seeing overall better outcomes and are spending less time both in the hospital and in rehabilitation.
- The Department continued to see significant improvements in the outcomes for cardiac arrest patients. More and more patients are surviving these events with shorter recovery periods as a result of on-going training on American Heart Association treatment guidelines. Mount Prospect paramedics and EMTs have one of the highest success rates in the Northwest Community EMS System in caring for cardiac arrest patients.
- In the fall, the Department conducted two, five hour long mass casualty/multiple patient exercises for each of our three shifts. Over 70 paramedics and EMTs from Mount Prospect, as well as a neighboring fire protection district, participated in the exercises. Personnel learned how to triage, treat and then transport patients during emergency incidents involving multiple patients and/or casualties.

“Chief Malcolm, you and your staff have extended yourselves into this community and have given all of us the feeling that we are not alone no matter what comes along.”





OPERATIONS

Throughout 2013, the Fire Department continued to meet the demands of an increasing call volume with its reduced manning put into place in 2010. On a daily basis, the Department staffs two engines (down from three), one tower ladder, three ambulances and a command vehicle. This staffing level, however, is increased when we anticipate severe weather such as a strong winter storm or significant flooding. In these situations, we often see increases in our call volume and response times so increasing our staffing during these events provides the community with the additional needed resources.

The Department also continued to implement changes in its

communications and dispatching technology. The Village's 9-1-1 service provider, Northwest Central Dispatch, and all of its member departments completed their transition to a new Motorola radio system. This multi-million dollar upgrade replaced a 10 plus year old system that no longer met federally mandated requirements established by the Federal Communications Commission. All of the Department's mobile (vehicle) and portable (handheld) radios were replaced, which provides the Department with better coverage throughout the Village. Additionally, the new radios provide us with enhanced interoperability with numerous government agencies statewide, which is especially important during large-scale emergencies.

Northwest Central Dispatch also installed a new station alerting system in all three of our fire stations. This system is an extension of the new computer aided dispatch (CAD) system put in place in 2012. The system provides us with earlier notifications of incoming calls for service, helping reduce our response times, and allows us to set-up customized notifications to our Department cell phones. Moving forward, the system will allow us to purchase add-on features that may help us further reduce our response times and/or supply other types of incoming call notifications. In 2014, we plan to evaluate the costs and benefits of these additional features.



TRAINING

Regular training helps ensure that our firefighters are properly equipped, both in skills and equipment, for a wide range of emergencies. In 2013, each Mount Prospect firefighter spent an average of 250 hours training for fires and other emergency incidents. The following highlights some of the training that occurred this past year:



- The empty Borders building at Randhurst provided opportunities in January for firefighters to practice search and rescue operations as well as techniques for fighting a fire in commercial buildings.

- In the spring and summer, a single-family house that was slated for demolition was offered to the Department for training. Firefighters practiced ventilating a roof, breaching exterior walls and forcing entry when doors are locked. They also simulated mayday, or distress, situations and learned multiple ways to rescue a fellow firefighter if necessary.

- In June, the Department's new radio system was fully operational and firefighters learned how to use the new equipment by participating in multiple communication drills.



- Firefighters practiced auto extrication in November. In anticipation of a new extrication equipment purchase in 2014, they also evaluated tools from three different vendors to determine which would best meet the Department's needs. As the technology of cars continues to change, so must the extrication tools and techniques we utilize.

- In 2013, the training room and tower at Fire Station 14 again provided multiple opportunities for both classroom and practical training. The Department also partnered with two outside agencies, Task Force 1 and the Illinois Fire Service Institute, this year to host classes such as Company Officer Prep School and Pride and Ownership in the Fire Service. In exchange for the space to hold these classes, these organizations allowed us to send a designated number of personnel to these classes free of charge.



"Mount Prospect is lucky to have such a great team working for them"

FIRE PREVENTION

2013 proved to be an eventful year for the members of the Department's Fire Prevention Bureau! Annual fire inspections, fire investigations, plan reviews and public education activities kept the Fire Prevention Bureau busy out in the community on a daily basis. Add to that the organizing of public events such as the Children's Fire Safety Festival, Open House and Fire Prevention Poster/Essay Contest - as well as a smoke alarm grant program for 350 senior homeowners - and the Fire Prevention Bureau had a full plate this year. The following highlights important events in 2013 that occurred in the Fire Prevention Bureau:

"I was a lucky recipient of the Senior Smoke Alarm Program ... this is a truly great program!"

Senior Smoke Alarm Grant Program

In April, the Fire Prevention Bureau received notice that it had received a \$29,425 Fire Prevention and Safety Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The grant provided the Department with funds to purchase and install smoke alarms in 350 homes owned by Mount Prospect residents 65 years and older at no cost to the homeowner. As of the end of the year, Fire Prevention Bureau personnel had installed over 1,000 smoke alarms in approximately 330 homes.

Children's Fire Safety Festival

The Children's Fire Safety Festival, held at Mount Prospect Fire Station 14, celebrated its 34th year the first full week in May with over 1,800 students in preschool through second grade in attendance. Students who attended the event had the opportunity to see inside an engine and ambulance, talk to a firefighter and 9-1-1 emergency dispatcher, meet Firefighter Frank and his puppet friends, as well as learn important fire safety lessons like stop, drop and roll and stay low and go.

Fire Prevention Poster/Essay Contest

Every year the Mount Prospect Fire Department sponsors a Poster/Essay Contest for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Depending on their age, students decorated a poster or had the option of writing an essay or creating a multi-media presentation. The theme of the contest usually matches the National Fire Prevention Week theme, which was "Prevent Kitchen Fires" this year. In celebration of the Department's centennial anniversary this year, however, students had the option of choosing a second theme - "Mount Prospect Fire Department Celebrates 100 Years of Service."

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU ACTIVITIES

3,144

FIRE INSPECTIONS

10

FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

286

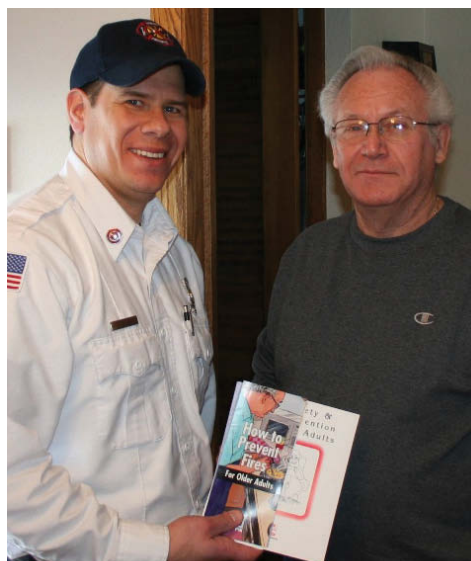
PLAN REVIEWS

364

PUBLIC EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

1,094

SMOKE DETECTOR INSTALLATIONS (in 328 homes)





COMMUNITY SUPPORTED GROUPS

Paid-On-Call Firefighters

When the Mount Prospect Fire Department was formed 100 years ago, it started as a volunteer organization. Unlike many area fire departments, the Mount Prospect Fire Department still maintains this volunteer group, now called Paid-On-Call (POC), since they receive a nominal amount for their service. The Department currently has 16 residents serving as POC members who meet every week to train and run drills. POC firefighters support the Department during major incidents and volunteer their time at public education events.

Board of Fire and Police Commissioners

In Mount Prospect, as in many communities across the nation, hiring firefighters is the responsibility of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners (BOFPC), not the Fire Department. Commissioners are residents of Mount Prospect who volunteer their time to oversee the testing process and interview potential candidates. In 2013, the BOFPC interviewed 15 potential candidates for firefighter positions. Current Commission members are George Busse (chairman), Michaele Skowron, James Powers, Charles Bennett and Mark Busse.

Community Emergency Response Team

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a group of resident volunteers trained to “aid and assist Mount Prospect Village departments when professional emergency resources become overwhelmed.” CERT members have gone through a 20-hour emergency preparedness training course and continue to participate in monthly training sessions. In 2013, CERT members volunteered 1,725 hours of their time to training and support activities such as public education and traffic control. CERT members also received formal training in traffic control, which they utilized to assist the Police Department during Village events, and began developing a more formal training program for current team members.



UNION LOCAL 4119

Union Local 4119 members take an active role in the community both on and off-duty.

- On August 2, Local 4119 raised \$4,500 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association with a boot drive.
- Members of Local 4119 delivered backpacks filled with school supplies to the Community Connections Center on August 12. The donated supplies were given to local families who were struggling financially at the start of the school year.



Many of the photos are courtesy of CERT Member and Resident Mike Zarnek.

COMMUNITY SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

Meals from the Heart

On March 6, the Fire Administration & Fire Prevention Bureau participated in the “Meals from the Heart” program at the Ronald McDonald House located at the University of Chicago Comer Children’s Hospital. Employees served the families a variety of comfort food – including made-from-scratch pizza!

POC Fundraiser at Oberweis

Paid-On-Call firefighters scooped ice cream at Oberweis on August 29 to raise funds for the Department’s public education programs.

Make-A-Wish Foundation

Fire Department personnel partnered with the Make-A-Wish Foundation to surprise an 11-year old resident who has a rare form of epilepsy with an adaptive bike. On August 30, the Department gave him his own fire helmet and gave him a ride in a fire engine. Chief Malcolm also took him for a ride on his new bicycle – quite the adventure!

Community Food Drive

For the third year in a row, the Fire Department sponsored a Community Food Drive at Randhurst Village outside of the Costco and Jewel stores. On October 12, personnel accepted donations to help fill the Village’s Emergency Food Pantry in anticipation of the holiday season. Once again the community stepped up for those in need here in Mount Prospect.

Toys for Kids Program

The Fire Department once again partnered with the Village’s Human Services Department for the Mount Prospect Toys for Kids program. On December 14, 350 kids from 120 underprivileged families participating in this year’s program were invited to one of the fire stations to pick-up their toys and visit with Santa Claus.



Pastor Russ

For the past 12 years, Russ Bechtold, Assistant Pastor at Northwest Assembly of God Church here in Mount Prospect, has been the Chaplain for both the Fire and Police Departments. Pastor Bechtold is on call around the clock to assist the departments in any number of ways, but is oftentimes called to offer a comforting and calming influence during difficult situations while emergency personnel are at work. He can frequently be found dropping off homemade cookies at the fire station and is always available to lend an ear or offer spiritual guidance to the firefighters. He says that the best part about being the Chaplain is the “relationships I have been able to develop over time with the Department personnel.” Pastor Russ and his wife Ginger have called Mount Prospect home for 34 years and, when not working, love spending time with their three sons and 12 grandchildren.





FIRE STATION 12
1601 W. Golf Road



FIRE STATION 13 (Headquarters)
112 E. Northwest Highway



FIRE STATION 14
2000 E. Kensington Road

EMERGENCY SERVICES: 9-1-1

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE
FIRE SUPPRESSION**

**NON-EMERGENCY SERVICES:
847-870-5660**

**COMMUNITY CPR AND
FIRST AID TRAINING**

DISASTER/CRISIS PLANNING

INCIDENT REPORTS

LIFELINE/PREMISE ALERT PROGRAM

PARAMEDIC SERVICE QUESTIONS

**FIRE PREVENTION:
847-818-5253**

BUILDING EVACUATION PLANNING

**CITIZEN EMERGENCY
RESPONSE TRAINING**

FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT

**FIRE CODE AND FIRE
PROTECTION SYSTEMS QUESTIONS**

FIRE INSPECTIONS

FIRE INVESTIGATIONS

**FIRE AND LIFE SAFETY
EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

FIRE STATION TOURS

JUVENILE FIRE SETTER COUNSELING

KNOX BOX PROGRAM

**SMOKE DETECTOR INSTALLATION
AND BATTERY REPLACEMENT**

2014 CALENDAR OF EVENTS


May 5 - 9
Children's Fire
Safety Festival at
Fire Station 14

September 27
Fire Department
Open House at
Fire Station 13

October 5 - 11
Fire Prevention Week

November 5
Fire Prevention
Poster/Essay Contest
(K - 8th grade)

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