



# CRYSTAL LAKE FIRE RESCUE

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## Annual Report 2011





# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



Gary J. Mayerhofer, City Manager  
City of Crystal Lake

Dear Mr. Mayerhofer,

It is my pleasure to present to you the 2011 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.

For the fourth straight year, economic concerns have dominated national and local attention. The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department has met these economic realities and, even during these challenging times, has continued to provide quality emergency service to the Crystal Lake community.

As you review this report, the commitment of the men and women of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department to live the values of our organization.... "Serving Crystal Lake with P.R.I.D.E." (Professionalism, Readiness, Innovation, Dedication and Empowerment) will be self-evident.

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 2011:

- Achieved certification of our Emergency Operations Plan.
- Responded to the community's needs in the Blizzard of 2011.
- Received a 1<sup>st</sup> Place "Best Risk Management/Safety Initiative Program" safety award from the Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency (IRMA) for the design and implementation of our Bariatric Ambulance.
- Achieved an improved ISO – Property Protection Classification Rating for the Crystal Lake Rural Fire Protection District.
- Continued Officer Development on a monthly basis.
- Completed a nine-month development program for our Acting Company Officers.
- Designed, implemented and transitioned to the Crystal Lake Wireless Alarm Network (CLWAN).
- Continued to focus on training and professional development of all personnel.
- Conducted four days of table-top, large-scale disaster training with all City departments.



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- Negotiated a long-term Intergovernmental agreement to provide Fire and Rescue services to the Crystal Lake Rural Fire Protection District.
- Supported the public safety and customer service aspects of the Three Oaks Recreation Area with the establishment and staffing of the Marine Monitor program.
- Responded to the community's needs during the "Derecho Storm" of July 2011.
- Transitioned to a new computerized staffing program.
- Increased the number of "hands-on" training sessions.
- Enhanced the Department's fire suppression capabilities for "Rural Water Operations."
- Completed Life Safety Inspections in over 675 occupancies in the Crystal Lake community.
- Updated the Department's comprehensive Policy and Procedure Manual to provide consistent direction to our emergency response personnel.
- Negotiated a sound Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Crystal Lake Professional Firefighters Local 3926.
- Continued the Department's Observed Behavior Safety Training Program to place an increased focus on the safety of personnel.
- Replaced Engine 340.
- Community support through active participation 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,

James P. Moore  
Fire Rescue Chief



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



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# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## 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), two 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 71 personnel. Staffing is provided by three shifts of full-time firefighters on a 24/48-hour schedule, and is supplemented with paid-on-premise firefighters. 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. Minimum manning for emergency response is currently 15 firefighters per shift. Approved day positions (40-hour week) include Fire Rescue Chief, Deputy Chief, Bureau Chief of Training, Bureau Chief of Emergency Medical Services, Bureau Chief of Fire Prevention, Fire Inspector, Office Coordinator, and Administrative Assistant. In 2011, the Department responded to 5,357 incidents. 58% of the incidents involved emergency medical care.



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## Year in Review

### **Deputy Fire Rescue Chief – Paul DeRaedt**

2011 was a year of challenges faced and improvements in service for the Fire Rescue Department. The Department is committed to providing an exemplary level of service and this is accomplished by the dedication of the men and women of this Department and their commitment to the citizens of Crystal Lake.

#### **Community Fundraising**

Fire Rescue personnel participated in three fundraising events this year.

- The annual Muscular Dystrophy Association's Fill-the-Boot campaign coordinated by the Crystal Lake Professional Firefighters, Local 3926. The event took place September 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Through the efforts of the City's fire rescue personnel, the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department was able to raise over \$3,833 for this worthwhile cause.
- For the sixth year, fire rescue personnel participated in the Salvation Army's Red Kettle fundraising campaign. In 2011, the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department raised \$15,460.01.
- In lieu of holiday gifts, the Officers of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department donated \$600.00 to the Crystal Lake Food Pantry as part of the Officers' holiday tradition.

#### **Blizzard of 2011**

On February 1, 2011, the Crystal Lake community experienced a record snow. The City's Unified Departmental Command Center (UDOC) was activated, along with the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), in order to effectively manage the challenges that this record snowfall presented. The UDOC handled the present emergencies while the EOC handled the planning and strategic components of this event.

#### **Union Contract Negotiations**

Thanks to the committed efforts of Labor and Management, the Fire Rescue Department has established a three-year collective bargaining agreement.



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## Marine Monitor

The position of Marine Monitor is intended to place a safety and support person on the lake during hours of operation at Three Oaks Recreation Area (TORA). Fire Rescue had a successful season promoting TORA as a safe place to enjoy the warm days of summer.



Marine Monitor Brian Tamason patrols the lake at TORA.

## Promotions

On April 5, 2011, the Department celebrated the promotions of Bureau Chief Chris Olsen and Lieutenant Heidi Olsen. These promotions are a career milestone for both new officers and a leadership development opportunity for the Department.



Pictured L-R: BC Chris Olsen, Fire Rescue Chief James Moore, and Lt. Heidi Olsen

## National Incident Management System (NIMS) Training

Fire Rescue Department officers, along with supervisors from all of the City Departments participated in the NIMS required IS 300 & 400 courses. This training included two days of intense scenario-based table-top training. The benefits of this training were quickly realized during the City's response to the Blizzard of 2011.



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## Bariatric Ambulance

Thanks to the support of the Crystal Lake Rural Fire Protection District, the Crystal Lake Foreign Fire Insurance Board and the City of Crystal Lake, the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department has established the first and only advanced life support bariatric ambulance in McHenry County. This cooperative effort will allow the Fire Rescue Department to safely serve bariatric patients. Additionally, the Department received the IRMA 2010 "Best Risk Management/Safety Initiative Program – 1<sup>st</sup> Place" for our implementation of the Bariatric Ambulance and Equipment.



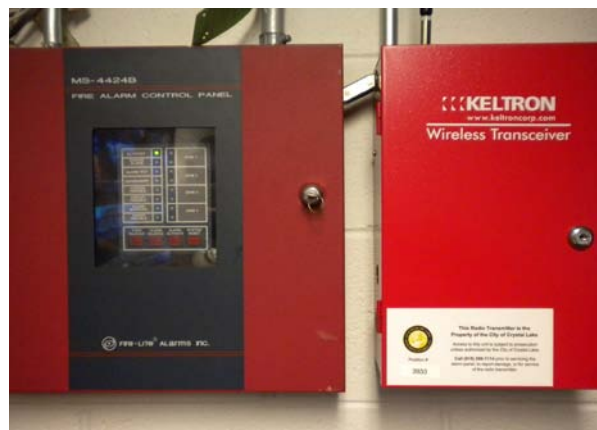
FF/PM Amanda Gundlach (L) and  
FF/PM John Ryan train with the new  
bariatric cot system.



IRMA's "Best Risk Management/Safety  
Initiative Program" Award.

## Crystal Lake Wireless Alarm Network (CLWAN)

This year saw the implementation of the Crystal Lake Wireless Alarm Network. Over 350 fire alarms were converted to this technology in receiving alarms.



Customer-owned fire alarm panel (L) and City-  
owned radio transceiver (R).





# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

On October 1, 2011, Chief of Police Dave Linder and Fire Rescue Chief James Moore were honored, on behalf of the City, to receive certification from the McHenry County Board for the development of the Citywide Emergency Operations Plan. Crystal Lake is one of two cities in McHenry County to have a certified Emergency Operations Plan.



## Rural Water Operations Policy

Due to the efforts of many people who have worked to develop the Rural Water Operations Policy and procure the 5" Siamese, along with the support of the Rural Fire District, the Department now has the tools, training, and organization for rural water operations.



Crystal Lake Fire Rescue personnel train with the new 5" Siamese appliance.



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



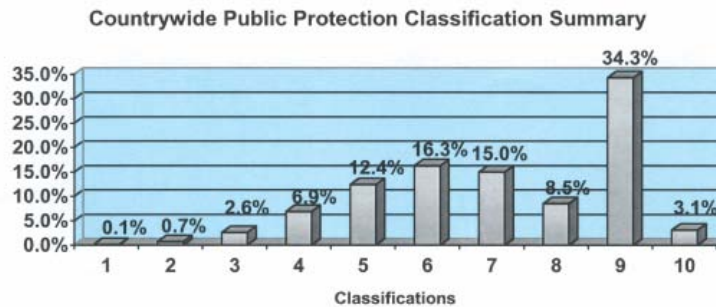
## Crimson Fire Engine 341

After months of hard work by many, especially Lt. Volenec and FF/PM Kaltenbach, the Department has placed the new Crimson Fire Engine in service.



## Improved ISO Rating in the Rural Fire District

The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department's recent ISO survey has resulted in a significant improvement to the Fire District's classification. Effective December 1, 2011, the classification for the Fire District improved from 9 to 6. This significant improvement is a result of the strong partnership between the City and the District, along with the commitment to the protection of the community that both boards have made.



## Significant Fireground Injury

On July 20, 2011, one of the Department's members suffered a significant fireground injury. An internal safety investigation and After Action Review was initiated. As the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department is committed to the safety of our personnel and the potential for this type of injury to occur again, an independent, third-party review was also conducted to look at all the factors of this incident. Chief Gordon Routley, who most notably was the lead investigator of the Charleston, South Carolina, Super Sofa Fire where 9 firefighters lost their lives, was selected to conduct the third-party review. The results of the review were presented to the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department, as well as other fire departments in McHenry County in an effort to prevent a similar accident.



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## **Annual Department Awards**

Annual awards were presented to Fire Rescue personnel on December 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>. Members were recognized in 3 award categories: Department Service Awards, EMS Service Awards, and Department Recognition Awards.

### Service Awards:

Lloyd Laufer	25 years
Tom Pollnow	25 years
Paul DeRaedt	20 years
Patrick Rozhon	15 years
Bill Whyte	15 years
Chris Bedore	10 years
Ray Jakubowicz	10 years
Chris Kopera	10 years
Carolyn Shipley	10 years
Gino Colucci	5 years
Adam Fowles	5 years
Tom Linneman	5 years
John Ryan	5 years
Brian Tamason	5 years

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

Paul DeRaedt	25 years
Todd Howell	20 years
Mike Lukas	20 years
Bob Kohley	15 years
Marty Perenchio	15 years
Matt Leuck	10 years
Heidi Olsen	10 years
Jim Sustek	10 years
Dan Williams	10 years
Chris Bedore	5 years
Nick Borst	5 years
Adam Bucheger	5 years
Gino Colucci	5 years
Mike Geyman	5 years
Drew Sypura	5 years



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## Department Recognition Awards

<b>Type of Award</b>	<b>Date of Incident</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Crew Receiving Award</b>
Award of Recognition	4/7/11	Full arrest with successful resuscitation.	Lt's. Kopera, Volenec FF/PM's Kownacki, Lucas, Ryan, Spivey
Award of Recognition	5/7/11	Discovered and extinguished a garbage can fire next to a house while returning from a previous call.	FF/PM's Hurley and D. Williams
Award of Recognition	5/30/11	Annual Memorial Day flag placement at the graves of Crystal Lake firefighters.	FF/PM's Cook, Kaltenbach, Rozhon
Unit Performance Award	7/11/11	Summer storm with record call volume.	DC DeRaedt, BC's Larsen, Olsen, Pollnow, Lt's Butler, Grischow, Kaiser, Lutherus, Stevenson FF/PM's Brechbiel, Bucheger, Cook, Fowles, Gabrielsen, Gundlach, Kauke, Marino, Muscavitch, Pace, Pireh, Ryan, Shipley, Szatkowski, Tamason, FF/EMT C. Williams, Admin Asst. Olszak
Award of Recognition	11/9/11	Full arrest with successful resuscitation.	Lt. Kopera, FF/PM's Borst, Geyman, Gundlach, Lucas, Rozhon

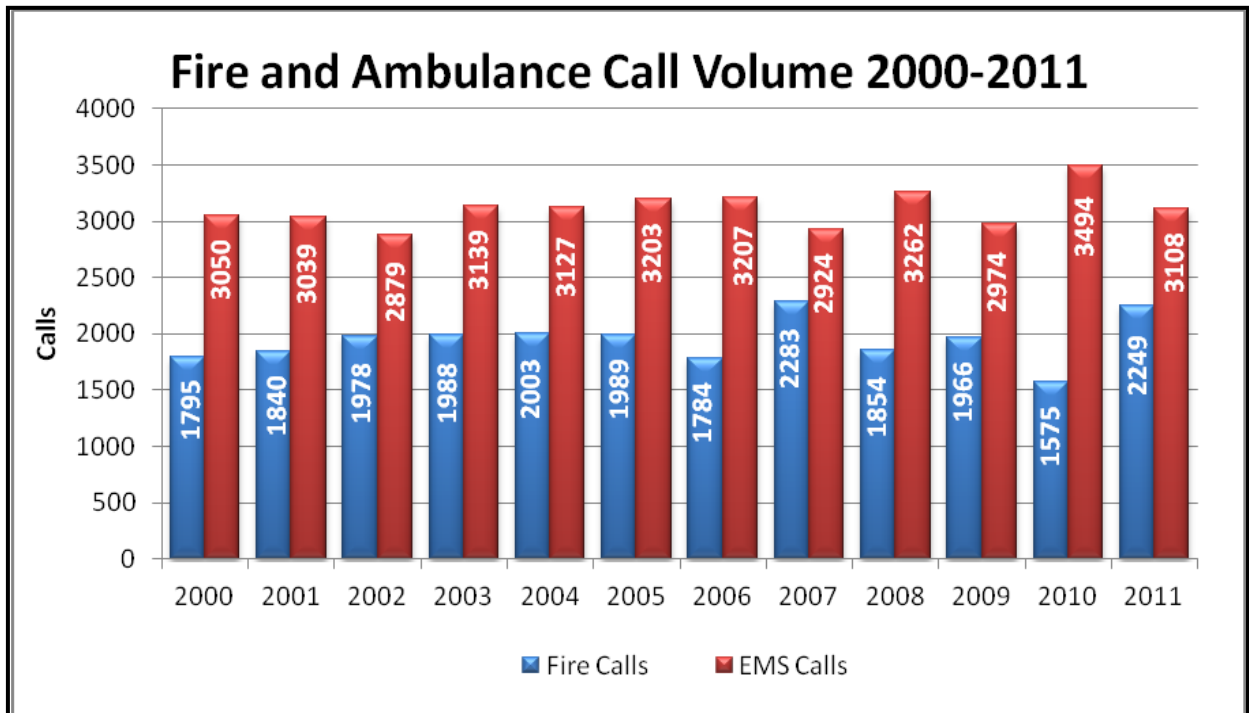
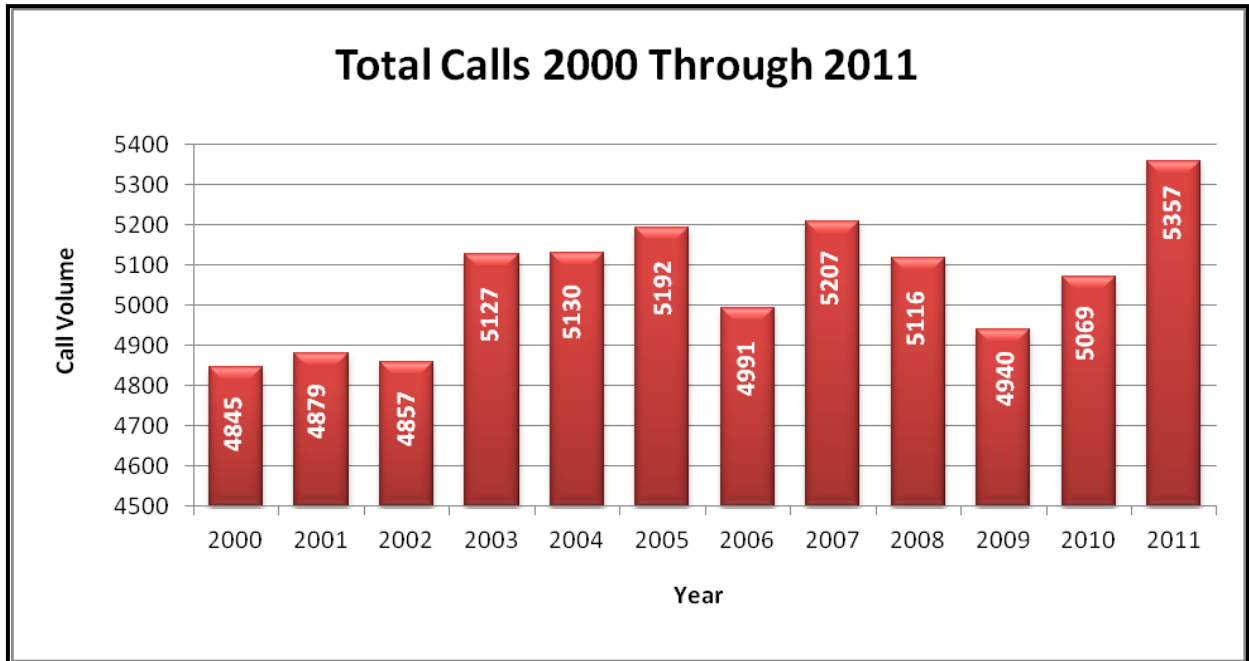


# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## Incident Statistics

**Battalion Chief William Whyte**





# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



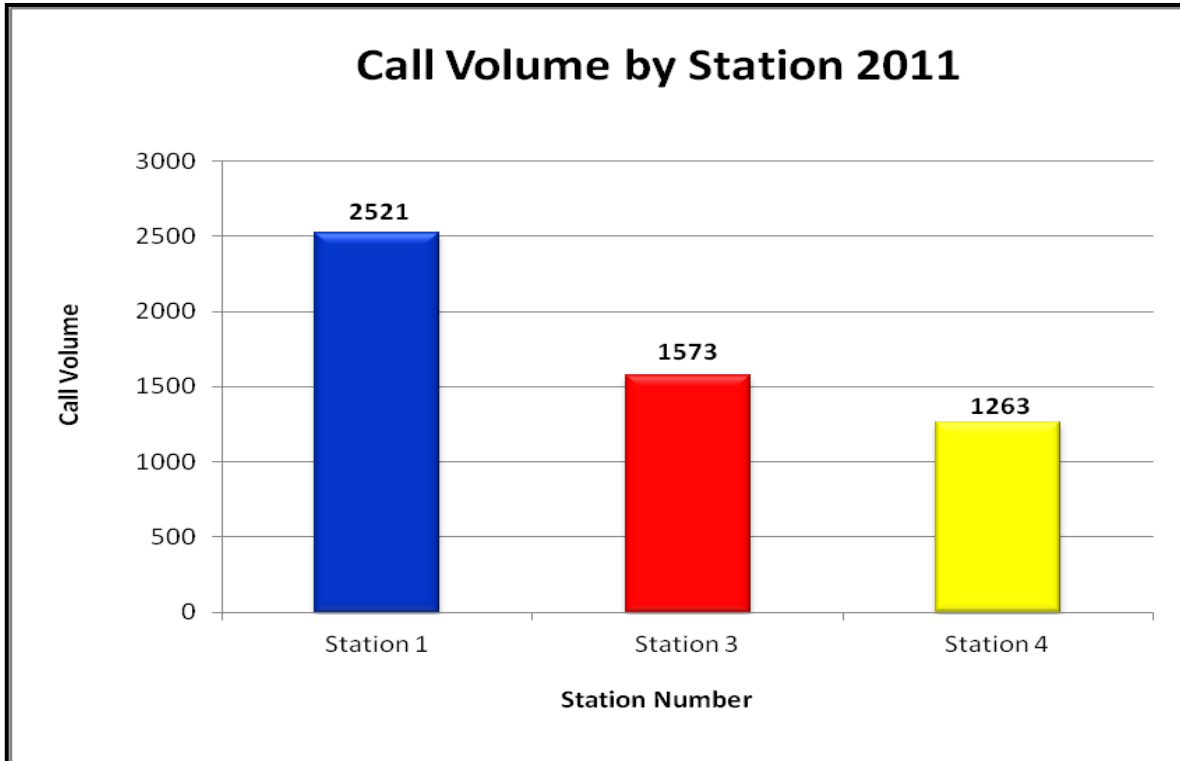
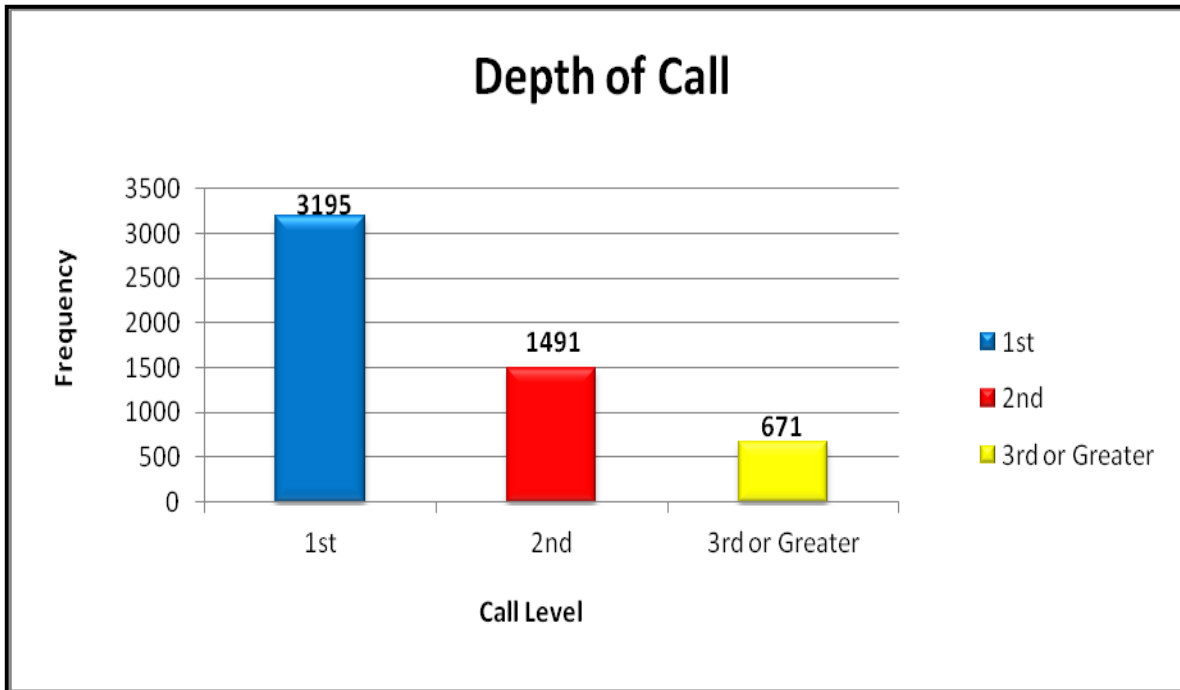
## Fire Rescue Department Calls for Service 2009-2011

Incident Type	# 2009	% 2009	#2010	% 2010	#2011	%2011
Fire	68	1.38%	65	1.28%	75	1.40%
Rescue and EMS Incidents	3,334	67.49%	3,503	69.11%	3,502	65.37%
Hazardous Conditions (No Fire)	184	3.72%	204	4.02%	345	6.44%
Service Call	405	8.20%	440	8.68%	456	8.51%
Good Intent Call	218	4.41%	136	2.68%	190	3.55%
Fire Alarms	731	14.80%	721	14.09%	789	14.73%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,940</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>5,069</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>5,357</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Jurisdiction	# 2009	% 2009	# 2010	% 2010	#2011	%2011
City of Crystal Lake	4,292	86.88%	4,432	87.43%	4,622	86.28%
CL Rural FPD	534	10.81%	541	10.67%	616	11.50%
Out of District	114	2.31%	96	1.90%	119	2.22%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,940</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>5,069</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>5,357</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report





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## Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department Fire Suppression Response Times Within Each Response District

	Station 1	Station 3	Station 4
Average Alarm Processing Time	1:46	1:40	1:56
Average Turn Out Time	0:55	0:58	0:51
Average Travel Time	4:23	4:19	5:21
<b><i>Average Alarm To Scene Time</i></b>	<b>7:04</b>	<b>6:57</b>	<b>8:08</b>

## Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department EMS Response Times Within Each Response District

	Station 1	Station 3	Station 4
Average Alarm Processing Time	1:56	1:56	1:57
Average Turn Out Time	0:35	0:34	0:32
Average Travel Time	3:48	3:50	4:44
<b><i>Average Alarm To Scene Time</i></b>	<b>6:19</b>	<b>6:20</b>	<b>7:13</b>





# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## Public Education

### **Coordinator- Lieutenant Joyce Stevenson**

Public Education is a section of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department's Fire Prevention Bureau. It supports the Fire Prevention Bureau by informing all age groups about fire prevention with the goal of reducing fires, fire injuries, and fire deaths. The Department receives many requests each year to conduct tours and fire safety talks to school groups, scouts, senior groups, businesses, and other organizations. In 2011, 221 events were presented to approximately 26,400 people.

The majority of the Department's events were directed to school children from ages 3 to 9 years old. Children 4-6 years old are taught to avoid things that can burn them, learn what to do if their clothes catch on fire (STOP, DROP, ROLL), and know that a firefighter in his/her protective gear is a friend who will help them in a fire. Older children are encouraged to make and practice a fire escape plan with their family. All children are encouraged to know the emergency number 911, as well as their name, address, and telephone number.

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

- The Crystal Lake Expo - emphasis is placed on emergency preparedness in case of disaster. Brochures were developed to encourage people to be prepared at home or work in case of a blizzard or severe summer storm.
- EMS Open House – Emergency medical equipment, apparatus and demonstration are on display. Numerous healthcare agencies are on hand that can help participants develop a healthy life style.
- McHenry County Children's Health Fair – The Department's Safety Trailer is featured at this county-wide event.
- National Night Out - organized by the Crystal Lake Police Department, this nationally recognized event provides an opportunity to showcase the Fire Rescue Department's equipment and talk to families.



Crystal Lake Fire Rescue personnel demonstrate CPR at the Department's EMS Open House.



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- Johnny Appleseed Festival – this highly attended family event features the Department’s Fire Safety Trailer and 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 Department’s vehicles, tour the fire station, and participate in an escape drill in the Department’s Safety Trailer.



FF/PM Palmer Pace assists a young visitor in spraying the fire hose at the Department’s Annual Open House.



A future firefighter tries his luck at the axe swing portion of the obstacle course as Lt. Heidi Olsen (L) encourages him.



FF/PM Brian Marino takes his turn in the “Ask the Firefighter” booth.



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## CPR Coordinator – Lieutenant Joyce Stevenson

The demand for Cardiopulmonary (CPR) Classes has increased due to more businesses and organizations having an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) installed on their premises. Crystal Lake offers American Heart Association classes which include:

- Healthcare Provider classes
- Healthcare Provider Recertification classes
- Heartsaver AED classes
- Heartsaver /First Aid classes
- Hands-on testing for Healthcare providers that take the online course to recertify.

The Department offers regularly scheduled classes monthly and will schedule classes for businesses and organizations such as schools, churches, scouts, sporting groups, and social service organizations. Listed below is the breakdown of classes taught in 2011:

Group	Number of Students	Number of classes
Scheduled classes	156	21
City of Crystal Lake staff	120	18
Three Oaks Recreation Area staff	47	4
School District 47/Immanuel Lutheran	103	10
Businesses/organizations	228	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>654</b>	<b>81</b>

\* Student to Instructor ratio is a maximum of 6:1

Information regarding CPR training classes can be found on the City's website at [www.crystallake.org](http://www.crystallake.org), on the City's Public Access Channel 17, and in the City's quarterly newsletter. Due to the numerous calls received from individuals needing to be certified for work, the Department has developed a list of area facilities that also teach CPR throughout the year. Individuals that cannot be accommodated in a Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department CPR class are referred to an area facility on that list.



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## 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.

#### **Crystal Lake Wireless Alarm Network**

The Crystal Lake Wireless Fire Alarm (CLWAN) program started at the end of 2010 and was completed in 2011. The monitoring equipment installation was completed in January. The radio transceiver installation started in January with selected radios being monitored in early February. As of December 2011, 359 subscribers are being monitored by the CLWAN system.

#### **Plan Reviews**

During the calendar year of 2011, the Fire Prevention Bureau completed 438 plan reviews. Listed below are the types and amounts completed:

Type of Review	Number
PUD	7
SUP	4
TUP	39
Sprinkler System	67
Fire Alarm System	84
Wet Chemical/Ansul	11
Building Permit	114
Building Permit Occupancy	39
Cursory	15
Variation	13
Façade Grant	4
FOIA	39
County - Residential	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>438</b>



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## Inspections / Code Enforcement

The Fire Prevention Bureau completed 976 inspections in the calendar year of 2011. Listed below are the types and amounts completed:

Inspection Type	Number of Inspections
Construction / Status	126
Fire Alarm	114
Sprinkler System	143
Hood or Other Suppression	17
Life Safety Follow Up / Target Hazard	148
Occupancy	256
Concerns / Condition Report	172
<b>Total</b>	<b>976</b>

## Life Safety Inspections

During the calendar year of 2011, the Fire Rescue Department conducted 964 Life Safety Inspections. All Life Safety Inspections were conducted by in-service fire companies.

Life Safety Inspections	Calendar Year 2011
Initial Inspections	679
Re-Inspections	285
<b>Total</b>	<b>964</b>



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## Specialized Rescue Teams

### **Divemaster - Lieutenant Kirk Kiermas**

During 2011, the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Dive Rescue Team (DRT) continued to be active in training and incident response. DRT personnel regularly train on basic and advanced dive techniques. Team training is essential for the safe and efficient performance of all DRT members. Additionally, all Fire Rescue personnel have been trained to assist in dive operations, boat operations, surface water rescue, and communications. Total Department coordination is paramount to successful mitigation of emergency responses.

Several of the training areas the DRT focused on during the year are as follows:

- Annual basic skills refresher
- Boat operations
- Compass navigation
- Dead reckoning navigation
- Underwater hardwire communication
- Underwater wireless communication
- Rope signal communication
- Search and recovery techniques
- Ice diving
- Sonar operations
- Surface water rescue

All DRT personnel have to achieve minimum training certifications in order to meet Department standards. Minimum certification requirements are as follows:

- Public Safety Diver I
- Dive Rescue I
- Ice Rescue Diver

The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department is a member of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS) and the Lake and McHenry Counties Specialized Rescue Team (SRT). To maintain these memberships, all DRT personnel must complete a minimum number of training dives each year, including open water, ice dive, and annual basic skills.

During 2011, the DRT performed most of their training dives at Three Oaks Recreation Area (TORA).



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With this being the first full operational year at TORA, the DRT concentrated its energies in this new environment with the goal of gaining more experience in this very popular summer activity destination. Training dives were held in the north and south lakes with the intent of avoiding any contact with the public in regards to traffic, parking, and the recreation area activities.



A diver prepares for a shore entry into the north lake at TORA.



FF/PM Ryan Muscavitch (R) assists Lt. Kirk Kiermas as he prepares to enter the water at TORA.

## SRT Coordinator - Lieutenant Dan Grischow

The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Specialized Rescue Team (SRT) stayed very active in training in 2011. The Crystal Lake SRT is also a part of the larger Lake & McHenry Counties Specialized Rescue Team, which prepares for high risk, low frequency incidents. As no one department can have all the equipment and manpower to handle these events, the combined manpower and specialized equipment from Lake and McHenry Counties are able to handle these specialized calls for service.

### Incidents

The Crystal Lake SRT team had one call out for technicians in 2011. The incident was for a man trapped in a trench by a partial cave-in while working on a sewer. The incident occurred in nearby McHenry Township Fire Protection District and three Crystal Lake SRT technicians assisted in the rescue.

### Training

Team members train in four major specialties:

- Structural Collapse
- Trench Rescue
- Confined Space Rescue
- High Angle Rescue



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Crystal Lake Technicians attended over 140 hours of additional rescue training this year. Along with hosting an equipment familiarization drill in February, Crystal Lake technicians provided manpower and equipment for several other drills around McHenry County. Annually, Crystal Lake technicians attend a minimum of eight drills and one update each year. Trainings included structural collapse rescue, slope evacuation, trench rescue, and confined space rescue.

Several Crystal Lake Firefighters began their training to become SRT technicians with the Lake & McHenry Counties team this past year. A commitment of four – 40-hour training classes is needed to obtain operations level certification and four additional 40-hour training classes to reach technician level certification.

## Equipment

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue continues to house the Lake & McHenry Counties Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) truck and two roll-off containers at Fire Station 3. These USAR containers contain tools and specialized equipment that team members can use to handle almost any type of specialized rescue incident. One canister contains the equipment needed for high angle rescue, confined space, and structural collapse rescue (SRT 5). The other canister was designated as the trench canister (Trench 5) because it was larger and could hold the large amount of equipment and lumber that is needed in this type of incident.



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





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## **Haz Mat Team Coordinator - Lieutenant Dan Grischow**

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

### **Incidents**

The Crystal Lake team members responded to one incident this last year. The incident involved the accidental mixing of two chemicals that produced dangerous fumes in a Pleasant Prairie, WI processing plant. Fortunately, only two minor inhalation injuries were sustained by plant workers.

### **Training**

Crystal Lake Technicians attended over 140 hours of continuing education during 2011, including monthly drills and attended seminars and classes in hazardous materials identification, incident management, and chemical process industries.



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

### EMS Coordinator – Lieutenant Chris Kopera

#### Training

Shift members were presented new, challenging scenarios in securing patient's airways in the Intubation Obstacle Course. The Intubation Obstacle Course gave our paramedics an opportunity for skill practice in orotracheal intubation to reinforce confidence in the technique of securing a patent airway in the unconscious patient and working together as a team. This training was initiated by Crystal Lake personnel with the approval of our EMS system.

Skill stations were purposely made difficult to challenge the paramedic's abilities and foster skill development. Seen below are two of the three stations:

1. The patient "trapped in the vehicle" station where the paramedic must position "on the hood" in front of the patient and perform the skill in a reverse position.
2. The "dance club" where loud music, dance floor lighting and a smoke machine create an obnoxious environment meant to develop the paramedic's focus on the skill.



FF/PM Mark Landwer (L), intubates the patient in the "Vehicle Station".



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FF/PM Patrick Rozhon intubates a patient in the "Dance Club".

## EMS Statistics

EMS Incident Outcome	Number of Patients	% of Patients
Hospital Transport	2,680	71.73%
Non-Transport	1,043	27.92%
Other Agency Transport	13	0.35%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,736</b>	<b>100%</b>

Transport Services Provided	Number of Patients	% of Patients
Advanced Life Support	1,794	48.02%
Basic Life Support	890	23.82%
Non-Transport	1,052	28.16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,736</b>	<b>100%</b>

Transport Destination	Number of Patients	% of Patients
Centegra-McHenry	921	34.37%
Centegra-Woodstock	1,194	44.55%
Good Shepherd	381	14.22%
Sherman	183	6.83%
St. Joseph	1	0.03%
Non-Transport	1,056	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,736</b>	<b>100%</b>



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## Training Bureau

### **Bureau Chief of Training – Christopher Olsen**

The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department has continued to emphasize the development of Department personnel. 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 22,000 hours of training in order to remain proficient in all areas of emergency operations.

In 2011, the Training Bureau has accomplished the following:

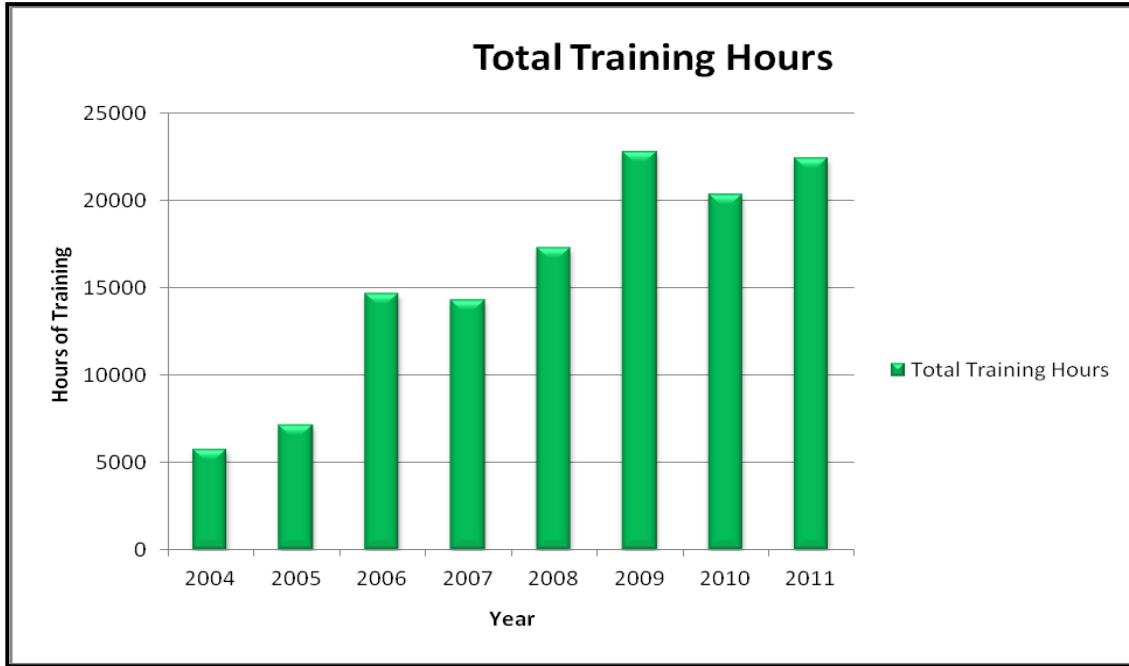
- Provided live fire training utilizing the Department's agreement with the Huntley Fire Protection District to use their training facility.
- Prepared and presented a Fire Officer Development seminar with a qualified and well-known fire service speaker at McHenry County College.
- Continued the validation program to determine if the training being conducted on a daily basis is providing the expected or desired results in improved performance from personnel.
- Hosted a "Courage to be Safe" class in conjunction with the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation.
- Completed the Acting Company Officer development class to assist Department personnel who occasionally work in a supervisory role. This was a pilot program and has been very beneficial to our personnel working in this capacity.
- Added new equipment for better training evolutions.



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## 2011 Training Bureau Statistics



Crystal Lake crews practice a water flow evolution.



Truck 381 positions to ladder the roof during a training exercise.



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



In 2011, Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department personnel logged 22,453 hours of training. On average, each firefighter/paramedic participated in approximately 345 hours of training annually, or 28.75 hours of training monthly.

## **Professional Development and Certifications**

Department personnel attended many classes, seminars and trainings, including a large number of those being State certification courses. Some of the certification courses attended by Department personnel are as follows:

- Instructor I and II
- Tactics & Strategy I and II
- Management I,II, III, and IV
- Fire Prevention Principles I
- Vehicle Machinery Operations
- Rope Operations
- Advanced Technician Firefighter
- Trench Operations
- Structural Collapse Operations
- Confined Space Operations
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support
- Fire Investigator
- Incident Safety Officer
- Training Program Manager
- Hazardous Materials Incident Command

Crystal Lake Fire Rescue personnel have spent many hours both in the classroom and on the training ground. The following list reflects some of the other types of educational opportunities that have been made available to the Department's personnel:

- Live fire suppression drills
- Water supply drills
- Forcible entry/exit drills
- Ventilation drills
- Building tours/Pre-plans
- Building construction training
- Auto-aid training with neighboring fire departments
- Aerial operation drills
- Ladder drills
- Incident Command training
- Specialty rescue
- Rapid intervention training
- Fireground Command and Company Officer training



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## Probationary Training

This year, two new members joined the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department. Both of these individuals have completed over 240 hours of orientation training over a 6-week period. This comprehensive training far surpasses most other Fire Rescue Departments' orientation programs. Probationary members of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department are trained in Department policies and procedures and EMS System protocol knowledge, as well as many different firefighting skills. At the end of the orientation period, the probationary members are tested on the "Essential Firefighter skills" and complete a comprehensive EMS testing of protocol knowledge and skills.

## New Training Equipment

A few new pieces of equipment were purchased and put into service this year, including the purchase of a training port-a-tank, which is used for rural water drafting operations training. This particular piece is smaller than what would be used on scene and was designed for training purposes. With this additional port-a-tank, each station is outfitted with a port-a-tank and these drills can be performed at each station.

An additional piece of equipment purchased this year was the Friction Force forcible entry simulator. This tool provides the Department with the opportunity to practice forcible entry techniques.



Training Port-A-Tank for rural water operations.



Friction Force forcible entry simulator.



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report

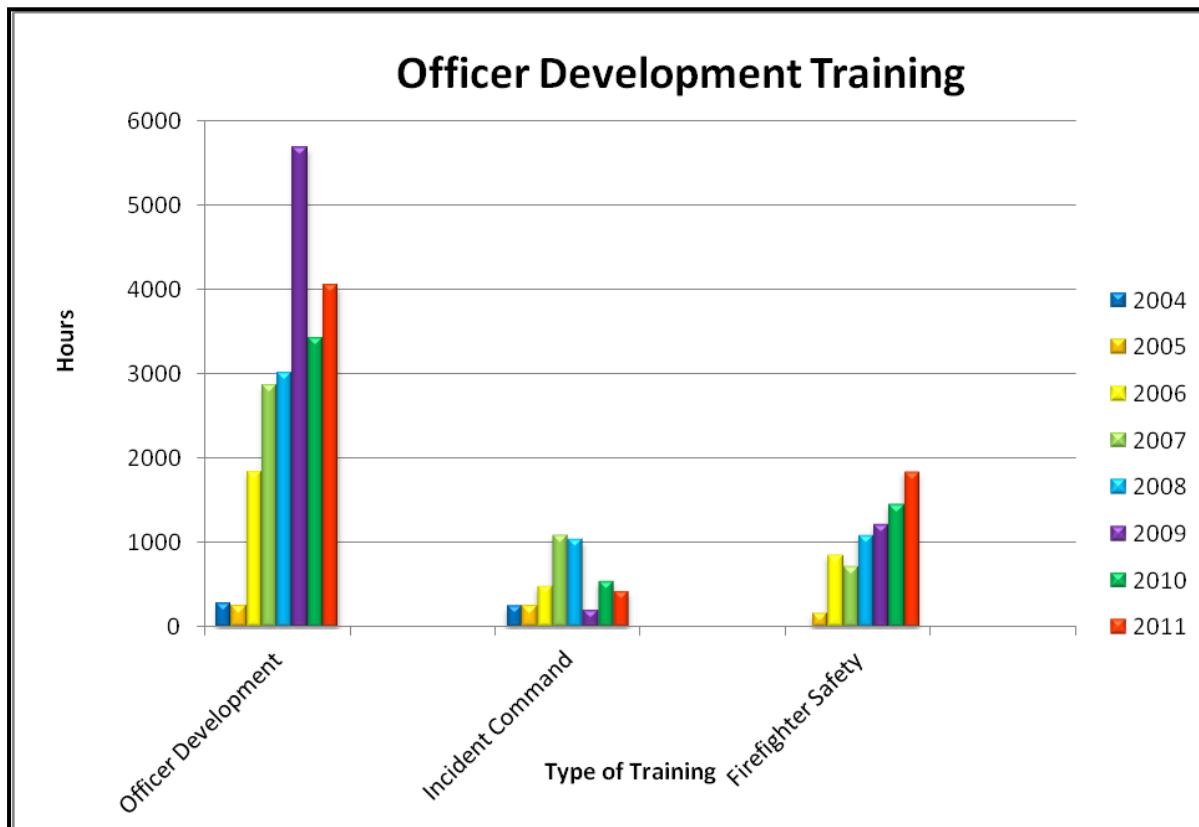


## Fire Officer Training

Officer Development continues to be a priority for the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department. By developing the knowledge and abilities of the Department's officers, they in turn can better instruct and lead the Department's firefighter/paramedics. Each officer is required to attend outside training classes that will educate, enhance, or supplement their own knowledge and experience levels. In 2011, Fire Rescue Department officers logged over 4,200 hours of Officer Development training.

In addition to attending Fire Officer I and II courses, other courses or seminars attended by Fire Rescue officers training included:

- Fireground Command Officer class at the Illinois Fire Service Institute
- Fireground Company Officer at the Illinois Fire Service Institute
- Leadership at Private Dwelling Fires
- Blue Card Command Class Series







# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## SCBA Training Trailer

The Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) trailer is owned by the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department and is utilized by five McHenry County fire departments, including:

- Cary Fire Protection District
- McHenry Township Fire Protection District
- Richmond Fire Protection District
- Woodstock Fire/Rescue District
- Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department

Throughout the year, Crystal Lake Fire Rescue personnel have the opportunity to drill in the trailer. The trailer provides a confidence course for members wearing SCBA and also works for practice of various rescue scenarios

## Validation Training

At various times of the year, validation drills were completed amongst all the shifts. Validation drills are an essential part of any training program to ensure that the skills being taught are accomplishing proficiency by all personnel.

The validation drills consist of 14 areas of job function from which the company officer selects at random to perform. The station assigned to perform the validation drill then gathers the equipment necessary to perform the drill, re-locating to a specific training site, if necessary. The validation drills have a time standard in which the drill must be completed.



Fire Rescue personnel train on water supply operations. (L) Crews are timed on how long it takes to make a hydrant connection. (R) Rural water operations are drilled on to improve proficiency in non-hydranted areas.



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## Safety Committee

### **Chairman – Bureau Chief Christopher Olsen**

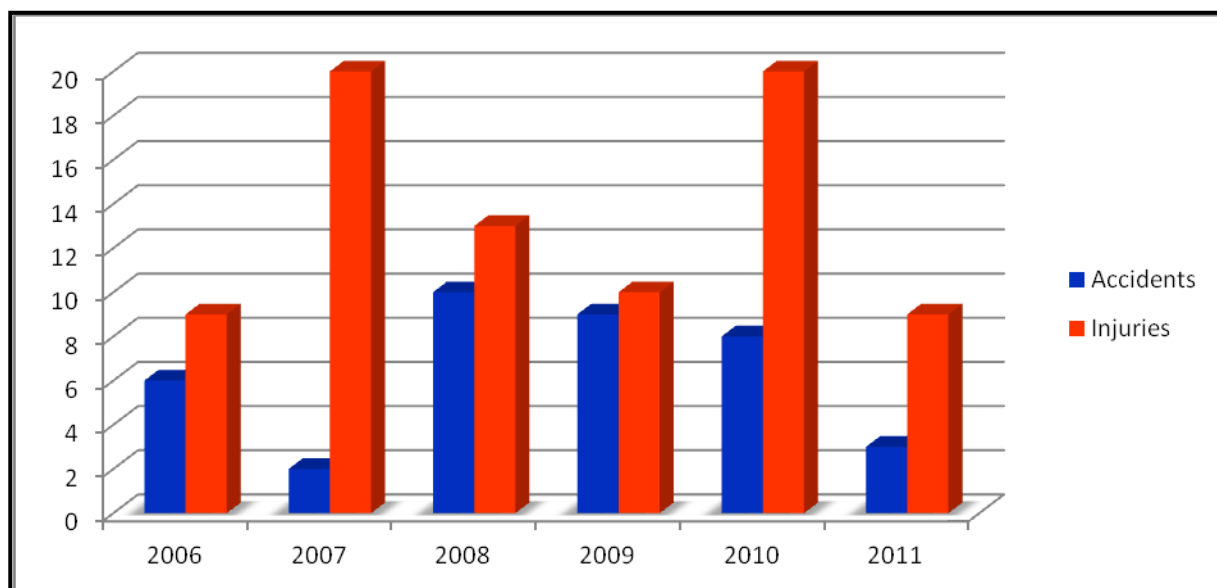
The Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department Safety Committee continues to be an integral part of the City of Crystal Lake's overall risk management plan and program. Through the Safety Committee, management and employees can communicate safety concerns and ideas to promote a safe work environment for Department employees.

Some of the Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department's accomplishments in the area of safety over the past year include:

- Reduced the total number of preventable vehicle accidents by over 50%.
- Reduced the total number of preventable employee injuries by over 50%.
- Continued quarterly driver education training.
- Purchased additional equipment for the Department's bariatric ambulance.
- Continued to promote the Department's Observed Behavior Program.
- Promoted the use of physical fitness equipment to improve personal strength and health.
- Implemented a warm-up routine for multi-company practical evolutions.

### **Accident/Injury Investigations**

The Fire Rescue Department Safety Committee conducted a total of 12 accident/injury investigations for the year 2011. The following graph shows a comparison between previous years' accident/injury investigations:

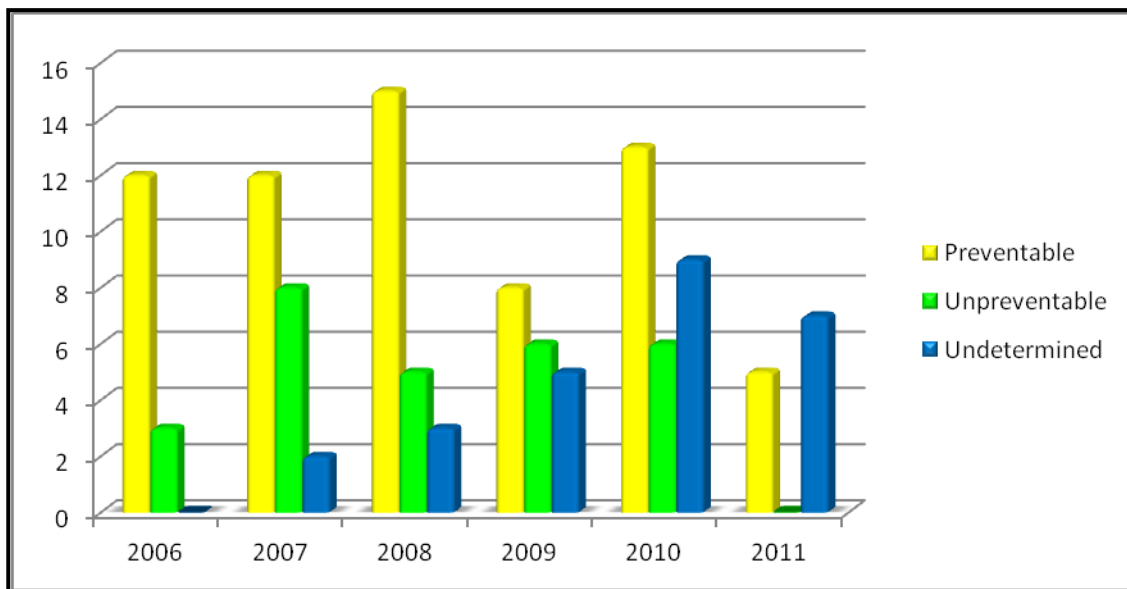




# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



Reducing the number of preventable accidents was a major focus for the Safety Committee during 2011 and will continue to be a priority for years to come. The following graph shows a comparison between preventable, unpreventable, and undetermined accident/injury investigations from 2006 to 2011.



## 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 SCBA. The Department follows NFPA 1851, which outlines maintenance, inspections, and the recommended serviceable life of personal protective equipment (PPE).

In 2011, the following was achieved:

- Replacement of 8 sets of bunker gear that had reached their serviceable life.
- Instituted a "Personal Protective Equipment Maintenance" policy, which assists members with the maintenance of their gear as outlined per NFPA 1851.
- Quarterly inspections of all PPE as outlined per NFPA 1851.



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## 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 can also be assigned as part of a judgment by the juvenile court system.

There were no cases in 2011.

## SCBA Program

### **SCBA Coordinator - Lieutenant Rick Kaiser**

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) are vital pieces of equipment and are used on a daily basis by fire rescue personnel 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 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.

#### **Fit Testing**

Fit testing of face pieces for employees in the Fire Rescue Department, Police Department, and certain Public Works employees, is conducted on an annual basis 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 Department has its own air compressor that is used strictly for compressing air for our 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 our use.



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## Retired Members

In 2011, the following 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.



EMT-P Rebecca Pierce  
9 Years



Battalion Chief John Lardino  
16 Years



Bureau Chief Robert Olszewski  
26 years



# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## In Memoriam

### **TRACY BEYER**

On June 6, 2011, beloved friend and co-worker Tracy Beyer passed on to eternal life. Tracy, who brought an infectious spirit and smile to work as the Department's Office Coordinator for almost two decades, will be dearly missed by all.





# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## Station Locations

Fire Station One  
100 W. Woodstock Street



Fire Station Three  
844 Virginia Road

Fire Station Four  
8705 Bard Road





# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report



## Department Roster

### **Officers**

James Moore	Fire Rescue Chief
Paul DeRaedt	Deputy Fire Rescue Chief
Jerry Larsen	Bureau Chief of Fire Prevention
Chris Olsen	Bureau Chief of Training
Robert Olszewski	Bureau Chief of EMS
Tom Pollnow	Battalion Chief
Robert Kohley	Battalion Chief
John Lardino/Bill Whyte	Battalion Chief
Rick Kaiser	Lieutenant
Kirk Kiermas	Lieutenant
Robert Lutherus	Lieutenant
Tim Butler	Lieutenant
Dan Grischow	Lieutenant
John Volenec	Lieutenant
Casey Cork	Lieutenant
Chris Kopera	Lieutenant
Heidi Olsen	Lieutenant
Joyce Stevenson	Lieutenant

### **Members**

Aiello, Mike	Jakubowicz, Ray	Pace, Palmer
Angelo, Chris	Kaltenbach, Dave	Perenchio, Marty
Bedore, Chris	Kauke, Bryan	Pierce, Rebecca
Beyer, Tracy	Kerley, Tim	Pireh, Martin
Borst, Nick	Kownacki, Kevin	Rozhon, Patrick
Brechbiel, Bob	Kreher, Rich	Ryan, John
Bucheger, Adam	Kunes, Annette	Schmitt, Kim
Buterbaugh, John	Laufer, Lloyd	Shiple, Carolyn
Cook, Darrell	LeClercq, Dave	Spivey, Jim
Colucci, Gino	Landwer, Mark	Stoddard, Rick
Forsberg, Joe	Leuck, Matt	Sustek, Jim
Fowles, Adam	Linneman, Tom	Sypura, Andrew
Gabrielsen, Toby	Lucas, Mike	Szatkowski, Dane
Geyman, Michael	Lukas, Mike	Tamason, Brian
Gualdoni, James	Lutherus, Art	Thuma, Matt
Gundlach, Amanda	Marino, Brian	Williams, Chris
Hagen, Scott	Menzimer, Brian	Williams, Dan
Havemann, Ed	Muscavitch, Ryan	Wisz, Rob
Howell, Todd	Odishoo, Tim	
Hurley, Mike	Olszak, Linda	





# Crystal Lake Fire Rescue Department 2011 Annual Report

