

# ROSEVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT



May 2016

## Kicking off 2016

The Fire Department has decided to take a little different approach to providing communication and information. In the past we provided a departmental report monthly, starting this year we have decided that we will be providing quarterly reports. These reports will include the big changes and events happening at the fire department and around the community

## Staying busy

2016 is off to a record pace both in emergency requests for service and in the area for building and inspections. The first few months of the year has provided a 3% increase in call volume over 2015, keeping the crews very busy serving the community.

As fate would have it the City is also in the middle of a mini building boom with several large projects and many smaller projects that are in the works. Some of the larger projects consist of Rosedale Mall remodel, a parking ramp addition and a new anchor store, as well as multiple senior housing projects and hotel construction and remodels.

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*"With the sheer amount of change going on in the department over a very short period of time, focus and communication were the order of the day. When all was said and done the department stood tall, absorbed the changes and remained stronger than ever "*

*-- Fire Chief O'Neill*

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KPH Photography

## In This Issue

- Department Changes
- Training Events
- Significant Calls
- Community Events
- Ride Alongs



Fire Marshal John Lofus retired in April after 25 years of service

## Chief's Corner

Operationally, 2016 has been a busy year with more than a dozen fires requiring call-back firefighters. Most of the fires were related to single family homes and ranged from minor in nature to a few which were total losses. The fires were a combination of Roseville and Lake Johanna fires as part of our auto-aid partnership which continues to be more valuable than ever expected.

We've also had a lot of change in the department and see these as a continual of the transitional changes which began in 2015. All part of the new foundation of the very bright future of Roseville Fire.

## Fire Prevention Program

The first part of 2016 saw the retirement of Fire Marshal John Loftus who served the department since 1991. John was an influential part of the department these last 25 years, and will be missed throughout the department and community.

With John's departure, came the opportunity to evaluate current operations, and look for changes that will match the direction of the department, and better position us for the future. Fire Marshal duties and responsibilities were distributed throughout Fire Administration, most significant with the addition of official "Fire Marshal" oversight divided between Chief O'Neill, Assistant Chief Brosnahan, and Battalion Chief Baker.

Many changes have been made to the inspections and prevention programs, and will continue these changes over the next few years.



Tim O'Neill, Fire Chief

## Staff Changes

2016 burst out of the gate. The department was entrenched in personal changes with the promotion of David Brosnahan to Assistant Fire Chief, promotions of Neil Sjostrom and Sam Baker to Battalion Chief's, and Erin Stone and Dave Doucot to full-time firefighters, and most significantly the discontinuing of our part-time officers program.

## Safety & Risk Management

The Fire Department took over the City wide Safety & Risk Management Program at the start of the year. This program provides training and educational opportunities for all city staff to meet OSHA requirements, and areas of safety for all employees.

In the first few months of the year all employees received required right-to-know, and work place safety training as well as CPR training. The program runs continually throughout the year with specialized for varying work duties and risks.





Medic 610 arrives at the Fire Station

## New & Improved

### New Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)

In February the fire department took ownership of new SCBAs. The SCBAs are manufactured by Mine Safety Appliances (MSA) and are a known product to the department; we have used a similar SCBA product for the last 10 years.

SCBAs are a critical piece to our safety as these are what we wear and use to breathe when we go into dangerous environments. Firefighters trained on the SCBAs multiple times throughout the month of February and officially put them into service on March 1.

They have proven to be a great product and work really well for the firefighters. The SCBAs were a scheduled purchase from our Capital Improvement Plan and because we purchased from the same manufacturer the fire department saved substantial money because some of the equipment could be re-used.



### New Medical Response Vehicle

In March the fire department put into service a new medical response vehicle (Medic-610). This vehicle plays a critical role in our day-to-day response as it responds to over 3,000 calls per year, in addition to the many errands, inspections, and community events it travels to. As a part of a new design, the fire department has transitioned away from the Suburban style vehicle and moved to a utility style response vehicle. This transition allows for more equipment to be stored safely, a safer cab for the firefighters inside, and a longer life cycle maximizing its time and use for the fire department.

# 2016 Training Events

## Ramsey County Regional Training Event

On March 1 and March 2 the fire department hosted Mike Gagliano for a regional training event. Captain Gagliano is a Captain with the Seattle Fire Department and presents a program called “Go or No-Go” a fire response, size-up, and tactics -based course that challenges firefighters to make quick and educated decisions on tactics and approach to fires.

The fire department received a grant from the Minnesota Fire Board of Training and Education (MBFTE) and used the funds to bring Captain Gagliano in to present. The fire department opted to invite all of our surrounding departments in Ramsey County to have a regional training event. In all, over 80 firefighters from around Ramsey County were in attendance between the two presentations.



## Multi-Company and On-Shift Training

The fire department is off to another very busy and active year with training. Thus far we have hosted several multi-company drills: New SCBA training, Preventing Assaults, and Live Burn training.

In March the fire department had the opportunity to bring in Jon Hall, a presenter from the St. Paul Fire Department. Mr. Hall presented on “Preventing Assaults on Firefighters.” This presentation covered a lot of excellent topics with the primary focus on how firefighters can avoid getting themselves involved with combative patient on medical calls and other tips on how to keep situational awareness on fire scenes to prevent themselves from becoming victims of violence.



In April the fire department conducted live fire training at the East Metro Public Safety Training Center in Maplewood. Crews worked through several different fire and rescue scenarios that challenged their ability to quickly deploy hose-lines, enact a ground ladder rescue, and perform a rapid primary search.

In addition to our large-scale multi-company training the on-duty crews have been busy with our on-shift training program. So far this year we have trained on several fire and EMS-related topics ranging from search and rescue, tourniquets, water rescue, hazardous materials, traumatic injuries, and standpipe operations.



# Significant Calls

Roseville Fire is already on track to have a year for record calls. Below are some of the significant calls we've attended to so far in 2016:



*February 4:* RFD assisted New Brighton Fire at a building fire at Bona Brother's Truck & Utility. Our crews were able to assist with preparing water supply and laddering the roof. From there we had a mix of responsibilities that included fire suppression, overhaul, & salvage.

*January 31:* A multi-vehicle fire at 0400 near Cleveland Ave. and County Road C2. No injuries were reported and the fire was put under control shortly after crews arrived

*March 13:* Roseville Fire Fighters with assistance from St. Paul Fire, Maplewood Fire, Little Canada Fire, and Roseville Police were dispatched to our first Project Life Saver incident. A ten year old boy went missing near the Dale St. and Larpentuer area in Roseville. The boy was a registered participant in the Project Life Saver program which allowed the responding fire units to use radio frequency tracking equipment to search for the child. After approximately 20 minutes of searching the child was located safe and was reunited with his father. The project life saver is a new initiative that several Ramsey County Fire Departments have begun to undertake.



*March 26:* Roseville Firefighters were called to the 800 block of County Road B for the report of smoke coming from a house. Crews found a working fire in the home and quickly extinguished it. No one was home at the time of the fire. The cause of the fire is being investigated as arson.

*April 15:* A large structure fire that had 7 fire departments at a house in North Oaks where significant damage was reported. Battalion Chief Baker continues to assist with the investigation of the fire.

*May 9:* House fire on the 1800 block of Lydia Ave W, significant damage to the living areas.



# Community Events

We continued our work with the community during the first part of 2016. We had multiple station tours, car seat clinics, school visits, youth sporting events, and much more!



## Upcoming Events

- **Fridays with Firefighters**

Every 2nd & 4th Friday June through August 10am –noon

Stop by for fun kid activities and a tour of the fire station!

- **Car seat Clinics**

Saturday July 9th, 9am-noon

Roseville Fire Station

Call 651-207-2008 for an appointment

- **Bus Rapid Transit kick off**

Saturday June 11th, 11am-1pm

HarMar mall, touch a truck event

◆ *If you are interested in setting up a visit or a tour of the fire station call Emily at 651-792-7309*

## CONTACT US

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Permits/Inspections 651-792-7340

[www.cityofroseville.com/fire](http://www.cityofroseville.com/fire)

[Facebook.com/RosevilleMNFireDepartment](https://www.facebook.com/RosevilleMNFireDepartment)

Twitter: @RosevilleMN\_FD



## Ride Along Program

Roseville Fire Department offers community members who are interested in the fire service to “ride along” with crews on their shift. In March we had a student from Macalaster College, who was interested in first response and also wanted to document some photos of firefighters for a photography class. Below are some of her pictures. All photo credit is for KPH photography

\*if you are interested in a ride along contact our Administration at 651-792-7309

