



On The Scene

Plainfield Fire Protection District

Volume 3, Issue 3

Fall 2015

MISSION STATEMENT

THE PLAINFIELD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT IS DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE BY SAVING LIVES AND PROTECTING PROPERTY THROUGH EFFICIENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND PREVENTION.

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From the Chief



David S. Riddle, Chief

Our schools have now resumed classes and I'm offering another gentle reminder to please put down the cell phone and reduce the many other distractions that put others at risk on the roads and especially around our schools. Texting and phone calls can wait.

Some of the changes you'll see around the fire district include the flashing warning lights near each of our 4 fire stations to give a timely warning to motorists that our emergency apparatus are departing the station to respond to a call. These additions were substantially funded by a grant from our insurance company and we're confident they'll reduce the potential for accidents during our responses.

We're excited about our Fire Prevention Week Open House and please mark your calendar to attend Saturday October 3rd from noon until 3pm. See our article later in this edition for more details.

When you do come to our open house you'll be able to see the new training facilities; the latest addition to the Headquarters campus. These facilities are also discussed later in this issue but we look forward to using them to further sharpen the already excellent skills our firefighters and emergency medical personnel possess. We also anticipate further use as a regional training facility and are already fielding and making inquiries about that potential.

Our quarterly "Chat With The Chiefs" is scheduled for October 28th at 7pm here at our headquarters facility. This is an opportunity for our residents to hear brief presentations from Chief Konopek from the Plainfield Police Department, Chief Mike Veseling from the Oswego Fire Protection District and myself, as well as ask any questions concerning our various operations. We look forward to meeting you then.

Don't cringe but winter will too soon be upon us and we want you to consider what happens to the fire hydrant in front of your home or on your block when the snow accumulates. Remember, if you can't see it, neither can we. Please think about "adopting" your hydrant. Call our Fire Prevention office at 815-436-5335 for further information on how you can help us help you.

As a closing reminder to you, the Plainfield Fire Protection does NOT do telephone solicitations to collect funds for any purpose. If anyone calls you soliciting funds, suggesting they're representing the Plainfield Fire Protection District, please decline and let us know about it. There's little we can do to prevent the fraudulent efforts of these persons but we'll make appropriate notifications to the Illinois Attorney General's office. Make sure your family members, friends and neighbors are aware of this scam too and as always, Be careful out there....

David S. Riddle, Chief

Fire Prevention Week Open House

Saturday, October 3rd
Noon to 3 pm
Fire Station 2 on 135th St.

Join us for our Open House October 3rd at Fire Station 2, 23806 W. 135th St. from noon to 3 pm. This family friendly event will include: demonstrations, tours, a live burn fire sprinkler demonstration, a children's firefighter challenge course, visit from the Lifestar medical helicopter and the Will County EMA Mobile Incident Command Vehicle. There will also be free raffles and free hot dogs. We look forward to seeing you here!

Hear the **BEEP** where you **SLEEP**

EVERY BEDROOM NEEDS A WORKING SMOKE ALARM.
FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCT 4-10, 2015
firepreventionweek.org

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Fall
Craft
Show

Saturday, October 17th
from 9 am to 3 pm

PFPD Headquarters
23748 W. 135th Street

Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives!



Half of all fire deaths happen between 11 pm and 7 am when most people are sleeping. Three out of five home fire deaths are in homes without working smoke alarms. Of the home fire deaths, more than 1/3 of them occurred in homes with no smoke alarms. The risk of dying in a home fire is cut in half when your home has working smoke alarms. (Statistics from the National Fire Protection Association)

“Hear the Beep where you Sleep” is the theme for Fire Prevention Week 2015. This theme focuses on the importance of installing smoke alarms inside bedrooms. Having a smoke alarm in the hallway outside of bedrooms is important but there should also be a smoke alarm inside of every bedroom. At a minimum, there should be a smoke alarm in every bedroom, in the hallway outside of bedrooms, and on every level of your home, including the basement. Larger homes may need additional smoke alarms for adequate coverage. To avoid nuisance alarms locate smoke alarms 10 feet away from cooking appliances.

Interconnected smoke alarms offer the best protection because when one goes off they will all sound an alarm. Test your smoke alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button. If your smoke alarms have disposable batteries they should be changed every 6 months to ensure proper operation. A good reminder is “Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries.” Change the batteries in your smoke alarms in the spring and fall when you change your clocks for Daylight Savings Time. Even smoke alarms that are hardwired into your homes electric will have batteries for back up during a power outage; these batteries should also be replaced every 6 months. Replace smoke alarms when they reach 10 years of age or if they do not sound when tested. For more information about home smoke alarms visit www.nfpa.org/smokealarms or www.plainfieldfpd.com or you may call the Fire Prevention Bureau at 815-733-7314.



Replace your alarms after 10 years.

Smoke alarms do not last forever. If your alarms are 10 years old or older, replace them with new alarms.

U.S. Fire Administration



National Preparedness Month



September is National Preparedness Month! We encourage everyone to take the time to make an emergency plan and an emergency kit for your family, including your pets. Disasters can strike at any time and when a disaster happens you will be better prepared to handle it by having an emergency plan and an emergency kit in place. The theme for National Preparedness Month is “Don’t Wait. Communicate. Make Your Emergency Plan Today.” For more information on how to create your emergency plan and emergency kit please visit the following websites: www.ready.gov or www.willcountyyema.org or call us at 815-436-5335.

Training Facilities

Pictured right are the new training facilities under construction. The facilities will be utilized for regional training on specialized firefighter classes such as high angle rescue, confined space rescue, firefighting and fire officer training. Our Training Division is working on partnerships with educational institutions on the development of the regional firefighter training programs that will be available. Construction will be complete in October, come see these facilities during our Open House!



New Website Design: www.plainfieldfpd.com



Please visit our newly designed website at www.plainfieldfpd.com. Improvements are still being made and more features will be coming soon including the opportunity to sign up for emailed versions of this newsletter. Please send us an email at plfd_fire@plainfieldfpd.com or call us at 815-436-5335 if you have any questions or comments.

If you need help changing a smoke alarm or CO detector battery call us at 815-436-5335.

Plainfield Fire Profiles: Paramedic Craig Rundle



Paramedic Craig Rundle joined the Plainfield Fire Protection District in February of 2009. Craig began his career in EMS in 1980 as an ambulance driver and then in 1982 he became an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). In 1985 he attended Paramedic school at Loyola Hospital in Maywood. During his career, Craig also served 15 years as a Flight Medic on both helicopters and fixed wing planes that transported trauma patients to the hospital. Being a Paramedic is something that Craig enjoys because there is always variety, everyday is different and brings new opportunities to help people and to learn new things. Paramedics constantly train to keep up with the latest in medical care and technology. One of the most memorable calls of his career with the Plainfield Fire Protection District was when the Paramedics treated a cardiac arrest victim and resuscitated the patient before bringing them to the hospital. A short time later the patient returned to the fire station to thank the Duty Crew and had lunch with them. Craig has lived in Plainfield for 18 years and grew up in the town of LaSalle. He is the father of 3 adult children and 2 teens. When not at work Craig enjoys camping.

Chief Eichelberger Scholarship



The Plainfield Fire Department created a scholarship in honor of Chief John Eichelberger who retired in January of 2015. Four \$500 scholarships are available for high school seniors, who reside in the Plainfield Fire Protection District, and plan to attend college majoring in fire science, emergency medical services or first responder programs. Applications will be available in October for the 2016 class. The Plainfield Fire Department has partnered with the Plainfield School District 202 Foundation for Excellence to administer the scholarship program. Proceeds for the scholarship are raised during annual events that include the pancake breakfast, turkey raffle and pig roast. The Plainfield Fire Department includes past and current firefighters and paramedics of the Plainfield Fire Protection District. The history of the Fire Department goes back to 1888 with the original volunteer firefighters that served this area. Today the Plainfield Fire Department is a charitable association that supports members of the community and the fire service.

Fire and Life Safety for Kids

Fire Prevention Week begins October 4th and the Plainfield Fire Protection District is holding an open house on Saturday, October 3rd from noon to 3 pm as a Fire Prevention Week Kick Off Celebration! The open house will be held at Fire Station 2 where we will have a kids firefighter challenge, displays, demonstrations, tours, free giveaways, free raffle prizes and free hot dogs. The theme for Fire Prevention Week is "Hear the Beep where you Sleep." This means that every bedroom needs to have a smoke alarm inside of it; that makes it easier to hear the smoke alarm if you are asleep and it sounds an alarm. For more information about smoke alarms visit Sparky's page at www.sparkyschoolhouse.org.



Halloween is almost here! Celebrate safely by going trick-or-treating with an adult. Don't eat your candy until it has been inspected by an adult. Only cross the street at corners, don't run out from between parked cars because drivers may not see you. Watch for cars backing out of garages and driveways when walking on sidewalks. Be safe and have a Happy Halloween!



Hear the **BEEP** where you **SLEEP**



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FIRE PREVENTION WEEK
OCTOBER 4-10, 2015
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You may receive this newsletter even if you live outside the boundaries of the Plainfield Fire Protection District.
In order to save on costs, everyone in certain carrier routes will receive this mailing.

	<u>Dates to Remember</u>	<u>Open House!</u>
<u>Board of Trustees</u>	Fire Prevention Week Open House! Saturday, October 3, 2015 From noon to 3 pm at Fire Station 2, 23806 W. 135th Street	Saturday, October 3rd, Noon to 3 pm
Bill Barnes President	Plainfield Firefighter's Women's Association Craft Show! Saturday, October 17, 2015 from 9 am to 3 pm PFPD Headquarters, 23748 W. 135th Street	Fire Station Two 23806 W. 135th St.
James R. Lehmann Secretary	Chat With The Chiefs, Wednesday, October 28th at 7 pm PFPD Headquarters, 23748 W. 135th Street	We will have displays, demonstrations, fire station tours, free raffle prizes and free hot dogs.
Douglas Shreve Treasurer	October 31st, Halloween: Be Safe. Be Seen. Happy Halloween!	Please join us in celebration of Fire Prevention Week!
Tom Paul Trustee	November 1st, Daylight Saving Time Ends Change your clocks. Change your batteries. Smoke alarms save lives!	
<u>Fire Chief</u>	November 11th, Veterans Day Thank you U.S. Military Veterans for your service!	
David S. Riddle	November 26th, Thanksgiving Day Happy Thanksgiving!	



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★ where you **SLEEP** ★



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