



A SERVICE
PUBLICATION
OF THE
LA GRANGE
FIRE DEPARTMENT

EVENTS - 2016

69th Annual Pet Parade
Saturday June 4, 2016
9:30AM-11:00AM

Farmers Market
May- October
Thursdays
7:00AM – 1:00PM

Endless Summer – TBD

IAFF Local 2338 23rd
Annual Golf Outing May
27, 2016

West End Arts Festival
TBD

Fire Department
Annual Open House
Saturday October 1, 2016
11:00AM - 3:30PM

Halloween Walk - TBD

Hometown Holiday - TBD
5:00PM – 9:00PM

LA GRANGE FIRE DEPARTMENT



December 2015

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

When they pin on the La Grange badge, a symbol of pride that represents over 100 years of honorable and extraordinary service on your La Grange Fire Department uniform you are accepting both a privilege and a responsibility. The privilege is being in a position to change or even save someone's life at a moment's notice. The responsibility is preparing for that moment every day of your career.

A lot has changed throughout our history. The equipment we use the vehicles we drive and the policies we follow. However, what will never change is our unwavering commitment to improving the lives of the people who work, live and travel through the Village of La Grange on any given day.

The members of the La Grange Fire Department have continued to provide excellent services to the residents and visitors of our award-winning village. Here is a short recap of some of those services this past year.

2015 YEAR IN REVIEW

TRAINING

The Training Division and our firefighters have continued trending upwards in our total number for the past three years. Our department has benefited greatly from the generosity of Park District of La Grange as they have allowed the department full use of their old maintenance buildings located at Gordon Park. Retired (2011) Fire Captain Rick Griffin, was responsible for spearheading the efforts to build a six room apartment and many challenging 'props' that are used regularly, not only by our department but also many of our neighboring departments.

FIRE PREVENTION

The Fire Prevention Bureau and our firefighters have continued trending upwards in the total number of routine and re-inspections for the past three years. The Bureau is responsible for ensuring that all public schools and the

La Grange Hospital campus are inspected a minimum of twice a year. The Bureau is also responsible for plan reviews for all new and remodeled businesses.

In 2015 the village has experienced a couple of rather large building projects, OPUS, a 252 unit apartment and retail project at Ogden and La Grange Road, a 5 story condominium at 40 South Ashland and a new and remodeled nursing home facility for Meadowbrook Manor at 339 S. Ninth Avenue, that has necessitated the hiring of an outside engineering firm to conduct all building and life safety plan reviews.

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

Our current fleet of vehicles include the following: Chief's Car 1101- 2006 Ford Explorer, Engine 1111- 2012 Ferrara, Engine 1112- 2003 Spartan (Crimson), Engine 1113- 1990 Pierce, Ambulance 1114- 2009 Ford (MedTech), Ambulance 1115- 2001 Freightliner (LifeLine), Car 1182- 2003 Ford Explorer and Car 1183- 2005 Ford Expedition. With the average age of our fleet being 12.75 years, it is imperative we maintain an aggressive preventive maintenance program to ensure our fleet is reliable and dependable.

LOCAL 2338

La Grange Firefighter Local 2338 held their 22nd annual golf outing in June. The union was able to generate \$2200.00 for the Illinois Burn Camp "I AM ME" and used other proceeds for continued sponsorship of a baseball team for La Grange Little League, along with their continued support of the Park District of La Grange's annual Halloween Party, by providing a Boy's and Girl's bikes with helmets as raffle prizes.

On August 30th the department held its Inaugural Fire Department Family Picnic at Gordon Park. Current and former members enjoyed a beautiful day.

OPEN HOUSE

The Fire Department opened its doors to the community on Saturday, October 10th for our annual Open House. The Open House ran from 1100 – 1500 hours. Children and adults enjoyed a beautiful day in which they were able to take station tours, spray water on the fire house prop, witness the firemen at work on an actual burn room, enjoy free popcorn and visit with the many vendors on hand.

CONSOLIDATED DISPATCH

The Villages of La Grange, La Grange Park and Western Springs have combined their individual dispatch centers and resources into one joint dispatch center called Lyons Township Area Communications center or LTACC. The center will dispatch for both Police and Fire for the three towns. The projected 'online' date is set for October 2016.

GRANTS/AWARDS

In August 2015 the department was awarded a grant from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program in the amount of \$122,972.00 for the replacement of our department's self-contained breathing apparatus or SCBA.

In November 2014, the department was awarded a two year Assistance to Firefighters SAFER Grant in the amount of \$162,356.00 for the purpose of hiring one person. This grant was set to expire in November 2015. In October 2015 the department was granted an amendment to extend this grant to May 2016.

VERY SAD GOODBYES

Our department said goodbye to two retired members who had served the residents of La Grange proudly for more than twenty years.

Olaf O.P. Pokrajac passed away on August 10, 2015. O.P. was a Vietnam era veteran who served the village from March 1, 1977 to his retirement as a Fire Lieutenant on May 29, 1997.

Bryant B.R. Ruhl passed away November 4, 2015. B.R. was also a Vietnam era veteran who served the village from May 15, 1970 to his retirement in March 1996. B.R. also served on the Air Rehab unit for the Pleasantview Fire Protection District.

PROJECTED GOALS: 2016-2017

- ✓ Continue to assist with the implementation of the new Lyons Township Area Communications Center.
- ✓ Complete the Fire Department re-structuring.
- ✓ Monitor department finances and investigate alternative funding sources for major purchases.
- ✓ Restore staffing to pre cost containment levels.
- ✓ Continue to provide and encourage Fire Officer Development opportunities.
- ✓ Continue to expand the West Suburban Medical Reserve Corps in cooperation with the Village of Western Springs, Clarendon Hills, and Hinsdale.

CALLS OF NOTE

On December 1, 2015, at 1744 hours, Engine Company 1111 responded to the 600 block of S. Waiola Avenue for the carbon monoxide complaint. Upon arrival, crew encountered readings of 10 ppm on all floors of the home. Further investigation revealed that the hot water heater was causing a build-up of CO, up to 30 ppm, when heated. Crews shut off the gas to the water heater and ventilated the home. The homeowner had been advised to contact a repairman for service.

On December 1, 2015, at 1942 hours, all companies responded to the 900 block of S. La Grange Road for the report of an oven fire. Upon arrival, crews revealed a damaged heating element was the cause. No fire damage or loss other than the heating element.

On December 1, 2015, at 2204 hours, both La Grange companies responded to the rear of 0-100 block of S. La Grange Road for the dumpster fire. Upon arrival, crews used 1 ¾' trash line to extinguish the fire. Crews ensured the fire was extinguished by overhauled the refuse.

On December 3, 2015, at 1502 hours, the Chief responded, as a Safety Section Officer (SSO), to the box alarm request in Darien Woodridge for the body recovery in the 1900 block of W. 75th Street.

On December 3, 2015, at 2111 hours, Co. 1113 responded auto-aid to the 8800 block of Brookfield Avenue in Brookfield for the dryer fire. Upon arrival, crew assisted with ventilation.

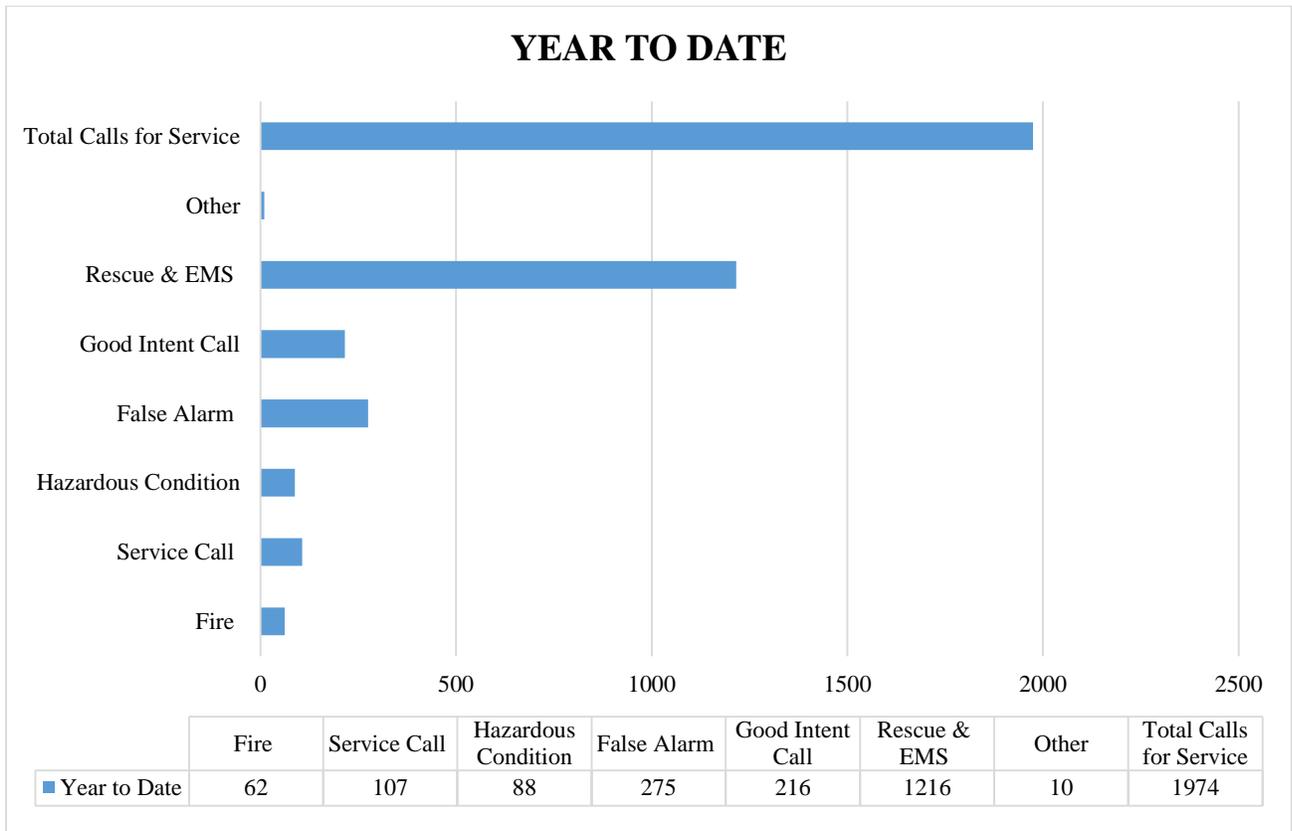
On December 16, 2015, at 0920 hours, Co. 1112 responded non-emergency for the residential lockout in the 300 block of Bluff. Crew gained entry through third floor patio door.

On December 23, 2015, at 0053 hours, all companies along with auto-aid companies responded to 1320 Community Memorial Drive to the activated fire alarm. Upon arrival crews revealed the problem was a water pipe used to humidify circulated air had broken and flooded the ductwork causing the activation. Hospital engineering staff was able to isolate the water feed and remove the wet duct detectors so that the fire alarm system could be reset. The alarm remained in trouble and all auto-aid companies were released.

On December 26, 2015, at 1842 hours, Co. 1111 responded non-emergency to the 300 block of Bluff for the residential lockout. Crew gained entry through a first floor patio door without causing any damage.



INCIDENT CALLS FROM JANUARY 1, 2015 – DECEMBER 31, 2015



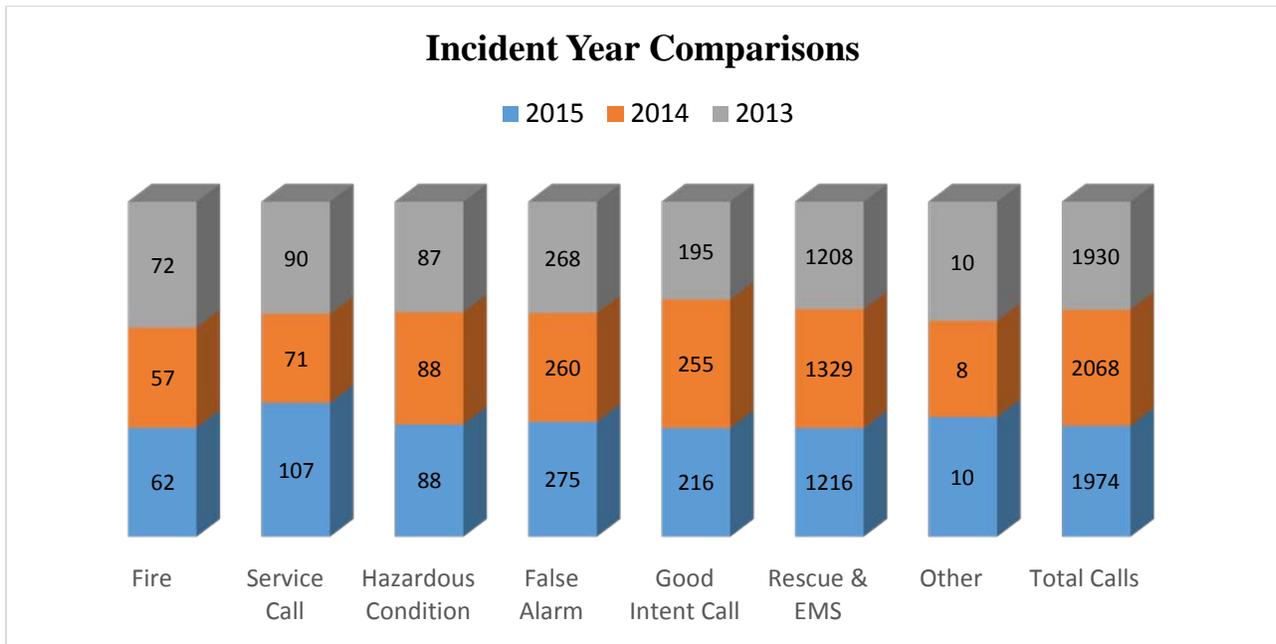
Number of Incidents by Month:

January	174 Incidents
February	145 Incidents
March	165 Incidents
April	153 Incidents
May	172 Incidents
June	166 Incidents
July	169 Incidents
August	179 Incidents
September	163 Incidents
October	171 Incidents
November	154 Incidents
December	163 Incidents

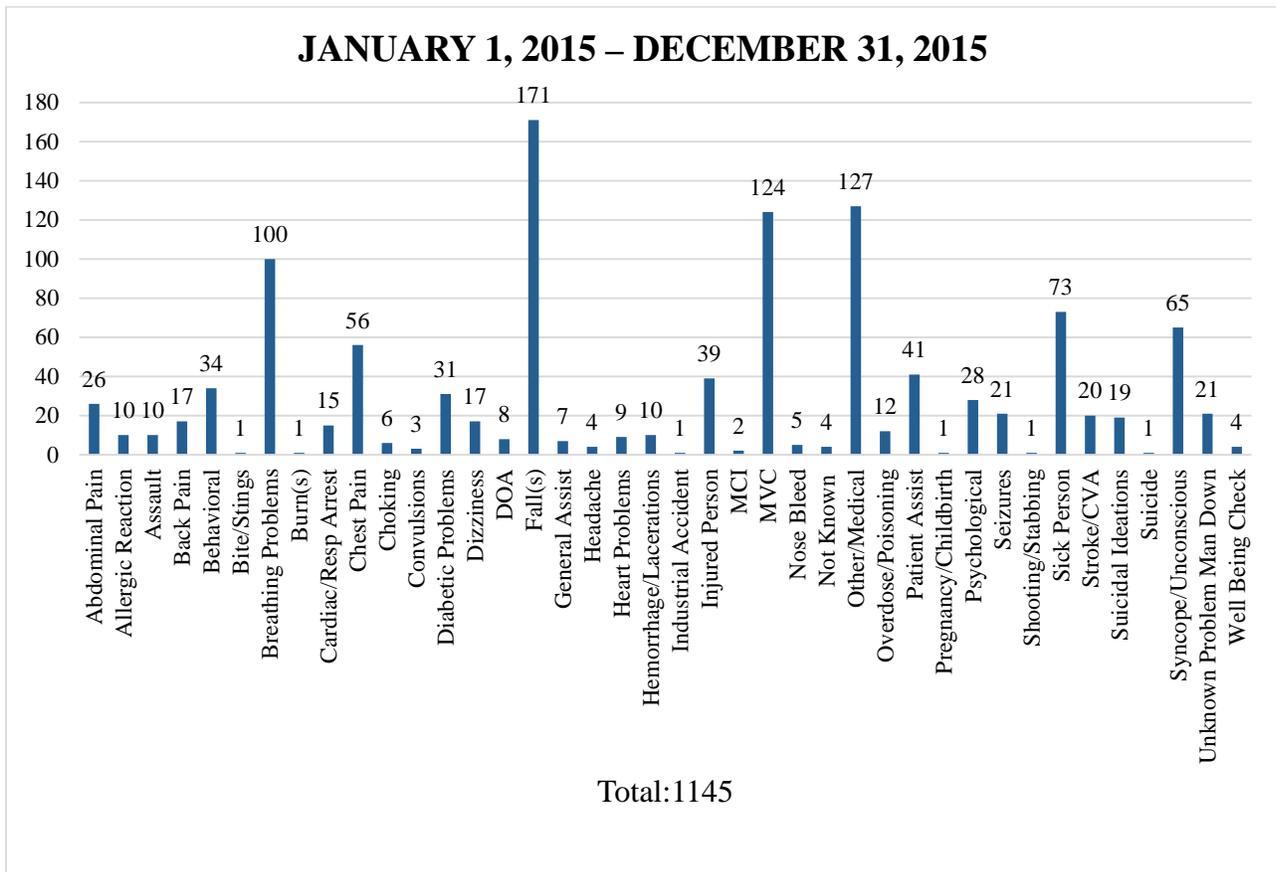
Total Estimated Loss YTD \$ 372,270.00

Total 1974 Incidents

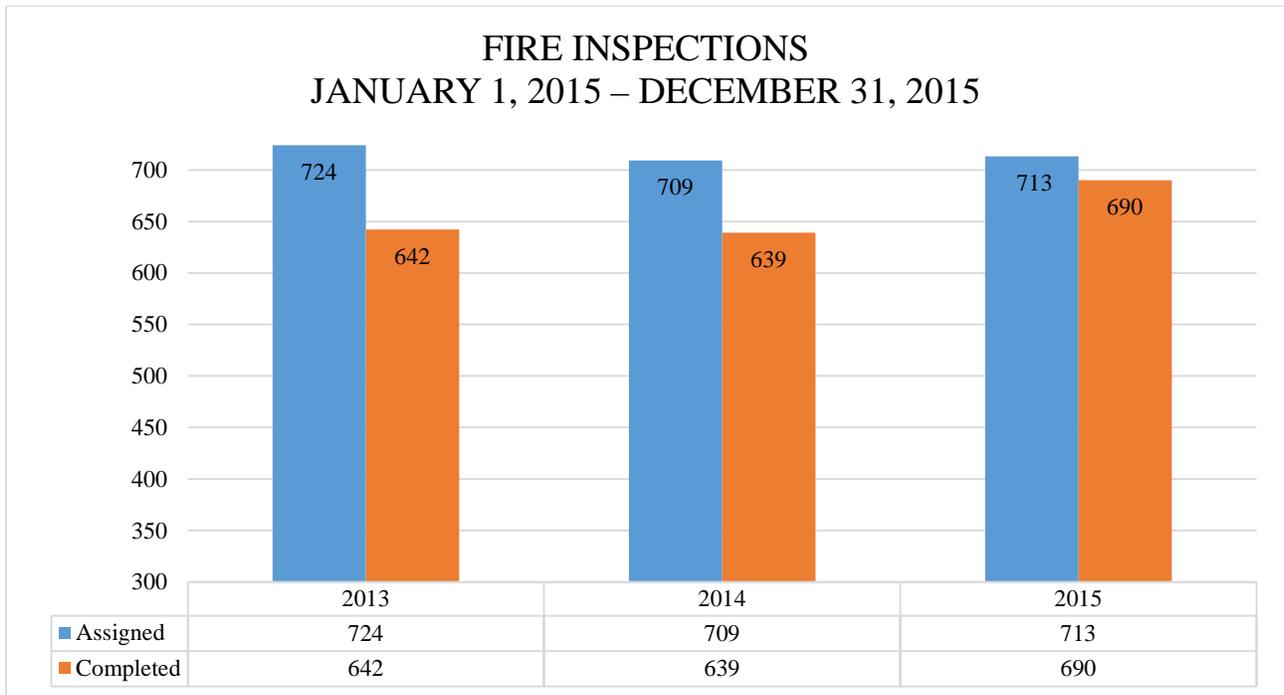
INCIDENT CALL COMPARISONS YTD FOR 2015-2013



EMS CALL SUMMARY



FIRE PREVENTION



TRAINING DIVISION

TRAINING HOURS FROM JANUARY 1, 2015 – DECEMBER 31, 2015

2013	2014	2015 - YTD
2666 Hours	2815 Hours	2781 Hours

Fire Chief