# Harlem Roscoe Fire Protection District

**ANNUAL REPORT** 









## A Message From Fire Chief Donald Shoevlin

As the Fire Chief of the Harlem Roscoe Fire Department,

I remain as honored to serve in this position today as I was on my first day in 2008. Over the past years, I have been amazed at the continuous growth in our community, have been deeply humbled with the generous support from all of you and have truly admired the amount of dedication that each individual with HRFD brings to

our district every day. They work hard to save lives, reduce injuries and protect property, making us one of the best departments in Northern Illinois. We will always strive to improve and grow, we will constantly train and learn and we will provide the best service you expect and deserve from us. The heart and soul of this department **WILL ALWAYS BE** the men and women who dedicate their lives to care for others. In 2019, we had many challenges that our members approached as opportunities. Our response to more emergency calls made us rely very heavily on our dedicated part time and POC (Paid On Call) personnel. We continue the cycle of hiring and training new individuals to meet this demand. However, recruitment and retention remains a challenge not only with HRFD but all part time / volunteer type departments across the state. If you have the time, the commitment and most importantly the desire to help save lives and be a difference, I would love for you to contact me to become a part time / volunteer firefighter with HRFD.

There have been many accomplishments achieved from our personnel and department which you will see throughout this report that I am very proud of. The first bit of excitement is that our efforts to once again improve our classification with ISO (Insurance Service Office) was a success. When I first became Fire Chief in '08, our area rating was a Class 7. Due to constant hard work and diligence, our efforts paid off in **2019**. I am honored to announce that effective 2/1/2020, this classification has improved to a Class 2. Fire Departments are rated 1-10, with 1 being the best. This accomplishment came from continuous planning, training, response time, dispatching and staffing. Of the over 46,000 fire protection district areas in the U.S. using this system, only 1597 have achieved a rating of Class 2. I understand not all insurance companies may use ISO for calculations of your premiums, however I suggest you call your personal agent to see if this great accomplishment can benefit you. If you have ANY questions pertaining to this, please do not hesitate to contact me.

As we continue our proactive movement forward into the future, my pledge to you will always be . . . . that we will stay abreast of the latest technologies & techniques, seek-out creative solutions to issues that may arise, find ways to become more efficient on a day to day basis and most importantly to be responsible and remain transparent to the public regarding our activities. The Harlem Roscoe Fire Board of Trustees also supports this endeavor by showing their concerns for operational efficiency and safety while remaining fiscally responsible to the taxpayers.

Respectfully,



Chief Donald Shoevlin

# MISSION STATEMENT

The Harlem Roscoe Fire Protection District is dedicated to providing the highest standard of service to the community through prevention, training, education and emergency services. Our purpose is to save lives, reduce injuries, and protect property.

### **OUR VISION**

A Progressive Fire Department Providing a Professional Level of Service.

## **OUR CORE VALUES**

Courage	Do what is right the first time. Duty to act decisively and unselfishly.			
Compassion	Caring is a part of our job. We are empathetic to the community in their time of need.			
Integrity	We are honest, accountable and professional.			
Diversity	We respect the different identities, experiences, and perspectives of			
	those we work with and the community we serve.			
Teamwork	Members support and depend on each other to achieve our goals:			
	Duty ~ Pride ~ Tradition.			
Community	We will be responsible to serve the needs of our community.			

# **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**



President Bart Munger 19 Years of Service Secretary John Donahue 10 Years of Service Treasurer Al Bach 8 Years of Service

#### Deputy Chief John Bergeron Operations



The Harlem Roscoe Fire Protection District prides ourselves with exceptional services that we provide to the community we proudly serve. We offer services in Emergency Medical, Fire Suppression, Hazardous Materials, Water Rescue and Vehicle Extrication. We are also very active within the community with Public relations events throughout the year. Harlem Roscoe Fire Department responds out of three stations that are

staffed around the clock with State of Illinois Certified Firefighters and State Certified Emergency Medical Paramedics and EMT's. A Shift Commander is on duty around the clock to ensure the community needs are carried out with the utmost of safety, care, compassion, and professionalism.

Crew members are continuously training daily in the many facets of emergency response topics to keep up to date on the ever changing realm of Firefighting and Emergency Medicine.

We are extremely proud to be awarded a Class 2 in hydrant areas within our district from ISO as previously mentioned. In Illinois there are a total of 2351 Fire Departments. There are only 77 Fire Departments in the State that have a Class 2 status and only 5 that have a Class 1. Again, we are very honored to receive this improved rating within our district.

In 2019, the district was very fortunate to be able to upgrade some of its equipment and vehicles, all being done with no increase in taxes. A few of the upgrades include:

2019 Rosenbauer Front Line Engine.Zodiac Boat.MSA G1 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus.Zoll X Series Cardiac Monitors.Zoll Auto Pulse CPR Machines.Personal Protective Gear.

The department in 2019 answered a total of 3227 calls for service, our busiest year to date. The following is a breakdown of the calls:

2359 Emergency Medical Calls.

202 Motor Vehicle Accidents.

666 Miscellaneous Calls for Service.

We are proud to be part of MABAS Division 8, which is a collaborative agreement with fire departments in the State of Illinois and Wisconsin, to provide and receive assistance of manpower and equipment, when and if the need arises on emergency calls.

We offer community BLS Provider CPR classes throughout the year. Station tours are also available at any time by calling 815-623-7867.







#### Battalion Chief Tom Aaker Training Division



The Harlem Roscoe Fire Protection District takes pride in our department and strives to be our best when serving the members of our community. The training of our members needs to be at its best so that when emergencies happen the firefighters are knowledgeable, well prepared, and trained to handle the situation in the quickest and safest manner possible. Each firefighter is trained in the core competencies of fire-

fighting. These include fire suppression, forcible entry, search and rescue, and firefighters survival. We also have many specialty fields that we complete certifications in. Vehicle Extrication, Hazardous Materials Operations, gas detection/mitigation, and water rescue just to name a few.

Many of our firefighters start out with a roadmap to their training. What we want them to train on and when in their career they should start looking for those trainings. We have many expectations set on us by the State of Illinois when it comes to firefighter training. Some of our standards exceeds the state as well. For a non-career department many of those standards are hard to get 100% compliance on. We, however do a great job achieving the majority of these. We believe we hit the most important ones as we continually strive to reach all the goals set forth by the state.

Going forward into the future, many of our trainings will touch back to those core competencies. As a department we are moving towards making sure all of our interior firefighters have some basic Job Performance Requirements met each year. We have always strived to do this in the past but now we will be using tracking software to keep them at the highest level of training expected. Our goals are to continue to acquire new and better props for firefighting and rescue situations and to find improved methods to train our people. HRFD Firefighters also complete Day Training programs on a continuous basis. This smaller company of people train day in and day out and it is meant to keep our firefighters knowledge up on things they may run into everyday, but also the things we rarely run into. Trying to give them a full spectrum of emergencies so that when those 911 calls do happen, they are better prepared to handle them.

HRFD Training Division also sets a higher bar of training for customer service that we give our community as well. This helps to not only keep our people safe, keep our community safe but mitigate an emergency scene as quickly and efficiently as possible. We aim high so you get a higher quality of service.







The Harlem Roscoe Fire Prevention Bureau is tasked with fire safety education and hazard awareness in our community. We inspect the business community to assure Life Safety codes and regulations are compliant with the adopted village, state and federal codes. We assure that the business owners, their employees, neighbors and the first responders are aware of the hazards and potential dangers that can be encountered. Some of these hazards are a normal part of everyday business practices; HRFD inspectors are documenting the safe

use and disposal of these necessary products. The firefighters & fire officers rely on the Fire Prevention Bureau to keep them aware of hazards and unsafe conditions that the fire department may encounter as they perform their daily duties. The Bureau is dedicated to perform safety inspections on an annual basis and follow up on any violations.

As the community grows, the inspections increase. The business community welcomes the HRFD inspectors to tour their facilities and assure them that Life Safety Practices are followed. A 40 point checklist is used to keep the business occupancies compliant with village, county, state and federal guidelines. This past year 1,050 business inspections were documented.

We continue to offer fire extinguisher training with live fire scenarios, assist with developing emergency escape plans and fire extinguisher State Fire Marshal compliance tags for small businesses. All of these services are at no cost to those that take advantage.

There are certain residential occupancies that are included in these annual inspections. The assisted living facilities, board & care facilities and daycare facilities are included.

Elementary & high schools are inspected. Several fire drills and active shooter drills are performed alongside law enforcement and state school board officials. Firefighter visits are requested each year by the schools to educate the young minds in fire safety, home fire escape planning and smoke / CO detector awareness.

Technology is necessary to keep us safer than years past. The Fire Prevention Bureau enters preplanning data on a platform for the fire officers and firefighters. This data is on a computer in the firetrucks and officer vehicles. This information is available at their fingertips, and offers directions to a structure, fire hydrant locations, building construction components, hazardous materials on site, a floorplan and pictures of each occupancy and more. These details allow officers to preplan the situation before arriving on the scene in many cases.

The Fire Prevention Bureau is not only safeguarding our business and industrial occupancies, but we spend much of our time educating our residential community. With the help of engine companies and ambulance personnel, the medics and firefighters are installing or replacing smoke / CO detectors. They also perform a safety check of the home and recommend tips to ensure safe practices. Several times a year at community functions, HRFD and the Fire Bureau continues to educate our community on fire safety, preplanning for medical and fire emergencies and proven practices to keep us all safe.

Follow us on harlemroscoefire.com and Facebook to stay informed of our services and upcoming events.

We appreciate the support of our community that allows us to offer the services you expect.

Stay fire safe, stay healthy and rest assured that Harlem Roscoe Fire is only minutes away!



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Fires	65	64	60	54	50
Hazardous Conditions	91	69	65	96	80
Assistant Calls	202	239	226	367	316
False Calls	127	154	166	157	202



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Medical	2093	2310	2435	2396	2578



### **CERT** Citizen Emergency Response Team



**CERT** stands for Community Emergency Response Team and consist of community members that volunteer their time in training and assisting local police & fire departments during times of community need when these public entities may be overwhelmed with requests.

Such events may include disasters like tornadoes, floods, earthquakes and other natural events. CERT team members are also requested for large community gatherings with traffic control, crowd control, event setup and other tasks. These members receive additional training in a multitude of areas using fire extinguishers, basic first aid and CPR. They can help with search operations, debris removal, shutting off home utilities and using equipment like chain saws, radios, etc.

The IL Stateline CERT Team also welcomes individuals that may prefer behind the scene support such as community awareness education.

Our area CERT Team trainings take place at the Harlem Roscoe Fire Department in Roscoe. Certified FEMA training is scheduled according to member schedules.

Monthly general meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm.

This past year, our area CERT Team members logged hours of training and service to HRFD.

If you are interested in becoming a member, please call the office or stop by one of our general meetings.

NO PREVIOUS TRAINING OR EXPERIENCE IS REQUIRED!

## COMMUNITY







There are many amazing things happening at Harlem Roscoe Fire Department. Stay connected & up to date. Use Facebook and our Website.









## TRAINING



## EMERGENCY

