

# MAIN LINE

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2008

SAN FRANCISCO FIRE FIGHTERS

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# WORKING FIRE

BUTTE LIGHTNING FIRE  
7/3/2008 - 7/11/2008



*Photos By Mike Tin*

# THE MAIN LINE

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2008 - Vol. 35, No. 5

Official Publication  
of the San Francisco  
Fire Fighters Local 798

Union Headquarters  
1139 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
(415) 621-7103  
Fax: (415) 621-1578

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Web Site:  
[www.sffdlocal798.org](http://www.sffdlocal798.org)



**EDITOR**  
Stan Lee  
email:  
[sffd.mainline@gmail.com](mailto:sffd.mainline@gmail.com)

**PUBLISHER**  
SFFF Local 798  
Jim Vannucchi  
(415) 621-7103

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Executive Board Local 798

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## Cover:

Joining Speaker of the  
House Nancy Pelosi and  
members of the SFFF  
Local 798 Executive Board  
on the cover is Thomas  
O'Connor, Sr.  
WW II Veteran and  
father of Treasurer Tom  
O'Connor, Jr.

The MAIN LINE is the official publication of San Francisco Fire Firefighters Local 798. However, opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of Local 798 or the San Francisco Fire Department.

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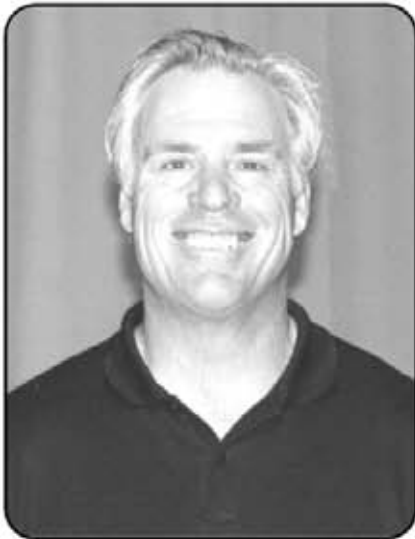
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# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am proud to announce that the IAFF and Local 798 has endorsed Barack Obama for President of the United States. The endorsement procedure was finalized at our biennial convention in Las Vegas. Leaders of Local 798 have previously met with Senator Obama numerous times and he is keenly aware of issues affecting firefighters and is 100% supportive. Ensure when you vote in November that you vote for a person who supports the values and issues of firefighters and that is Barack Obama.

On the front cover of this issue you will have seen the Speaker of the House, San Francisco's own Nancy Pelosi. Speaker Pelosi has been a great friend of organized labor, San Franciscans and a loyal supporter of San Francisco Firefighters Local 798. At her recent book signing, which members of Local 798 attended to support our Speaker, I was SHOCKED by the rude behavior of some individuals towards our friend Nancy Pelosi. Their demeanor is not in the style or tradition of the San Franciscans that I grew up with. Let it be said LOUD AND CLEAR that Pelosi for Congress is our choice.

Let me apologize on behalf of the San Francisco Fire Department for the drama involved in the recent Lieutenant's Test. The Exam Schedule was sent out for August 22-24, 2008. The Fire Department then sends an email that they've changed the date **and** effectively changed the Test format. Local 798 received many complaints from candidates, at which point Local 798 got involved because of the clear violations of Civil Service rules and the Meyers-

Millias-Brown Act. The Fire Department acknowledged again one of their many mistakes and retreated. The Test is back on the original dates but they are violating their own Test format by having civilians as actors rather than firefighters. I guess the adage stands, "... never have a test in the Summer."

Firefighters who are concerned about their careers and the Fire Department asked me "How can this be? My response is that the Administration buys engines that don't work, had to give the Captain's Test twice, and the Battalion Chief's Test may be in litigation - how do you expect them to give a Lieutenant's Test?"

We have previously sent a letter requesting that the Testing Unit be removed from the Fire Department's hands. There is enough compelling evidence to support this. Everyone I talk to is in agreement.

Recently the Stress Unit has come under scrutiny. I know of an individual who called the Stress Unit on August 21, 2008 and as of this writing, August 27, 2008, this individual has not had a call back. To clarify, as I understand it, the Stress Unit's sole job is to help firefighters when in need. It is no surprise that the Stress Committee (who provides input and expertise to the Stress Unit) has not met since this Administration has been in place! It goes hand in hand with a *Medal Night* where firefighters are recognized for acts of bravery; **there's been no ceremony since this Administration has been in place!** My information is they have lost documentation of our heroic acts, yet for petty disciplines not one shred of documentation has ever been misplaced. Maybe we could use some of our Public Information Officers (PIOs) to fill in these glaring gaps.

I hope each of you will take a moment to reflect on the sudden passing of Firefighter Robert Soberanis from the Airport. Let us all say a prayer for him and his family.

Congratulations are in order to Station One's softball teams. As it has been said by John Shanley, Station One did the "Phelps" thing; they won an open-seated Las Vegas Tournament, returned home to win San Francisco Firefighters Union Softball League, and went on to win the Open and 39 and Over in the California Firefighter Olympics.

It is my understanding that John Shanley and Michael Phelps will meet at Station One to compare gold medals and John will take him on a tour of San Francisco once he returns from the Olympics.

Fraternally,  
John F. Hanley

# U N I O N L E T T E R S

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Dear Sir,

Please accept the enclosed check in memory of Kevin O'Sullivan B.C. R.I.P. died August 14th, 1996.

Thanks for everything.

Sincerely,  
Mora O'Sullivan

Local 798,

Retired 11 years and loving it; almost as much as the job! One of the proudest moments of my life, was when my son, Greg, followed me into the San Francisco Fire Department. He made me even more proud, when he fell in love with the prettiest San Francisco Firefighter, Dan Pompeo.

That beautiful union has produced two wonderful grandsons for me, for a total of three. I can only hope that at least one of those three little guys grows up and joins the S.F.F.D., to keep our little dynasty going.

Please accept this small donation in memory of three of our finest: Bob Jabs, Mike Stanfield and John Baxter. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,  
Phil Savin  
Engine 15, Retired

Please us as needed in memory of our fallen brothers.

Dave Dyc  
RS2 Retired

The Main Line,

Please use where needed in memory of my husband Ed Fitzpatrick, T6, Ret/D.

He was a brave fireman when he was battling fires and a brave man when he fought the biggest battle of his life and throughout it all he never once complained.

Beverly Fitzpatrick

Dear Local 798,

Please accept this donation in memory of my late husband John Baxter. June 26th will mark the second year of his passing due to Stomach Cancer. I am requesting that

half go to your Cancer Research Project and the other half to Local 798.

John loved the Fire Department and all his fellow firemen and would expect his family to support the Department in whatever way possible. Thank you for all you do for all of us.

God bless,  
Barbara Baxter

Dear John,

For the excellent Main Line. Keep the good work up.

Thanks,  
Fred Kogy

Dear Local 798,

On behalf of my family I would like to thank you for the flowers you sent to my dad's funeral. More importantly, I would like to express our gratitude for the care my dad received from the members of the S.F.F.D. on his many trips to the hospital over the past few years. My mom and dad often remarked on the kindness and courtesy shown by all the members who responded to my dad's various emergencies, specifically the members of Station 15.

I would also like to thank the members who took the time to notify me personally that my dad was on the way to the hospital but he was ok. Your reassurance was greatly appreciated. Having seen first hand the care our members give the citizens of San Francisco on a daily basis, I was always sure that my dad was in good hands.

Finally I would like to thank Father Greene and the members of Station 6 for the support you have given my family and I during this difficult time.

Please accept this donation in memory of Thomas A. Mullaney, proud Union member for 38 years.

Sincerely,  
Patrick Mullaney  
Truck 6

6/24/2008

Local 798,

Please accept this donation in memory of Joe Fitzpatrick who was a good father to his three children, coach, fireman, and friend. I had the honor to have worked with Joe, and to have coached youth basketball and soccer with him. When faced with the challenges of coaching youth sports, he was always calm and optimistic. He carried this attitude in his personal life as well. Never once did he complain about his misfortune. His glass was always half full. He valiantly fought his cancer to the end because he has so much to live for. Joe is missed by all who knew him.

Sincerely,  
Rich Gutierrez

Local 798,

Thank you for my retirement badge.

Please use the enclosed as needed in memory of my good friend and former boss Tony Sacco.

Mike Drake

7/10/2008

Please use the enclosed check where needed, in loving memory of my wonderful husband, Andrew, who passed away on 7/13/2007.

Best Regards,  
Marilyn Clemenza

July 11, 2008

Local 798,

The enclosed check is in memory of my husband Barney Viner.

Sincerely,  
Helen Viner

July 19, 2008

Main Line,

Enclosed, please find a small donation in appreciation for all Local 798 has done for us and in memory of Tony Sacco, Bob Jabs and Dave Grainger.

Thanks for keeping me on your

## Station Stewards

Station 1	Dan Gracia
Station 2	Carla Bisio Murphy
Station 3	Stephen Engler
Station 4	<b>CLOSED</b>
Station 5	Jim Mellberg
Station 6	Michael Horta
Station 7	Jose Zalba
Station 8	Ramon Serrano
Station 9	Christina Gibbs
Station 10	Leonardo Harris
Station 11	Tom Oertli
Station 12	Mike Belcher
Station 13	Sherman Tillman
Station 14	Bruno Walthers
Station 15	Brett Evert
Station 16	Patric Steele
Station 17	John Chung
Station 18	Daniel Tauber
Station 19	Kendrick Low
Station 20	Mike Beere
Station 21	Steve Finnegan
Station 22	Tim O'Brien
Station 23	O.J. Leonardo
Station 24	Thomas J. Carberry
Station 25	Kinnie Jamerson
Station 26	Randy Hendricks
Station 27	<b>CLOSED</b>
Station 28	<b>Open</b>
Station 29	Betrieta Kime
Station 30	<b>CLOSED</b>
Station 31	Brendan McGorin
Station 32	Tracey Courtney O'Keeffe
Station 33	Robert Lopez
Station 34	Jon Grant
Station 35	Pat Higgins
Station 36	Brook Baker
Station 37	Jack Forbes
Station 38	Eigil Qwist
Station 39	<b>Open</b>
Station 40	Janice Hoaglin
Station 41	Ken Yee
Station 42	Mike Guajardo
Station 43	John Maguire
Station 44	Michael Gonzales
Station 48	Todd Plunkett
Station 70	James Mogannam
AP 1	Terry Woo
AP 2	Bobby Jackson
AP 3	Dave Amituanai
BFI	Laura Kelly
BFP	Tom Cordes, Mike Estebez, Brian Ballard
BOE	Al Harvey
HQ	Kyle Merkins
RADIO	<b>Open</b>

Members interested in becoming Station Stewards should contact the Union office at (415) 621 - 7103

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Sincerely,  
Bruce Keegan

7/23/2008

Thanks for the always great job you folks do. Use as needed.

Don't let the bastards get you down!!

Ron Cutler, Ret.

July 26, 2008

Local 798,

The other day I was looking at some old photos taken when I first came in the department and was at Salvage 2. Here's to Russ, Lenny, and George who I had the pleasure of working with for a short time. What workers those guys were.

Please use check as needed (hopefully to defeat right-wing politicians).

Bob Rand

July 29, 2008

Officers, Directors and Staff of Local 798,

Enclosed is a check to be used as needed. This donation is in blessed memory of:

Lou Mambretti  
John Flaherty  
Al Lambrechts  
Joe Del Bene  
Chief Emmet Condon

Charles Passanisi

Ken Hoover

Jim Pierce

Pete Seckols

Bob Jabs

Tony Sacco

Dennis Boyd

These firemen represent the true spirit of the SFFD. I also would like to remember all the many other firemen, whose names are not listed, that have died in the line of duty or after their retirement.

John Flaherty and Al Lambrechts have left a legacy in their two fine sons, who are now officers in the SFFD.

Most Sincerely,  
Adrian B. Terranova  
(The Calamari King)

July 30, 2008

Use where needed.

Michael J. Callahan



## SUBMISSIONS:

**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES FOR THE MAIN LINE IS:**

NOV.- DEC. 2008 / OCT. 20, 2008

JAN. - FEB. 2009 / DEC. 20, 2008

MARCH - APRIL 2009 / FEB. 20, 2009

# THE VANNUCCHI PAPERS



*By Jim Vannucchi, Director-at-Large*

***"All the great things are simple, and many can be expressed in a single word: freedom, justice, honor, duty, mercy, hope." - Sir Winston Churchill***

What is in the best interest of our Local? This is a question that I took up many years ago; first serving more than a few years as a shop steward and now as a member of the Executive Board of SFFF Local 798.

How does one describe this alliance, this disposition of ours? Some say "solidarity", several will respond by stating "labor" while others reply with "self-less sacrifice". Most will quietly express themselves in that single word; "Local".

Truly, it is realism of a sort but it is much more than that. I call it our uniquely Local 798 realism. It's what makes us an incredibly impatient Local. A Local that lives in the future; not the past. A Local that does not linger over its' history because it has led us to make mistakes in the past. And, we will surely make mistakes in the future. Still, it is our impatience and dedication to each other to improve less-than-ideal situations and to accelerate the pace of change that leads us to our most enduring achievements at both the local and state levels.

At the same time, ironically, it is our uniquely Local 798 realism that makes us deeply patient. We understand all too well how long and trying the course of labor is. We acknowledge our defects because this shapes our engagement to our brothers and sisters in this distinctive world of organized labor. We support labor not because we think ourselves perfect but because we know ourselves to be deeply imperfect. This gives us cause to be humble in our own accomplishments and patient with the endeavors of others. And we know all too well

that today's headlines are rarely the same as history's judgment.

A resilient and intrepid Local who will not allow its' organization to be stepped on and one that faithfully reflects the values of its' membership is truly the dominant guarantee to insure ".....what is in the best interest of our Local?"

## **CONVENTION 2008**

Having just recently returned from the 49th IAFF Convention, it is with mixed feelings. In an ongoing atmosphere where I have found myself constantly asking the membership of this Local to sacrifice hard-earned benefits to help balance The City's' budget deficit, I was disappointed at the continual lack of transparency when asked to vote on IAFF issues that addressed terms of office, salaries and retirement compensation packages.

Each and every month this Local asks approval from the membership for any and all expenditures and subsequently posts same for the membership to view. Further, any monetary expense is subject to debate and full disclosure prior to disbursement. I was saddened that this familiar element was absent during debate at the IAFF Convention.

## **VOTE 2008**

For those of use who have felt the unforgettable financial sting of the IRS Alternative Minimum Tax (ATM) or the firefighter unfriendly provisions of the Social Security Windfall Provision that were initiated by Republican Administrations in past years, make no mistake as to the direction that needs to be taken when you cast your vote in the 2008 election cycle.

The Democratic Presidential ticket of Obama/Biden coupled with our very own Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi is the initial step to right the wrongs of the above Acts.

## **Earl "Bud" Dunn**

As of this writing, word was received of the passing of Firefighter Earl "Bud" Dunn. "Bud" and I were hired within weeks of each other in 1982 and I will always fondly remember him as a Union brother, a solid pump operator at Engine One and a man of endearingly sharp wit. I will miss that imposing red head terribly. May he rest in peace.

# FROM THE SECRETARY . . .



*By Frank Kelly, Secretary*

## **ELECTION UPDATE**

Elections to the Executive Board of Local 798 will be held November/December of 2008.

Election Proceedings will be conducted within the framework and jurisdiction of the Election Committee.

All interested members should familiarize themselves with Union Bulletins announcing dates, procedures, qualifications and availability of nomination forms.

According to Honorary Chair Mickaleen O'Flynn, the Marquis of Queensbury Rules shall apply. Low blows will be frowned upon, protect yourself at all times and come out fightin'.

Just a reminder before you enter the ring ... think for just a moment and ask yourself ... "do I really want to do this?"

Good luck.

## **KISS THIS**

So now the new Captain of the Fireboat, James Vannucchi, the same James Vannucchi who commands the position as senior director of Local 798 fancies himself as a landlocked cruise director. Emboldened by his new position he has expanded his duties, and at his request Local 798 has embarked on another entertainment extravaganza.

Under the watchful eyes of Captain/Director Vannucchi, Local 798 will sponsor its first annual Bocce Tournament. Coincidentally, the Tournament just happens to coincide with Vannucchi's favorite holiday (week), Columbus Day. And no, we're not going to be politically correct, you heard it right, it's Columbus Day.

Stretch the plantars, achilles, calves, hamstrings, lower gluteus maximus. We anticipate a grueling and brutal day of Bocce Ball which will go down in the annals of history. Consult your local physician if you are on Viagra prior to participating in this monumental event.

Active and retired members are invited to participate (limit thirty two (32) teams). Spectators are welcome, seating will be awarded on a first come, first served basis. Expectations put the crowd at approximately one thousand statuesque drooling firefighters, scratching in public. So get there early to enjoy the Tournament, or to enjoy the antics of the crowd.

Team allegiance is encouraged. Cheering, sophisticated rudeness, sharp witted proclamations where appropriate are acceptable. However, streaking will not be tolerated!

Bocce Ball enthusiasts, local observers (bookies) and SFFD raconteurs place the retired members of STATION THREE as heavy favorites (at 5-2). See the kid from Bluxome Street, who has aged well but is not a kid anymore, before the opening ceremony. The window will be closed before the first ball hits the oyster shells.

Two retired members, natural born leaders Larry Zammarchi and Timmy Callen will lead Station THREE's Retirees into the fray. Timmy and Larry possess the attributes of what Bocce Ball aficionados consider essential elements to be quintessential Bocce Ballers. With keen eyes, strong soft hands and quiet feet, these men, whose prolific adventures both on and off the field, ice, court or any other sporting venue solidify the team with their sporting prowess and spiritual guidance. (Anyone with a different perspective may consult with Zeke prior to their match). Until contractual issues are resolved, the other two retired team members will remain anonymous.

All kidding aside, we anticipate a good event and lots of laughs, all for a worthy cause, Local 798's CANCER PREVENTION FOUNDATION.

BUT WAIT!! Vannucchi isn't finished yet, you'll be asked to cast your vote for his next adventure ...

Mud wrestling  
Hurling ... the game

Tough choice, I know.

## **H20 LIEUTENANT'S EXAM**

I considered writing extensively about the latest faux pas regarding the Promotional Exam process. However, I find it exasperating and futile so just one final statement.

To Whom It May Concern:

The Job Announcement is a contract (you wrote it). Honor it.

Good luck to all candidates.



# FROM THE DIRECTOR . . . DONATIONS MAKE A DIFFERENCE



By Michael A. Walsh, Director

Giving something back can mean so much in a person's life. As Fire Fighters, we are just ordinary people doing extraordinary work. The Executive Board of Local 798 asks that you consider supporting the following charities that have been set up to help others in their time of need. You can dedicate your donation in memory of a loved one, in their honor, or in their memory. Please give and make a difference in someone's life. Your Executive Board recommends the following charities:

- San Francisco Fire Fighters Local 798 Surviving Families Fund – FEID# 95-4891917: This fund was originally called the Widows and Orphans Fund. This Fund helps families of fallen firefighters not only here in San Francisco but throughout the US and Canada.
- San Francisco Fire Fighters Cancer

Prevention Foundation– FEID # 56-2608686: Helping fund research and finding the reason and possible cure for the high number of cancer cases among firefighters.

- San Francisco Firefighters Toy Program – FEID# 94-2598851: This program brings joy and happiness to over 20,000 children who would ordinarily not have any Christmas. This is the oldest organized toy program in the country.

***In lieu of flowers, "go green" and make a difference today.***

To contribute to any of the above charities **PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO** the specific fund listed above. Please remember to make a notation on the check to whom the donation is made in memory of.

**PLEASE MAIL CHECKS TO:**  
San Francisco Fire Fighters Local 798  
1139 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Please call the Union office at 415-621-7103 if you have any questions. We will be happy to help you.

### **Remembering September 11, 2001**

This year marks the seventh anniversary of the attack at the World Trade Center in New York. At 8:46 am the first plane hit Tower 1; six-

teen and one half minutes later Tower II was hit. We must never forget that the FDNY and Rescue workers brought an estimated 25,000 people to safety. FDNY suffered 343 deaths that day. FDNY is still feeling the effects of 911. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

### **Exams and Promotions**

Congratulations to the recent appointees from the BC's list. It was a long time coming and not without problems. Lieutenant candidates just completed their second part of the test and are awaiting results - then comes the best part ... "secondary criteria".

Closing In Memory of Tony Sacco, Robert Soberanis and Bud Dunn.

## **ATTENTION!!**

### **DO YOU HAVE FIRE PHOTOS?**

*Whether old or new, the Main Line is interested in publishing them in future issues.*

Please forward to the Union office:

1139 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103

or contact

Stan Lee @ BFI - (415) 920-2933  
or by email:  
sffd.mainline@gmail.com



# FROM THE DIRECTOR . . .



By Shon Buford, Director

## Brotherly Love

For any firefighter who has worked in the fire service for at least a year, I'm sure you've heard the phrase "this is going to be our year" Whether it's an environment where you fight structure fires or wild land fires, the feeling is the same. Firefighters are complex individuals; we're thrill seekers and innovators, compassionate and competitive. We want the action and none of the accolades that come with the job. We do what needs to be done because it's our job, right?

I have a story that reads differently. It's a story about a group of men who went above and beyond the call of duty to render their help in the form of love, brotherly love.

It was Sunday July 27, 2008, and Northern California was experiencing its third major wild land fire in the months before the projected fire season was to begin. San Francisco had sent strike teams to Shasta/Trinity and Butte County fires, and now I was given an opportunity to fight my first one. Our destination was Mariposa County, and we were all eager to go. With the Strike Team lead by Mike Kearny, we sounded off one by one as we prepared to leave county lines to join thousands of other brothers and sisters in a joint effort to protect others.

Our journey took us from HWY

101 to Mariposa County Fairgrounds, crossing half dozen or so freeways to get there. A four and half hour ride would prove to be an endurance race for some.

Not even an hour into the trip, one of our rigs began to experience computer problems; gauges were going all over the place and quick decisions needed to be made. Based on experience and wisdom of the driver and Officer, it was determined that all should pull over. After further assessment, the decision was made that we continue on, while our Bureau of Equipment (BOE) would come out and replace the Rig. With a plan in place, and crews ready to go, we continued our trip. However the next incident would prove to be a little more costly.

We had just made the turn to I-99 when the undeniable smell of radiator fluid made itself known to the crew of Engine 7. With a dejected lump in my throat, I radioed the Strike Team leader once again to request that the team pull over for mechanical problems. Fearing the worst, we all got off on the next exit.

This is where the true story began. As it turned out, it was only a busted radiator hose, and not the radiator itself. The decision was made to have the Strike Team continue on their way to base camp, and BOE would have to

make the trip to replace the hose; we could join them later. Knowing that our BOE was stretched thin and overworked, one of our members, Sean Bonetti, suggested we call Modesto Fire Department to ask for help. Filled with pride, and a little embarrassed for having to make the call, we reluctantly contacted Modesto FD.

Thanks to the fast work of fire fighters Dwayne Curry, Mariano Elias, and Floyd Rollins, they were able to locate and remove the hose that had ruptured, and were able to describe the situation to our BOE who was returning to 'The City',

from helping the members from the first breakdown. The hose was a 10" in length, 3" in width "U" shape hose especially built for this engine. Under normal circumstances this would be a 30-minute job, but this was not a normal circum-

stance, rather it would become a true test of endurance.

To our delight, and in less than 20 minutes, we had 5 members of Modesto Fire Department at our aid. Division Chief Mike Karns, Battalion

Chief Dan Hinsman, and members of Truck 1, Captain Doug Webb, Engineer Tom Cabrera, and Firefighter Todd Stasioski. Confident this would be a "quick fix", Division Chief Karns called Modesto's Mobile mechanic Jim Bairos

to see if he could be of any assistance. Unfortunately, this hose was unique to this rig, and now



we were closing in on 7:30pm. The task of finding a hose that would fit was becoming more difficult than once believed. Unable to locate the perfect fix, neither at home or in Modesto, there was only one thing to do - wait for our BOE to bring another engine, and prepare for the dreaded change over.

Aware of the situation, and being the gracious hosts that they are, Chief Karns and the members of Truck 1 would not leave until they were sure we were well taken care of. With night upon us and a four hour wait before BOE would make it to Modesto with another engine, a decision was made between Division Chief Karns, and San Francisco Division Chief Frank Cardinale that Engine 7 would be moved to a more secure location, that being Station 4, Modesto Fire's Division of Training.

The members at Station 4, Captain Ken White, Engineer Dan Lins, Firefighter J.D. Clevenger, and Investigator Paul Wiese, were very accommodating. They opened their entire firehouse to us, and treated us with the utmost respect. For this, I am eternally grateful. During our stay there, they fed us, told interesting stories, provided a secure place to park and leave our rig, as well as offering us a place for us to lay our heads if we chose to. The hospitality didn't end there. After the hard working members of the BOE, (Paul Barry and Lynnette Thompson) drove Engine 28 to Modesto, the members of Modesto's Station 4 then helped us with the change over, after which we were able to leave, and join our Strike Team for our 5:30am wake up, and prepare for a potential day

of work. Thank you again.

### Pastime

I love my family, I love my job, and I love working for the members of Local 798, but there comes a time when I have to step back and take time for myself. One of my favorite pastimes is walking along the City's shores, and reflecting on life, my blessings, and future plans. It was during one of these walks that I came across the "Festival of Sail."

The Festival of Sail, held from July 23rd to July 27th, was produced for the first time by the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association. The Festival of Sail highlights the Tall Ships, as they're called, and introduces many of our youth to the joys of sailing. These great vessels come to the West Coast once every three years, and I'm happy to have participated.

While walking through the village, I stopped to cast my vote for the boat I thought would win the boat-building contest. This was a contest that would have two teams of three builders, build a small boat from scratch, and row them around the bay. The contest would begin at 9:00 am, and the race would begin at 4:00pm. To my surprise, the team I cast my vote for had one of our very own, Lt. Andy Baron as one of the builders. Curious and



interested in the process, I stayed there for hours as they worked. Although I was unable to stay for the race, Andy told me that my vote was good, and the Electoral College could not change the outcome of their victory. Congratulations Mr. Baron.

### Giving Thanks

Please take a minute to pray with me as I ask God to bless and comfort the friends and families of all the fire fighters we have lost thus far this year, both retired and active. I would like to take a moment to acknowledge to members in particular, Anthony "Tony" Sacco, and Robert Soberanis. Tony was a very active member of Local 798. After retirement, Tony began to work endlessly for the widows and retirees. His work did not end there. Tony Sacco was also very active in the lives of his family members, friends, and community. Tony, you will be missed.

The next person I hold very close to my heart. This man was a man of Godly virtues; love, wisdom, compassion, and integrity. He was a proud member of the 87th Class, and the second person we lost in our short 15 years; the other classmate being Alison Green. I still remember the day Rob entered our recruit class. We were a class of 30, and someone dropped out after the first week making an opening for Rob to come in. Having worked as a journeyman Electrician for years, Rob was not shy to work. He asked questions and offered advice. He enjoyed motorcycles, fine cigars, meaningful conversation, and most of all, Rob loved his little girl. Rob has moved on, but his essence still lives. Let's keep his family in our prayers.



# FROM THE DIRECTOR . . .



*By Floyd Rollins II, Director*

With so much going on in the Department, who knows what to write about. That being said, let me first start by saying thank you to all the members who have been more than kind in wishing me well in taking over Brendan O'Leary's Directorship. Brendan was very dedicated to his work as a union officer and I will do my best to serve in his stead with the same level of dedication and commitment that he had during his time at Local 798. To Brendan, thank you for all of your hard work.

## **CHANGE IS THE ONLY CONSTANT**

To quote the Greek Philosopher Heraclites "Change is the only Constant" and change is what we seem to be witnessing on a regular basis within the San Francisco Fire Department. That being said, is all change for the greater good? Certainly we see the positive aspects i.e., an emergence of new officers and new vitality amongst the ranks, but there are also downsides where we must accept the changing of the guard – the "old guard" if you will, those experienced and dedicated personnel that have been on the front lines for most of their lives. They are the heroes we have admired and who have set the bar high. We will not let you down. Thank you, all of you, for what you have made proud in this Fire Department.

Most recently the IAFF endorsed Senator Barack Obama for President of the United States. It has been amazing to watch the sweeping success this young senators campaign and how it has taken America by storm. It is evident that as a nation have evolved significantly to a place where we as Americas are selecting our leaders based on achievement and integrity. It is inspiring to see Americans from every walk of life joining together to make such a critical decision about one nation's future.

Robert Kennedy once said "...the future will be shaped in the arena of human activity by those who are willing to commit their minds and bodies to the task". We have recently witnessed the results of commitment with the completion and promotion of a new group of Battalion Chiefs as well as the administration of the first Lieutenant's examination in over a decade. Countless hours have put in studying and preparing for the many different examinations that have taken place. With so much at stake on many different levels, let's hope that the "new guard" will lead our personnel in a manner befitting our honorable and heroic occupation.

## **A MOMENT OF SILENCE**

I recently traveled to Missouri to the funeral services of another one of our fallen brethren who was slain in the line of duty. Twenty-two year old Firefighter/Paramedic Ryan Hummert was shot and killed as he got out of his fire truck at the scene of a car fire across the street from a burning house in the early hours of the morning. Ryan was on the job for ten months and was the son of former Maplewood Mayor Andy Hummert. It was made a very sad occasion, even more so by learning first hand of the events of Ryan's death. Let his life be a testimony to

the fact that we work in a dangerous profession for reasons that we know and even more so, for those that we are not aware of. That being said, please be careful in your daily goings and comings.

## **WILD LAND FIRES**

For the first time in many years, our wildland season has been very busy to this date. Our teams have been deployed earlier and more often than every before. A lot of hard work has gone into the development and continuing education of our wildland qualified personnel. I can say first hand that has been reflected in the reception and commentary that has been made about the work that our teams have done on the many deployments. On two recent deployments our teams encountered mechanical issues that sidelined our apparatus. On both occasions we were helped out by personnel as well as mechanics from other jurisdictions. So let me take this opportunity to thank the mechanics shop from Los Angeles City, as well as Battalion Chiefs and firefighters from Modesto for your generous and timely service to our apparatus. Your efforts speak volumes of the fraternal spirit of which we are all a part.



# R E T I R E E N E W S

By: Floyd Rollins II, Director

Based on information from the Fire Commission, the following have retired from the San Francisco Fire Department. If any of this information is inaccurate or if there is anyone missing from this list, please contact Floyd Rollins II at the Union Office. Congratulations to all the retirees.

Name	Rank	Type	Date
Chris B. Callen	H20	Service	May 30, 2008
Robert R. Costa	H120	Service	May 8, 2008
Eugene T. Murphy	H30	Service	June 1, 2008
Nicholas A. Russo	H2 (Acting H20)	Service	May 31, 2008
Patrick G. Ryan	H2	Service	May 3, 2008
Andrew J. Assereto	H2 (Acting H20)	Service	June 28, 2008
Daniel P. Aronson	H2	Service	June 29, 2008
Michael P. Beer	H2 (Acting H20)	Service	June 29, 2008
Kevin F. Callanan	H4	Service	June 28, 2008
Carl J. Champion	H30	Service	July 1, 2008
Gerald J. Coghlan	H2	Service	June 14, 2008
Terry K. Dailey	H2	Service	June 28, 2008
Gary J. Falls	H20	Service	July 1, 2008
Thomas Gibson	H20	Service	July 11, 2008
Gary M. Gautier	H2 (Acting H20)	Service	June 28, 2008
John P. Guiral	H2 (Acting H20)	Service	July 1, 2008
William F. Hanavan	H2 (Acting H20)	Service	June 28, 2008
Robert P. Imbellino	H30 (Acting H40)	Service	June 30, 2008
Richard Kochevar	H51	Service	July 19, 2008
Thomas A. Manini	H2	Service	June 29, 2008
Robert T. Mielke	H2 (Acting H20)	Service	July,1, 2008
Neil G. Morrison	H2 (Acting H20)	Service	June 29, 2008
Michael J. Rice	H2 (Acting H20)	Service	June 29, 2008
Leslie C. Steinoff	H30	Service	June 30, 2008
Richard Trezevant	H3	Service	June 29, 2008
Patrick T. Wetteland	H2 (Acting H20)	Service	June 28, 2008
Michael R. Ahumada	H20	Service	April 18, 2008



The San Francisco Retired Firefighters of Europe held their 2008 Luncheon on the Seine during the July 14th Bastille Day celebrations in Paris. From left to right: Bill Koenig, Frank Blackburn and Jim Neil.

Thanks for all your work on the Mainline and with the union.

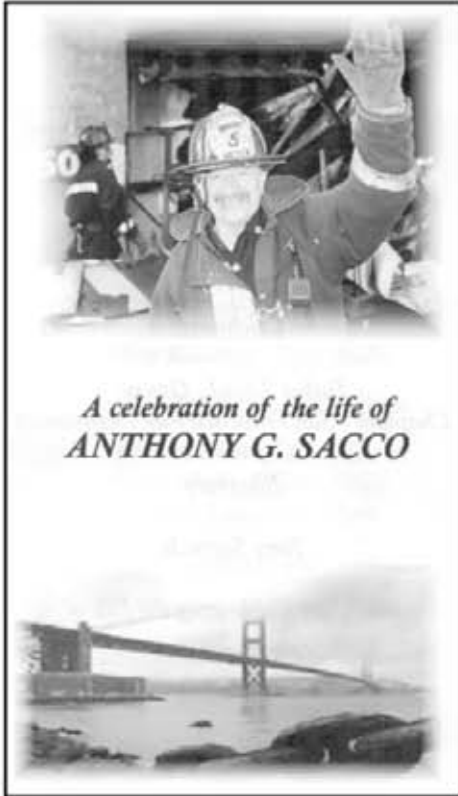
All is well here.

Fraternally,

Bill Koenig  
Truck 10 retired



# IN MEMORY AND APPRECIATION



*A celebration of the life of  
ANTHONY G. SACCO*



In memory of Tony Sacco.

Thank you,  
Joe Delfino

6/28/2008

Please accept this donation in memory of our dear friend Tony Sacco.

Barbara and Frank Shine

June 28, 2008

Brothers,

A small donation to help the cause. And in memory of Tony Sacco – "Old 4" and Station 5. One in a million.

Bill Correll, Ret.

June 30, 2008

To the San Francisco Firefighters Cancer Prevention Foundation, enclosed is a donation made in the name of Tony Sacco.

Thank you,  
Guido Costella

7/1/2008

Local 798 – Main Line,

Please accept this donation in memory of Tony Sacco. He was a great fireman and a nice man. We all owe Tony and Tim O'Brien a large debt of gratitude for all the hard work that goes into the Retired Firemen and Widows Association.

Thanks for the Main Line and thanks for all the work you do for us. God Bless Tony.

Best Regards,  
Steve O'Neill

7/3/2008

Hi John,

Enclosed is in memory of Anthony (Tony) Sacco, firefighting brother, neighbor, advocate for active and retired firefighters, community leader, and friend.

Tony enjoyed a little more time with us thanks to Local 798 Cancer Prevention / Detection Program, chaired by Tony Stefani.

In October 2006 while attending the Retired Firefighters of Sonoma Luncheon in Petaluma, Tony tested positive for cancer. A few months later, he had a kidney removed. After a year, cancer again appeared and Tony fought but lost his battle on June 23rd.

Tony always liked something Doug

# IN MEMORY AND APPRECIATION



*Born 1926 - Passed Away 2008*

*SFFD Career: 1954 - 1991*



*Photos provided by Leo Martinez*



Robbins had his son read at his service a few years back. I quote, "I wasn't as good as some people thought. But I wasn't as bad as others may have thought."

Just a regular guy. Rest in Peace.  
Leo & Mary Martinez

P.s. Thanks to all who contributed, participated and/or attended Tony's Services.

7/15/2008

In memory of Anthony Sacco.  
Sheila Massoni and Family  
July 23, 2008

Dear John,

Please accept my donation to the Cancer Prevention Fund in honor of a great man - Tony Sacco. There are not sufficient accolades to describe what Tony did and stood for. A very dedicated firefighter and officer for many years. A devoted leader in community activities; and more importantly; a long-time member of the Executive Board of Local 798.

Much will be written about this man and share in their feelings and thoughts. He will be missed by all of us. Also a final word on the Cancer Fund and what a terrific job Tony Stefani is doing on this.

Sincerely,  
Chuck Lee

7/24/2008

In memory of Anthony (Tony) Sacco.  
Susan Blomberg

# STATION SIX OLDTIMERS

THURSDAY

OCTOBER 16, 2008

WATCH 31

SIGMUND  
STERN GROVE  
(CLUBHOUSE)  
19<sup>TH</sup> AVE. & SLOAT

COCKTAILS AT 10:30 AM

LUNCH AT NOON

\$30

SIGN-UP BY OCT. 12<sup>TH</sup>

431-6657

***-PASS THE WORD-***



# THE INSIDE BOX

RETIRED MEMBER'S CORNER, LOCAL 798

*This section is dedicated to all the retired members of Local 798, who worked many long hours to maintain and improve the working conditions and benefits enjoyed by all San Francisco Fire Fighters. Retirees' efforts established a solid framework of working conditions and benefits for active members to build upon.. Let us never forget . . .*



**DECEMBER 4, 1937**

# THE INSIDE BOX

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**5TH ALARM - SEPTEMBER 22, 1937  
8TH STREET & HOOPER STREET**

# THE INSIDE BOX

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## 5TH ALARM - SEPTEMBER 22, 1937 8TH STREET & HOOPER STREET

# S P O R T S

## RED TEAM OLYMPICS

By: Bob Scheppler

San Jose, Ca- After last year's Silver Medal, the Red Team wanted nothing less than a Gold Medal. The team went through pool play with a perfect record of 4-0 thanks to Jack Taylor, Geoff Quesada, Shawn Bonetti and George Debrunner. The team lost Brian Barden early when he went down with a finger injury due to the dangerous sport of flag football. That loss forced Mike Smith to elevate his game and play straight through the tournament. The squad received a first round bye and a number one seed.

When the double elimination tournament opened, SF drew the Oakland Oaks in the Battle of the Bay. SFFD RED was victorious once again sending OFD to the loser's bracket. The Big Hits came from Brian Walsh and Jose Zalba. The team moved along to play the new

dangerous combination team of Long Beach/ Downey Fire. The boys jumped out to an early lead that they would never relinquish. Leading the way was Nate Szutu, Erik Zammarchi and Shawn Zimmerman. SF RED now moved on to the winners final Friday morning against their Nor-Cal rival, Millbrae.

The team got off to a slow start and could not hang on to win the game. This tough loss sent SF to the loser's bracket final against LA City, GangGreen. LA City jumped out to a big lead and it looked like the Red Team was going home with a Bronze Medal. Down 11 runs in the bottom of the 7th, the team responded with an 11 spot of their own to tie the game and send it into the 8th where they pulled it off. The rally was sparked by Dwayne Curry, Bob Kishi and Brian Walsh. That win put The

Red Team right back in the finals against Millbrae.

The team opened up the offense and 12 runned Millbrae early behind Dave Smiley and Antonio Vernon. This put them back in the Gold Medal game, winner takes all. The team jumped all over Millbrae early opening up a 14 run lead and held on to take back the GOLD! The Red Team won 28-26 and now has 4 of the last 5 Gold Medals in Division 1.

Congratulations to everyone, including the over 39 team who also brought home the Gold under the fierce leadership of Manager of the Year, Steve Engler. A special congratulations to triple crown winners, Bob Kishi, John Shanley, and Phil Lee (Olympic Gold, Station ONE 1st place in 798 softball, Las Vegas Fire Games).



(Top) Gold Medal Team

(Top Right) Coach Schep and son Anthony during the Olympics

(Lower Right) Barden and Zammarchi



Photos provided by Bob Scheppler

# S P O R T S

## STATION 1 SOFTBALL CHAMPIONS

By: Bob Scheppler

Since the beginning of the 798 softball league in 1971, Station 1 has never won an inter-department title. Oh, they have had plenty of runner-up plaques - one look at their wall will confirm that. Could 2008 be the year of the Alley Cat? The men at Station 1 were getting restless, with their fearless leader Gene Murphy retiring. The time was now. The team opened up the season with Danny Gracia running the daily operations as the New General Manager. The ball club went 8-2 to be the number two seed in the tournament.

Station 1 opened the tournament against Station 2. Captain Vic Wyrsh (E-2), former Lt. (RS-1) was caught right in the middle, but we knew where his allegiance lie. The force was too strong. The game remained tight until John Choy (RS-1) gambled on a put-out play that didn't work out. Station 2 took the lead. That's when Bob Winslow "inspired" the team to win or else. No one wanted to suffer the consequences of another runner up title. With Winslow giving the motivational speech, Darren "KIMO" Bortmas (T-1) was not going

to be denied a chance to play for it all. On his 40th birthday, he took over. KIMO hit the biggest homerun in St.1 history. It changed the game and gave Station 1 the win and a shot at the title with last years defending champs, Station 6, The Pride of The Castro. But it was their day. It was all about STATION #1, THE ALLEY-CATS. The team got out to an insurmountable lead and never looked back. Station 1 finally did it. Congratulations to all current and former members of St 1! "2008 Local 798 World Champions!"



Photos provided by Bob Scheppler



## G U N S & H O S E S

By: Sally A Casazza

The 7th Annual "Guns and Hoses" Tennis Tournament was held at the San Francisco Tennis Club on April 26th 2008.

This event benefits the Local 798 Toy Program, as well as the BALEFF program of the SFPD.

Both groups recieved a check for \$9,000 for their respective charities.

Great Food, Drink, Friendship, and Tennis was had by all.

Many thanks to Bob Lopez, retired from Station 9, and Inspector Robyn Matthews from the SFPD.

Also, special thanks to Local 798, and everyone who

bought Raffle Tickets and Silent Auction Prizes.

Some of our prize winners are:

Kerry Mann Station 14 - Bay Park Hotel, Monterey, CA  
Lou Ibarra Station 8 - Tickets to Beach Blanket Babylon  
Mike Rustia Station 7 - Gift Certificate Gordon Biersh Brewery  
Jason Chan Station 37 - Gift Certificate Red & White Fleet  
Airport One - Gift Certificate Lucetis  
Julie DeJarlis Station 13 - Moshi Moshi Dinner Certificate  
Adrienne Sims - Wax Musuem Tickets  
Terry Smerdel Station 17 - Peets Coffee Baskets

# TOY PROGRAM

## SKINDIVER ALERT!

By Arthur R. Citron

### ANNUAL ABALONE DIVE TO BENEFIT FIREFIGHTERS TOY PROGRAM

Get your calendars out and turn to the month of October. Bill Bassett has fine tuned his Bassett-divemobile and is ready to roll to the north coast. As most know the purpose of this abalone dive to the Sonoma County Coast is to support the Firefighters' Local #798s Toy Program. Corporate sponsors and volunteers are treated to a special abalone lunch in appreciation for their contributions. Certainly, all firefighters understand how important the Toy Program is to the well being of all our members, both active and retired.

And now that you have your calendars out and pen in hand, please make a special notation that on Wednesday, October 29th, the dive is on. The Stillwater Cove campground is once again the rendezvous location for the dive. Our intrepid leader once more guarantees perfect diving conditions and a gourmet ocean front dinner table fit for his fearless companions. Along with the diving and a great day at the ocean, there will also be entertainment. You will witness the almost forgotten art form of spontaneous /marathon story telling which reverberates throughout this camp. Want to vent, cry, laugh, complain, or tell lies (or dive)? This outing is for you. It is guaranteed that you will hear enough campfire stories (and tell plenty of your own tales) to last another lifetime. If you can stay awake until the raccoon act performs their clean up of the loose bits of gourmet faire left around the campfire, Bill also guarantees you will hear all the stories you heard last year that made you laugh the hardest—plus a few hundred

new ones. And as an added bonus, you will also enjoy the company and campfire blarney of several 'older diver's' who were in the water before wet suits and before many of you were born! Wait until you see some of the vintage equipment that comes out of their dive bags! To these senior divers Black Magic isn't an old romantic ballad or ancient ritualistic form of magic – it's a wet suit glue they could buy at 50 cents a bucket-full that kept the seams and holes

patched. Now it cost \$5.00 a can and is hard to find so many of the 'old guard' are considering 'digging up the tin cans' and upgrading their original "O'Neill's". Hear the whole sad story on October 29th. This event is one you don't want to miss. Give Bill a call right away. He needs a head count. Bill's home phone number is 650-359-3196. (Cut this article out and staple it to your calendar – or your wet suit).

#### San Francisco Firefighters Toy Program



1139 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
(415) 777-0440



Dear SF FIREFIGHTER TOY PROGRAM SUPPORTER,

Come join us for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual

SF FIREFIGHTER Local 798 TOY PROGRAM GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, October 27, 2008 Noon, Shotgun Start \$200.00 per person

Checks to: 1139 Mission St. S.F. 94107

Lake Merced Golf Club

2300 Juniper Serra Blvd Daly City, CA

Raffle, Celebrity Players, Award Reception

If you are not able to attend, please consider donating a Raffle Prize.

Also let us know your handicap, and who you want to play with.

Deadline 10-15-08

Info: Toy Program 415 777-0440

Matt Scola Station 3 Jose Zalba Station 7

Sponsored By SAN FRANCISCO FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 798



A memorial fund to honor the memory of Firefighter Robert Soberanis, who passed away on August 7<sup>th</sup>, has been established for his daughter, Gina, at the San Francisco Fire Credit Union.

If you would like to make a donation, please indicate the following:

Airport Rescue Company #3

Gina Soberanis

Account #862890

Account Type S5.2

Donations can be sent to: San Francisco Fire Credit Union, 3201 California Street, San Francisco, CA, 94118. Donations can also be made by transferring funds via SFFCU online banking. Please indicate the above account number, account type, and use AIR as the first three letters of the last name.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

# **Station 9 Retirement Banquet**

*Honoring*

*"The Last of the Old Junkyard Dogs"*

**Bob Lopez**

SFFD

**Lonnie Magnusen**

**Joe Moriarty**



**Phil Kelber**

**Jim McHugh**

JUNKYARD  
DAWGS

**Rich Kochevar**

*A Special Tribute To Johnny V.*

**October 23, 2008**

**Drinks 6:00 pm**

**Chow 7:00 pm**

**United Irish Cultural Center  
2700 45<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Francisco**

**Cost: \$75.00 (checks payable to Station #9)  
RSVP to Station 9 @ 415.824.4609**



# SF RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS SONOMA COUNTY

-1973-



SAN FRANCISCO RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS OF SONOMA COUNTY  
PRESENT THE FIFTY-SECOND SEMI ANNUAL LUNCHEON FOR  
RETIRED AND ACTIVE SAN FRANCISCO FIREFIGHTERS AND FRIENDS

DATE: OCTOBER 6, 2008

LOCATION: ELKS LODGE IN PETALUMA - 2105 SO. McDOWELL BLVD.  
(FROM HWY. 101 - EAST ON LAKEVILLE HWY (116) -  
SOUTH ON SO. McDOWELL BLVD.

MENU: LUNCH SERVED AT 12:30 pm  
GOURMET DELIGHT ALA COLLINS  
CHEFS: JOE COLLINS AND CREW

COCKTAILS: NO HOST BAR OPENS AT 11:00 am

PRICE: \$15.00 PER PERSON - RESERVATIONS STRONGLY REQUESTED -  
— \$20.00 PER PERSON AT THE DOOR —

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: S.F.R.F.S.C.

MAIL TO: CHAIRMAN - 245 GROVE ST. - WINDSOR, CA. - 95492-7905

**\*\*\*\*\* DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 19, 2008 \*\*\*\*\***

NOTE: A BUS FROM S.F. LEAVES LAKE MERCED AT 10 A.M.

Anyone interested Call Jim Dowd at: 1-415-265-5010 - FIRST 55 ONLY!!!

.....  
PLEASE PRINT ALL NAMES FOR NAME TAGS

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST: \_\_\_\_\_ GUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS (IF YOU HAVE ONE) \_\_\_\_\_

# THREE ALARM CELLARS

SALUTES THE  
NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

# PREVENT HOME FIRES

[firepreventionweek.org](http://firepreventionweek.org)



A percentage of the proceeds of the  
sale of this wine will be donated to  
the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation

(AARBF). [www.aarbf.org](http://www.aarbf.org)



707-838-2353 - [www.3alarmcellars.com](http://www.3alarmcellars.com)

# STATION 8

## Roast'em Toast'em LUNCHEON



### Honoring:

**Ed O'Donnell**...presented by the reknowned Tony Stefani

**Don Gerhardt** the Mother of All House Collectors

**Don Russo** Proud holder of numerous commendations and Firefighter of the Year Award way too many times to mention "so forget about it"

**Pete Casey** aka "Popcorn Pete" or "Mister Rogers"

**Fred Calonico** aka "The Sheik" whose harem refer to him as the "Gun of Navarone"

**Willie Durkin** Not Workin Durkin (one of the greatest)

**John Ferrando** The Marlboro Man (in your face)

**Bill Hanavan** aka Big Leo, Big Leo Productions, Gus Goose and the Greatest House Collector of All Time (and still is)

**Steve Hill** aka Sam Hill, Yosemite Sam

**Bill Downing** aka Lucky Billy...Peahead (presented by direct satellite feed from Porto del Fino, Italy by Phil Kelber)

### The details:

**The day:** **October 16, 2008 Thursday**

**Honks:** **11:00 AM ~ Full Box** (Open Bar)

**Chow:** **12:00 PM ~ Smoke Showing** (Buffet)

**Roasting:** **01:00 PM ~ Working fire**

**Where:** **Ruby Skye Nightclub 420 Mason**

**Parking:** **Downtown Center Garage** (O'Farrell & Mason)

**Price:** **\$70** (checks due by October 9 payable to Station 8)

**RSVP:** **Call Station 8 @ 415 495-0812 or 415 558-3208**

FREE FINANCIAL SERVICES BROUGHT TO YOU BY SF FIRE CREDIT UNION

## FREE Quarterly FICO Credit Scores

SF Fire Credit Union offers members the option of viewing their FICO Credit Scores on a quarterly basis free of charge. Scores are included on quarterly statements and displayed within Online Banking.

Find Out if Your Score Makes the Grade

FICO Score	Credit Tier*
720 - 850	A
660 - 719	B
630 - 659	C
0 - 629	D

\* See [www.fico.com](http://www.fico.com) for more information on credit scores.

## FREE and Confidential Financial Counseling

Credit Union members have free access to financial counseling and education through the BALANCE Financial Fitness Program.

- Money Management
- Debt Management
- Toll-Free Financial Information Line



## FREE Identity Theft Victim Resolution Services

Members can obtain free resolution services that assist with recovery from every aspect of identity theft and help protect from recurring fraud.

Victim Resolution Services provides:

- Two Case Specialists that Work on Your Case from Beginning to End
- Actions to Stop Fraud - Contact Creditors and Credit Bureaus, Close Affected Accounts and Help Open New Replacement Accounts
- Assistance establishing fraud alerts with the 3 major credit reporting agencies
- Web-Based Access to Monitor the Progress of Your Case
- Preparation of Supplemental Police Reports
- Two-Year Follow Up on Your Case to Ensure Complete Case Resolution and That No Further Fraud is Taken Place



SF Fire Credit Union  
3201 California Street, (888) 499-8882  
San Francisco, CA 94118 | [www.sffirecu.org](http://www.sffirecu.org)

For more information on any of the programs listed above, contact the Credit Union at (888) 499-8882 (3473) or [www.sffirecu.org](http://www.sffirecu.org)

## PALM SPRINGS - 2008

SAN FRANCISCO RETIRED FIREFIGHTER'S OF SONOMA COUNTY  
WELCOME YOU AND YOURS TO FUN, SUN, SHOPPING AND GAMES.

DATES: NOVEMBER 9-10-11-12-13

STAY: EMBASSY SUITES IN PALM DESERT

COST: \$540 PER PERSON-DOUBLE OCCUPANCY WITH KING BED.  
\$570 PER PERSON-DOUBLE OCCUPANCY WITH TWO DOUBLE BEDS.

### PRICE INCLUDES:

- \*\*5 nights lodging in a two room suite.
- \*\*Daily cooked to order breakfast.
- \*\*Daily two hour complimentary cocktail party.
- \*\*Welcome dinner at the hotel on Sunday night.
- \*\*Final night awards banquet at **LG'S PRIME** Steakhouse. Prime, not choice.
- \*\*Pool, spa, fitness center, six tennis courts.
- \*\*Good cheer and camaraderie with old and new friends.
- \*\*Look MOM! No cooking or dishes.

GOLF: \$375 PER PLAYER - Men's tournament a 3 day low net with 3 to 5 flights, depending on number of players. Women's tournaments WWG (women with ghin) and WWOG (women without ghin). Price includes prize money.

Optional daily skins tournament. \$30. Pay there.

- NOV. 10 PGA WEST 8:30 shotgun - Nicklaus Course. One of 100 best in US. Accuracy rewarded-entire team penalized. Search familiar? 69 @ 124 - 6077 yds.
- NOV. 11 La QUINTA RESORT 8:30 shotgun Dunes Course. Pete Dye designed. One of the top 75 resort courses. Was a PGA Qualifying site. 70.1/124 - 6230 yds.
- NOV. 13 DESERT DUNES 8:30 shotgun - Host in PGA. Open qualifying events. 70.2/124-6209 yds.

SPORTS: Bicycle, tennis, racquetball, bowling, running, etc. Get an organizer and come along. DEPOSIT: Group room rates need to be reserved by March 28<sup>th</sup>. \$300 per person. After this date, room availability determined on receipt of deposit.

**BALANCE DUE**, by September 20<sup>th</sup>. \$240 or \$270. **ADD** \$375 for golf.

WEDNESDAY ADVENTURE: 360 degrees of WOW! A ride on the Palm Springs Aerial Tram to the top of 8500 ft Mt. San Jacinto State Park. Pass 5 life zones from Sonoran desert to Alpine wilderness. Cocktails and lunch on the mountain. If interested in going, there will be a sign-up list at Sunday night's dinner.

GOOGLE: [palmdesert.embassysuites.com](http://palmdesert.embassysuites.com) - [lgspriimesteakhouse.com](http://lgspriimesteakhouse.com) - [laquintaresort.com](http://laquintaresort.com) - [deseridunesgolf.com](http://deseridunesgolf.com) - [desert.hills.outlet.mall](http://desert.hills.outlet.mall) - [pstramwv.com](http://pstramwv.com)

INFO: Bob Quattrin 823-8243, Joe Collins 542-7797, Woody Paynter 579-0325, John Logue 577-8850, Gary Montague 576-1891. All 707 area code.

MAIL CHECKS TO: CHAIRMAN SFRFSC, 7980 MITCHELL CT, SEBASTOPOL, CA 95472.

# SUBMISSIONS:

## THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES FOR THE MAIN LINE IS:

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2008 / Oct. 20, 2008

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2009 / Dec. 20, 2008

MARCH - APRIL 2009 / Feb. 20, 2009

# ATTENTION!!

## DO YOU HAVE FIRE PHOTOS?

*Whether old or new,  
the Main Line is interested  
in publishing them in future issues.*

Please forward to the Union office:  
1139 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103

or contact

Stan Lee @ BFI - (415) 920-2933  
or by email: [sffd.mainline@gmail.com](mailto:sffd.mainline@gmail.com)

City College of San Francisco  
Fire Science Technology  
Fall 2008

Classes begin August 19, 2008

- ☐ **FSC 17\* Public Safety – First Responder** 1125 Valencia St., 271  
CRN: 78502 551 Lec – Units: 3 (Thursdays) 6:30-09:30PM - Long, W / Parafley, A
- ☐ **FSC 50\* - Introduction to Fire Science** Ocean (Batmale 222)  
CRN: 71504 Sec: 001 - Units: 3 (Tuesday/Thursday) 09:30 am - 11:00 am - Juralovic, N  
CRN: 78040 Sec: 501 - Units: 3 (Mondays) 6:00 pm – 09:30 pm – Zalba, J
- ☐ **FSC 52A\* - Protection Equip & Systems** 1125 Valencia St., 271  
CRN: 75252 Sec: 551 - Units: 3 (Tuesdays) 06:30 pm - 9:30 pm - Yballa, H
- ☐ **FSC 55\* - Wildland Fire Control** Ocean (Batmale 222)  
CRN: 77338 Sec: 001 - Units: 3 (Tuesday/Thursday) 08:00 am - 9:30 am - Connors, J
- ☐ **FSC 60 – Fire Apparatus & Equipment** Ocean (Batmale 222)  
CRN: 78133 Sec: 001 - Units: 3 (Tuesday/Thursday) 11:00 am - 12:30 pm – Chung, J
- ☐ **FSC 61A\* – Fire Prevention** Ocean (Batmale 222)  
CRN: 73550 Sec: 591 - Units: 3 (Tuesdays) 06:30 pm - 09:30 pm – Skinner, J
- ☐ **FSC 105A, B, C - Fire Protect Work Exp** (PREREQ: FSC 50)  
CRN: 77436, 77579, 77437 Sec: 001 - Units: 1-3 (Days & Hours for internships TBA) - Bill Long  
(All sections have (3) required meetings on Tuesdays 8/19, 10/21 & 12/16/2008  
from 1 – 3 pm in Cloud 334)
- ☐ **FSC 111 – Firefighter I Academy** (SF Airport)  
PREREQ: F SC 50, F SC 115 and FSC 17 or EMT, and clearance from licensed physician  
ADVISORY: F SC 52A or 53 or 55 or 61A or 64  
CRN: 78501 501 L/L T R 06:00-10:00PM SF Airport Staff  
SAT 08:00-12:00PM SF Airport Staff  
SAT 01:00-06:00PM SF Airport Staff  
Coordinator: James Connors - Phone: (650) 821-0211 - email: [jconnors@ccsf.edu](mailto:jconnors@ccsf.edu)

# MOVED?

Change of Address/Telephone  
Change of Beneficiary

If you have just moved or are about to move, have a new telephone number or change in beneficiary:

FILL OUT THIS FORM AND RETURN TO:

LOCAL 798  
1139 MISSION STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103  
ATTN: GAIL (415) 621-7103  
or  
E-mail: [Gail@sfflocal798.org](mailto:Gail@sfflocal798.org)  
with Subject: Change of Address

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
FORMER ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
NEW ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
BENEFICIARY: \_\_\_\_\_

**ULTIMATELY THIS HELPS YOU!**

City College of San Francisco  
*California State Marshal Course Offerings for fall 2008*  
(classes begin August 21, 2008)

SFM Course	Dates	Day of Week	CCSF course #	Course CRN	Course Location	Instructors
Instructor 1A 8/21, 28/2008 & 9/*4, 11, 18/2008	Thursdays	FSC 71A	78343	SF0	Long	
Investigation 1A 9/8, 15, 22, 29/2008 & 10/6/2008	Mondays	FSC 72	77806	SF0	O'Leary	
Prevention 1B 10/3, 10, 17, 24, 31/2008	Fridays	FSC 68B	77337	SF0	Yballa	
Command 1A 11/12, 19, 26/2008 & 12/3 & 10/2008	Wednesdays	FSC 88A	73109	SF0	Jalbert	

All courses are one-day per-week. Student material fees are \$85 beginning fall 2008  
(Pays for student manual, certificate, and taxes, handling and shipping charged by the SFM Training)

Registration fees are paid directly to Admissions & Records  
(we do not accept checks for both material & registration fees)

\*Fire Instructor 1A meets Course meets face to face on: 8/21, 28/2008 & 9/11 & 18/2008 & online 9/4/2008



1<sup>st</sup> Annual  
San Francisco Firefighters Local 798  
**Bocce Tournament**  
To Benefit  
San Francisco Firefighters  
Cancer Prevention Foundation

**WHEN:** Tuesday, October 7, 2008 9:00 am

**WHERE:** Marin Bocce Federation  
550 "B" Street, San Rafael

**ENTRY INFO:** \$50 per 4-person team  
32 Teams Max/First Come/First Served  
Non-Players \$10

**ELIGIBILITY:** Open to all Local 798 Members and  
Retirees in good standing

**REFRESHMENTS:** 8:30 am Coffee, Juice, Pastries  
12:00 Noon - Lunch, Beverages

**\*\*Prizes \*\* Awards \*\* Gifts\*\***

**CONTACT:** Director Jim Vannucchi (415) 621-7103  
Lt. Tony Rivera, Cell (415) 505-5359

*Governed by World Bocce League Rules*

\*\*\*\*

E N T R Y     F O R M

1<sup>st</sup> Annual  
San Francisco Firefighters Local 798  
Bocce Tournament  
Tuesday, October 7, 2008  
To Benefit  
San Francisco Firefighters  
Cancer Prevention Foundation

E N T R Y     F O R M  
Please print clearly

Team Name

Station/Club

Contact Phone #:

Team Members:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed Entry Form and your check\* payable to:

San Francisco Firefighters Cancer Prevention Foundation  
SFFF Local 798  
1139 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
Attn: Bocce Master

All Entry Forms Must be Received by October 1, 2008

*\*Portion of tax deduction pursuant to IRS Regulations*



SFFD

# SF Fire Fighters Local 798 **BLOOD DRIVE**

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
April 15, 16 and 17 2008  
August 19, 20 and 21 2008  
December 16, 17 and 18 2008

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location: Irwin Center, 270 Masonic Ave

For more information contact:

Give the Gift of Life



Blood Centers  
of the Pacific

Donate Blood

## ENGINE **3** TRUCK ANNUAL RETIRED MEMBERS LUNCHEON

PACIFIC ROD & GUN CLUB  
520 JOHN MUIR DRIVE

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AT 12:00

GET THERE EARLY FOR THE SOCIAL HOUR

WED. SEPTEMBER 24, 2008  
WATCH 1

CALL STATION 3 TO SIGN-UP  
AT  
441-9368

## Station 12

### 2nd Annual Hall of Fame Luncheon



#### The Class of 2008 Inductees:

Bill McCarthy, George Baur, Jack Giessler, and Ron Pharis  
In Memoriam: Rudy Partida

DATE: Wednesday, October 22, 2008 Watch 29

PLACE: Forest Hills Lodge

254 Laguna Honda Blvd, San Francisco

TIME: Open Bar: 11:30am - 2:30pm Lunch 12:30pm

PRICE: \$35



Space is limited to 120 guests. Please call Station 12  
at 564-4847 to sign up. Payment must be received  
by October 15th to guarantee a seat. Please send checks  
to Station 12 at 1145 Starryan St, 94117.

### The Phoenix Society of San Francisco's

17<sup>th</sup> Annual

## OLD TIMERS' NIGHT

HONORING RETIRED S.F.F.D. VETERANS:

FF Al Gughemetti - E3, TI  
FF Mike Lewis - Rescue 2, Stress Unit  
Capt. Tim O'Brien - T17, E35, T1  
BC Frank Treanor - Batt. 5, T5, E5

Thursday, November 6, 2008

Spanish Cultural Center

2850 Alemany Blvd at Farragut, San Francisco

No-host Cocktails: 6 PM Dinner: 7 PM

Dinner Choices:

New York Strip Roast with Mushroom Sauce or  
Breast of Chicken with Sherry Cream Sauce

50.00 per person

Reservations needed! Deadline: Friday, Oct. 31

Call early to arrange your group table for 8 to 10 persons

For reservations call: (415) 648-8676

Send checks (with your dinner choice and seating requests) to:  
Phoenix Society of SF, c/o 278 Chenery St, San Francisco, CA, 94131



# SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT STRESS UNIT



## **A COUNSELING SERVICE FOR EMPLOYEES**

A part of being human is to experience problems and conflicts. In most cases we are able to resolve them ourselves. Occasionally, however, we are confronted with problems that require professional assistance. Through the Employee Assistance Program we have immediate access to professionals who can help us.

## **WHOM DOES IT SERVE?**

The San Francisco Fire Department Stress Unit/EAP serves all employees of the San Francisco Fire Department and their families.

## **PEER COUNSELORS- TOM POSEY • DOYLE MILLER**

The EAP/Stress Union new location is 501 Cesar Chavez, San Francisco.  
Peer Counselors are available 24 hours, seven days a week.

**Phone (415) 206-1419**

Leave your phone numbers and the counselors will be paged.

## **CONFIDENTIAL**

Personal requests for information or assistance are a matter solely between you and the counselor.

## **WHAT KIND OF PROBLEMS?**

The Employee Assistance program offers confidential and professional counseling on problems of concern such as:  
Marital / Family / Alcohol Abuse / Drug Abuse / Stress / Persistent Anxiety Financial or Legal / Other Psychological / Emotional Problems

## **VOLUNTARY**

At all times it is the choice of the employee to use the Employee Assistance Program. Use of the program is not recorded in the personnel file and does not affect the employee's standing on the job.

## **ATTENTION RETIRED MEMBERS:**

San Francisco Employees' Retirement System  
Phone Number Has Changed!

The location has remained the same:

30 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 3000  
San Francisco, CA 94102

The General Information  
telephone number at this  
location has changed:

(415) 487-7050  
(415) 487-7058

## **SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT 24TH ANNUAL!**

# **AIRPORT DIVISION LUNCHEON**

☪ **HONORING ALL NEW & PAST RETIREES** ☪

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2008**  
Watch #27

**PACIFIC ROD & GUN CLUB, SAN FRANCISCO**

☪ **PLEASE NOTE LOCATION** ☪

**11am -- 3:30PM      Lunch @ 1:30PM**

**PRICE -- \$25 per person**  
**ADVANCE PAYMENT IS APPRECIATED**  
Please make checks payable to -- DENNIS KRUGER

**\*\* RESERVATIONS REQUIRED \*\***

Before 10/17/08  
Jayn Feyling @ 650/821-4600

# Attention:

All Members Thinking of  
Retiring...

Contact Secretary Frank Kelly  
at the Union Office  
415-621-7103

## CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

INVESTING FOR RETIREMENT...  
*SOUND OVERWHELMING?*

DEFERRED COMPENSATION  
HELPS MAKE IT EASIER!!

The City and County of San Francisco and ING make retirement planning easier under the **City and County of San Francisco 457 Deferred Compensation Plan**. By contributing to the Plan, you can supplement your retirement and enjoy these benefits:



Meaghan Doherty  
Registered Representative  
Account Executive  
CA Insurance License 90C91224

- ✓ your contributions (up to the Internal Revenue Code limits) are made by convenient payroll deduction to a group annuity designed for long-term investing for retirement purposes
- ✓ reduced current federal and state income taxes; your contributions and earnings are not taxed until you receive them
- ✓ personalized service including individual appointments, investment modeling and retirement illustrations
- ✓ diverse investment options that provide you with flexibility in managing your account
- ✓ distributions permitted upon retirement, separation from service, accounts under \$5,000 if certain conditions are met, death or incurring an unforeseen emergency
- ✓ access your individual account 24 hours a day through ING's website [www.ingretirementplans.com/custom/sanfran](http://www.ingretirementplans.com/custom/sanfran), or by calling ING Access at 1-800-584-6001

For more information, or to schedule an individual appointment, call your **ING Representative at 415-364-2017 or 1-888-822-1211**. Our local San Francisco Office is located at 1 Front Street (at Market Street) Suite 1425.

*You should consider the investment objectives, risks and charges and expenses of the variable product and its underlying fund options carefully before investing. Fund prospectuses and information booklets containing this and other information can be obtained by calling 1-888-822-1211. Please read carefully before investing.*

*Insurance products issued by ING Life Insurance and Annuity Company. Securities offered through ING Financial Advisers, LLC (Member SIPC).*

STATION ONE

# REUNION

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2008  
Come One, Come ALL!!

PLACE: Pacific Rod & Gun Club

TIME: 11a.m. – 3 p.m.

PRICE: \$ 20.00



Please Contact Station 1

495-9473

Annual

## James T. Ferguson Scholarship



Applications must be received by April 6, 2009

3 Scholarship of \$500.00 will be

Awarded to a Son or Daughter of an Active Local 798 Member

Eligibility: Graduating senior high school student who will be attending an accredited College or University in the U.S.  
Selection: By "Lottery", held at the annual May membership meeting.  
Application: Application forms may be obtained at the Union Office at 1139 Mission Street, San Francisco (415-621-7103), or below.

In addition to the application form, applicants must submit a brief essay (no more than 100 words) on why their parent belongs to a Union.

### James T. Ferguson Scholarship Application

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

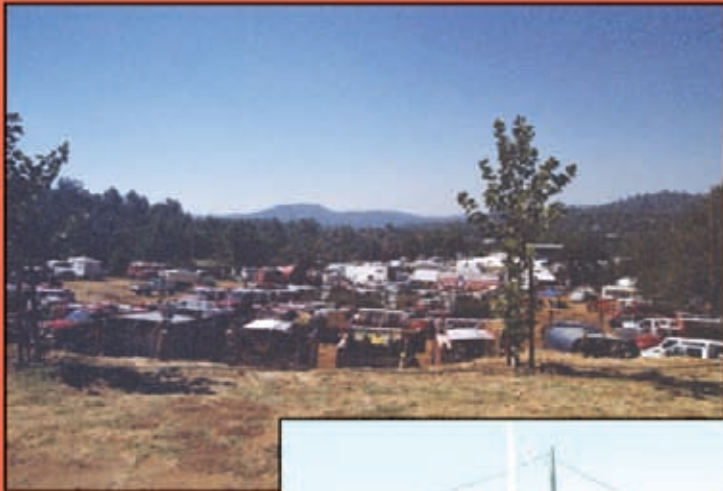
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

COLLEGE ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

# WORKING FIRE

YOSEMITE FIRE  
JULY 2008



Photos By John Danner



**COME JOIN SAN FRANCISCO FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 798  
TO CELEBRATE COIT TOWER 75TH ANNIVERSARY  
DIAMOND JUBILEE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR  
OCTOBER 18, 2008 (SATURDAY)**

Yes on  
Proposition

O

The *MAIN LINE* is the official publication of the San Francisco Fire Fighters Local 798. Affiliated with IAFF-CIO/CLC. It reflects the views and opinions of the Executive Board and the membership. We do not endorse or support any other publication. Nor do we endorse or support telemarketing as it pertains to the San Francisco Firefighters Local 798.

John Hanley  
President, Local 798

San Francisco Fire Fighters  
**MAIN LINE**

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San Francisco, CA 94103

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