

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2009

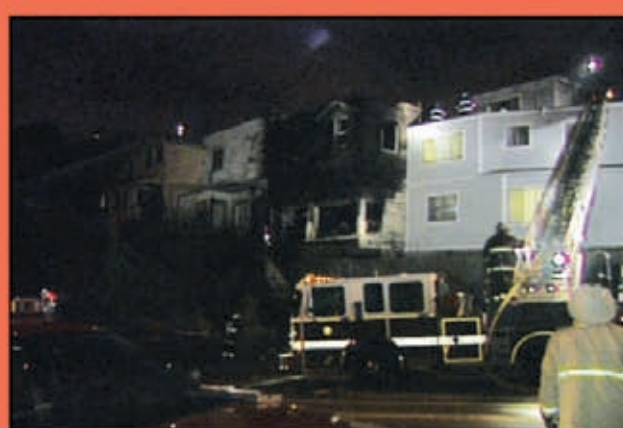
MAIN LINE

SAN FRANCISCO FIRE FIGHTERS



WORKING FIRE

JULY 4, 2009 - BOX 5252 - INCIDENT No. 09055035
AUGUSTA ST. & BAYSHORE BLVD.



Stills by Bryan Carmody

THE MAIN LINE

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2009 - Vol. 35, No. 11

Official Publication
of the San Francisco
Fire Fighters Local 798

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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.

These emblems on the masthead of any labor publication certify that the publication is a member in good standing of the International Labor Communications Association and has bound itself to observe ILCA's Code of Ethics.

Members are welcome to submit Letters to the Editor for publication. The Editorial Board reserves the right to review/edit any submitted material.



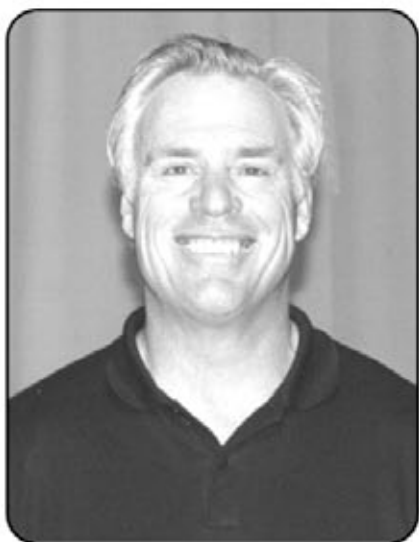
Cover:

Photo by Mark Grissom





LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



The Firefighters 3rd Annual Chili Cook-Off was a huge success. Thanks go out to Station 1's Dan Gracia, who is also a Local 798 Director, and Keith Onishi, all around 798 helper. These 2 guys and their merry band of helpers put on an award winning event which will allow us to continue our #1 Charity, The San Francisco Firefighters Local 798 Toy Program, distributing toys to children at Christmas time. Congratulations to Station 5 for winning Best Booth & Chili. A wonderful time was had by all.

As all of us are aware, the most recent Fire Department Headquarters' SNAFU is the failure of the Department to order replacement engines and trucks. The shocking fact is that the Fire Department has had millions of dollars for years but could not pull the trigger and order our rigs. The best explanation of it is when a member of the Board of Supervisors contacted me, he explained that when he questioned our command staff, it was like listening to a child who forgot their homework – "the dog ate it". It is what it is. We will make the best out of a bad situation. Say your rosaries that we don't have an earthquake in the next 365 days; that's the time it takes for the new apparatus to arrive – at least that's what the SFFD Administration says. Count on this though, for the 20 year anniversary of the Loma Prieta earthquake, the photo op Fire Department will be out in full force. Mobile Homes, command vehicles and our meager relief engines of 20+ years will be hidden from all eyes.

We hope the Fire Department will accept NIOSH's

(National Institute for Organizational Safety & Health) offer to do a cancer research project on how and why so many men and women of Local 798 are getting cancer. Nationally we are off the chart and as a Fire Department, our members are getting far more cancer than other Fire Departments.

NIOSH's report of the Revere Street fire where Firefighter Mike Estrada was severely injured should take 6 months. It's unfortunate that NIOSH had to come here to do a report. We would hope that the Fire Department will finally put to print (not an email) the findings of the Felton Street fire where 6 guys were injured. A manual so our firefighters can review it and actually have drills and have the Fire Department make adjustments for our safety.

Good luck to all who have friends or relatives who are taking the upcoming entrance exam. We as a union are somewhat mystified as to why there is no interview process for incoming firefighters. We are not aware of a department of any size that does not interview prospective firefighters. Let me give you an example. In a normal interview process, the interviewing board will ask prospective candidates ... "would you risk your life for someone you did not know, or your brother or sister firefighter in dangerous and/or hazardous conditions?" This is important; it should be mandatory to ask a prospective firefighter before he/she enters the Fire Department. What if the person said, "No, I will not risk my life – I'm here for the paycheck." We have done exhaustive research and have found that the person who you order a hamburger from at In-N-Out Burger goes through an interview process. I'll leave it up to you to decide.

I look forward to seeing those members who have passed muster at the upcoming 2nd Annual Bocce Tournament on October 9th.

John Hanley
President, Local 798

FROM THE DIRECTORS . . .



By Floyd Rollins, Director

Greetings Brothers and Sisters.

I welcome you all with the hope that this finds you and your families both prospering and in good health.

It was great to see all of the stations and local departments that came out to participate in the 3rd Annual Johnny V Chili Cook Off. In the spirit of a man who lived a good life, it was very encouraging to see our brothers and sisters come together and have a great time in a little friendly competition. Director Danny Gracia and his Team that put this event together deserve the highest accolade for organizing a great day for us all. I would also like to take this opportunity to say a heartfelt thanks to Gail, Barbara, Sally from the SFFF Local 798 staff and the many other volunteers that came out and helped Danny and his crew make this event successful. Brothers and Sisters, these are the persons that are always in our corner working behind the scenes. Thanks again for your support and hard work and we will see you all at the 4th annual. (Hint. Hint. Keep it going DG)

Events like this one certainly show that when we all come out and work TOGETHER on one accord that we can accomplish great things. Be it social, professional, fraternal or family it still remains true that we can accomplish more by sticking together. Taking lessons from our ancestors, it was in times like we are experiencing now that they came together in order to help one another survive. They would pool their resources for the enhancement of the collective group. The ideal of standing together has stood the test of time in my opinion and really is what is needed RIGHT NOW. With that I would like to see all Brothers and Sisters of this Local becoming actively involved in the preservation and betterment of our future. That translates into coming to union meetings and voicing your opinions. Coming out to rallies, door hanger drops and community events and knowing that your presence helps make a difference. The recent "Save our Neighborhood Firehouses" campaign is testimony to this very fact. A lot of hard work was done by many different people. Let's continue to build off the ground work that has already been laid down TOGETH-

ER!

While working the other evening at "Attack 42", we had the honor of being visited by Brother Chris Posey. I cannot tell you how encouraging it was to see Brother Posey out and about after the ordeal that he endured. He told me that he is still going through some things as a result of the injuries incurred from the Felton Street fire but, he is happy and blessed to still be here and is fighting hard on his road to recovery. I also had the pleasure of receiving a call from Brother Mike Estrada who was seriously injured at the Revere Street fire. Brother Estrada said he continues to remain prayerful on his road to recovery. He also said that he is blessed to have someone walking that path with him in the person of his wonderful new wife, Wendy. Brother Estrada requested that we continue to keep him and his wife in our thoughts and prayers. The strength that these Brethren continue to display in the face of what some said were insurmountable odds should encourage all of us to want to take the job that we do seriously. I know that both of them want lessons to be learned from their incidents in hopes that things like this may never happen again. In that it becomes the responsibility of us all to do everything that we can to make ourselves and our companies better. This includes stepping up and being accountable for our own actions. We should all strive to "... make this place better than it was when we got here."

With the Holiday season approaching quickly, please keep an ear close to the ground for more events to come. The following is just a small sample:

I look forward to seeing ALL of you at the regularly scheduled Union meeting on October 8 to be held at the Irish Cultural Center ; 9:00 AM

The 2nd Annual San Francisco Fire Fighters Local 798 Bocce Tournament on October 9 which will be held at the Marin Bocce Federation in San Rafael. Starting time is 9:00 AM. On the menu that great day will be a "Delicious Lunch hosted by "My American Friend"!

The Toy Program Annual Golf Tournament on November 4th at Sharp Park; 11:30 AM shotgun start. The cost will be \$175.00 per person and this will include a box lunch, golf cart, and awards reception/cocktail party following the tournament. Contact Con Lucey at Station 11 or Sally Casazza at the toys for further info.

Toy Program Kick-Off Luncheon on November 18, 12 noon at Toy Program Headquarters. The traditional Crab Cioppino will be prepared and served by the members of Station 11. This is always a fun event and a great way to jump start the holiday season.

Please mark your calendars for these events.

All the best to you and yours . . . Be safe and Keep the Faith!

Station Stewards

Station 1	Michael Quinn
Station 2	Carla Bisio Murphy
Station 3	Chris Salas
Station 4	CLOSED
Station 5	Jim Mellberg
Station 6	Michael Horta
Station 7	Jose Zalba
Station 8	Derio Dito
Station 9	Christina Gibbs
Station 10	Sherman Tillman
Station 11	Ben Canedo
Station 12	Mike Belcher
Station 13	Dan Dunnigan
Station 14	Bruno Walther
Station 15	Bill Madsen
Station 16	Patric Steele
Station 17	Huckleberry Ramsay
Station 18	Daniel Tauber
Station 19	Amy Swanson
Station 20	Dean Whittaker
Station 21	Steve Finnegan
Station 22	Nicholas Holl
Station 23	John Maguire
Station 24	Open
Station 25	Kinnie Jamerson
Station 26	Randy Hendricks
Station 27	CLOSED
Station 28	Jason Woo
Station 29	Bridget Cullinane
Station 30	CLOSED
Station 31	Marcella Mc Cormack
Station 32	Tracey Courtney
	O'Keeffe
Station 33	Robert Lopez
Station 34	Jana Wakefield
Station 35	Jeanne Pinto
Station 36	Fred Putt
Station 37	Dave Amituanai
Station 38	Dominic Shanley
Station 39	Open
Station 40	Janice Hoaglin
Station 41	Christian Murphy
Station 42	Mike Guajardo
Station 43	Rob Mello
Station 44	Nathan Shapiro
Station 48	Nancy Barsotti
Station 49	Robbin Hewitt
AP 1	Terry Woo
AP 2	Romelia Scott
AP 3	Open
BFI	Laura Kelly
BFP	Tom Harvey,
	Joe Cuff,
	Brian Ballard
BOE	Al Harvey
HQ	Open
RADIO	Anesto Estrella

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

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

The **MAINLINE** is the official publication of the San Francisco Fire Fighter's Local 798. Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of Local 798 or the San Francisco Fire Department. Members are welcome to submit Letters or Articles for publication; however, the Editorial Board reserves the right to review/edit any submitted materials.

Local 798,

Use where needed. In memory of my friends Slim Ballard and Tony Sacco. Two great Local 798 members.

Sincerely,
Adrian Terranova

John, Joe & all,

Please accept this check to apply as seen fit. Thank you for all you do for working and retired members. I will try my best to keep up the Christmas Coffee donation as a sign of my gratitude for what the men and women of the SFFD do each day.

All the best,
Brian Matza

Local 798,

Please accept this check in memory of Dan Erlach, Station 6. Thanks for the Main Line. Retired 19 years and enjoying every minute.

Sincerely,
Dominic Spinetta

Local 798,

In memory of Ed McHugh a real gentleman. Thanks for all your hard work.

Sincerely,
Tom O'Callaghan

Local 798,

Enclosed check in memory of George Petty. He is greatly missed. Thanks for sending me the Main Line.

Sincerely,
Dolores Petty

8/14/2009

Thank you for the Main Line. Glad to receive it. A small check to help where needed.

34 years of retirement and 34 years in the SFFD. Great memories, glad we fought to join the Union years ago.

I wish to remember the men lost in the Herbert Hotel fire. Four great men. One close friend Walter Elricksy. Thanks.

Norman Fair

8/17/2009

Enjoy the Main Line! Please accept the enclosed donation.

Thank you,
Jim Babick
Retired

August 17, 2009

In memory of Joe Del Bene, Tony Sacco, Captain Phil Smith, Captain David O'Brien and other members that I worked with. I was a good friend of Art McIntyre. Keep up the good work. Keep the stations open.

Retired Al Gori
Truck 1 - 1975

August 24, 2009

To John Hanley,

You guys are doing a great job, keep up the good work. Use enclosed check where needed.

Thanks,
Jim Lyons
Retired

August 26, 2009

SFFD Main Line,

Thank you for all your hard work over the years. Please keep it going. Small donation to use as needed.

Sincerely,
Gordon E. Steele, Retired

September 1, 2009

Local 798,

The enclosed donation is in memory of my husband, Tom Carroll.

Thank you for the Main Line. I will be sending my copy to my grandson, Danny O'Donnell, who is in Bagdad. God willing, he will be taking the SFFD exam when he returns. His brother, Pat, and cousin, Tom Carroll also plan to take it.

Sincerely,
Peg Carroll

September 22, 2009

Jimmy Hoffa aka John Hanley,

Use enclosed where needed. Please accept my deepest gratitude for all the benefits that the union has worked so hard for and continue to strive for during my thirty plus years in the greatest department in the world! I look forward to enjoying the fruits of your efforts in my retirement. Please extend my thanks to the efforts of past members and staff, be safe and God Bless.

Thank you,
Stephen J. Smith (Bro)

Use as needed.

Bill Shaughnessy

FROM THE DIRECTORS . . .



By Dan Gracia, Director

Dear Brothers and Sisters

I hope all of you have had a productive, relaxing and exciting summer. For those of you who attended the recent Chili Cook-Off, thank you for your support; for those of you who volunteered your time, thank you, and for those of you who were unable to attend or volunteer, there's always next year. Our event was very successful. Final totals are not yet in, but we made at least \$9,000 for the Toy Program that day.

The flu season is upon us. We have been assured by the Administration that we will be offered both types of flu vaccine, and also, along with that to combat contamination, the Department has promised to provide us with airborne barrier protection i.e., masks. Let's hope this is all accurate information.

On October 17, 2009 we will be remembering the lives lost, injuries, bravery and rebirth of the Marina as it's the 20th anniversary of the Loma Prieta earthquake. Then a new inductee into the SFFD, I personally witnessed the destruction, devastation and bravery that day by the firefighters and citizens of San Francisco. Hopefully we will have enough equipment and tools and access to both available to us so that we can respond accordingly to the next disaster, either natural or manmade. We are having a block party to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Loma Prieta earthquake. This event will be held on Steiner Street between Lombard and Chestnut from 1pm to 5pm on October 17, 2009. All are welcome. Please join us. This event is being sponsored by your union, Local 798.

The 798 Shooting Club is gaining in popularity. We will continue to shoot on the first Wednesday of the month year round. (See ad in this issue). Please help support the Pacific Rod and Gun Club as they are friends to the community and to the San Francisco Fire Department.

San Francisco Firefighters Local 798 Car Club is gearing up for what we hope will be a well attended event on October 11, 2009 at Golden Gate Park at Jimmy's Picnic.

For more information please contact me or Geoff Quesada at Station 1 for more information.

The Toy Program is about to start its operations for the 2009 holiday season. Let's get active members involved in our Toy Program. Although the mission of our Toy Program is to provide toys to the less fortunate children of the city, it is also a way for us to reach out to the community. Please contact the Union Office at 621-7103 or Sally at the Toy Program (777-0440). We are always looking for volunteers.

... REMEMBER ... ATTITUDE IS A REFLECTION OF LEADERSHIP!

See you soon.



Photos provided by Bill Shore

SAVE OUR FIREHOUSES RALLY CITY HALL - JUNE 16, 2009



SAVE OUR FIREHOUSES RALLY

CITY HALL - JUNE 16, 2009



MICHAEL ESTRADA

By Dustin Winn

On Saturday, August 8, 2009, a special event took place involving one of our brothers from the San Francisco Fire Department. At old Engine Company 30, a retired firehouse-turned-museum honoring the first African American firefighters to serve for the City of Los Angeles, Mr. Michael Estrada (Paramedic/Firefighter of Engine Company 17) was joined in marriage to his beautiful wife, Mrs. Wendy Estrada.

Three hundred guests ventured down to Los Angeles to witness the fire-themed ceremony of the newlywed couple. The flower girls reached into their leather fire helmets to decorate the aisle with rose petals. The Groom, groomsmen and fellow firefighters in attendance proudly displayed their Class A uniforms representing their respective Departments. The bride herself was chauffeured to her day in a vintage fire engine and the vows of the bride and groom were expressed to one another right on the apparatus floor.

The day was filled with smiles, laughter, tears, food and song. For those of you who have had the opportu-

nity and pleasure to know Mike have come to recognize his humor, strength, generosity and compassion that he has for his friends, family and profession. On this day, all of these attributes were able to come to light and shared with all. For me, the most memorable moment of the wedding was when Mike approached the altar to accept his bride. He was wheeled in on his wheelchair by one of his groomsmen and sat patiently and excitedly as his bride-to-be approached the altar. Mike then greeted her, but this time he stood out of his chair, surprising all, and went through the ceremony standing and eventually walking back down the aisle alongside his wife.

I know for a fact that it was a pleasure for all of the firefighters, family and friends in attendance of this wedding to be able to witness the strength Mike and Wendy have demonstrated to get to this point after such a life changing event occurred just a few short months prior to their celebration.

Here's to wishing to a speedy recovery and a happy life together.



Photos provided by Dustin Winn



WORKING FIRE

3RD ALARM - AUGUST 30, 2009 13:16 HOURS - BOX 5143
INCIDENT No. 09071835 - 246 FREDERICK ST.



Stills by Bryan Carmody

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 . . .



4TH ALARM - 6TH & FOLSOM MARCH 2, 1948

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MAY 15, 1948

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4TH ALARM - MAY 16, 1948 - PINE & FRANKLIN

THE INSIDE BOX

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4TH ALARM - BAYSHORE & CORTLAND AUGUST 2, 1948

3RD ANNUAL "JOHNNY V" CHILI COOK-OFF - SEPTEMBER 19, 2009



Best Booth: Station 5
Best Chili: Station 5
Hottest Chili: Station 36
1st Runner Up Best Chili: Station 1



3RD ANNUAL "JOHNNY V" CHILI COOK-OFF - SEPTEMBER 19, 2009



Photos by Barbara Ashfield



S P O R T S

2009 SAN FRANCISCO FIREFIGHTERS ALCATRAZ SWIM

By Tom Abbott

Despite trepidation and a short announcement window, the 2009 San Francisco Firefighters Alcatraz was held on September 25, 2009. The day was a fantastic success with forty-one swimmers participating in another incredible swim. Hank Scoble has held onto the revered title of "Strongest the Longest" coming in last but improving his time by two minutes. Hank credited his improvement to not having to stop and tell Hanley, "this way John, swim towards land!".

The day was quite a family affair with Claire Kane joining her father Mark Kane who was celebrating his birthday that day. When it comes to swimming, Claire Kane gives no respect to birthday boys. She completed the swim in 1:12:29, to clinch the title of fastest female swimmer with no wet suit. Lisa Filiss, last year's fastest women, who was joined by her sister Maribeth was magnanimous to correct the race director on who had truly qualified for the Judge Carlos Bea Cup. Kevin Kuhn was cheered on by his father Tom Kuhn, retired from 8, and Chris Murphy, E41 was shepherded in by his father Dan Murphy, retired from Station 12. Jim Sweeney, retired Airport, rocketed out front and looked as if he was in his own swim, come to think of it, he was. Sweeney clinched it for the title of fastest man, no wet suit with a time of 34:46. The station award was a three-way tie

between 49/6/18.

As always, much scientific research went into the picking of the date by Adam Wood, RS2, during James Carlin's annual exploration into potential matrimony. The pick proved to be a great day. The water was calm but had that pesky habit of moving. Race Committee officials once more, were embraced by a large field of swimmers moving in all directions, except towards home. Again, we maintained our credo, "You get in and we'll get you out. You're all winners!"

Thank you to the command staff for supporting the event. Thank you to Captain Rudy Erler for amassing the flotilla of kayaking shepherds bringing their flock to shore. A big thanks to all the volunteers. It is very humbling to see how much the public loves us and is so quick to volunteer and make for a great day. Start swimming now because next year we are looking to invite our fellow firefighters from around the country to join us and challenge for a trophy of great prestige, The San Francisco Firefighters Challenge Cup. Thanks again to all who participated. Mark your calendars, October 1, 2010, Friday for next years swim, pending scientific approval by Adam Wood and his dedicated team of hydrologists from Station 7. See you next year!

01- James Sweeney 34:46 - 1st man - nws
02- Tom Bollinger 45:34 -ws
03- Bill Madsen 46:31 - ws
04- David Ritter 47:37
05- Rueben Ramos 49:16
06- Greg Callaco 51:00
07- John Flahaven 55:13
08- Lisa Filiss 56:01
09- John Grant 56:35
10- Micky Lavelle 1:02:07
11- Brook Baker 1:10:02
12- Christian Murphy 1:10:45
13- Michael Orr 1:10:59
14- Matt Faris 1:11:02
15- Ross O'Reilly 1:11:31
16- Claire Kane 1:12:29 1st women - nws
17- Steve Cassidy 1:13:05
18- Rickey Lopes 1:13:10
19- Marty Grealish 1:13:15
20- Adam Wood & Kevin Kuhn 1:14:00

21- Mike Murphy & Steve Metz 1:16:01
22- Bryan Wong 1:16:35
23- Neal Cavellini 1:18:50
24- Walter Villavicencio 1:19:25
25- Mark O'Hara 1:19:35
26- John Polzoni 1:20:35
27- Tom Posey 1:23:05
28- Don Goggin 1:24:10
29- Maribeth Jensen 1:27:20
30- Tom O'connor 1:29:47
31- Mark Kane 1:29:47
32- Dustin Nunnery 1:30:17
33- Jeany Duncan 1:31:23
34- Helge Eilers 1:33:59
35- Robyn Gralicer 1:36:52
36- John Hernandez 1:37:47
37- Hank Scobble - 1:53:18
38- Nicholas Riley DNF
39- Illicit Boat Jumper who got a t-shirt and medal and has not paid, you know who you are! PAY UP!

S P O R T S



S P O R T S

4 Y E A R S I N A R O W

By Doug Manguiat

This year's dragon boat team had a lot of pressure before the race even began. For the last 3 years, the SFFD Firedragons have been undefeated and were defending champions. This year's team consisted of veteran paddlers and some first time paddlers. Also, we had a couple of veteran paddlers trash talking so we couldn't let them down.

In the first race, Patty Yuen set the pace and the team responded. The SFFD Firedragons beat the competition

by a boat length. In the semi-finals, again the SFFD Firedragons beat the competition. In the finals, the SFFD Firedragons showed why they were the defending champions as they blew the competition out of the water. This time beating all the boats by more than a boat length.

Special thanks to Ed Chu and his cooking crew for cooking a wonderful lunch for the paddlers, family and friends, and thanks to the Asian Firefighters Association and Local 798 for their support.



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SFDGP

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SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT
25th ANNUAL!
- SILVER JUBILEE -

AIRPORT DIVISION LUNCHEON

- HONORING ALL NEW & PAST RETIREES -

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2009
Watch #19

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 10/15/09
Jayn Feyling @ 650/821-4600

The Phoenix Society of San Francisco
invites you to join us for our
18th Annual

OLD TIMERS' NIGHT

Honoring retired S.F.F.D. Veterans

AC Harry Brophy - Div.3, Batt.10, Old E8/T4
AC Art Citron - AC SFO, Batt.2, Capt.T6, Lt.St.11 (swing)
(E11,T11,E32), FF T6, Salvage Corps
BC Charlie Krieger - Batt.8, Capt.E35, Capt.E13, Capt.E16,
Lt.T1
Lt. Jim Lyons - Lt.R51, FF R52, C/Aide Batt.2

Thursday, November 12, 2009

Spanish Cultural Center
2850 Alemany Blvd. at Farnough - San Francisco

No Host Cocktails: 6 PM Dinner: 7 PM
Dinner Choices:
New York Strip Roast with Mushroom Sauce or
Poached Salmon with Champagne Sauce
Includes salad, dessert, coffee & wine with dinner


\$55. per person

Reservations needed! Deadline: Friday, Nov. 6
Call early to arrange your Group Table for 8-10 persons

For reservations call: (415) 648-8676 - (leave a message, we'll call back)
Mail checks (with dinner choices & seating requests) to:
Phoenix Society, c/o 278 Chenery St., SF, 94131

RETIRED FIREMEN & WIDOWS ASSN. OF THE S.F.F.D.

SEMI-ANNUAL RENO TRIP



3 DAYS AND 2 NIGHTS: OCTOBER 28, 29, & 30, 2009.

DEPART: October 28, (Wednesday) 9 a.m. from the Firehouse at Clarendon & Olympia Way. No-host breakfast stop on the way to Reno. On-bus refreshments both up and back as usual.

RETURN: To S.F. approximately 7 p.m. on October 30 (Friday)

LODGING: Two nights at the RENO'S SILVER LEGACY HOTEL. Portage, applicable taxes, and tips are included.

BONUSES: BONUS-CASH- from the best casinos for the best people YOU!!

COST: \$115.00 per person, double occupancy. \$150.00 per person, single occupancy. Limited number of rooms available

**** SEE OPTIONS FOR A DINNER/SHOW AND/OR GOLF ON THE BACK! ****

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED. Make your reservations NOW!
ARRIVE EARLY! We will have baggage tags at the bus.
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: RETIRED FIREMEN & WIDOWS ASSN.
SEND CHECKS TO: P.O. BOX 12112 San Francisco, CA 94112
Contact: Jim McCay (650) 355-7282 & Leo Martinez (415) 234-9484
PAYMENT DUE SEPTEMBER 28, 2009

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

NO. OF DOUBLE OCC. ____ X \$110.00, SINGLE X \$150.00. No Cancellations after October 23, 2009

ROOM TYPE: (Circle) KING TWO BEDS NON-SMOKING SMOKING

BANQUET

Retirement
2009
S.F.F.D.

Chinatown

Northbeach



Broadway

Tunnel

BATTALION 1



TRUCK

BATTALION 1



ENGINE

Honoring

JOHN BARCOJO
KEVIN CALLANAN
TOM GIBSON
JOHN GUIRAL
MIKE JONES
MIKE KNEIS
TOM POSEY
MIKE REYNOLDS
JOE SORENSON

When: October 29, 2009 ~ Thursday ~

Cost: \$80.00 (Wine = Unlimited)

Where: Italian Athletic Club

there's only one



SF RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS SONOMA COUNTY

-1973-



PALM SPRINGS – 2009

SAN FRANCISCO RETIRED FIREFIGHTER'S OF SONOMA COUNTY

WELCOME YOU AND YOURS TO OUR 4TH TRIP TO THE BEAUTIFUL COACHELLA VALLEY

DATES: NOVEMBER 8-9-10-11-12

STAY: EMBASSY SUITES IN PALM DESERT

COST: \$550 PER PERSON-DOUBLE OCCUPANCY WITH KING BED.

\$580 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. 100% Prime cuts.

**Pool, spa, fitness center, six tennis courts.

**Good cheer and camaraderie with old and new friends.

**It's more than golf. Get off the couch and give it a whirl.

GOLF: \$415 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 WWO (women without ghin). Price includes prize money and shotgun fee.

Optional daily skins tournament. \$60. Pay Ed Tatarian there.

NOV. 9 WESTIN MISSION HILL-PETE DYE COURSE 8:30 shotgun.

Rated in top 100 resort courses in US. Gold tees - 69.6/126 6158 yds.

NOV. 10 INDIAN WELLS – CELEBRITY COURSE 8:00 shotgun - 2008 Skins game.

Beautiful course with flowers, waterfalls and mountain views. White tees 69.9/124-6029 yds.

NOV. 12 SILVERROCK-8:00 shotgun. Home of PGA Bob Hope Chrysler Classic. Golf

Magazine rates it one of top 10 new courses. Gold tees-68.8/123 5984 yds.

DEPOSIT: Group room rates need to be reserved by APRIL 1st. \$300 per person. After this date, room availability determined on receipt of deposit.

BALANCE DUE, by September 25th. \$250 or \$280 **ADD** \$415 for golf.

WEDNESDAY ADVENTURE: WINDMILL TOUR. Interesting and educational. Learn about this ancient source of power, the weather and geology of the area along with the different features of the windmills themselves. A last stop at a power plant where you will learn about the economics and politics of wind energy. Air conditioned bus. If you're interested, we must know by Sunday night's dinner.

GOOGLE: palmdesert.embassysuites.com – lgspimesteakhouse.com – desert hills outlet mall missionhillsgolf-indianwellsgolf-silverrock golf.

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.

Why is Getting Your FICO Score Important

Your FICO is not only used by financial institutions but can also be used to determine if you get a job, whether or not you can rent an apartment or qualify for insurance. The score itself is calculated from different types of data found in your credit report and is grouped into five different categories, with some categories having more impact on your score than others. Keep these factors in mind when trying to determine why your score is what it is:

PAYMENT HISTORY

Paying bills on time matters. It is one of the biggest measures used in scoring and the easiest to control. A "clean" payment history (no delinquencies) and lack of adverse public records (bankruptcy, wage garnishment, liens, etc.) will have a positive impact on your score.

AMOUNTS OWED

A ratio of overall debt to available credit is one of the main factors in determining a score. Keeping that ratio lower than 75% is satisfactory but below 30% is better. Fewer accounts with balances, a lower proportion of credit lines used (not maxing out credit cards) and having paid down installment loans (auto loans, etc.) can keep the ratio in your favor.

LENGTH OF CREDIT HISTORY

Accounts that have been open for long periods of time and in good standing (paid on time, a low debt-to-credit ratio) will have a positive impact on your

score. Keep in mind that closing an unused credit card may work against you by increasing your debt-to-credit ratio.

NEW CREDIT

Opening new credit accounts all at once, to lower a debt-to-credit ratio, or increase your overall available credit can work against your score -- lenders will submit inquiries to the credit reporting agencies and that activity will be noticed. The exception would be for those with payment history problems who need to re-establish credit history.

TYPES OF CREDIT USED

The number of accounts and the various types of accounts (credit cards, retail credit, auto loans, mortgages, etc.) will impact your credit score. While it is considered generally positive to have established accounts (as in credit history), too many accounts or frequent loans from some finance companies can have a negative effect.

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 help determine tiers, which are used to gauge what loan rate or credit limits could apply. Scores are included on quarterly statements and displayed within Online Banking.

Rating FICO Scores

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

*Tiers are according to SF Fire Credit Union's guidelines. Credit tiers may vary from institution to institution.



SF Fire Credit Union

3201 California Street, (888) 499-FIRE(3473)
San Francisco, CA 94118 www.sffirecu.org

Station 12

3rd Annual Hall of Fame Luncheon



The Class of 2009 Inductees:

John Clifford, Dennis Fauss,
Gordon Gagliasso, & Art Giovana
In Memoriam: Tony Pulvirenti

DATE: Thursday, October 29, 2009 **Watch 29**

PLACE: Forest Hills Lodge

254 Laguna Honda Blvd, San Francisco

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

PRICE: \$35



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 Stanyan St, 94117.

BFI Retirement Banquet



Just the facts ma'am:

- Who:** SCANNELL, Joe, CARR, Elmer CALLAGHAN, Kevin KING, Dennis, PISTOIA, Chuck, SELCHAU, Karl.
- What:** Drinks, Dinner, Laughs.
- Where:** The San Francisco Italian American Athletic Club
1630 Stockton St. S.F. 94133.
- When:** Thursday, October 22, 2009,
Liquids 18:30hrs. Solids 19:30hrs. Gases?
- Why:** Because it's about time.
- How:** \$65 call: BFI 415-920-2933, send check to
BFI Fund, 1415 Evans Ave., San Francisco, CA. 94124
Beef or Chicken. **Pay early, pay often...**

Menu

Salad

Hearts of Romaine, Croutons, Shaved Parmesan, House Dressing
Assorted Italian Antipasto

Pasta

Penne Bolognese

Main Course

(served with roasted potatoes & sautéed vegetables)

New York Strip Au Jus

Roast of New York Strip, Natural Juices

Or

Rosemary Chicken

Roasted Rosemary Flavored Half Chicken, House Specialty

dolce

Spumoni

Coffee or Tea Service

Carafe of Wine for Every Four Guests, No Host bar \$5-\$8

Two memberships available for the upcoming 2009-2010 waterfowl season

In the exclusive "Clip Clop Club"

More than just a hunting experience

Tony Smerdel

415-672-6970

Local 798 SHOOTING CLUB



When
Where
Time:

1st Wednesday of every month (rain or shine)
Pacific Rod & Gun/ Lake Merced
11am to 3pm

INSTRUCTION & GUNS PROVIDED

Contacts: Mike Quinn - Station 1
Danny Gracia - Station 1
Tony Smerdel - Battalion 6

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@sffdlocal798.org
with Subject: Change of Address

NAME: _____
FORMER ADDRESS: _____
NEW ADDRESS: _____
TELEPHONE: _____
EMAIL: _____
BENEFICIARY: _____

ULTIMATELY THIS HELPS YOU!



The SFFD 66th Class
30th year class reunion

December 9, 2009
Alfred's Steakhouse
659 Merchant Alley
San Francisco

Cocktails 6pm
Dinner 7pm
Contact either:

Tony Smerdel 415-672-6970
Fred Walsh 707-291-4848

ATTENTION

CAR ENTHUSIASTS

All Local 798 Members (Active & Retired)



We are looking to start a Car Club for gatherings and events and to meet people who are interested in:

Muscle Cars
Hot Rods
Classics
Etc.

If interested, please contact:

Danny Gracia
Geoff Quesada

Station 1 or Cell (415) 608-7921
Station 1 or Cell (415) 860-6197

ENGINE 3 TRUCK

2009
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

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

CALL STATION 3 TO SIGN-UP

AT
441-9368

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- KEN JONES • DOYLE MILLER

The EAP/Stress Unit 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**

Annual

James T. Ferguson Scholarship



Applications must be received by April 2010

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

4TH ALARM - AUGUST 30, 2009 10:46 HOURS - BOX 6546
INCIDENT No. 09071789 - 1526 WALLACE AVE.



Photos by John Groshong

Still by Bryan Carmody

Still by Bryan Carmody

Still by Bryan Carmody

Still by Bryan Carmody

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

1139 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

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Photo by Mark Grissom