



SOUTH BAY NEWS

3506 Shineke Rd NE Olympia WA 98506 360/491-5320

Volume 5, Issue 8

September/October 2009

ANNUAL PICNIC UPDATE

The annual picnic was wonderful and well attended. Chief McBride did a great job of shopping for all the food and beverages. Association President Damian Longmire was the official barbecue chef. Families brought fabulous side dishes and awesome deserts. Folks enjoyed games such as horseshoes. The entertainment highlight was when all of the kids and a handful of daring firefighters created a grass slide and slid on the hill leading to the beach using cardboard boxes. Thanks to the Association for hosting this special event!



Upcoming Events



- ◆ September 4
BoFC Mtg 8 am
- ◆ September 7
Labor Day no drill
- ◆ September 15
Assc/Bus Mtg
- ◆ September 18
BoFC Mtg 12 noon
- ◆ September 28
Dist familiarization drill
- ◆ October 2
BoFC Mtg 8 am
- ◆ October 3
SKILLS COURSE
- ◆ October 5
Flu shots 3-7:30 pm
Barbecue
- ◆ October 13 & 14
Leadership Conf
- ◆ October 16
BoFC Mtg 12 noon
- ◆ October 31
Happy Halloween!

FALL RECRUITS TO BEGIN CLASSES

Our new recruits as well as a current members will begin classes for either the Fire Academy or the EMT class in September.

These students include:

Fire Academy class ~ Justin Fisher, Damian Jacobs, Chris Nesbitt, Joshua Riedel and Curtis Wilson.

EMT class ~ Robert Gormley, Daniel Moore, Max Konrad and Dustin McCann.

Welcome to our new members including lateral transfer EMT Ramon Guel! We're glad to have all of you as a part of our dedicated team!

DRIVER OPERATOR SUPPORT PROGRAM

Many of our experienced volunteers still want to be involved in the fire department but cannot meet the increased expectations. Some are getting to the age where being on the front line is not as desirable as it once was. These experienced volunteers are very valuable and add to the culture of the department. Out-of-district volunteers have been a great asset to our program but are not always readily available. When a fire or other incident needs more resources than what is available on shift, we depend on mutual aid and in-district volunteers to respond from home. Therefore, we have designed *The Driver Operator Support Program*. The driver operator support program addresses retaining valuable in-district volunteers and meets our operational need during large incidents.

The program is pretty simple. Experienced volunteers that live within our district are eligible to participate



in the program. It will be set up similarly to how the department operated prior to the shift program. These volunteers will be equipped with the necessary PPE and pagers and will respond to any calls that are larger than a single engine response. Their duties will include: responding to the closest station and driving the appropriate apparatus to the emergency scene. Once on scene they will operate the apparatus. They may also relieve another operator so they can complete front-line tasks. If available, they will set up rehab for the incident. They can also help with crowd and traffic control.

Look for more details on this new program in future newsletters.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.” ~ Margaret Mead

RUN LIKE A DOG" 5K RUN/WALK

Many thanks to those volunteers who attended last weekend's "Run Like a Dog," 5k run/walk to benefit the Thurston County Humane Society. Members were needed to help with traffic control to keep runners and their canine companions safe from vehicle traffic at various intersections.

Thank you to the following members who participated: Captain Doug Lawrence; John Phillips; Jeremiah Dickinson; Derek Rodgers; Jacob Kappert and Chief Kessel!

HOLIDAY BAZAAR NOV 14TH

Mark your calendars now for the South Bay Volunteer Fire Fighter's Association annual Holiday Bazaar that will be held this year on Saturday, November 14th from 9 am – 4 pm. This is the largest fundraiser for the Association and a great community project. All proceeds go back to the Association to host community outreach programs.

If you or anyone you know would like to rent a space to sell their crafts and wares, please have them pick up a reservation form in our office.

SKILLS COURSE COMING UP!

All volunteer's who wish to drive heavy vehicles or operate any District vehicle in the emergency mode must successfully complete the District approved drivers training and certification program prior to being assigned as a driver. Remember, all new heavy vehicle drivers are limited to skills course driving only. No open road driving is allowed at this time. Evaluators are responsible for and must be present during all skills course training. The skills course is scheduled two times a year with the first weekend in April and October designated as testing days. The next Skills Course is set for Saturday, October 3, beginning at 8:00 am. See Chief Kessel with your questions.



EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Sometimes serious problems if left unattended threaten our personal relationships and even our jobs. For those times, there's EAP...your Washington State Employee Assistance Program.

What is EAP?

The EAP is the employee assistance program for all of members and their immediate family members. EAP is available to help you with personal or work-related problems that may be impacting your work performance. EAP's compassionate professionals have many years of experience in helping people like you clarify issues and resolve them. This service is FREE to you and completely confidential; however, if your supervisor has referred you due to work performance problems, they are required to let your supervisor know you came in.

What problems do they deal with?

They deal with people problems. EAP helps employees with personal problems that have the potential to interfere with their ability to do their job. The EAP can also work with your family members as their problems could also impact the employee. Problems may include: job, interpersonal, marital, family, emotional, alcohol and/or other drugs, financial, physical, or any combination of these.

For more information on the EAP program, please contact Bill Terhune at 360-791-9701 or pick up a brochure available in the dayroom or the office. You can contact the EAP at 1-866-704-6364 and visit them on the web at <http://hr.dop.wa.gov/eap.html>

EAP services are...
Confidential
Accessible
Respectful
Effective
Solution focused

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Thurston County Association of Fire Chiefs is pleased to announce its fifth Annual Leadership Conference to be held October 13 & 14, 2009 at the Olympia Red Lion Hotel.

This Conference offers an exciting mix of national and internationally known experts who will help you recharge your leadership batteries and leave you better prepared to lead in our dynamic environments. Whether tasked to lead in Fire, Law Enforcement, EMS or Emergency Management, this conference has something for everyone.

For more details on the fascinating line-up of presenters, please visit www.tcafc.org

FLU SHOTS CLINIC FREE FOR MEMBERS

Emergency responders can catch the flu from their patients, but they can also give the flu to their patients. A *Better Choice* is to get a flu shot.



Members and their families (*children must be at least 12 years old*) are invited to get a free flu shot on Monday, October 5, 2009 between 3:30—7:30 pm at Station 81.

This flu shot clinic is hosted by getaflushot.com and is also open to the public. Shots cost \$30 each but are FREE for members and their families. Members are asked to initial a sign-in sheet in order to have their shots covered.

FIRE FIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION DUES

Last year, members of the Fire Fighters' Association agreed to pay dues in the amount of \$20 per quarter. Forms for payroll deduction of dues have been given to members and are available in the dayroom.

Please turn your forms in to Heidi before October 2nd.

Mission Statement: We are committed to serve our community with prompt, consistent and professional fire suppression, basic life support and rescue services.