



The SPANNER

A Bi-Monthly Publication for the Friends and Firefighters of the Stayton Fire District

www.staytonfire.org

March—April 2020



From the Chief's Desk

~ *Stayton Fire Chief Jack Carriger*

These are trying times. It can be difficult to get your head wrapped around the dynamics of everything that is going on surrounding COVID-19. I'm not sure all of the media hype helps much either.

It can put us as first responders in situations where we're having to make decisions about how we provide service to our customers. We have a natural tendency to want to rush right in and help people; if we didn't, we wouldn't be in this business. But during this time we actually have to put ourselves first if it is not an imminent emergency. We need to act with caution and knowledge to prevent compounding the situation.

As first responders, we wear a lot of different hats; we have a lot of different responsibilities and that is what we have to stay focused on. Our community relies on us for a lot more than just home medical aid. They

rely on us for fire suppression, MVAs, rescues, hazmat, and you know the rest.

That is why, even in this time of uncertainty, the one thing we know is that a lot of people are counting on us to assist them when they need it. In order for us to do that, we must put ourselves and our crew in the best possible situation, through good decision making, every time we respond. Now more than ever, we need to respond as professionals, using our training, education and experience to make the best possible decisions for our crews and the community.

The District is committed to providing us the training and equipment we need to perform our duties in a safe manner; it's our responsibility to use it to the best of our ability. Now more than any other time is the right time to stay diligent with our safety procedures, have good communications, and make sure we are taking care of each other.

By taking care of ourselves, we can continue to provide professional, caring service to meet the needs in our community.

Things to do if you're stuck at home...

Enjoy a book, play cards or board games, catch up on your home improvement projects, work in your yard or garden, take a hike, watch your favorite movies, rearrange your furniture, organize your closets or kitchen, learn a new skill, enjoy your hobbies, work out, try some new recipes, clean up your computer files, journal, clean the

house, call family or friends you haven't talked to in a while, groom your pet, shop online (get a head start on Christmas), do a crossword, give yourself a "spa" day, teach your kids how to cook or sew or balance a checkbook, take naps - catch up on your sleep, sell some of your stuff online, take an online class, check on your neighbors, buy gift cards or take out from local businesses, donate to food banks, do your taxes.....Oh, and wash your hands.



DISTRICT ANNIVERSARIES

MAY

Jay Alley—35 yrs.
Tanie Alley—21 yrs.
Mike Odenthal—20 yrs.

JUNE

Doug Smith —9 yrs.
Ashley Mitchell—3 yrs.

JULY

Sandy Johnson—35 yrs.
Ray Porter—31 yrs.
Jay Myers—21 yrs.
Rhonda Grant—20 yrs.
Lucy Hemenway—8 yrs.
James McDougall—7 yrs.
Russ Strohmeyer—5 yrs.
Antonio Johnson—2 yrs.
Craig Randall—2 yrs.

***Congratulations
& Thank You
For 219 Years
of Service!***



**Backyard Burn Season
opened March 1.
Call the toll free
burn information line
each day before you burn.
1-877-982-0011**

Recruiting

As we progress into the year we welcome a new recruit to Station 80, Alexandre Ponot.

I have made several other contacts with potential recruits in preparation for next year's academy.

For the month of May, we have signed up to attend Chemeketa's Public Safety Job Fair where we hope to bring in candidates for next year's academy.

Although we have various recruiting strategies in place, the best recruit-

ing method is still word of mouth by our volunteers. I strongly encourage everyone to promote our department and talk to the people you see in our community about volunteering with the fire district.

There is always a spot for someone to join our volunteer ranks.

"You don't have to be great to serve, but you have to serve to be great."

Backyard Burning (Open Burning)

Is the burning of debris in an outdoor fireplace, burn barrel, backyard incinerator, or piles of yard debris. You can only burn during Open Burning Seasons during burn times established for the day.

Allowed Materials - What can I burn?

You can burn yard debris: wood, needles, or leaves from plants grown and burned on the property of origin.

Prohibited Materials - What I can't burn?

Tires, plastics, decomposable garbage (organic material, paper), petroleum and petroleum-treated materials, asphalt and asphalt materials, chemicals (pesticides, cleaners, detergents), or any material that produces black or dense smoke.

Stayton Volunteer Protection Company #1

As most of you know, the Vision 2020 Committee has been working hard to come up with some ideas to improve and stimulate interest in our monthly association meetings. We polled the volunteers and used their input to create some ideas. Most volunteers seemed to feel like the association meetings were the one time we come together as a team in a some-what social environment. But to many, the monthly association meetings needed a change. With the input of the members, we came up with a few changes and the association decide to give it a try for one year. We came up with a mission to help guide our direction. It is this: *SVPC#1 exists to represent and support Stayton Fire District Members and enhance the overall experience for all by encouraging existing members and welcoming new members as part of our team.*

With that in mind, we decided that we can get by with quarterly business meetings and have dinner catered. We will then use the other eight monthly meetings to come together and do some other social activities. We will allow the elected board members to conduct the monthly business ,if needed, on the months that we do not formally meet. Every month will start out in the training room with a sign in roll call, and if nothing important needs attention, we will move on to whatever is planned for the night.

One thing that came up in the member surveys was to involve our families more. We decided we need to have a few activities to show appreciation to our families that support us. Without their support and encouragement we wouldn't be able to do what we do! So we decided that we wanted to see if we could use a few of our meetings and include our families. Some ideas included go-

ing to the movies, swimming, BBQ or family games. And of course we will still have our family Christmas party.

We also plan to have four meetings that will be geared toward reaching out to our community for interaction and possible recruiting opportunities.

Some of our ideas were to have open houses at our stations, taking some apparatus to our local stores and pass out flyers or other goodies, or maybe some sort of outreach in the local parks.

And then we will have a few meetings that are just for team building between our members. Our thoughts were game nights, pot-lucks, or some other fun ideas.

Our committee came up with some rough ideas, but now it's up to you! We would love to have a group of people who love to come up with fun ideas and make it come to life. If you have an interest in helping in that way, please contact Steve Orr or Doug Smith.

DISTRICT BIRTHDAYS

MAY

- 3—Jay Myers
- 4—Josh Lindemann
- 7—Rachel Heinrich
- 9—Monica Johnson
- 9—Tim Wilson
- 12—Josh Starbuck
- 13—Barbara Nelson
- 14—Kurt Hueller
- 16—Allyson Wren
- 21—Scott Orr
- 25- Greg Beitel

JUNE

- 4—Anjuli Foster
- 5—Dan Houston
- 10—Nick Lulay
- 11—Taunie Alley
- 14—Craig Griffith
- 17—James McDougall
- 17—Marcus Andrews

Happy Birthday!

Upcoming Events...

Mar 21 Postponed –Awards Banquet

Apr 4 Postponed—Bingo

April 12 Happy Easter

All District meetings/training/functions
cancelled through April 6

May 10 Mother's Day

May 17 Firefighter Breakfast and
Support Team Raffle

June 27 Golf Tournament for Oregon
Burn Center

Watch your email or check the website calendar for activity and event notifications
www.staytonfire.org

Congratulations Corner

With the promotion of Scott Cooper to Lt., his assigned radio number is 8331.

Congratulations Scott!!!



1988 W. Ida St.
Stayton, OR 97383

