



THE FDC—*Fire Department Connection*

A Quarterly Publication for the Membership of the Silverton Fire District

www.silvertonfire.com

April—June 2023



FROM THE CHIEF'S DESK by Fire Chief Bill Miles

Ed Retirement/Work Back

We reported earlier this year the “bitter sweet” announcement from AC Grambusch of his retirement effective June 30th, 2023. Well, that day has come, and as we figured, the time went by so very fast! We are very fortunate that he has agreed to work back on contract for several months and help complete several administrative projects and various transitional tasks.

Assistant Chief Ed Grambusch has been a member of the Silverton Fire District for the last 33 years, starting as a volunteer firefighter in early 1990, moving up the officer ranks in subsequent years from Lieutenant to Station Captain and his final Volunteer position, Battalion Chief. He was hired as Training Captain in July 2008 and served in that position until being promoted to Assistant Chief of Operations and Training, July 2017. Part of his early career included time as an emergency 911 dispatcher and then as the Executive Director of Silver Falls 911 Center in the early 1990's as a stand-alone ORS 190 agency.

AC Grambusch has made a huge and positive impact in the improvement of this organization and his service to the membership and the community will be sorely missed as a leader, mentor and a friend.

On behalf of everyone at Silverton Fire District, I want to express our appreciation and thanks for his faithful service and dedication to the members, the Fire District and communities we serve.

2023-2024 Budget Adopted

The Board has adopted the 2023-2024 Budget and it has been filed with the Assessors office in Marion and Clacka-

mas Counties. We have closed the books on the 2023 fiscal year with the final accounting tasks the last week of June.

Conflagration

It's the middle of June and we have already had our first conflagration deployment with the Marion County Task Force to the Hat Rock Fire in Umatilla County. Even though we were down on the Ready List, we were second on the list for a tender and since Aurora Fire passed, we got called. Thanks to DC Keith Veit and Maintenance FF Ian Peterson for stepping up and taking the call. Also thanks



to those that were able to help cover the staff backfill while they were gone.

Defensible Space Assessments

Defensible space web site

<https://oregondefensiblespace.org/>

Helpful information links on creating defensible space around your home and a

link to schedule the Fire District to perform a defensible space assessment of your home.

Wildfire Resiliency & Preparedness Workshop: Home Defensible Space

The Fire District will be partnering with The Oregon Garden, Sustainable Silverton, OSU Extension (Regional Fire Specialist and Master Gardeners), Oregon State Fire Marshal, Doe Mountain, Oregon Department of Forestry to present a free Wildfire Resiliency & Preparedness Workshop at the Oregon Garden on July 22, 9-12. The Fire District will be presenting the unit on Preparing for Evacuation. 13 spots are still available. Sign-up at:

<https://www.marionswcd.net/event/conservation-club-wildfire-resiliency/>

Silverton Rotary All-Abilities Playground Build

Thanks to the volunteers and staff for helping with the Silverton Rotary All-Abilities Playground equipment build on June 9th. The Rotary Club was very grateful for our help. With 10 of us there, we were able to contribute a lot of unpacking, sorting parts and policing up packing materials, filling up multiple dumpsters and helping with assembly before our morning shift ended.

Thank you all, for your dedication and the service you give our communities. The time that everyone dedicates to training and responding to calls for service is amazing.

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Membership renewals are right around the corner! The District currently provides members with the following benefits:



- Life Insurance (Sun Life Insurance)
- Accident & Sickness Insurance (VFIS)
- Life Flight Membership
- Woodburn Ambulance Membership
- Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

Each year benefits are reviewed and updated with the provider. These updates typically occur in early August and can include member information changes, beneficiary updates, dependent additions and/or deletions. Failure to maintain updated member information and/or current beneficiary/dependent information could result in a denial of a claim! If you would like to update or make changes to any (or all) of these benefits, please visit www.silvertonfire.com, select “Members Only”, select “Forms”. Please print, complete, and sign the applicable form or application with updated information and return to Candace by **July 31, 2023**. Interested in learning more about benefit coverages? Please visit “Membership Benefits” under Members Only on the District’s webpage.



2023 2nd Quarter Public Education, Public Assistance, and Volunteer Work Detail Events

Public education and public assistance events can include many different functions; school assemblies, first Fridays, installing smoke alarms and batteries, School Sports EMS Standby etc. Work Details are when (a) volunteer(s) assists with maintenance, cleaning, etc.



April—June 2023

Event	# of Hours
Work Details, Other	38
Public Education—Prevention	53
Smoke Alarms	3
Totals	94



SFD Association Officers

South Battalion:

President: Mark Crawford
Email: sfdsouth@gmail.com

Vice President: Ray Dandeneau
Email: orhokie99@yahoo.com

Sec/Treasurer: Spencer Beachy
Email: spencerbeachy@yahoo.com

North Battalion:

Vice President: Randy Redman-Brown
Email: redmanbrown@gmail.com

Sec/Treasurer: Jim Terhaar
Email: terhaarj@silvertonfire.com

Sgt. At Arms: Deb Connor
Email: heydeasal62@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE!

Annual SFD Picnic:
August 9, 2023 @ 6:00PM
Main Station



©DESIGNALIKE

KYLE'S KORNER

A Word from our EMS Coordinator



Here are some EMS and Summer Safety Tips:

- ◆ Be sure to hydrate in these hot summer months.
- ◆ Make sure your med kits are stocked/checked for the busy time of year.
- ◆ Check AED battery's and pads.
- ◆ Keep up on your AutoPulse training.
- ◆ Wear your PPE on calls.
- ◆ Maintain situational awareness, especially with bright sunlight and heavier traffic.
- ◆ Keep up on your EHR reports.



TRAINING—2nd Quarter 2023

2023 2nd Quarter Wednesday Evening Drill Participation

Data used for this report is rendered from the number of current active personnel on our roll sheets (64 as of this writing) divided by the number of personnel that attended drill night.

Additional information; normally, our drill nights follow a consistent training activity schedule as listed below:

1 st Wed.	Safety Committee, Apparatus Inspections, EMS Related Topic
2 nd Wed.	Officer's Meeting, Apparatus Inspections, Association Meetings
3 rd Wed.	Apparatus Inspections, Fire Related Topic
4 th Wed.	Apparatus Inspections, Fire Related Topic
5 th Wed.	Officer Training



April	# of Personnel Attending Drill	Percentage Amount	Primary Topic
1 st Wed.	32	50%	Apparatus Inspections, EMS drill
2 nd Wed.	22	34%	Apparatus inspections, Association Meetings
3 rd Wed.	42	66%	Apparatus Inspections, Wildland
4 th Wed.	37	58%	Apparatus Inspections, Wildland

May	# of Personnel Attending Drill	Percentage Amount	Primary Topic
1 st Wed.	35	55%	Apparatus Inspections, EMS
2 nd Wed.	37	58%	Apparatus Inspections, Officers' & Association Mtgs
3 rd Wed.	26	41%	Apparatus inspections, Wildland
4 th Wed.	39	61%	Apparatus Inspections, Wildland
5 th Wed.	37	58%	Apparatus Inspections, Wildland

June	# of Personnel Attending Drill	Percentage Amount	Primary Topic
1 st Wed.	20	31%	Apparatus Inspections, EMS drill
2 nd Wed.	27	42%	Apparatus Inspections, Association Meetings
3 rd Wed.	15	24%	Apparatus Inspections, Wildland
4 th Wed.	29	45%	Apparatus Inspections, Wildland

TRAINING—2nd Quarter 2023 (cont.)

2023 2nd Quarter Additional Training Conducted (Other than Wed. Drill Nights)

This additional training is training received by personnel beyond regular Wed. night drills. This training includes Academy training and other training completed by personnel on their own accord.

April

Topic	# of Hours
Academy	27
EMS	9
Live Fire	16
Tour of Duty	1
Pump & Driver Operations	4
Officer Development	20
Total	77

May

Topic	# of Hours
Pump & Driver Operations	3
Wildland	40
EMS	5
Live Fire	8
Total	56

June

Topic	# of Hours
Pump & Driver Operations	21
Wildland	25
EMS	6
Total	52



Governor Tina Kotek Visits Marion County on One Oregon Listening Tour

Read More: <https://www.oregon.gov/newsroom/Pages/NewsDetail.aspx?newsid=166745>



Hard times don't create heroes. It is during the hard times when the hero within us is revealed.

-Bob Riley



THE CREW'S NEWS ~ by Assistant Chief Keith Veit



Summer has arrived with high temperatures signaling the arrival of a season that brings both excitement and apprehension. As we embrace the warm weather and plan summer activities, we must also brace ourselves for a recurring menace: the onset of fire season.

The key to a safe and successful fire season is preparation such as training and ensuring our apparatus is ready to respond. Along with summer comes conflagration season; don't forget to turn in your paperwork to get on the deployment list! If you are interested in learning more about conflagration deployments, please reach out to me anytime.



Recruiter's Report

Summertime is recruiting time! We will be hosting our regular booth at the Homer Davenport Festival this year taking place August 4th – 6th. I will be sending out more detailed information soon. We received good feedback in regards to last year's open house event; I would like to make that an annual event.

Thank you all for all that you do!

-AC Veit



HABITS*MINDSET*ENVIRONMENT

FIREFIGHTERS & THEIR SLEEP by SFD Health & Wellness Team

It is a well-known fact that sleep affects our overall health and well-being, and is an important component in order for us to think, reason and perform optimally. According to the 2020 Firehouse Health & Safety Report/Dr. Rachel Markwald, these 5 tips promote better sleep:

1. Aim for consistency: keeping your sleep schedule as consistent as possible helps your brain recognize the pattern and “predict” when sleep will occur. It will help the transition into and out of sleep with more efficiency.
2. Avoid alcohol: minimizing alcohol consumption or avoiding it completely will help your body regulate sleep and leave you feeling more refreshed the next day, regardless of alcohol’s ability to help you fall asleep faster.
3. Optimal sleep environment: preparing your sleep environment for comfort—new pillows and sheets, supportive mattress, tolerable temperatures, white-noise playing and/or blackout shades—causes less disruption in sleep and maximizes its quality.
4. Relax before bed: there are several methods of relaxing before bedtime; find the one that’s right for you (ie breathing exercise, stretching or meditation).
5. Daily dose of activity: keeping physically active each day will help you get to sleep easier and sleep more soundly.



RECRUITMENT/RETENTION & TRAINING - Lt. Keith Smith & Assistant Chief Keith Veit

The following people have obtained the listed NFPA Certifications and/or EMS Certifications in the 2nd Quarter:



NFPA FF II

Voss Burton

WLFF Type 2

Voss Burton
Aaron Graf

WLFF Type 1

Deborah Conner
Jesse Hulett

WL Engine Boss

Ian Peterson
Randle Redman-Brown

NFPA Driver

Julie Hansen
Donald Matteson
Ryan Redman-Brown

Apparatus Equipped w/Pump:

Voss Burton

NFPA Instructor I

Jesse Hulett
Ted Klopfenstein
Ryan Redman Brown
Wyatt Tegen
River Savage
Emily Zars

NFPA Instructor III

Keith Smith
Rick Heuchert

NFPA Public Information Officer

Kate Tolmachoff

NFPA Live Fire Instructor

Max Hughes
Jesse Hulett
Kyle Miller
Randle Redman-Brown

NFPA Live Fire Instructor In Charge

Rich Heuchert
Keith Veit

NFPA Fire Officer I

Max Hughes

HAZMAT IC

Ray Dandeneau





DURING A WILDFIRE BE READY, BE SET, GO!



Your local law enforcement agency orders evacuations. If you feel threatened by a wildfire, do not wait for an official evacuation order. There are three levels of evacuation:

<p>LEVEL 1 BE READY: Prepare, monitor, and pack your valuables.</p>	<p>LEVEL 2 BE SET: Be set to evacuate at a moment's notice.</p>	<p>LEVEL 3 GO: Leave immediately!</p>
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#BelieveInFireSafety





**JULY 22
9AM-12PM**

Photo from OR Dept. of Forestry

**WILDFIRE RESILIENCY & PREPAREDNESS:
HOME DEFENSIBLE SPACE**

Improve your ability to evaluate and mitigate wildfire risk to home, yard, & family at this 3-hr workshop at The Oregon Garden Fire Safety House.



Conservation Club

FREE **RSVP**

marionswcd.net/events



**Backyard Burn
season closed
until October**



Safety Spot

FIREWORKS SAFETY

By Fire Prevention Officer Max Hughes

Here are some important safety considerations to help prevent fires:

- **Firework Alternatives:** Consider attending public firework displays organized by professionals. These displays are designed with safety measures in place and eliminate the risk of starting a fire unintentionally.
- **Legal Restrictions:** Familiarize yourself with the local laws regarding fireworks. Silverton has specific guidelines in place, and it's important to respect and follow them.
- **Safe Disposal:** Properly dispose of used fireworks by soaking them in water overnight and then placing them in a sealed, non-flammable container. This prevents any potential fires from smoldering materials.
- **Clear Surroundings:** Before using fireworks, ensure the area is clear of any dry grass, leaves, or other flammable materials. Maintain a safe distance from buildings, vehicles, and anything that could ignite easily.
- **Adult Supervision:** Fireworks should only be handled by responsible adults. Keep children and pets at a safe distance from fireworks at all times.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** Have a fire extinguisher, water hose, or bucket of water nearby when using fireworks. This will allow you to respond quickly in case of an accident.
- **Spread the Word:** Help us protect our beautiful community by sharing this information with your friends, family, and neighbors. Let's work together to ensure a safe and enjoyable summer for everyone.

Your safety is our top priority. Let's celebrate responsibly and keep Silverton safe from fire hazards. Thank you for your cooperation and have a wonderful summer season!

this 4th of july

**KEEP IT LEGAL.
KEEP IT SAFE.**

OREGON STATE FIRE MARSHAL



Upcoming Events:

Third Quarter—2023

July 4—OFFICE CLOSED
Happy Independence Day!

July 22—Wildfire Resiliency &
Preparedness
Event @ Oregon Garden

August 4-6 Homer Davenport Days

August 9—Annual SFD Picnic
6:00pm



Wallowa County, Oregon 2022



Ed 1991



Douglas County, Oregon 2020

CONNECTING WITH CHIEF GRAMBUSH



Ed 1993

Another quarter down for 2023! Calls are up, training progresses, demands are met and we keep rolling to the next challenge. In the last couple of months, we have seen some high stress and challenging calls that we have received and provided mutual aid. Everything I have heard has been nothing but positive regarding our work ethic, EMS/firefighting skills and our overall performance dealing with these calls, good job everyone!

On the job front...as my career comes to an end with the Fire District a lot of deep thought, self-assessment and overall realization start to sink in. I am going to miss the fun and comradery of it; training, public education, running calls, waking up in the middle of the night, dropping everything to respond and help the community with whatever peril they are encountering. Even the calls and other situations that were not so fun or exciting and downright terribly stressful will be missed because we always had each other to lean on, learn from and grow on. It has always been a team "sport" with us here. Regardless of our personal feelings and the way we think things should be done, when the rubber meets the road and we have work to do we have always been there together as one team with one goal and one mission; the community will get the best service from the Fire District.

And lastly; 33 years is a lot of time to dedicate to an organization and I could not have done it without my wife Tracy. She has been there every step of the way with her support, guidance and A LOT of patience...she has been the rock that I lean on regardless of the situation. Our personnel; the volunteers and paid staff are the most important tools we have in our toolbox. Hands down we have the most dedicated people in the fires service anywhere in the world, I truly believe this. So I leave this column with this; I couldn't be more proud to be a part of any organization as I am with the Silverton Fire District especially the caliber of people we have. The privilege has been mine and for granting this to me, I thank you very much.



Ed, Tracy & Granddaughters Grace & Melanie

Ed Grambusch

Assistant Chief—Administration

