



THE FDC—Fire Department Connection

A Quarterly Publication for the Membership of the Silverton Fire District

www.silvertonfire.com

January—March 2023



FROM THE CHIEF'S DESK by Fire Chief Bill Miles

It's hard to believe that we are already three months into 2023. We started 2023 on a “dead run” with the kick-off of one the largest training academies we've had in a long time. We are also very pleased to have several of our neighboring partners participating this year. Training and mentoring our new members is one of the most critical parts of our training programs. Thank you to Staff and volunteers for all your time and commitment that goes into making this critical activity a success.

The work of preparing the proposed 2023-2024 budget has been underway for several months but is swinging into high gear for the home stretch to finalize for presentation to the Budget Committee at their meeting on May 16th at 7:00 pm.

We Did not Get Award from OSFM Engine Program

We were recently notified that our application to receive one of the OSFM response units was not selected.

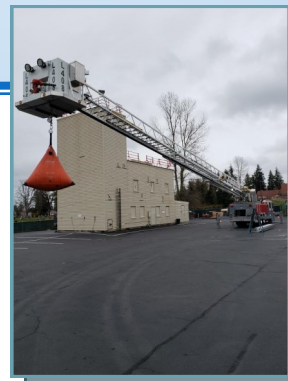
The OSFM received 192 applications. Through the review process and based on funding available, 76 awards were granted.

The Oregon State Fire Marshal (OSFM) Engine Program was a direct outcome of the 2021 Wildfire Omnibus Bill (SB762), which allowed OSFM to procure fire apparatus to increase response capacity across the Oregon Fire Service. These apparatus will be strategically placed around the state and are intended to assist Fire Agencies with keeping fires small and away from communities. The Program is focused on increasing response capacity at the local, regional, and statewide levels by supplementing available apparatus.

ESO Software

In the fall of 2021 Silverton Fire joined Gates, Jefferson, Stayton, and Sublimity Fire Districts to form a an ESO Cooperative to group purchase ESO software to get significant cost savings. This group purchase meant that all five agencies shared the same database. This year Aumsville Fire will join and Gates Fire has asked to leave. Jefferson Fire District is the only agency of the five that provides ambulance transport and must report their Patient Care Reports to the NEMESIS system. Since all five agencies shared the database ESO was not able to separate Jefferson's EHR data for the required reporting. ESO ended up having to separate the agencies into their own database environments at the end of January 2023. We will be deploying the hydrant module very soon followed by the Properties and Inspection module. Max and Kyle began setting up the assets and checklists module last spring, however ESO decided to roll out a new product for assets and checklists this May or June, so we put Max and Kyle's work on hold until then.

Thank you everyone for your patience as we continue to work through this big upgrade to our records management system (RMS). *(continued on Page 8)*.....



ALL THINGS MECHANICAL by FF/Maintenance Supervisor Ian Peterson

Here are a couple of photos of some of the apparatus testing that occurred this quarter.

Left: Aerial Ladder Testing L408
Right: Pump Testing T489





Hard to believe that another quarter has come to a close! Most of you may have already read my previous email regarding the Paid Leave Oregon tax that went into effect January 1, 2023. Since August of 2022, fire agencies across the State of Oregon did not have a clear answer from Paid Leave Oregon on whether Volunteers were subject to the new tax. Until a clear answer was provided, some agencies decided to withhold the tax from Volunteers until the determination could be made by the State, Silverton Fire was one of them. After attending a SDAO Conference in February, the Director of Paid Leave Oregon clarified that volunteers were NOT subject to PLO and therefore exempt from withholding. My intent is to have all reimbursements completed by the beginning of April, you may see an additional credit on your Volunteer pay statement.

If you have yet to have an opportunity, please check out the Members Only section on our webpage at www.silvertonfire.com. We recently uploaded additional documents under Communications for quick reference and convenience!

The budget process for the 2023-2024 fiscal year is underway! AC Grambusch sent the Operation Guideline and Budget Request Form to all members on March 13, 2023. If you have a budget request for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, please review the operational guideline and submit your request form to your Battalion Chief. If you need further assistance, please feel free to contact me at cantuc@silvertonfire.com or (971) 370-0408.

If you have yet to do so, please take a moment to complete the Annual Awards Banquet survey that was emailed on March 14, 2023. Your feedback is important and will be taken into consideration when planning future events. This survey is completely anonymous, no personal information will be collected.



2023 1st 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) helps with maintenance, cleaning, etc.



January—March 2023

Event	# of Hours
Work Details, Other	7
Public Education—Prevention	4
Agency Assist	15
Community Assist	6.5
Totals	32.5

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

Upcoming Association Events

A Joint Association Meeting will be held April 12th, 2023 at Station 1. During this meeting, we will be recognizing our members who have responded to 100 or more calls, the top responders at each station, as well as those members that have achieved a higher level of medical certification. Hope you can make it!

**Call toll free
1-877-982-0011
for Backyard
burning information**

KYLE'S KORNER

A Word from our EMS Coordinator
Kyle Miller



New in the Silverton Fire EMS world we have made the purchase of two Zoll AutoPulse mechanical CPR devices. We have had extensive training with this device through drills with our volunteers, staff and Woodburn Ambulance. These will assist in providing high quality CPR to the patient and will be a huge benefit especially

when there are limited personnel on scene to provide the best care we can. Both of these are strategically placed throughout the Fire District at Stations 1 and 8.



FF Tegen and FF/EMT Burton training on the District's new AutoPulse.

TRAINING—1st Quarter 2023

Total Current Active Personnel as of March 31, 2023: 80

Data used for these reports is rendered from the number of current active personnel divided by the number of personnel that attended drill night.

2023 1st 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:

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



Jan	# of Personnel Attending Drill	Percentage Amount	Primary Topic
1 st Wed.	30	52%	Apparatus Inspections, EMS drill
2 nd Wed.	45	63%	Apparatus inspections, Association Meetings
3 rd Wed.	40	56%	Apparatus Inspections, Hose Evolutions
4 th Wed.	47	66%	Apparatus Inspections, Firefighter Rescue
Feb	# of Personnel Attending Drill	Percentage Amount	Primary Topic
1 st Wed.	37	51%	Apparatus Inspections, Structural Search & Rescue
2 nd Wed.	40	56%	Apparatus Inspections, Officers' & Association Meetings
3 rd Wed.	43	60%	Apparatus inspections, EMS
4 th Wed.	33	46%	Apparatus Inspections, Structural Firefighter Survival
March	# of Personnel Attending Drill	Percentage Amount	Primary Topic
1 st Wed.	48	68%	Apparatus Inspections, EMS drill
2 nd Wed.	22	31%	Apparatus Inspections, Association Meetings
3 rd Wed.	34	48%	Apparatus Inspections, Company Evolutions
4 th Wed.	33	47%	Apparatus Inspections, Rapid Intervention Team, Firefighter Rescue, Firefighter CPR
5 th Wed.	47	66%	Apparatus Inspections, Leadership Skills Presentation

TRAINING—1st Quarter 2023 (cont.)

2023 1st 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.

January

Topic	# of Hours
Training Calendar Planning	2.5
Advanced Firefighter	2
Hose Evolutions	1.5
EMS	1.5
Pump and Driver Operations	6
Instructor Development	8
Academy	62
Total	83.5

February

Topic	# of Hours
Training Calendar Planning	2
EMS	2
Advanced Incident Command	32
Pump and Driver Operations	4.5
Instructor Development	6.5
Academy	58.5
Total	105.5

March

Topic	# of Hours
Training Calendar Planning	2
EMS	1.5
Wildland	16
Academy	23.5
Total	43



Safety Spot

SEVERE WEATHER

By Fire Prevention Officer Max Hughes

Severe weather can happen anytime, in any part of the country. Severe weather can include hazardous conditions produced by thunderstorms, including damaging winds, tornadoes, large hail, flooding and flash flooding, and winter storms associated with freezing rain, sleet, snow and strong winds. Check out the links below for tips on severe weather readiness.

<https://www.ready.gov/severe-weather>
https://www.oregon.gov/osp/Docs/FPEGuide_2022-06_SM-Img_CreateAChecklist.png

SPRING AHEAD—CONNECTING WITH CHIEF GRAMBUSH

As spring starts this year, it appears that we are on track with last year for our call count; 262 so far this year as compared to 255 last year. However, as we start to warm up and people come out to “play”, calls will start to increase like they do every year at this time and Summer is looking like it will be a busy one for all of us. Keep your ear/eyes peeled for calls and please remember to use the Active 911 app on your mobile device.

On the training front, the Training Committee has been busy planning and executing drills. The entire training process continues to be very educational for everyone; the training is relevant, well-orchestrated and very smooth which allows our personnel to feel very comfortable coming to drill. Thanks Training Committee! We appreciate all of your hard work.

The Tour of Duty Committee continues to meet and the results of the survey are in which will be, or has been, sent to everyone. We have quite a lot of interest in the program. The Committee will be meeting again very soon to iron out some of the details including pay, sleeping arrangements, etc. The future looks very positive. Thanks TOD Committee!

Thanks everyone for your training and response dedication to the community...this is why we are here!



Ed Grambusch, Assistant Chief



THE CREW'S NEWS ~ by Deputy Chief Keith Veit

Academy Update:

The Academy of 2023 is going great, all 17 Silverton students that started in the Academy are still engaged and have successfully passed the mid-term testing process, and on March 15th the students were released to respond. I want to thank the Academy instructors that have dedicated a substantial amount of time to ensure the success of the 2023 Silverton Fire District Academy. Graduation will be held on Saturday April 8th 3:00pm at Station 1.

Recruiter's Report:

Please join me in welcoming new Support Services member Corey Selfridge. Corey joined the District after the start of the Academy and will be working under the direction of Lt. Conner to complete his Support Services Task book. Corey has expressed interest in attending the 2024 Firefighter Academy.

Thank you all for your continued dedication to the Fire District and the communities we serve.

-Deputy Chief Veit





2023 SILVERTON FIRE DISTRICT BANQUET AWARDS



Annual Sweetheart Awards Banquet held-February 18, 2023

The Silverton Fire District recently hosted their annual Sweethearts Awards Banquet at the Silverton Elks Lodge. With well over 100 in attendance, the following members were given awards and recognized for their years of service.

Congratulations to the following 2022 Award winners:

Firefighter of the Year- Claire Varney

Medic of the Year- Julie Hansen
Officer of the Year- Ted Klopfenstein

Rookie of the Year- Aaron Graf
Support Service Member of the Year- Dennis Messman

Station of the Year- Station 2

Also congratulations to the following members for reaching the various Years of Service milestones:

5 years
FF. Mark Crawford 1/5/2018
Lt. Andrew Terhaar 1/5/2018
Lt. Jared Brown 4/11/2018

15 years
Lt. Rick Heuchert 1/4/2008

25 years-and Life Member Post-humously

Lt. Paramedic Bernie Palmer, rest in peace brother, we miss you. 6/8/1992-1/10/1994 & 1/8/1999-12/12/2022

30 years
Support Member Dennis Messman 1987-2006 & 2010-2022

40 years
Capt. Alan Mann-9/13/1982

Thank you all for 125 years of dedicated service!



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

The following people have obtained the listed NFPA Certifications and/or EMS Certifications in the 1st Quarter:



NFPA FF II
Spencer Beachy
Jared Brown
Mark Crawford
Terren Harrington
Claire Varney
Emily Zars

WLFF Type II
Don Matteson
Dawn Montoya
Ryan Redman-Brown
Mitchell Stephens
Emily Zars

WLFF Type I
Randle Redman-Brown

NFPA Driver
Ben Netter

NFPA Apparatus Equipped w/a Pump
Voss Burton

NFPA Instructor I
Joe Homutoff
Mitchell Stephens

NFPA Instructor II
Dan Brown

NFPA Fire Officer I
Kyle Miller
Keith Veit

EMT
Voss Burton

EMR
Steve Baker
Mark Crawford
Anthony Cortes
Aaron Graf
Mitchell Stephens
Dawn Montoya
Ben Netter

Civil Service Commission- (continued from Page 1 “From the Chief’s Desk”)

Our newly established Civil Commission had their first meeting on March 23rd. Civil Service Commissioners are, Chris Redling, Steve Dye, and Randal Thomas, who was also elected as Chairman. At their first meeting, the Commission interviewed two candidates for the Chief Examiner position and selected Keith Smith. In other business on their agenda, they reviewed the Civil Service rules and will be holding a public hearing at their next meeting which is set for April 13, 2023, 9:00 am to hear public comment on the rules before final adoption.

Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 242.704 requires the Fire District to establish a Civil Service system that puts in place a system of personnel administration that governs the appointment, tenure, promotion, layoff, removal, and discipline of its officers and employees, and other incidents of employment. Other objectives of Civil Service System include:

- To establish and maintain a uniform plan of classification based upon the relative duties and responsibilities of positions with Silverton Fire District.
- To provide an equal opportunity to all qualified persons to gain employment on a basis of demonstrated merit and fitness to be ascertained by open recruitment and competitive examinations.
- To develop a program of recruitment and advancement that will make a career with the Fire District attractive to persons who possess both ability and integrity.



Upcoming Events:

Second Quarter—2023

April 11—Regular Board Meeting

April 26—Marion County Fire Defense Board Meeting

May 9—Regular Board Meeting

May 13—PIO Class

May 16—Budget Committee Meeting

May 27—Chief Bill Miles’ Birthday

June 13—Regular Board Meeting

June 14—Flag Retire Ceremony/VFW & Boy Scouts

A MESSAGE FROM SFD HEALTH & WELLNESS

FOCUSING ON THE FAMILY

“Family support is critical for a volunteer firefighter. The tones never go off at an opportune time. There are times when you leave during the middle of dinner or just before you are about to go somewhere. Having a family that understands the oath you have taken to assist the community and be there for your fellow brother/sister firefighters when those tones of off allows you to respond and focus on the job at hand. Along with understanding, families too have to sacrifice time spent together in order for the volunteer to respond, but also to attend drills and trainings so we can keep our skills sharp. Without this support, a volunteer is forced to choose between the needs of their family versus their commitment to the fire service” — Andrew J., NY

From: *What to Expect: A Guide for Family Members of Volunteer Firefighters*, Firefighterwife.com, National Volunteer Fire Council.

Your Toolbox of Fear-Conquering Weapons:

- *Your positive words*
- *Communication about concerns, early and often*
- *Trust in the firefighter’s training and ability*
- *Focus on the facts*
- *A friends/family Rescue Intervention Team (R.I.T.)*