



The Council Connection

Official Publication of the Washington State Council of Fire Fighters
Published monthly by the WSCFF & provided to WSCFF Members

WSCFF 79th Annual Convention Our Union Fire Fighters Practice Democracy in Action



An impressive 303 delegates and alternates representing 8,567 union firefighters gathered in Kennewick in June at the 79th Annual Convention of the WSCFF.



Your union representatives met to review the WSCFF's finances, adopt a budget for 2019, set dues, elect officers, discuss legislation, endorse federal candidates, and address relevant occupational issues. Among other things, they voted to support the WSCFF Burn Foundation, Washington State Labor Council, and the Firefighter Cancer Support Network, adopted policies related to wildland fires, developed educational programs, discussed diversity in the fire service, and identified areas of support for family members of fire fighters with PTSD.

President Lawson began the first day with the Call to Order, followed by the Tri-Cities Professional Firefighters Honor Guard posting the colors with the King County and Spokane Valley Pipes and Drums ringing in the ceremony. Our multi-talented member, Cathy Browning, Local 2088, Tukwila, sang the National Anthem. President Lawson called a moment of silence for our WSCFF Line-of-Duty deaths and fallen military personnel.



WSCFF delegates casting ballots



July/August 2018

OFFICERS

DENNIS LAWSON
President

GREG MARKLEY
Secretary-Treasurer

DEAN SHELTON
Tenth District Rep & Vice President

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

MIKE BACON
First District

JEFF WAINWRIGHT
Second District

TIM HOOVER
Third District

MIKE WESTLAND
Fourth District

RYAN REESE
Fifth District

RYAN MUDIE
Sixth District

CRAIG SOUCY
Seventh District

BILL MACK
Eighth District

KEVEN ROJECKI
Ninth District

THERESA PURTELL
Eleventh District

TRUSTEES

RICH KITTINGER
TOM REICH
JOHN GALLUP

COUNCIL STAFF

MICHAEL WHITE
AJ JOHNSON
Legislative Liaisons

HELEN KRAMER
Executive Assistant

DEBBIE GUILLOT
LAURA HOLDER
THERESE MURPHY
Administrative Assistants



"A gathering like this is an opportunity to really experience democracy in action," says WSCFF President Dennis Lawson. "Many different ideas and opinions come to the floor. We debate, we argue and we don't always agree. In the end, we commit to the positions taken by the whole body. "

Lawson, a battalion chief with Local 726 Central Pierce Fire and Rescue, was re-elected as WSCFF President. Dean Shelton, a captain and paramedic for Local 3219 Marysville Fire District, was elected WSCFF Vice President. Ryan Reese, a captain and paramedic with Local 1805 Clark County Fire District 6, was elected 5th District Representative. Mike Bacon, Tim Hoover, Craig Soucy, Keven Rojecki and Theresa Purtell were re-elected as WSCFF District Representatives. Incumbent board members include Secretary-Treasurer Greg Markley and District Representatives Jeff Wainwright, Mike Westland, Ryan Mudie, Bill Mack and Dean Shelton.

Tuesday evening, the host locals provided a BBQ at the Dust Devil Stadium, where families participated in a Cornhole tournament. Spouses and family members went on a river wine cruise, and *The Coats* (nationally touring artists and a premiere a cappella singing group) performed at the annual dinner banquet.

The Fully Involved Awards went to John Gage and Michael White. John Gage, currently the Vice President and Division Chief of Services of Local 46 Everett, has held almost every union office position in his local. He helped to ensure asbestos monitoring of Local 46 members after major exposure, aided in guaranteeing presumptive coverage for a member in need of a heart transplant, and much more during his 36-year career. Michael White, our WSCFF Legislative Liaison since 2013, has been instrumental in advancing legislation to better the lives of our members, including helping to pass legislation in the areas of union rights, pensions, workers' compensation, wildland fire fighting, cancer, and PTSD presumptive coverage. The Jack Waller Honorary Fire Fighter went to John Lovick. Lovick was a State Trooper for 31 years and Sheriff of Snohomish County. He currently serves as State Representative of the 44th Legislative District and has been a champion for fire fighter rights. The Walt Lambert Labor Leader award went to Jeff Johnson, who has been president of the Washington State Labor Council for the past eight years, focusing on improving the lives of working people through increasing collective bargaining and organizing rights, and strengthening workers' compensation and employment standards.



New Local 5133 Whidbey Island Paramedics affiliated August 2017. Pictured are WSCFF President Dennis Lawson and Austin Portis, President of Local 5133.



Congratulations to Local 1805 Clark County Fire Fighters (pictured above), Local 1760 Shoreline, and Local 1762 Mercer Island for 50 years of affiliation.

Congratulations to Locals 3482 Mukilteo, and 3542 Sunnyside for 25 years of affiliation!

YOU ARE A
DELIGHTFULLY
AMAZING
HOST!!

Thank you to our 2018 WSCFF Convention hosts: Locals 1052 Richland; 1296 Kennewick; 1433 Pasco; 4362 Benton Co. 1; 4965 Tri-County Fire Fighters; I-24 Hanford, and Convention Committee Members: Steve Austin, Chris Mortensen, Matt Martens, Chad Blashill, Ron Bush, Raul Marroquin, Kevin Sell and Devin Reese, and to their families and the Tri-Cities community!



Thank you to Chris Mortensen, who gave an opening address that was genuine, humble and inspirational.

New Members

Welcome to the following new Locals:

IAFF **Local 5172** Klickitat Co. Professional EMS Providers, **Local 5177** Clallam 2 Professional Fire Fighters and **Local 5180** Upper Kittitas Co. Professional Fire Fighters!



Alex Wilsie, Vice President, Local 31,
Tacoma
-Legislative Committee



WSCFF District Representatives Keven
Rojecki and Mike Bacon on the
Convention Floor



Reed Asley, President, Local 1352
Valley Regional Fire Authority
-Organization and Policy

2018-2019 WSCFF Per Capita Itemization:

WSCFF Operations	\$20.76
WSCFF Burn Foundation	\$1.77
Firefighter Cancer Support	\$.61
Washington State Labor Council:	\$1.00
Total Per Capita:	\$24.14

The per capita rate of \$24.14 for the 2017-2018 fiscal year is effective September 1, 2018. It is a \$3.40 change from the 2017-2018 dues. In addition to WSCFF operations, per capita now includes \$1.77 for the WSCFF Burn Foundation, \$.61 for the Firefighter Cancer Support Network, and \$1.00 for membership in the Washington State Labor Council (WSLC). Per Article XII, Section 7, the dues for Active Retiree members shall be 25% of the annual per capita rounded to the nearest dollar. Therefore, active retiree per capita will be \$6.00 per member. These rates will be in effect through August 31, 2019.

Per Resolution 18-11, all WSCFF locals shall be affiliated with the WSLC and will pay their WSLC dues through their WSCFF per capita. If your local is already paying WSLC dues, the WSCFF will take over those payments September 1, 2018. If your local has paid WSLC per capita beyond September, we have received that information from the WSLC, and we will send refunds in January, 2019. If your local is not currently affiliated with the WSLC, the WSCFF will enroll your local and pay your WSLC dues beginning September 1, 2018. If you have questions about the WSLC affiliation, please contact your district representative or the office.



EVENTS

Monday, August 6

5:30-11:00 p.m.

Seattle Local 27 Welcome Reception

A wristband will be required.

IAFF registered guests are free.

Additional tickets available for \$10 at the Local 27 Booth.

MoPop Experience Under the Space Needle

325 5th Avenue N, Seattle



Tuesday, August 7

Centennial Pub Crawl (\$20 – includes T-shirt)

[Purchase Tickets](#)

Visit the [Local 27 Facebook page](#) for news and information.

Union by Choice

Jeff Johnson, WSLC President and WSLC Secretary/Treasurer Lynne Dodson:

"Now more than ever, working people understand that they need unions and strength in numbers to fight for a balanced economy. This is particularly true for our proud public employees. These are our family members, friends and neighbors. They teach our children, care for the sick and elderly, keep our communities safe, maintain our roads, and provide many other essential public services. They know they need strong unions, not just because it makes life better for themselves and their families, but also so they can advocate for their students, their patients, and the public they serve....

Dear
Future,
I am
ready.

No court decision will stop us from fighting for good jobs, safe workplaces, affordable health care, and dignity at work for everyone. Today, we recommit not only to sustaining Washington's labor movement, but to building a stronger one. In this economy, working people must stick together in strong unions to demand better wages and benefits. The unions of the Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO will redouble efforts to guarantee the freedom to join, stand and negotiate together."



- Without a union, there is no system of due process, no guarantee of a fair hearing, no one to stand up for your rights.
- The WSCFF, together with the IAFF, works to create and support legislation on behalf of fire fighters and paramedics and educates local leaders about issues related to contract negotiations, arbitration and health and safety.
- An individual worker has very little power, almost no way to improve his or her benefits or working conditions.
- Unions stand for dignity, protection and power.
- The presence of a union means that workers must be treated fairly and with respect.
- Unions have the right to be consulted and have a voice in the determination of wages, hours, and working conditions.

The WSCFF's mission is to provide the best possible working conditions, the safest work environment, and the fairest wages and benefits to fulfill the needs of the men and women in this profession. The council is active on local and national fronts with regard to issues that affect its members.

The WSCFF will never stop working for you, the professional fire fighter.

Don't be fooled

They want to weaken our union and make it harder for you to get the pay, benefits, and working conditions you deserve.



Wolves in sheep's clothing

They'll tell you they're all about "worker freedom," but don't believe it for a second.

The truth? They represent the extremist "Freedom Foundation," which for years has been working on behalf of corporate special interests to destroy public unions.

They **oppose** your right to organize and fairly bargain your contract.

They **oppose** increases in fire fighter pay.

What they won't tell you

Only by sticking together has our union won important victories.

WSCFF membership gives us strength in numbers to do things we could not do separately.

Thank you to Brian Hurley,

as he steps down from the WSCFF as 5th District Representative. He has served in this role since 1997! Brian became a career fire fighter in 1995, but began as a volunteer in 1981.



Brian, and his first grandchild, Mila Marie.



Brian, with wife Jennifer, and their three sons, Bryan, Michael, and Chad.



At the WSCFF 79th Annual Convention, Brian Hurley, Local 2409 Tumwater, was honored to show our sincere appreciation for all that he has done. We are proud of his many accomplishments.

- Established the ability to run long term or permanent EMS levies. Thurston County was one of the first to run a permanent levy.
- Appointed by Gov. Locke to serve on the EMS and Trauma Steering Committee for six years.
- Expansion of presumptive disease coverage to include heart, cancer, and infectious diseases.
- Passage of Initiative 790 creating the LEOFF Plan 2 Retirement Board.
- Passage of PTSD legislation this year.
- Trustee of the MERP plan; helped negotiate Tumwater L2409, to be the first local paying into the MERP.
- Trustee of the NWFF Medical Trust, assisting locals moving into the plan, including Tumwater L2409.
- Continues to serve as a Trustee for the MERP and NWFF Medical Trust.
- Helped organize multiple new locals and bargaining units in the WSCFF 5th District and the IAFF 7th District and negotiating their first contracts.
- Received the 2016 Walt Lambert Union Leadership award with the entire Hurley family present.
- Continues to serve the brothers and sisters of the IAFF 7th District as a District Field Service Representative.
- Serves on the WSCFF Scholarship Committee.



Thank for to Mike Bacon for serving as WSCFF Vice President. Mike will continue serving as our WSCFF 1st District Representative, covering 360 fire fighters in Spokane. We want to say thank you for his time as WSCFF Vice President and list just a few of his accomplishments!



Mike Bacon served as the WSCFF Vice President from 2016-2018. Although Dean Shelton will be taking over this role, thank goodness we aren't losing Mike! Mike is currently the shift Safety Officer at Spokane Station 8 of Local 29. He has been a union fire fighter for more than 37 years. He is also a Haz Mat specialist and a paramedic. Since the beginning of his firefighting career, Mike has been involved with the union. He has held an elected position with Spokane Union Fire Fighters Local 29 for 31 consecutive years and currently represents District 1 on the WSCFF Board, covering 360 fire fighters in the city of Spokane. He was elected to the WSCFF Board in 2004. Mike has been a Captain and Paramedic at Local 29 in Spokane since 1989.

Grievance Committee

Local 29 Executive Board & Secretary-Treasurer for 17 years

Helped implement the first Operation Warm program in Spokane

Created a Cancer Awareness presentation for Spokane Fire Fighters

Mike is passionate about slowing and stopping cancer line-of-duty-deaths

Spokane Labor Council Representative

Local 29 Meritorious Service Award

Spokane Mayor's Recognition Co-Chair of the Convention O & P Committee

Scholarship Selection Committee

Fully Involved Award Selection Committee

Updated all WSCFF policies

Loon Lake, Washington

Welcome Ryan Reese!



Ryan with his wife Catherine, daughters Addison and Jillian, and son Braeden.



Ryan Reese is the new WSCFF 5th District Representative, serving Southwest Washington. Ryan was born in Spokane and moved to Vancouver at a young age, where he currently resides with his family. He graduated from Hudson's Bay High School in 1994 and enrolled in Paramedic School at the College of Emergency Services. Upon completion of school, Ryan was hired with American Medical Response, where he worked as a paramedic for two years before seeking a job in the fire service.

Ryan's father was an active member in the fire service. Knowing that he wanted to follow in his father's footsteps, he became a volunteer firefighter at the age of sixteen. He maintained his volunteer status with Clark County Fire District Six for seven years, and they hired him at the age of 23. Currently, Ryan is a Captain and Paramedic for Local 1805 Clark County 6, and has been a member for 19 years, serving as President for 16 of those years. Ryan also holds the position of State Representative for the IAFF, where he organizes new locals, negotiates initial contracts and provides assistance during the arbitration process. Ryan is also an active on the WSCFF EMS Committee. He is currently enrolled as a senior at Eastern Oregon University, where he is seeking a Bachelor's Degree in Fire Service Administration, with a minor in communications. When Ryan is not engaged in bettering the labor movement, he enjoys spending time with his wife and children, golfing, traveling, and coaching his children's sports teams.

Ryan has a very strong passion for the labor movement, and his commitment to education and success for unions is seen in all his professional roles. The motto, "We all do better, when we all do better," is what drives his dedication to providing necessary education and support to unions within the IAFF.

Dean Shelton

2018 WSCFF Vice President

Dean Shelton, 10th District Representative and newly elected WSCFF Vice President, with his wife Rinny and son Dallas.



Dean Shelton just finished his 24th year as a Washington fire fighter. A captain and paramedic for Local 3219 Marysville, Shelton represents the WSCFF 10th District, which runs from Everett to the Canadian border and out to the San Juan Islands and represents more than 700 union fire fighters. In June, Shelton was elected WSCFF Vice President. Dean has served as your WSCFF 10th District Representative since 2008.

Trustees from 2001-2008:

Tom Schneider, Local 469 Yakima;
Bill Garlington Local 452,
Vancouver; and Dean Shelton,
Local 3219 Marysville.



10th District Representative since 2008.

WSCFF Trustee 2001-2008 (check out the picture!).

Captain, Paramedic and the Station Captain for Marysville Fire District since 1997.

Fire Commissioner for Skagit County Fire from 1998-2015, serving three consecutive terms and helped successfully pass all levies and bonds during that 18-year term.

Fire Commissioners Representative

Washington State Fire Protection Policy Board from 2008-18, appointed by Governor Christine Gregoire

Current Local 3219 Treasurer

The Kennewick Convention Photographs are now on-line for 60 days.

The link is: <http://seattlephotography.photobiz.com/>

Access Code: Kennewick

Click on the Link

Select VIEW YOUR IMAGES

Enter the Access Code (Kennewick)

You can select any image in the grid display
and it will enlarge for better viewing/selection

There are 3 Galleries:

1. Personal & District Group Portraits
2. Business Meeting
3. Banquet & Awards

Thanks!

Carl Murray

Director & Photographer

www.seattlephotography.com

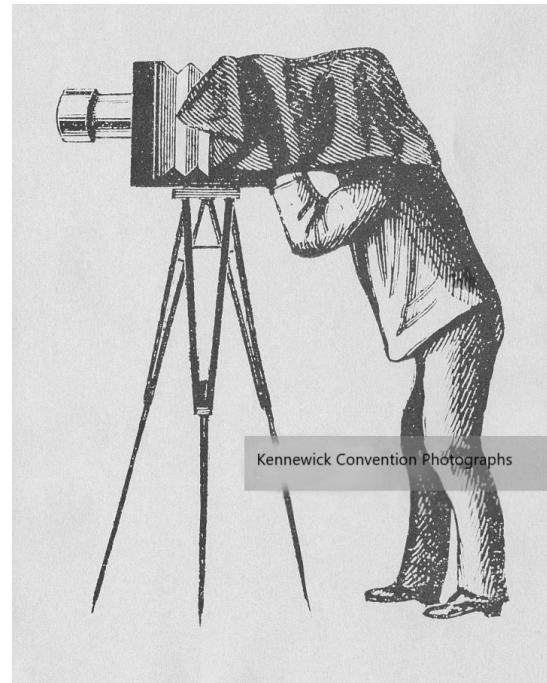
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425-252-6985 Landline

Since 1975



August 25, 2018

The Port of Seattle Diversity Firefighters Association

8th Annual Scholarship Fundraiser and

Golf Tournament Raffle and Auction

Please consider donating to our Seeking the Diversity Scholarship Award. Scholarships are awarded to high school seniors and community college students of diversity advancing in college, fire academies for fire fighting, or EMT school. Your donation will also help families in need during the holidays. The association is a 501c (3) (Charity # Z7-4570566).

Thank you for any help you can give! Please contact:

Dale Hornung Local 1257, Port of Seattle

seaff@hotmail.com ~ 206-799-0669

Port of Seattle Diversity Firefighters Association

2400 S. 170th St. Seattle, WA 9815

THE **WINDY CITY 150**

SEPTEMBER 21-22, 2018

A 2-DAY BICYCLE RIDE RAISING FUNDS FOR



GARY SINISE
FOUNDATION



DAY 1: Ellensburg to Roslyn and back | 75 miles
DAY 2: Ellensburg to Selah and back | 75 miles

Each day will end with a fundraising dinner and live music in the evening!

All proceeds will go towards the Gary Sinise Foundation's R.I.S.E. program to honor our nation's most severely wounded heroes.

JOIN THE RIDE

Open to the Public! Anyone interested in joining the ride should contact Rich Smith or Rick Kimmel at:

firefighterrideforrise@gmail.com

DONATE ONLINE

Visit our campaign page:

www.ffr4r.com

MAIL-IN DONATIONS

**Gary Sinise Foundation
P.O. Box 50008
Studio City, CA 91614**

*All checks payable to:
Gary Sinise Foundation,
referenced with
"Firefighters Ride 4 Rise"*

RESTORING INDEPENDENCE

R★I★S★E

SUPPORTING EMPOWERMENT



26TH ANNUAL

KEN PILLON RENTON FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2018

1:30 SIREN START

MAPLEWOOD GOLF COURSE, RENTON WA

PROCEEDS BENEFIT RENTON CHARITIES

4 Person Best Ball Scramble Format
\$100 per player, \$400 per team

Dinner following golf

Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin,
Straightest Drive,
and Putting Contest

50/50 Raffle and Prizes!

Pay online!
www.IAFF864.org/golf

Hole in One Sponsored By:



Thank you to our major sponsor!



**Washington State
Council of Fire Fighters**

Questions?

Jeff Vollandt - Tournament Chair
JVollandt@RentonRFA.org
(206) 940 -9474

66th Annual Pacific Northwest Firefighters Golf Tournament 2018

Snohomish Golf Course

7805 147th Ave SE ~ Snohomish, WA 98290

360-568-2676

Hosted by the Everett Fire Department ~

Proceeds to benefit the Burned Children Recovery Foundation

Entry Fee \$150 for both days or \$125 for the 15th only

Entry Deadline: August 8, 2018

36 & 18 Hole Tournament Formats ~ Prizes ~ Awards ~ Hospitality Room ~
Lunch both days

Host Hotel: Tulalip Resort and Casino, 10200 Quil Ceda Blvd, Tulalip, WA 98271

*Tell them you are with the "PNWFF Golf Tournament" for your special rate of
\$149/night*

Hospitality Suite/registration at Orca Suite 8/13

Hospitality/Drinks/Pizza, etc. in 3.000 square foot "High Roller Suite" on 8/14

Sign up on-line to pay by Credit/Debit card:

<http://www.123formbuilder.com/form-3710379/Golf-Registration-Form>



FIRST RESPONDERS NIGHT

• AUGUST 23RD •



Join us for First Responders Night (August 23rd) and our annual Police vs. Fire Charity Softball game (August 15th) at Cheney Stadium as we honor all the men and women that keep us safe. Free entry to the softball game with purchase of a ticket package below.



ALL-AMERICAN + TICKET • \$35.50

- Reserved Seat ticket
- Access to the concourse-level Base Camp Grill
- Complimentary beer, wine, soda, water, & ballpark snacks
- Commemorative event t-shirt

PARTY DECK + TICKET • \$35.50

- Exclusive access to private First Responders Party Deck
- All-inclusive BBQ buffet with beer, wine, soda & water
- Commemorative event t-shirt

RESERVED SEAT TICKET • \$13

- Includes Ballpark Meal (hot dog, chips, & bottled water)



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