

# MAIN LINE

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2008

SAN FRANCISCO FIRE FIGHTERS

## STATION 6 - 2008 BOCCE BALL CHAMPS



# WORKING FIRE

## ANGEL ISLAND FIRE OCTOBER 12, 2008



David Brown / Special to The Chronicle



Mark Conatser / The Chronicle



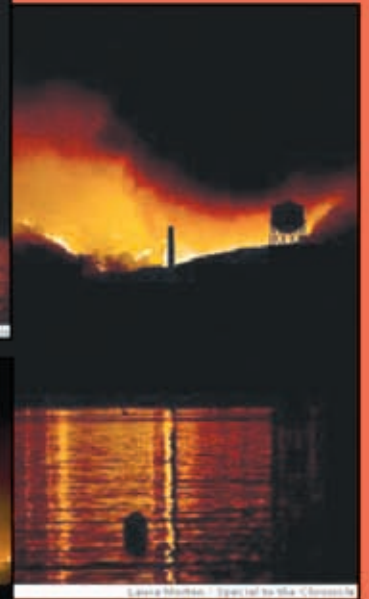
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Laura Morin / Special to the Chronicle



# THE MAIN LINE

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The MAIN LINE is the official publication of San Francisco Fire Firefighters Local 798. However, opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of Local 798 or the San Francisco Fire Department.

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Members are welcome to submit Letters to the Editor for publication. The Editorial Board reserves the right to review/edit any submitted material.

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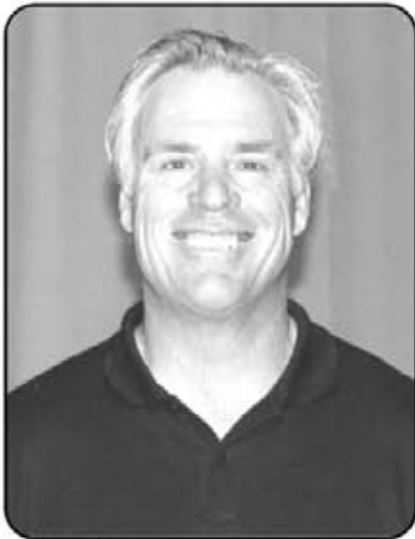
*Photo by Nakia Kashima*

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# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our San Francisco Firefighters Local 798 Toy Program has now been in existence for approximately 54 years. Due to the current economy and unemployment, we anticipate this year's holiday season will bring far more requests for assistance and need than ever before. We are so fortunate as firefighters and paramedics to have jobs in this struggling economy. Now, as in the past, we again ask you to give back to those who, because of unfortunate circumstances, will be missing a paycheck this Christmas season. Please be ready and willing to donate your spare time to help San Francisco kids.

With the posting of the recent Lieutenants Exam, the Union is appealing to the Chief and Department of Human Resources to release the Answer Key for the exam. For some unknown reason, both entities mentioned above are having difficulty with the idea/philosophy/notion of releasing the key to the exam. The Union is not asking for top secret information related to the nuclear defense of America, nor are we asking for the last known whereabouts of Bin Laden. All the Union would

like is for the Administration to furnish the key so members who took the exam can evaluate what they did right and what they did wrong. If one is to go into a firehouse, there is more information on the wall of what can be recycled and in which can you are to deposit your garbage. It appears to me that more thought went into the SFFD Recycling Program rather than distributing the Answer Key to the recent Lieutenants Exam. When something so obvious is kept top secret, it leads to speculation and questions. Release the Answer Key.

Congratulations to Jim Vannucchi and Tony Rivera for the very successful and well run Bocce Tournament. The event was well attended, enthusiasm was great, the sun was shining and all members had a wonderful time. Congratulations to Dave Russell, Team Captain and Leader of the Station 6 Bocce Team, "The Rainbow Boys". Dave's keen strategy for winning the Tournament was to send a weak performer away (Steve Gonzales) and draft late in the game, a known entity in Bocce circles, Fred Calonico. The wisdom of Russell produced the championship plaque for Station 6.

In swimming circles, the "Annual Alcatraz to South End Race" was a spectacular success run by Tom Abbott. There were 41 swimmers in all; 28 active firefighters, 3 retired firefighters and 10 of our friends from the SFPD. The winner of the race with the fastest time (with the aid of fins and a wet suit) was Steve Giacalone from Station 7. A real winner was Henry Scoble who spent 2 hours in the frigid bay without the aid of a wet suit and fins; he stormed the beach like an Army Ranger landing at Normandy. No help needed by Scoble.

Congratulations to all 48/49 participants.

Fraternally,  
John F. Hanley

# U N I O N L E T T E R S

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Dear Brother Hanley,

We wish to thank our brothers and sisters in Local 798 for the assistance you provided us to help with the city council election in Millbrae. Our resources have been stretched thin fighting off a State of California takeover of three of our stations out on the coast. This limited our ability to get deeply involved in highly contested city council race. In Millbrae, three friends were being termed out of the city council. Our Millbrae members would face an uncertain future if the stability of the city council was upset by the wrong candidates being elected.

The funds you provided helped us elect new council members who care about firefighters and their issues. Without help from our San Francisco brothers and sisters anti-public safety candidates may have been elected. We highly value the friendship we have with Local 798. Please call upon us if we can ever be of assistance.

Fraternally,  
Edwin R. Hawkins  
President, IAFF Local 2400

Dear Local 798,

Please use enclosed, where needed, in memory of the great Tony Sacco. Directly and indirectly he gave to so many of us.

I was out of town when he passed on and I missed his memorial. But I sure enjoyed the article in the Main Line by Tim O'Brien and Leo Martinez. Keep up the good work.

Frank Batmale

Please use enclosed check where needed.

Jim Dowd

8/12/2008

Local 798,

Enclosed check is donated in the memory of Tony Sacco.

Gordon Heiner

8/18/2008

Dear Members,

Greetings from the Northwest to all present and past members.

Use enclosed in memory of those who have no one to memorialize them.

Just celebrated 60th wedding anniversary.

Tom (Dad) Sheehan

August 2008

Thanks for all your work in making our retirement what it is today.

Use as you see fit.

Thanks!!  
Joe Sorensen

September 17, 2008

SFFD Local 798,

Here's a donation for you to use as you see fit. Fritz really enjoys the Inside Box photos even if they were taken long before he joined the department in 1951.

Keep the Main Line coming.

Thank you,  
Margaret Hartman

9/19/2008

In memory of Dan Frazee, Jerry White, and Mike Braida.

Thank you for all your great work!

Bob Quinn

9/30/2008

For the Main Line and thanks from Big Line 29 retired.

Reno Cervelli

October 4, 2008

Local 798,

Just after making Lieutenant, I had the privilege of being assigned to the Swing through Station One.

Earl "Bud" Dunn was my driver on the engine. I could not have asked for a better driver, pump operator or to have asked to work side by side with a better gentleman. This was Bud! It was fun to work with him and more than that ... a pleasure to work with him.

I will always remember what Bud was fond of saying, "It's a Beautiful thing!" In reality, it really reflected who he was. Bud was a Beautiful man!

In his memory please use the enclosed as our Union sees fit.

Fraternally and always,  
Bruce Wagner

October 6, 2008

To the Officers, Executive Board, and Office Staff Personnel of San Francisco Firefighters Local 798,

Many THANKS to all of you for your sincere dedication to our membership for ensuring that our benefits are protected. I am sure the countless hours that you devote to our Union making sure we receive the "Best Package" are immeasurable. It sure is a comforting feeling knowing we have a very select group of very special people looking out for us.

Please use enclosed check as needed.

Thank you all again!!  
Bill DeMattei - Retired

October 9, 2008

Local 798,

Happy Holidays! Please accept this check in memory of Joe McKeon and Tony Sacco.

Thanks,  
Chris Gargano



## Station Stewards

Station 1	Dan Gracia
Station 2	Carla Bisio Murphy
Station 3	Stephen Engler
Station 4	<b>CLOSED</b>
Station 5	Jim Mellberg
Station 6	Michael Horta
Station 7	Jose Zalba
Station 8	Derio Dito
Station 9	Christina Gibbs
Station 10	Leonardo Harris
Station 11	Ben Canedo
Station 12	Mike Belcher
Station 13	Sherman Tillman
Station 14	Bruno Walthers
Station 15	Brett Evert
Station 16	Patric Steele
Station 17	John Chung
Station 18	Daniel Tauber
Station 19	Kendrick Low
Station 20	Dean Whittaker
Station 21	Steve Finnegan
Station 22	Tom O'Brien
Station 23	O.J. Leonardo
Station 24	Thomas J. Carberry
Station 25	Kinnie Jamerson
Station 26	Randy Hendricks
Station 27	<b>CLOSED</b>
Station 28	Jason Woo
Station 29	Bridget Cullinane
Station 30	<b>CLOSED</b>
Station 31	Brendan McGorrin
Station 32	Tracey Courtney O'Keeffe
Station 33	Robert Lopez
Station 34	John Grant
Station 35	Pat Higgins
Station 36	Brook Baker
Station 37	Dave Amituanai
Station 38	Eigil Qwist
Station 39	<b>Open</b>
Station 40	Janice Hoaglin
Station 41	Ken Yee
Station 42	Mike Guajardo
Station 43	John Maguire
Station 44	Nathan Shapiro
Station 48	Todd Plunkett
Station 70	James Mogannam
AP 1	Terry Woo
AP 2	Bobby Jackson
AP 3	<b>Open</b>
BFI	Laura Kelly
BFP	Tom Cordes, Mike Estebez, Brian Ballard
BOE	Al Harvey
HQ	Kyle Merkins
RADIO	<b>Open</b>

Members interested in becoming Station Stewards should contact the Union office at (415) 621 - 7103

## FROM THE SECRETARY ...



*By Frank Kelly, Secretary*

To all active and retired members of Local 798.

Thank you, it has been a pleasure to serve as Secretary of Local 798 for the past 10 years.

Good luck to all and I'm sure we'll see each other at future events.

**Remember, you are the Union. Without your support success would be impossible and failure inevitable!**

# SUBMISSIONS:

**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF  
ARTICLES FOR THE MAIN LINE IS:**

**JAN. - FEB. 2009 / DEC. 20, 2008**

**MARCH - APRIL 2009 / FEB. 20, 2009**

**MAY - JUNE 2009 / APRIL 20, 2009**



# SECURING THE LOCALS' FUTURE



*By Jim Vannucchi, Director-at-Large*

## THE FUTURE

The future of LOCAL 798 is an organization who can continually revitalize the LOCALS' purpose and standing in the world of labor and defeat its adversaries who threaten its' autonomy and the welfare of its' members whether it be at the local, state or national level. This is an enormous task to undertake. The constantly evolving face of LOCAL 798 must be ready to show all that this LOCALS' best days are yet to come and that we have established an enduring vigilance with one focus; our membership.

LOCAL 798 has helped build a world for its' members that is more secure, more prosperous and more respected than ever before. Our unique form of leadership – to faithfully echo the voice of the membership – gives us moral credibility, which is more powerful than any show of force. We are rich in people and resources but richer still in vision and ideals and the means to realize them. We are truly a blessed LOCAL; authentically replicating the mission that was envisioned so many years ago. But as a LOCAL, it is incumbent on us to continually restore our mantle as a labor leader, continually reestablish our principled credibility and continually rebuild those relationships that brought so much good to so many people.

Today's opponents of labor may be a new phenomenon, but what they stand for and what they seek are as old as time. Make no mistake of their intentions. They are part of a well-planned and well-calculated economic, philosophical and political struggle between the past and the future, reaction and progress, liberty and repression. Our prosperity, our security and our democratic way of life depend on a LOCAL who will always put its' membership first, last, always.

## INTO THE DRINK

When I was skimming through my voicemails while simultaneously dreaming of distant shores, I stopped

cold when a message from Tom Abbott mentioned "drink".

Being a sucker for a delicious cocktail, I called Tom back immediately with the belief that I would very soon be holding some type of chilled concoction. Only when we met face-to-face (the preferred method of communication for you students out there) did I realize that the "drink" Tom referred to was his plan for the First Annual SFFD Alcatraz Swim to benefit the SAN FRANCISCO FIREFIGHTERS CANCER PREVENTION FUND.

As the logistics of the one-and-a-half mile-swimming event were shared with me, I was perplexed because I thought, for that distance, that was what boats were for. Needless to say, I was very wrong.

Under Tom's tutelage, a novel thought blossomed into a well-planned and respected event benefiting a very worthy cause. A job well done.

## BOCCE

When John Hanley approached Tony Rivera and I to co-chair a Bocce Tournament, only one-thought came to mind; "Are you crazy"?

As the kind of guy who up to a few months ago could not even correctly spell the word "Bocce", let alone know which end of the Bocce Ball to hold, I was at a loss as to how I was going to pull this one off.

Desperately searching for a sign from God on how to properly run this event, Tony and I totally immersed ourselves into a secular world of rosary beads, salami, prosciutto, mortadella, and as much red wine as possible. It was only then, after several days of pious praying, gorging, and a few extra pounds, did the vision almost fully reveal itself.

With the extraordinary culinary expertise of Tony "Carmine" Rivera coupled with the tireless help of Dan Gracia (RS1), Mike Kirtley (T01), Tom Rey (T01), Jeff Moreno (T01), Pat Shea (T03), Julio Delucchi (T02), Ed Barbero (T02), Ang "The Destroyer" Saitz (E01), Floyd Rollins (RS2), and Steve Giacalone (E07), a cult was born.

On October 7, 2008 the First Annual SAN FRANCISCO FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 798 Bocce Tournament to benefit the Cancer Prevention Foundation came to fruition. Utilizing the Marin Bocce Federation Courts in San Rafael as our venue, a full and wonderful day of food, drink and Bocce went forward. New friendships were made, old ones were renewed and within this unique group of over 300 active and retired LOCAL 798 members, not one complaint was heard.

At the conclusion of the day as I was returning the Bocce Balls to their cosmolene infused case, the final mystery of my earlier Italian Deli induced vision came to me; the individual who asked that the tournament be held, won it.

# FROM THE DIRECTOR . . .



*By Brendan Ward, Director*

## **November Election**

I am writing this article the morning of the November election. It was amazing and wonderful to see over 200 firefighters volunteering their time to assist distributing door hangers for the local San Francisco election. I also thank everybody who assisted me distributing literature in District 11 over the past few weeks. Each person will receive a personal thank you but I especially want to thank the Station stewards of Station 15 (Brett Evert), Station 33 (Robert Lopez) and Station 43 (John Joe Maguire). And thanks to the members of Station 8 who also volunteered their valuable time to assist me.

## **Toy Program**

'Tis the season again!! The kickoff luncheon is November 19, 2008. It will be another exciting year for the program as we distribute toys to thousands of underprivileged children residing in San Francisco. If you have free time this Holiday season please consider volunteering at the Program. The hours this year will be changed. Toys will be given out from 830am to 1pm on the weekdays followed by a lunch cooked by a designated firehouse. We also need firefighters every day to deliver and pickup toy barrels throughout the City and to represent the Toy Program at various Christmas parties hosted by Toy supporters. You can call the Toy Program at 415-777-0440.

I also want to thank all the volunteers who made the Toy Program golf tournament a great success. From those of you who supervised the raffle to the cart and buffet helpers—Thanks.

## **Retirement Seminar**

I recently hosted our semi-annual Retirement Seminar

with 35 participants. It was very successful covering two days of topics including retirement and health benefits, deferred compensation, trusts and wills and other important topics. This was especially relevant as so many members of the Department are moving up in rank, down in rank or retiring. Thank you to the participants who responded to our follow-up questionnaire. And thanks to all the presenters who took time to educate the membership. The next Seminar will be in the Spring of 2009.

## **Health Benefits**

The Health Service System is currently reviewing all the Health Plans to see which ones will be renewed and at what price the premiums will be adjusted. The meetings will last through the rest of this calendar year and I will report back to the membership any projected changes for the next fiscal year.

## **Exams**

Congratulations to all the recent promotees. My main observation of this whole examination process is the need for the City and the Department to release the answer keys for all the examinations so that individuals can learn from this testing process and prepare for the examinations in the future. Anything less than that will leave continued confusion and frustration from the membership.

## **Conclusion**

In the words of my mentor, Ret. Chief Peter Sorensen, "Don't use Half Moon Bay as a shortcut during the Pumpkin Festival weekend!" Be safe.

## **ATTENTION!!**

### **DO YOU HAVE FIRE PHOTOS?**

*Whether old or new, the Main Line is interested in publishing them in future issues.*

Please forward to the Union office:

1139 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103

or contact

Stan Lee @ Station 7 or by email:  
sffd.mainline@gmail.com



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## FROM THE DIRECTOR . . .



*By Floyd Rollins II, Director*

As we move forward in these trying times it often becomes difficult to stay focused on our mission. With our economy in serious crisis, elections on both the local and national levels, budgetary crises around every corner and huge shakeups within our own Department, it becomes easy to see how one can lose focus.

With the recent completion of the many exam processes, it's obvious that this has created many unanswered questions in the minds of many people. Many candidates attended the score review sessions expecting to find explanations of the scores they received on the exams and in fact, found themselves leaving with more questions than they originally started with. One question that seems to be common across the board is "How did I receive a "zero" on that section?" In thinking about that, I looked up the definition of the word "zero" to make sure I understood its true meaning. According to the Merriam Webster Dictionary "zero" is defined as "... an arithmetical symbol denoting the absence of all magnitude or quantity: a state of total absence or neutrality." In my mind, after reading that definition it created even more confusion as to how a person could receive a "zero" on a particular section in the exam. In reflecting on that definition I thought to take a look at how this would register in a candidate's mind. Take for instance, a person who has spent fifteen to twenty years on the job seeing a "zero" on this score sheet. This says that after all the experience over the years that nothing they did was in-line with what the key committee came up with. I certainly do not think that I am alone in my belief that this is just not possible. On the other hand, I do believe that experience brings about the ability to make confident judgment calls in high pressure situations on the job that were in no way captured in a written exam. Needless to say, the score does not always represent the true skill level of the person.

One thing I've learned during my time in the fire service is that there are many ways to accomplish our inci-

dent objectives. This is one concept that the authors of this written exam have completely missed. I think it can be perfectly summed up in the words of Ret. US Secretary of State, General Colin Powell who said "... Don't be buffaloeed by experts and elites. Experts often possess more data than judgment."

Every day across the United States, firefighters go to incidents that have similar objectives. The means by which they accomplish these objectives will vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. It also varies according to the Department's SOPs. Looking at that, if the department's SOPs are not a secret, and if the answers to the exam were developed in-line with what the SOPs say, then there should not be a problem publishing the answers. This would show that the key committee went directly to the manuals, SOPs and training bulletins to develop the key for the exam. It would also allow candidates to see the objectives that the key committee looked to achieve in each problem. Not having answers to the aforementioned questions as well as many others that exist is not a benefit to anyone. It points to the missing educational benefits that exams of this magnitude should bring to the Department. Numbers on a sheet of paper mean nothing when you are not able to understand the measure by which that score was arrived at.

After looking at all of this, it has become apparent to many in the Department that the Chief and administrators should embark on a serious fight for the review of our promotional examinations. Understanding where one needs improvement is vital to the development of a person's career in the fire service. It seems to me that this is vital in the ongoing educational process in our career and should begin NOW and not whenever the next exam is announced.

In my eyes, it would be a huge morale booster to see our administration fight for something that is so important and would benefit the rank and file for a long time to come. This may even begin to change the wide ranging opinion that the administration is quick to act upon disciplinary issues but slow to react to anything of a positive nature. Such an action would also serve as a method to help eliminate some of the argument, debate, doubt and animosity that these processes have created amongst the rank and file. With so much change occurring within, it's going to take the efforts of all of us to put this ship back on the right course. It is my hope that our leaders would see the importance of their role at this crucial time. Sitting idly by and doing nothing would be a huge mistake and would continue to further the dis-

*Rollins  
Continued on page 18*

# FROM THE DIRECTOR . . .



By Michael A. Walsh, Director

## IN THE TRENCHES

First off, I want to thank all the brothers and sisters who were out on our numerous door hanger walks this election season. Participation in all the districts is so important to our ongoing labor struggles in the City as well as on the state and national levels. In these difficult economic times it is our job to let the politicians know we are out there in the trenches and we do make a difference. Over 250 Local 798 members showed up on Election Day to help. A special thanks to Mike Estebez, the only member of Fire Prevention to show after Local 798 worked so hard to save the jobs at Prevention from going over to the Building Department. To all, another job well done.

Congratulations to the new Lieutenants who are in the process of being promoted; the road was difficult and very much questioned. Once again, Human Resources denied any type of review or transparency on the test results. All fingers point to the questionable actions taken by the rating key.

With the hard work of Dan Gracia and Keith Onishi, this year's *Chili Cook-Off* was a great success, with over thirty (30) teams competing. A good turn-out and many donations were made to the Toy Program. Kudos to Station 44's "Wilde Bunch Chili" team, the reigning SFFD Toy Program Chili Champions.

Following the demise of "Day at the Races" Director Jim Vannucchi hosted the *1st Annual Bocce Tournament* in San Rafael, with over forty (40) teams competing. A catered lunch and refreshments were served to all. The "Rainbow Boys" from Station 6 are the champions.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE

The Health and Safety Committee has not met in over four (4) months. Local 798 is ready to meet any time.

## STATION STEWARDS

Congratulations to newly elected Station 44 Shop

Steward, Nate Shapiro who stepped up to replace long time steward Mike Gonzales who is promoting. Good luck to both of you. This is a reminder of many open Steward spots (due to promotions) that need to be filled. Contact Director Shon Buford at the Hall. Union officer elections are upon us. As the saying goes, "if it ain't broke, don't fix it".

## APPARATUS UPDATE

After checking with Purchasing through the Sunshine Ordinance I have the following to report:

Four (4) ambulances that are being built are delayed due to deficiencies found by the Bureau of Equipment at a mid-build inspection. This is a good thing; it means someone is actually checking the specifications. The pumpers or engine companies are a totally different story. The SFFD by this date should have at least six (6) pumpers already on line to be delivered. Purchasing threw out the bids because the specifications were not prepared so the City could defend itself against lawsuits from the vendors who bid. This is a travesty. The SFFD is still living the "disaster" of the "American La France" pumper purchase to which no one to date has been held accountable.

## AERIAL TRUCKS

The one and only aerial truck being built is at least 300 days out. This order could go to four total. The last truck delivered was in 2005. The fleet is in total disrepair. As of today, the relief fleet stands at 5 engines and 1 truck that are 20+ years old.

Central Shops is overwhelmed, underfunded and mismanaged. Our Union brothers are trying to keep the fire-fighters safe against all odds. Half of Central Fire Shops are filled with antique apparatus that do not belong in repair areas. In the meantime, our brothers and sisters at these shops are working on front line equipment outside in the weather. I have talked to our Union brothers and they have informed me that they want issues right but the administration at Central Shop is turning a blind eye. This same situation happened in Phoenix until the IAFF and Local 493 exposed the actions of the City. It took a Labor Management summit to address those issues properly.

The Apparatus Committee has not met for over six (6) months and there doesn't appear that anything is in the mix. With no joint oversight we will again relive the same problems over and over. This is a safety issue for not only our members but the taxpayers as well.

Closing in memory of Dan Barden.

---

October 19, 2008

**Dear (Family and Friends):**

**It seems everyone I know knows at least one person affected by lupus. For me, it is my sister who has been affected by this disease. She was diagnosed with lupus earlier this year.**

Unfortunately, lupus research to date has been sorely under-funded and the disease itself is often misunderstood. In addition, treatment for lupus has not changed in the past 30 years: sometimes the treatment itself can be as damaging as the disease!

But we can change all of that! This year, I have made a commitment to participate in the *Walk with Us to Cure Lupus Walkathon* in our community, in support of the Alliance for Lupus Research (ALR). The ALR is the **ONLY** voluntary health organization solely dedicated to funding lupus research, raising 26 million dollars for the cause since it's inception in 1999! Even more exciting is the fact that 100% of all Walk proceeds directly fund lupus research!

The *Walk with Us to Cure Lupus Walkathon* will take place on **Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008** at the **Embarcadero**. The purpose of this Walk is simple: to create community awareness of this disease and of the Alliance for Lupus Research, to raise money in support of the ALR's mission to prevent, treat and cure lupus and to celebrate and commemorate lives touched by lupus. **WE** have the power to make this event a success!

Here is how you can help. I ask that you consider supporting me in this effort by supporting my participation in the Walk with a donation! This would be so helpful in our effort to find a cure for this devastating disease. Supporting the Walk not only helps me, but is a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate your support for the thousands of people in our community who are directly affected by this disease, as well as a way for friends and family to show their support in a cause close to my heart.

I would like to thank you for your time and look forward to hearing from you! Please call me at **(415)290-1530** or email me at **leecav@hotmail.com** should you like more information. I would love to fill you in on all the exciting events we have planned for the Walk and the progress made by the ALR in funding lupus research. If you do decide to walk, I assure you that you will enjoy yourself! If you are unable to attend but would like to sponsor me (and my team), please send your donation to Alliance for Lupus Research (28 West 44th Street, Suite 501 New York, NY, 10036) or donate at [www.lupusresearch.org](http://www.lupusresearch.org). I hope to turn in all my donations at the Walk on **Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008**. My personal goal is to raise **\$1000.00!** Please include my personal ID number: **CSF-460118** on the memo of the check.

P.S. SFFD will be represented at the walk with an engine authorized by the chief to accompany us and show the department's support.

Check my team's progress at [www.lupusresearch.org](http://www.lupusresearch.org). We are Team Cleo.

Again, thank you for your support and I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,  
**Lee Cavestany**  
**Truck 9**



# O P E N F O R U M

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## S A V E A L I F E

By Mark Sikora

First things first. A sincere thanks to all of you who donated blood during the August Blood Drive.

Second: I realize that some of you give blood on your own time and, therefore, the timing is not right for you to donate during the Local 798 Blood Drives. Thanks to you also, you are truly giving people who save lives.

Third: I know some of us can not give due to various reasons including, but not limited to, travel, tattoos, medical reasons, low blood iron that day, being out of town for the three days of the drive etc. etc. etc. Thank you for trying.

Fourth: The rest of you are lazy, apathetic, self-serving poseurs. Yes, I just said that. Yes, I know you can get more flies with honey than with vinegar. No, I don't care that you don't like me or what I said. You have no problems exploiting the fact that you are a member of the SFFD by wearing the gear outside of work, talking up people in bars, trying to get out of tickets, trying to get a discount at a store etc., but when it comes time to step up and actually do something FOR society, you disappear.

The fact is, most of us are lucky to have the job we do. Most of us are here because we thought we could actually do something good with our lives. We took this job as young, altruistic, hard chargers. We thought we would be fighting fires, saving lives, and kicking ass all the time. Sadly, that is not the case anymore, if it ever was.

Outside of our shifts at the Firehouse or on the ambulance, the members of the SFFD have several opportunities to touch lives for the better. The two that touch the most lives are the Toy Program and the thrice yearly Blood Drives.

Here are some down and dirty facts about blood donation. First, you are guaranteed to help someone, possibly even save a life. You don't even get that guarantee with 30 years on the job. (No offense meant to you Squaddies!!)

One pint of blood can be used to save as many as three people's lives. Twenty percent of blood recipients are kids! Less than 4% of the population gives regularly. One out of three people will need blood in their lifetime. The entire process, from filling out the paper work, to the "mini-physical", to the actual donation takes about one hour. Hell, you even get a free lunch.

I know many of you are "too busy" to get down to the blood bank during the three days of the drive. I also know that you are the same people who suddenly get "un-busy" when a WDO pops up, or you suddenly have to clear your schedule for a seven day OES deployment

(damn those trades on the board, after all "trades don't pay"— sickening .... ah heck, that's a rant for another time).

The same people who have no problem being part of the "team" when they are getting into a Giants or 49'ers game for free, are the same people who can't be bothered to show up and give blood. Yet, when a bar has a "firefighter's appreciation night" there will be a line out the door and no shortage of "volunteers" to tell everyone of their hero exploits. What gives??

Outside of Station 2, every single firehouse in the City is consistently beaten in donors by the RETIRED guys. Now, I guess some of you don't care that the only reason we make the money we do and enjoy the benefits we have is because of them. Now, we have to let them be the ones to carry the ball at the Blood Drives too?? Where is your pride?

Oh yeah, the biggest group of no-shows at the blood drive: the young guys (that means the newer guys). That's right. I bet I'll see you guys at the Chili Cook off or at Firefighter Appreciation night with the Giants though. Shoot, you guys have no problems getting away for a week for the Olympics, but an hour to give blood...nah....not enough women to impress with your FD tattoos there I guess.

There are around 1400 employees in the SFFD. We are hard pressed to get 100 to donate at any given drive. That is pathetic.

Each one of you knows a family member, friend, or firefighter who has needed blood. Blood can not be manufactured. The only way blood is there is through donations. The final Blood Drive of the year is December 16, 17, 18. The Blood Centers of the Pacific is located at Turk and Masonic. If you need someone to hold your hand while you donate, that can be arranged. FREE LUNCH will be served as usual.

Come out and donate. Do it for yourself, do it for a loved one, do it for the kids, heck, do it for the karma points, just come out and do it. We need to get over 200 donations at the December drive. No excuses.

As usual all opinions are solely those of the author. Any comments, suggestions, complaints, screaming, yelling or free beer should be sent his way.

Now, I am asking nicely: Please come out Dec. 16-17-18 and donate blood. It's the right thing to do. (OK, here's the kicker: along with the free lunch, there will be give aways. Plus ... have you guys met the new coordinator??? ... ladies, sorry, all you get are Bob and me ... and Romy!!)

Stay Frosty.

# THE INSIDE BOX

RETIRED MEMBER'S CORNER, LOCAL 798

*This section is dedicated to all the retired members of Local 798, who worked many long hours to maintain and improve the working conditions and benefits enjoyed by all San Francisco Fire Fighters. Retirees' efforts established a solid framework of working conditions and benefits for active members to build upon.. Let us never forget . . .*



**5TH ALARM - 8TH STREET & HOOPER STREET  
STANDARD OIL CO. -SEPTEMBER 22, 1937 - 7:30PM**

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**MAY 20, 1938**

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**2ND ALARM - JUNE 25, 1938  
STANFORD HOSPITAL**

# O P E N F O R U M

*The MAIN LINE is the official publication of the San Francisco Fire Fighter's Local 798. Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of Local 798 or the San Francisco Fire Department. Members are welcome to submit Letters or Articles for publication; however, the Editorial Board reserves the right to review/edit any submitted materials.*

## **“THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATED SERVICE, AND WE WISH YOU GOOD LUCK ON YOUR FUTURE ENDEAVORS.”**

*By Steve Engler*

This was the closing line in a letter I received from the San Francisco Fire Department on September 30, 2008. It is a statement that summarizes the attitude the current administration has towards its senior employees in the SFFD.

As we are all well aware the last promotional exam for the rank of lieutenant in the SFFD expired in 1997. There have been many of us in the department, who have spent the last 12 years doing what we could, to be prepared for the testing process to resume. For many this includes taking classes and going out LW/LP on a seniority basis to be prepared for the promotional process. The assumption always made was that if we worked hard and did our job well we would be in a position, to be competitive for a job. The promotional process dragged on through the failed “Officer Candidate Program” under Chief Demmons, and then stalled out for many more years .

Chief Hayes-White took the helm of the Department and the members had hope that she would not only hold promotional testing, but that it would be a fair and transparent process. The Consent Decree had ended, and the days of a closed “testing” process where applicants did not have the opportunity to learn from their mistakes should have come to an end. Sadly, this could not be any farther from the truth. In the first wave of the testing process, more than half of the senior acting and LW/LP Lieutenants failed to continue to the second phase of testing. Sunshine requests to view exam sheets were denied. In the results of this second round of testing, once again the majority of the senior members of the Department were placed in the back half of the test. Most are out of contention for a job.

There appears to be a major malfunction with the newly adopted testing practices. This problem seems to be with the testing key, the vague “multiplier” where members lost over 35% of their points, the Union board

not participating in the testing process, and the administration's open admission, “We never thought it would turn out this way”. All are demoralizing and disgraceful. The greatest indicator of this testing process being a failure is that our senior, most knowledgeable, and best firefighters either did not go on to the second phase or are in the back pages of the test results. These are not only the training Lt's out of the Division of Training, but members with over 25 years spent in the busiest downtown companies, many who have been serving the Department as Captains.

It is my great hope that in future “tests”, the Chief will voluntarily allow candidates to view their tests and be given the ability to learn what they could have done better. Civil Service rules say candidates have no right to see their tests, but the Chief has the power to allow it. Otherwise, this is and will continue to be a selection process. Under the current systems we would be better off if names for promotional were thrown in a hat, and the administration picked who they wanted. This would save a great amount of time, effort, and disappointment by those not chosen.

For those few senior members who placed well on the list, I wish you luck and hope you continue to be a credit to both yourselves and the Department. To those members with little time and experience in the Department, new to being in the front seat, I pass on a few words from a recently retired member of Station 3, “Keep your mouth shut and your ears open. Press the siren, talk on the radio, and stay out of our way and we'll make you look like a hero today.”

I want to thank the Department for allowing me to pass on some of what I was taught by some truly great firefighters as a LW/LP and acting Lt. To all those senior members not chosen, good luck on your future endeavors.



# PEER FITNESS TRAINER

By Natalie Levchenko

During the week of October 13-17, 2008, 25 members of our Department attended the Peer Fitness Trainer course held at the Division of Training. The Peer Fitness Trainers, comprised of members of various ranks and backgrounds, endured intensive forty hour instruction on general health and fitness, fitness assessments and exercise programming.

Students included members of the Fitness Committee, Maurice Castain and Mariano Elias, as well as our own Union President, John Hanley.

This unique opportunity was provided by funds from the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant and the Department for a comprehensive Wellness Program. The class, given by the International Association of Firefighters in conjunction with the American Council on Exercise, provides the Peer Fitness Trainer certification.

The Peer Fitness Trainers gained knowledge in anatomy, kinesiology, exercise physiology, nutrition, exercise techniques, exercise psychology, wellness, exercise programming, professional responsibilities, task specific and fire service specific topics.

The PFT (Peer Fitness Trainer) encourages safety and participation in fitness through guidance and supervision of uniformed personnel exercise. The PFT Certification Program supports the IAFF/IAFC Wellness Fitness Initiative and the CPAT programs through an integrated, multi-level approach by providing current wellness and fitness information that addresses the specific needs of firefighters and emergency personnel through individual fitness assessment, individual program design, program implementation, and administration.

We were fortunate to have two outstanding instruc-

tors, Captain George Cruz, former Los Angeles County Fire Department Health and Fitness Coordinator and current Regional Peer Fitness Trainer Director, and Lieutenant Mike Cacciola, New York City Fire Department Director of Health and Fitness. These instructors have been instrumental in the development of the Wellness-Fitness Initiative and the Peer Fitness Trainer programs nationwide, as well as the implementation of the Initiative in their own departments. There's nothing like learning fire service-specific fitness than from another firefighter who really knows the job. Although a difficult and serious subject, fun was had by all!

The Peer Fitness Trainers will soon be available at the station and battalion levels to assist you in achieving your fitness goals. We want to thank all that applied and all the dedicated PFT's who worked so hard in the course. It is our hope that we can someday sponsor and host another PFT class. Although this particular class was uniquely comprised solely of our own members, our Department can potentially become the host site for other departments throughout the state or nation.

We're looking forward to the adoption of the IAFF/IAFC Wellness Fitness Initiative in our Department, and the chance to make a difference. Look for more updates soon! Be safe and be well!

For more information regarding the IAFF/IAFC Wellness-Fitness Initiative, visit AO reports (Health Link, Health Related Articles). For more information about Peer Fitness Trainers, visit the [iaff.org](http://iaff.org) website. Contact: Firefighter/Paramedic and Wellness Program Manager Natalie Levchenko at [Natalie.levchenko@sfgov.org](mailto:Natalie.levchenko@sfgov.org) or 558-3484.

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*Rollins*

*Continued from page 9*

tance between the rank and file and the administration. Such a distant and adversarial relationship benefits no one. This we all must understand.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the new chiefs, captains & conditionally appointed lieutenants who have received appointments. It's my hope that all of you will do your absolute best in your new roles as officers and strive to continue the long and time honored tradition of excellence that our predecessors have for many years. Many people who have never been out as officers before have humungous shoes to fill. I believe that all will accept this challenge head on but it still remains imperative that the administration realizes the importance of their role throughout this process. We will all play vital roles in this process and should endeavor to make our companies the best that they pos-

sibly can be to serve the citizens of this great city and county.

As our terms as union officials draw to a close, I would also like to thank the many members who have supported and volunteered their time to the Union. It is your combined efforts that have helped to keep our Union functioning on all cylinders. As many of us seek re-election, please let this also serve as a "call to action" across the board. Many hands make light work is an old adage that resounds true to this day.

Brothers and sisters, in the times to come, we will have many fights on our hands. It will certainly take the continued and combined efforts of all of us to maintain our strong position as a Union. Trust me when I say that a lot of work has gone into achieving that status and by no means should we allow that position to be compromised. With that said, please come out and support your Union.

Wishing you all health and prosperity.

# S P O R T S

## NEVADA POLICE & FIRE GAMES AND WESTERN STATES POLICE & FIRE GAMES WEIGHT LIFTING

**Nevada Police and Fire Games**  
**August 16, 2008**

Geary Horikiri - gold medal in push & pull lifting  
and a silver medal in the bench press.

**Western States Police and Fire Games**  
**Boise, Idaho - August 22nd**

Geary Horikiri - gold medal in push & pull lifting  
(seventh consecutive year)

Geary Horikiri is trying to get a team  
together to compete next year in the  
Western States Games (which will be held  
in Santa Clarita, CA.) and the Nevada  
Games. If any ones interested contact  
Geary Horikiri at (415) 290-4588.



### San Francisco Firefighters Toy Program Golf Raffle Prize Winners 10-27-08

Sam Nieto  
Michelle Lewis  
Paul Shimazaki  
John Choy  
Mike Kirtley  
John Piombo (2)  
Douglas Manguiat  
John Lopes  
Con Lucey  
Bill McFarland  
Phil Kelber

Tom Harvey  
Milton Jacobs  
Dave Thompson  
Brendan Ward  
Bill Storti  
Marty Storti  
Doug Manguiat  
Chris Emmons  
Danny Gracia  
John F. Manning  
Luke Michaelis

Rich Dalton  
John DiLuzio  
Art Kenney  
Pat Moran  
Jose Zalba  
Engine 20  
Travis Rail  
Nikki Griffey  
Pat Moran  
Uncle Greg (3)

Mike Orlando  
Grant Becker  
Paul Crawford  
Shon Buford  
Terry Fogarty (3)  
Dave Britt  
Tony Hampton  
Jim Wallace  
Marty Storti  
Mike Drake

# S P O R T S

## 1ST ANNUAL SFFD ALCATRAZ SWIM

By: Tom Abbott

The day was a classic San Francisco fall moment. The light gave the bay a special hue as the water called to the brave swimmers of the First Annual SFFD Alcatraz. Reluctant athletes feign bravado and marched in a proud procession to the Fireboat Phoenix. The excitement built as the field climbed onto the boat. With a strong throting of the engines, everybody realized this was it, I'm going to swim in from Alcatraz – they hoped. Some would accomplish this handily, others regretted not bringing a book to pass away the time more comfortably. Although the tides proved challenging, everybody did an incredible job in accomplishing their goal.

Our Union president, John Hanley, proved why we want him working for us, he never gives up. John was trying desperately to let Hank Scoble beat him but eventually swooped in with a time of 1:45:25. Scoble with no wet suit or fins ground out the course in 1:55:10, never once giving into the temptation of assistance. Retired Chief Jerry Cullen, age 72, with wingman Mel Patsel watching his six, predicted he would crush Hanley and tried to get John to bet him. The winner for fastest male, no aides was Doug Shoaf from Alameda Co DA's office with a winning time of 39:29. Our own Lisa Filiss (formerly Jensen) from Station 16 took first place female no aides with a winning time of 1:00:36. When accepting her award her beautiful baby boy was clutched in her arms born only six months earlier. It was a close call for

the interstation competition between Station 16 and Station 7. With the expert counting skills of Operator Kacie Cardinale it was clear Station 7 had carried the day with the team of Walt Villavicencio, Kacie Cardinale, George Karawanny, Steve Giacalone, and Doug Manguiat.

A great breakfast was cooked up by volunteers Joe Beam, St. 24, Sue DeMartini, AP, Micky Lavell, St. 10 and Tom Posey. It was truly an excellent day as all the swimmers relaxed and socialized at the South End Rowing Club enjoying their post race high. Much thanks to Rudy Erler for organizing our kayaker pilots keeping our swimmers safe. Our kayakers were made up of both current and retired members and it was great to see them all again. San Francisco Police Marine Unit provided great peace of mind coordinating vessel traffic around the event. Our honorary race marshal, former Chief of Department, Ed Phipps summed it up saying this is the greatest gathering of the best fire department, swimming in the most wonder place for a worthy cause. John Milestone of milstonegallery.com has prepared a hip video capturing the day's best moments. The video is available on YouTube under San Francisco Fire Fighters Alcatraz Swim. The swim raised \$ 1,500.00 for the San Francisco Firefighters Cancer Prevention Fund. With such a perfect day, we all look forward to next year's race.



Photos by John Milestone



# S P O R T S



Photos by John Milestone



## City College of San Francisco

### California State Marshal Course Offerings for fall & spring 2008/9

Location: Building 928 near SFO Airport-from North Access to Clearwater Drive (classroom #8)

SFM Course	Dates	Day of Week	CCSF course #	Course Location	Instructors
Prevention 1B	10/3, 10, 17, 24, 31/2008	Fridays	FSC 68B	SFO	Yballa
Command 1A	11/12, 19, 26/2008 & 12/3 & 10/2008	Wednesdays	FSC 88A	SFO	Jalbert
ICS 200	1/6, 7/2009	Tues/Wed	FSC 115•	SFO	Connors/Long
ICS 300	1/12, 13, 15/2009	Mon, Tues, Thurs	FSC 120**	SFO	Cardinale
Instructor 1B	1/14, 21, 28* & 2/4, 11/2009	Wednesdays	FSC 71B	SFO	Long
Command 1C	2/12, 19, 26 & 3/12, 19/2009	Thursdays	FSC 88C	SFO	Jalbert
Prevention 1A	3/27 & 4/3, 17, 24, & 5/1/2009	Fridays	FSC 68A	SFO	Yballa
Investigation 1A	4/20, 27, & 5/4, 11, 18/2009	Mondays	FSC 72	SFO	O'Leary

•ICS 200 – FSC 115 cost: \$12 + registration fees (\$36) includes CCSF certificate

\*\*ICS 300 – FSC 120 cost: \$36 + registration fees (\$46) includes SFM certificate

All courses are one-day per-week, except ICS classes.

Student material fees are \$85 – bring check to 1<sup>st</sup> class meeting

(Pays for student manual, certificate, and taxes, handling and shipping charged by the SFM Training)

Registration fees are (\$59) paid directly to Admissions & Records (<https://ocean.ccsf.cc.ca.us/Admissions.html>) (we do not accept checks for both material & registration fees)

Cost: \$144 note: \$128 if enrolled in more than one course during current semester

Further information call Bill Long or course instructor at: (650) 821-0211



# Ring of Fire Boxing Club

Sponsored by SFFD F.L.A.M.E.

Cordially Invite Your Club to Participate in a  
Night at the Fights at the  
Italian American Social Club of San  
Francisco

25 Russia Ave. at Mission St.  
Alcohol & Ring Card Girls

**Saturday, November 22, 2008**

Weigh-ins at 4-6 P.M.  
Doors open at 5 P.M.  
Bouts begin at 7 P.M.

For Matchmaking contact Robert Fernandez  
415-595-4200

**All Tickets \$20**



Event Sanctioned by USA Boxing  
All Fighters will receive awards

Bouts fill up quick, call boxers in early  
2 coaches per club and competing fighters  
only

NO EXCEPTIONS



A memorial fund to honor the memory of Firefighter Robert Soberanis, who passed away on August 7<sup>th</sup>, has been established for his daughter, Gina, at the San Francisco Fire Credit Union.

If you would like to make a donation, please indicate the following:

Airport Rescue Company #3

Gina Soberanis

Account #862890

Account Type S5.2

Donations can be sent to: San Francisco Fire Credit Union, 3201 California Street, San Francisco, CA, 94118. Donations can also be made by transferring funds via SFFCU online banking. Please indicate the above account number, account type, and use AIR as the first three letters of the last name.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.



## Here for Members in Times of Need

The current headlines regarding the economy can be overwhelming and certainly cause concern for everyone. In times like these, it's important to keep your finances in order. SF Fire Credit Union has services in place that can help you do just that.

### FREE Quarterly FICO Credit Scores

By signing up to receive your FICO Credit Score each quarter, you'll stay on top of your credit situation. Regularly monitoring your credit score allows you to estimate your borrowing capabilities as well as help identify possible identity theft.

### FREE and Confidential Financial Counseling

The BALANCE Financial Fitness Program offers no-cost money management counseling and debt management to members of SF Fire Credit Union. Meet with a certified counselor to create a workable spending and savings plan or to discover options for repaying debt by calling (888) 456-2227.

We would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that our strong financial position, ample cash reserves, limited losses and sound lending practices have kept SF Fire Credit Union secure - and your deposits safe - in these uncertain economic times. We consider it a privilege to serve firefighters and their families and thank you for making us your financial institution of choice.



SF Fire Credit Union  
3201 California Street, (888) 499-FIRE  
San Francisco, CA 94118 www.sffirecu.org

For more information on any of the programs listed above, contact the Credit Union at (888) 499-FIRE (3473) or www.sffirecu.org

# MOVED?

## Change of Address/Telephone Change of Beneficiary

If you have just moved or are about to move, have a new telephone number or change in beneficiary:

FILL OUT THIS FORM AND RETURN TO:

LOCAL 798  
1139 MISSION STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103  
ATTN: GAIL (415) 621-7103

or

E-mail: [Gail@sffdlocal798.org](mailto:Gail@sffdlocal798.org)  
with Subject: Change of Address

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
FORMER ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
NEW ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
BENEFICIARY: \_\_\_\_\_

**ULTIMATELY THIS HELPS YOU!**

# SUBMISSIONS:

**THE DEADLINE FOR  
SUBMISSION OF  
ARTICLES FOR THE  
MAIN LINE IS:**

**JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2009 / DEC. 20, 2008**

**MARCH - APRIL 2009 / FEB. 20, 2009**

**MAY - JUNE 2009 / APRIL 20, 2009**

# ATTENTION!!

**DO YOU HAVE FIRE PHOTOS?**

*Whether old or new,  
the Main Line is interested  
in publishing them in future issues.*

Please forward to the Union office:  
1139 Mission Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103

or contact

Stan Lee @ Station 7: 415-558-3207  
or by email: [sffd.mainline@gmail.com](mailto:sffd.mainline@gmail.com)

# **SAN FRANCISCO FIRE DEPARTMENT STRESS UNIT**



## **A COUNSELING SERVICE FOR EMPLOYEES**

A part of being human is to experience problems and conflicts. In most cases we are able to resolve them ourselves. Occasionally, however, we are confronted with problems that require professional assistance. Through the Employee Assistance Program we have immediate access to professionals who can help us.

## **WHOM DOES IT SERVE?**

The San Francisco Fire Department Stress Unit/EAP serves all employees of the San Francisco Fire Department and their families.

## **PEER COUNSELORS- KEN JONES • DOYLE MILLER**

The EAP/Stress Unit location is 501 Cesar Chavez, San Francisco.  
Peer Counselors are available 24 hours, seven days a week.

**Phone (415) 206-1419**

Leave your phone numbers and the counselors will be paged.

## **CONFIDENTIAL**

Personal requests for information or assistance are a matter solely between you and the counselor.

## **WHAT KIND OF PROBLEMS?**

The Employee Assistance program offers confidential and professional counseling on problems of concern such as:  
Marital / Family / Alcohol Abuse / Drug Abuse / Stress / Persistent Anxiety Financial or Legal / Other Psychological / Emotional Problems

## **VOLUNTARY**

At all times it is the choice of the employee to use the Employee Assistance Program. Use of the program is not recorded in the personnel file and does not affect the employee's standing on the job.

## ***ATTENTION RETIRED MEMBERS:***

**San Francisco Employees' Retirement System Phone Number Has Changed!**

The location has remained the same:

30 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 3000  
San Francisco, CA 94102

The General Information  
telephone number at this  
location has changed:

(415) 487-7050

(415) 487-7058

# Attention:

All Members Thinking of  
Retiring...

Contact Secretary Frank Kelly  
at the Union Office  
415-621-7103

## CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

INVESTING FOR RETIREMENT...  
SOUND OVERWHELMING?

DEFERRED COMPENSATION  
HELPS MAKE IT EASIER!!

The City and County of San Francisco and ING make retirement planning easier under the **City and County of San Francisco 457 Deferred Compensation Plan**. By contributing to the Plan, you can supplement your retirement and enjoy these benefits:



Meaghan Doherty  
Registered Representative  
Account Executive  
CA Insurance License 9091224

- ✓ your contributions (up to the Internal Revenue Code limits) are made by convenient payroll deduction to a group annuity designed for long-term investing for retirement purposes
- ✓ reduced current federal and state income taxes; your contributions and earnings are not taxed until you receive them
- ✓ personalized service including individual appointments, investment modeling and retirement illustrations
- ✓ diverse investment options that provide you with flexibility in managing your account
- ✓ distributions permitted upon retirement, separation from service, accounts under \$5,000 if certain conditions are met, death or incurring an unforeseen emergency
- ✓ access your individual account 24 hours a day through ING's website [www.ingretirementplans.com/custom/sanfran](http://www.ingretirementplans.com/custom/sanfran), or by calling ING Access at 1-800-584-6001

For more information, or to schedule an individual appointment, call your **ING Representative at 415-364-2017 or 1-888-822-1211**. Our local San Francisco Office is located at 1 Front Street (at Market Street) Suite 1425.

**You should consider the investment objectives, risks and charges and expenses of the variable product and its underlying fund options carefully before investing. Fund prospectuses and information booklets containing this and other information can be obtained by calling 1-888-822-1211. Please read carefully before investing.**

Insurance products issued by ING Life Insurance and Annuity Company. Securities offered through ING Financial Advisers, LLC (Member SIPC).



SFFD

# SF Fire Fighters Local 798 BLOOD DRIVE

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
December 16, 17 and 18 2008

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location: Irwin Center, 270 Masonic Ave

For more information contact:

Give the Gift of Life



Donate Blood

Annual

**James T. Ferguson**

Scholarship



Applications must be received by April 6, 2009

3 Scholarship of \$500.00 will be

Awarded to a Son or Daughter of an Active Local 798 Member

Eligibility: Graduating senior high school student who will be attending an accredited College or University in the U.S.  
Selection: By "Lottery", held at the annual May membership meeting.  
Application: Application forms may be obtained at the Union Office at 1139 Mission Street, San Francisco (415-621-7103), or below.

In addition to the application form, applicants must submit a brief essay (no more than 100 words) on why their parent belongs to a Union.

James T. Ferguson Scholarship Application

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

COLLEGE ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_



**Happy Holidays to the  
San Francisco Firefighters  
From Three Alarm Cellars**



**To find your perfect  
holiday gift,  
visit our website:  
[3alarmcellars.com](http://3alarmcellars.com)  
707-838-2353**

**All wine orders  
include shipping!**





# 1ST ANNUAL SAN FRANCISCO FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 798 BOCCE TOURNAMENT OCTOBER 7, 2008 @ MARIN BOCCE FEDERATION



*Photos by Nakia Kashima*



The **MAIN LINE** is the official publication of the San Francisco Fire Fighters Local 798. Affiliated with IAFF-CIO/CLC. It reflects the views and opinions of the Executive Board and the membership. We do not endorse or support any other publication. Nor do we endorse or support telemarketing as it pertains to the San Francisco Firefighters Local 798.

John Hanley  
President, Local 798

## San Francisco Fire Fighters **MAIN LINE**

1139 Mission Street  
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