

THE ALERTER

**OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
SEATTLE FIRE BUFF SOCIETY INC.
PROUDLY SPONSORED BY THE SFD
CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**



VOLUME# 55 ISSUE# 4	APRIL 2019
The April meeting will be held at FS 14 at 4 Ave S. & S. Horton St. on April 11th. The meeting will be called to order at 19:30	SOCIETY OFFICERS PRESIDENT BYRON HARDINGE: HARDINGCO@CABLESPEED.COM V.PRESIDENT JOHN ODEGARD: JOC093@MSN.COM SECRETARY MARC LORRAIN: M_LORRAIN@YAHOO.COM TREASURER STEPHEN FICKENSCHER: SKfick1@AOL.COM COMMUNICATIONS MIKE CLARK: mclk@centurylink.net

Minutes from the March meeting.

DUE'S ARE DUE THIS MONTH.

Meeting was held at station 25's.

Meeting called to order at 0740 hours.

We had no meeting in February due to snow, so there were no minutes to be read.

Meeting in March was not held due to the fact that we did not have a quorum.

President's report: John O. was in the Fire house magazine.

Vice-President's report: No report

Secretary's Report: Secretary has made up a sheet to keep track of the attendance of members.

Treasurer's Report: Stephen sent report of the balance that we have in the checking and savings.

Communication's Report: No report.

New Business: IFBA convention coming up.

Old Business: None

Guest attending meeting: David A. Ortiz, and Abel Pacheco

Mr. Pacheco is running for city council position and was at the meeting to see what the Fire Buffs were about. Talked a little about what he plans on doing when elected into office.

Meeting adjourned at: 2000.

REHAB RESPONSE LOG FOR MARCH

SDF RED		SHORELINE BLUE		N.SHORE GREEN		M.A. BROWN
Date	Time out	Dept	Address	Type	Responders	
3/01/19	1.25	SFD	1217 S. Donovan	Fibres	Buff-com,Sprt9	
3/01/19	2.00	SFD	13700 Aurora Ave	FIB	Buff-com,Sprt4 and 8	
3/02/19	1.00	SFD	4144 U. Way NE	FIB	Sprt8	
3/04/19	1.00	SFD	1019 Terry Ave	FIB	Buff-com, Sprt9	
3/06/19	2.00	SFD	808 Lakeside Ave S	FIB	Buff-com, Sprt4 and 9	
3/06/19	1.5	SFD	2601 W. Marina Pl	Marfires	Buff-com, Sprt9	
3/13/19	2.00	SFD	6009 19 Ave S.	Fibres 2	Buff-com, Sprt4 and 9	
3/15/19	3.5	Shoreline	17548 8 Av NW	Fibres 2	Buff-com, Sprt4	
3/18/19	3,0	SFD	110 14 Ave	FIB 2	Buff-com, Sprt4 and 9	
3/19/19	2.5	N. Shore	7241 NE 171 St.	Fibres	Supt4	
3/20/19	1.75	SFD	5403 44 Ave SW	Fibres	Buff-com, Sprt6 and 17	
3/30/30	2.25	SFD	705 23 Ave	Fibres	Buff-com, Sprt4 and 8	
3/31/19	2.25	SFD	2902 S. Judkins St	Fibres	Buff-com, Sprt4	

Ten years ago, this month

All Photos by: Bob Lukas

April 18, 2009 Members of the Seattle Fire Dept. Pipes and Drums at Station 31 Dedication



A Blast from the Past

April 24, 2014 Apparatus 321, aka. Hose 18 on he back ramp of SFD Station 18



April 2019

April 02, 2019 HAZ-MAT1 operating at a diesel fuel spill, South 2nd and Jackson





A LOOK BACK WITH MY LATE FRIEND DICK BYRD

I worked with Dick Byrd at Station 2 when I was on E2 and he was on L4. Dick passed away in 2018 but he will be remembered forever. Here are a couple of stories he passed on to me. Dick started his career on E15 and must have been a young fireman in February of 1963 when E15 responded to 2116 Westlake Ave, 1st due, to Westlake Chevrolet. The entire 2nd floor service and auto storage area was fully involved sending a huge column of black smoke into the sky. Dick said he and other members of E15 dragged a hose line up the ramp to the 2nd floor to attack the fire which turned out to be a fire in the service area as well as 28 fully involved autos. None of the crew had mask as they confronted this well involved fire. Dick said when they reached the top of the ramp it was black smoke and high heat. As they opened the line on the fire it suddenly turned into a huge fire ball bearing down on them. Dick said they all looked at each other dropped the line and ran down the ramp to safety. As they got to the bottom of the ramp there stood Chief Fitzgerald, Chief of the Department. Dick said they all came to a screeching halt bumping in to each other like the three stooges, at the feet of the Fire Chief. I said to Dick "what did you guys do next?". He said what do you think we did we ran back up the ramp to our hose to put the fire out. From what I have heard about Chief Fitzgerald he probably was right beside them.

Sometime in the late 60's or early 70's E15 had a response to the 520 bridge. E15 was running 1-5 and that means they had 4 on the tailboard. E15 was a High Echelon engine so they ran 1-5 except they had no aid car to staff, like E25 for instance, who detailed a man to the aid car each shift leaving 3 men on the back step. Anyway, an officer driver and 4 on the back step as they responded to the 520 bridge. It had been raining so the roads were slick. Suddenly, the driver lost control and the rig went into a spin. Dick was ridding as the hydrant man on the far-right side position. Dick said the spin was in slow motion as the members to the left of him were thrown off the rig one by one. He had time he said to hook an arm around a side bar and say to himself that in no way was he going to let go. As the rig spun, he watched members get thrown one by one followed by a good amount of fire hose and then Dick was thrown like he was a rag doll with no chance of holding on. He landed on a grass median and was uninjured. Other members weren't as lucky as they landed on the street. One of the 1st fireman who was thrown off went under the rig and the rig spun around him just missing him and leaving injured by the fall. All injuries were minor in nature leaving some lucky firemen to respond another day.

In the fire department to get full benefits you must have 25 years on the job and be 50 years old. The big joke is if you stay longer the guys will tell you that you are working for half pay.

One-night E2 and L4 responded, on a freezing night, to the carpet warehouse fire in the south end. This fire went to a 3rd alarm and was a real mess. L4 was on the roof opening it up. After cutting the roof they stepped back and watched 30' flames boiling out of the cut. The Captain from L4 looked at Dick and said, "you know Birdie you are working for half pay don't you?" Dick said he thought about it and said your right, and that was his last shift as he retired the next day.

Dick Byrd was a real gentleman and will be missed by all that knew him.

Mike Heaton E25 retired.

A LOOK THROUGH THE LENS BY JOHN ODEGARD

University Way NE & NE 43rd St.



23 Ave & E. Cherry St.



23 Ave & E. Cherry St.

