James Scott Barnard and Nathaniel Ford Honored by IAFF for Line of Duty Deaths

FROM A LETTER TO PAUL ATWATER BY HAROLD A. SHAITBERGER, PRESIDENT, IAFF

Dear President Atwater,

On behalf of the 275,000 officers and members of the International Association of Fire Fighters, I send you our sincere condolences over the loss of James Scott Barnard and Nathaniel Ford of IAFF Local 27, who died in the line of duty.

In a long-standing IAFF tradition, your members will be honored at a solemn ceremony at the IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial grounds in Colorado.

To further detail the events at our Memorial, we have produced a video presentation that is included with this letter in DVD format (available for viewing at Local 27). I am sure that you will appreciate the honor that we have bestowed upon your local union. This information has also been sent to the families of your fallen members.

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I want to formally invite you and your members to attend the 20th Annual IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial Observance Ceremony on September 16, 2006. I want to formally invite you and your members to attend the 20th Annual IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial Observance Ceremony on September 16, 2006.

Local 27 Board Elections

Nominations opened at the July Regular Business Meeting for positions on the Local 27 Executive Board. Up for reelection are: 1 Director (currently held by Dale Watanabe and Steve Borgstrom), 1 Treasurer (currently held by Ben Mellon), 2 Welfare Trustee positions (currently held by Mick Fish and Jeff Milton), and 1 Second Vice President (currently held by Ryan Ellis).

Nominations close at the August Regular Business Meeting. Ballots will then be mailed to all members homes, with the election commencing in September.

If you have ever thought about running for Local 27 office, now is the time. Fill out a nomination form and return it to Local 27 today!
Unions must change tactics and not pledge blind allegiance to Democrats

By Harold Schaitberger

Support for Republicans

Michigan’s U.S. Reps. Joe Schwarz, Fred Upton, Dave Camp, Mike Rogers and Candice Miller have provided crucial backing for fire fighters by supporting increased funding for essential services to protect our homeland and measures to improve retirement and health benefits for professional fire fighters. We won’t abandon lawmakers or other incumbent GOP members who help fire fighters and paramedics.

We are also giving unwavering support to Gov. Jennifer Granholm and U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, Democrats who believe strongly in protecting our homeland and who have backed that up with action to help Michigan’s fire fighters. We count U.S. Reps. John Conyers and John Dingell among our supporters, too. If Democrats make big gains in the midterm elections and take back the House, both men will hold key chairmanships.


But the strategy of organized labor in elections often is limited to attempting to kick the butts of Republican candidates. Our union doesn’t adhere to that approach. It is unwise and shortsighted.

The International Association of Fire Fighters makes its value judgments based on a candidate’s support for our issues. And that leads us to support incumbent Republicans, even when that support puts us at odds with other unions.

Union wears bipartisan boot

Don’t get me wrong: We also are prepared to kick butts, but we wear a bipartisan boot. We work with Republicans and Democrats sympathetic to working-class Americans whose health care and energy costs are rising, and whose confidence in the economy and nation weakens every time an employer like Delphi Corp. tries to jettison good-paying jobs or a city like Detroit or Pontiac moves to layoff fire fighters and close stations because of budget problems.

Labor can’t be an ATM machine for either party. It hasn’t helped us to support only Democrats, who told us to sit in the corner and shut up while they pushed the North American Free Trade Agreement through Congress under President Bill Clinton. Labor shouldn’t bankroll the 15 Democrats who provided the key votes to approve the Central American Free Trade Agreement last year. Unions must expect more in return.

Unions must do what its members do in every single election: Make judgments about a candidate as an individual. We must reward those who support us on key votes and specific issues. Unions can’t continue to give, while receiving nothing in return.

Personally, I’m a Democrat. But my personal agenda must stay home when I make decisions that affect my members. Blind allegiance never works.

NOTICE

All members that worked at the 4-11 pier fire. Incident #64109 @ 1801 Fairview Avenue East.

1. Ensure that you are on the Department’s CAD record. - Contact your chain of command if you are not listed
2. Fill out a Form 407 exposure report
3. Fill out a Form 78 precautionary

We are waiting on a report from the EPA on a detailed analysis of the contaminants in the products of combustion but we do know the smoke is toxic. Be sure to follow the Department’s recommendations when they come out.
BY THERESA PURTELL
7TH DISTRICT WSCFF REPRESENTATIVE
The 67th WSCFF Annual Convention was held in Vancouver, WA, June 27 - 29. The Delegation representing Local 27 in attendance was Paul Atwater, Dallas Baker, Paul Cobb, Paul Atwater, Dyan Ellis, Chris Gilbert, Kris Holien, Dennis Karl, Ken Stuart, Tim O’Mahoney, Jon Goins, and myself. Convention is where we formulate policy for WSCFF by amending the constitution and by-laws and pass resolutions. The resolutions are discussed in committees before they are either recommended to pass or reject. They then go to the Convention floor where they are voted on by delegates in attendance. There were 33 resolutions that were brought forth for discussion. Resolution 06-01 was passed. This resolution increased the per capita from $10.80 to $13.02. Local 27 pays Per capita on 300 members. This is paid out of the union dues currently collected. The per capita dues are $46,000 to $135,000 annually. The amount of dues currently paid by Local 27 was a member of the Phi-Delta-Theta fraternity. He graduated in 1949 and began a 17-year career with IBM, which was interrupted when he was called back into the service as a Marine Captain during the Korean War. His most daring business move was leaving IBM in 1966 for a tiny manufacturer of a new, portable medical device that would revolutionize emergency medicine and save hundreds of thousands of lives – the first battery powered defibrillator/monitor. From a nearly bankrupt operation, Honeywell Medical Inc. and later Helmet Computers, Inc., Simpson guided his company, Physio-Control, into a world leader in defibrillators and other heart-monitoring equipment. Elly Lilly bought the company in 1980 for $149 million, but kept Simpson at the helm. It was named one of the 100 best companies to work for in America in 1985, the same year he retired.”

From the March 2006 issue of Columns, the University of Washington Alumni magazine: with permission of Editor Tom Griffin.

Sometimes circumstance, time, opportunity, and the presence of just the right combination of unique individuals coincide in a serendipitous manner. The Medic program of Seattle Fire Department might be viewed through the lenses of serendipity.

The Chief of the Seattle Fire Department at that time (1968) was Gordon Vickery. Harborview hospital had on its staff as Director of Cardiology, Dr. Leonard Cobb. The third member of the triad, though not directly involved, was W. Hunter Simpson. In 1967, Dr. Cobb read an article about a new protocol in treating heart attack victims. A mobile intensive care unit had been placed in service in Belfast, Ireland. Staffed by physicians and nurses, and using a converted ambulance, the new system aimed at treating patients at the scene of their collapse rather than waiting for the victims to be transported to the hospital for treatment.

This system of treating heart attack victims in a more timely fashion galvanized Dr. Cobb to seek a way to implement a similar system in Seattle. With the cooperation and encouragement of Fire Chief Gordon Vickery, and utilizing the Seattle Fire Department’s EMT’s as a foundation, Dr. Cobb and Chief Vickery designed the precursor to our current Medic One program. Fire Chief Gordon Vickery saw the benefit to both the city and the fire service of this new addition to emergency medicine and helped make the dream of emergency advanced life support a reality.

W. Hunter Simpson’s contribution to this effort lay in applying his thorough knowledge of treatment of heart attack victims. The cooperation and encouragement of Fire Chief Gordon Vickery, and utilizing the Seattle Fire Department’s EMT’s as a foundation, Dr. Cobb and Chief Vickery designed the precursor to our current Medic One program. Dr. Copass, head of Harborview’s Emergency Department, has kept an iron grip and a keen eye on each and every facet of our ALS program and our protocols. Over the years, treatment protocols have changed as new drugs have become available and as new studies were undertaken to try to determine the very best methods to resuscitate heart attack victims. We are currently in another And the only magic involved was in the serendipitous meeting of Dr. Cobb, Fire Chief Gordon Vickery and coincidental development of the defibrillator by W. Hunter Simpson that combined to birth the best known working model for the treatment of heat attack victims.

The W. Hunter Simpson, UW graduate & local business leader, would be proud that his defibrillator, in the hands of the home-town department, has become the model everyone uses to judge success.
2006 Pioneer Square Fire Festival...
...and Combat Challenge Glory

BY JAMES HILLIARD
BATTALION 4/C SHIFT

The story of the 2006 Pioneer Square Fire Festival and Fire Fighter Combat Challenge is the stuff of legends. Time and space constraints permit only a brief summary here. In days ahead, and if the members on the roster below can give you their personal account of this truly epic tale.

More than 100 competitors convened on Pioneer Square on Saturday, July 8 from all corners of the U.S. and Canada to compete in an all-out battle for Combat Challenge Glory. The 2-time World Challenge Relay Champions from Team Seattle of California headlined the roster of visiting teams. Local teams from Vancouver, WA, Central Pierce, South Kitsap, Port of Seattle, and a 37-member host team from Station 14 converged.

Throughout the Festival and Combat Challenge, those in attendance enjoyed a healthy serving of The Fellowship, which was in full effect from Friday's opening ceremony until last call at McCoy's late Saturday night. The fire service camaraderie that ruled the day was the highest I have witnessed in Seattle. It was the most powerfully moving display of The Fellowship (not involving a memorial service) that I have experienced in my 13-year career with SFD. It has given me a new optimism about the future of this organization.

Team Seattle has exceeded everyone's expectations and has proven the accolades continue to pour in. My phone continues to ring from visiting athletes, event sponsors, and spectators calling in praises for a job well done by Team Seattle; a group of 37 SFD athletes who came together 3 months ago to prepare for these games. These athletes logged hundreds of hours at Station 14's Combat HQ (Thank you Captain Simpson!) putting in the extra hours to get themselves through the paces in a combat crash course so that the hosting Team Seattle could have a respectable showing in our 1st ever Combat Challenge.

As the hosting Fire Department, we were an inspiration to the International Combat Challenge Community, offering up an unprecedented 37 enthusiastic participants. Our performance was solid. We earned 12 spots in the World Challenge scheduled for Henderson Nevada later this year. 5 of our Relay Teams also qualified to compete at the World Challenge Relay. We were honored as Best New Team with a trophy which is currently on display at headquarters' lobby next to the Stairclimb trophy. We posted 3 of the 5 fastest times of the day in the Over 40 category with Mike Milner taking home a 2nd place medal. Our performance in the Over 40 category with Mike Milner taking home a 2nd place medal.

In the aftermath, I continue to receive messages of thanks to Team Seattle for their heroism and their contribution to the Fire Festival. Organizers are looking for sponsors, and spectators calling in praises for a job well done. To everyone involved now for the 2007 season, contact james.hilliard@sfd.org or schedule yourself into aestructure for Combat Challenge or the Firefighter Combat Challenge Team. This is clearly our leadership is being noticed on an international level. Each of these 37 has contributed to the success of this team. Each of them is owed a debt of gratitude for the work they've done on your behalf. Each one of them has an incredible story to tell. When you see these members, please make time to thank them for their efforts and hear their epic tales of Combat Challenge Glory.

In addition to our international repu-tations, we want to promote fire-fitness as a component of the sport, to build camaraderie and esprit de corps, and to have lots of fun. Workouts will continue throughout the year. If you are finding that you are not in the fire-fitness condition that you once were, you can use this as an excuse to get back in training. Put the Combat Challenge or the Firefighter Combat Stairclimb on your calendar. You will be amazed at how easy it is to schedule yourself into a structured fitness routine when you have one or both of these events looming in your future. Before you know it, you will be in tip top shape and feeling much better about yourself and your contribution to the Fire Department.

For complete race results, go to firefighter-challenge.com/race2b.htm. For additional race photos, go to nweventphotography.com. Special thanks to all Volunteers who helped make this event so successful.
SAFETY BREAK
Just Look Up!

BY TERRY TAYLOR
LADDER 12/C SHIFT

Hydro-Holiday greetings to all my heartily summered and well hy-

drated readers. Have you been looking up at all the Seafair aerial en-
tertainment? Then you may have noticed an oft overlooked dimension
of Emergency vehicle safety, overhead clearance. The Revised Code of
Washington & the Seattle Municipal Code limit vehicle height, width &
length (1). They also mandate that all overhead obstructions which ex-
tend below 14 feet from curb to curb have signage posted that will alert
oncoming drivers of the obstruction/hazard.

Touring our inspection areas or doing area pre-fires during the sum-
mer months, we notice the unchecked encroachment of green growth from roadside
shrubs, trees and bushes. When the ‘hazard’ extends over the roadway
below 14’ from curb to curb it may obstruct your travel and make it more
difficult for you to safely pass. The rear of our aerial ladder trucks, some
will sit below ground level.

And yes, that means you are lawfully provided with an imaginary tun-
nel fourteen feet in height from ‘curb to curb’. And the ‘tree’ police need
help in identifying where these green camouflaged lawbreakers are located.
Vegetation on private property can be addressed by ‘Planning & Develop-
ment’. And you can make the difference. By calling the numbers listed
below you can reestablish proper horticultural order and prevent the illegal
and unauthorized damage to the top and side of your apparatus.

SEATRAN DISPATCH* 206-386-1218
SEATRAN FAX 206-233-5017
City Landscaping Supervisor 206-684-7421
Planning & Development 206-684-7899
Planning & Development -Permits 206-684-8850
“SEATRAN Dispatch is the Initial Contact”

When calling these numbers it is necessary to have an address or
specific location of the alleged lawbreaker and a brief description to help
them sort out the evidence, especially when a hydrant or street sign is the
‘victim’. A log book kept in the cab, for recording addresses and circum-
stances, along with the above phone numbers will facilitate orderly iden-
tification and confirmation that the green menace has been neutralized.

So, help tame the unchecked encroachment of all that is green and
keep the pathways to our customers free from horticultural hazards!!

...it appears that L&I now requires the Fire Department to begin granting our LEOFF 1 members
dependent care leave as a result of the Family Care Act.

Dependent Care for LEOFF1?

BY DALLAS BAKER
DIRECTOR

Local 27 has good news for LEOFF 1 members. After reviewing the most recent amendment to the draft from the Department of Labor
and Industries, it appears that L & I now requires the Fire Department to begin granting our LEOFF 1 members dependent care leave as a result of
the Family Care Act.

We are not alone in our understanding, in fact in December of 2004
Mary Miller, from the Employment Standards Office of L & I, in a written
response to the Bellevue city attorney’s office for clarification regarding
LEOFF 1 dependent care stated that, “In so far as LEOFF 1 benefits act
as a sick leave benefit prior to the administration of the actual disability
retirement benefits, individuals must be allowed to use that paid leave
benefit to care for sick family members specified under the Family Care
Rules, WAC 296-130.”

When one reviews the relevant documents regarding dependent care
benefits it becomes evident that all workers in the State of Washington,
including LEOFF 1 members, are entitled to this benefit.

For instance, the administrative policy includes the following infor-
mation:

“When must an employer allow an employee access to their sick
leave or other paid leave to care for a sick family member?”

If an employee already has access to paid leave, i.e., leave, vacation or
holiday leave, for their own illness, under the new rules he or she must also
have access to the same paid leave to care for a sick family member.”

Also, RCW 49.12.270 reads, “(1) If, under the terms of a collective bargain-
ing agreement or employer policy applicable to an employee, the employee
is entitled to sick leave or other paid time off, then an employer shall allow an em-
ployee to use any or all of the employee’s choice of sick leave or other paid time
off to care for: (a) A child of the employee; or (b) a spouse, parent, parent-in-law, or grandparent of the employee who has a serious
health condition or an emergency condition.”

WAC 296-130 is also as clear stating, “(1) If, under the terms of a collec-
tive bargaining agreement or employer policy applicable to an
employee, the employee is entitled to sick leave or other paid time off, then
an employer shall allow an employee access to any or all of the employee’s choice of sick leave or other paid time off to care for:

(a) A child of the employee with a health condition that requires treatment or supervision; or (b) a spouse, parent, parent-in-law, or grandparent of the employee who has a serious health condition or an emergency condition.”

Political Action Committee

BY RYAN ELLIS
PAC CHAIR/2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Fall elections are approaching rapidly. We have nu-
merous state representatives and senators that are up
dfor election in November and we have our one Se-
atte City Council Position 9 that is held by appointee
Sally Clark as well. So what are we to do regarding all
these races? Your PAC will be weighing the merits of
these candidates qualifications over the next few
months and make an informed decision on which
direction we should be taking Local 27 this fall.

So, help us to check the encroachment of all that is green and
keep the pathways to our customers free from horticultural hazards!!

MDA Fill the Boot
August 17th, B-shift

Volunteers needed
Beat last year’s state record of $59,000.
Interested members please contact Enna Queen,
E22/B (206) 852-4809.

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Calling All Volunteers

BY BARB MOBERG

If you’re looking for work that is satisfying, challenging, you like to travel, and you feel like volunteer- ing then I have the perfect job for you. Last February, I traveled with my church to Biloxi, Mississippi, to help in the rebuilding efforts in the area. We took 25 people down, and by the time we finished our 2 week stay, we had worked on 7 homes. There is plenty of work for the next 10-15 years, and there is a job for everyone.

I was stunned to see all the destruction on TV, they tell you that they are making progress. But just looking at the areas we were at, I am not sure that is really true. Some of the homes have been torn down, some of the streets have been cleaned up, there are a few of the FEMA trailers in the area, but for the most part, the area looks like a bomb went off. Nothing has really changed since the hurricane went through.

Many of the people displaced have not returned. There is still debris high in the trees that are still standing - evidence of a 30 ft. wave that went some six and half miles inland destroying everything in it’s path. The beaches are full of debris, the 70 miles of coast line is gone. Nothing left except parts of towns, slabs where homes once stood, twisted metal, bridges in sections and the gambling casinos either gone or picked up and moved miles inland. Words truly do not describe what you see.

There is an effort to rebuild, and most of the work is being done by volunteers across the country. There is an effort to rebuild, and the gambling casinos either gone or picked up and moved miles inland. Words truly do not describe what you see.

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Summer Fun With MDA Fill The Boot

BY ERINA QUEEN

ENGINE 22/B

Calling all volunteers…

The big day is right approaching; mark your calendars now for Thursday, August 17th (B shift work, D shift off going). Make it a family and friend volunteer day and let’s make this year our best yet!! Last year was a huge success, raising almost $60,000 with 150 volunteers. This year we are striving for $100,000 and 200 volunteers; the more volunteers, the more money, the more fun!!!

Our fundraising efforts help to ensure MDA clients in our local community receive life-enhancing and life-saving services, as well as benefit from advances in neuromuscular research.

So far this summer we have already had some success, $2,200 was raised at the Seattle Storm game thanks to: Jen Bessler E38 and family, Christina Dixon E25 and family, Kristine Gill E16, Dennis Karl L5, Linda Lorenzen B3, Tamalyn Nigretto BCS and family, Theresa Purcell E26, Erina Queen Engine 22/B and family, Theresa Purcell E26 and family, and Tamalyn Nigretto E26.

Please mark your calendars for Thursday, August 17th. If you can’t make the 17th or want to get more involved remember to check the list of upcoming MDA summer events for your time and place. If you would like to volunteer, please call our office 206.852.4809 to reserve your slice of summer fun with MDA Fill The Boot, 206-852-4809 erinaqueen@comcast.net.

SPOTLIGHT

Calling All Volunteers

BY BARB MOBERG

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Classifieds

WANT TO SELL: Kool Stride Double Jogging Stroller. Side by side reclining seats, 5 point harness, canopy, 16” front wheel, 20” back wheels, holds up to 100lbs. In great condition. $150. Contact Robin Nordberg at E40/C or 425-254-0216.

Calendar of Events

August 10: Regular Union Business Meeting. 9 AM at Local 27 Office. C shift.

August 17: MDA Fill The Boot. Call Local 27 to find out where volunteers are needed.

August 27: Station Rep Meeting. 9 AM at Local 27 Office. D shift.