



# FIRELINE

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WASHINGTON FIRE COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

SECOND QUARTER 2016

## 68th Annual WFCA Conference

The WFCA's 68th Annual Conference will be held at the Yakima Convention Center beginning Thursday, October 27, 2016. Conference will conclude on Saturday, October 29, at 12:00 p.m. For a *general* schedule of conference events, please log onto [www.wfca.wa.gov](http://www.wfca.wa.gov) (select *WFCA Programs* under the *Education* tab to view the *Annual Conference* section).

Lodging is available at the Red Lion Hotel Yakima Center by calling toll-free 800.RED.LION (733.5466) or direct 509.248.5900. Rooms are also available at the Howard Johnson Hotel (telephone 509.452.6511). When making reservations, be sure to mention you are with the WFCA in order to get the group rate; the reservations deadline is October 1.

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*If you have questions regarding conference  
please contact the WFCA office.*

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The following is preliminary information regarding conference; specific class descriptions, speakers and other program details will be outlined in the registration brochure which will be distributed to members in mid-August.

### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26 (PRE-CONFERENCE)

The WFCA Board meeting will begin at 9 a.m. and the WFCA Legal Committee meeting will commence at 1:30 in the afternoon. The Yakima County Fire Commissioners will host a *Welcome to Conference Hospitality Suite* in the late afternoon and the **Snure Laws Update Seminar** will begin at 6:30 p.m.

### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27

The conference will officially kick off with a breakfast sponsored by Emergency Services Insurance Program, Rice Fergus Miller and D. A. Davidson & Company. Please join these sponsors for good conversation and good food!

The Opening Ceremonies, featuring speakers and the memorial service, will commence at 10 a.m. Please contact the WFCA office if you know of a commissioner, chief or secretary who has passed away so that they may be recognized during the service.

*See Conference on Page Three*

## Best Practices

Has your district/RFA implemented a new policy, procedure or technique that saves time, money or resources? Improves safety? Promotes public awareness? Or has your district/RFA done something else that you consider a "best practice" that you would like to share with other departments? Then the association has just the place for you to do so...in its new "Best Practices" feature on the WFCA website, intended to highlight examples of best practices that can be shared for the benefit of other departments. Please submit your best practices to [norae@wfca.wa.gov](mailto:norae@wfca.wa.gov). Thank you!

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## A Message from the President by David Ellingson



As we complete the second quarter of 2016, I continue to be amazed at the exceptional organization we are a part of. Every aspect of the organization is postured for greatness and willingness to excel.

It's precisely this dedication to ongoing innovation and collaboration that unites us as commissioners and makes me so proud to be a part of our WFCWA community. Here are a few highlights:

**WFCWA Healthcare** – We have the best healthcare program anywhere in the state and it is managed through the expertise of Jim Lux and the WFCWA Health Care Committee. No other program has the track record of success that ours has demonstrated for the past several years. Carefully managing all aspects of this program has allowed us to freeze premiums as well as offering premium holidays as funding permits. What other healthcare program is doing this and offering its members top quality plans at competitive prices?

And I continue to receive positive feedback on our new prescription drug program, MaxorPlus. Continuous improvement and attention to details, with our customers always in focus, are hallmarks of this benchmark program.

I would like to talk with as many of you as possible about how we will work together to achieve our mission to better serve our communities...

**WFCWA Strategic Plan** – At the last Board meeting, the WFCWA Strategic Plan was approved. For most of you, this plan may not be very interesting; however, the primary purpose of strategic plans is to clearly articulate the mission and vision of the organization and map a strategy for the future. That is where the real value

comes in. It is very easy to get distracted from our mission and divert resources to seemingly good causes, but if they do not align with our organization goals and objectives, it is best to just say no. Everything we do as an organization should be connected to our strategic plan and in so doing, we will focus on what is really important and ensure our time and resources are invested in the right things.

**State Audits** – We have seen some positive results here. Roger Ferris and our legislative team, while working to find ways to reduce district costs associated with required state audits, were pleasantly surprised to see that the auditor is reducing mileage fees by 50% and will provide an itemized audit billing record. Sometimes we do not need to pass legislation to get positive results.

**Labor & Industries** – We continue partnering with the Washington Fire Chiefs and L&I to explore ways to make the L&I system work better for all of us and reduce program costs. L&I has agreed to make estimates of subsequent year rates available early

*See Message on Page Three*

## Wage & Benefit Survey

The 2016 WFCWA Wage and Benefit Survey results are now available through the association office. Nearly 80 fire districts and RFAs participated in this year's program, which provides comprehensive wage and benefit data for paid and volunteer employees. In even-numbered years, the WFCWA updates wage and budget information *only*; in odd-numbered years, all data is updated.

Complimentary electronic copies of the survey results have been provided to all entities that participated in this year's program. If you have questions regarding the wage and benefit survey, please contact the WFCWA office at 800.491.9322 or email [wfca@wfca.wa.gov](mailto:wfca@wfca.wa.gov).

### ON THE WEB

The WFCWA Board of Directors will meet on Saturday, July 9, 2016, 12:30 p.m., at the state association office in Olympia. All members are welcome to attend. To view more upcoming events, visit the *Calendar of Events* page on the WFCWA website at [www.wfca.wa.gov](http://www.wfca.wa.gov).

## BOARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Nominations for officers and even-numbered region directors are being accepted for the 2017 Board. If you wish to be considered by the Nominating Committee, please submit your name to the WFCOA office by August 9. Nominations received after this date may be made on the floor at the conference business meeting.

For more information on Board service, please refer to the bylaws on the WFCOA website or contact the association office at 800.491.9322 or [wfca@wfca.wa.gov](mailto:wfca@wfca.wa.gov).

### Conference From Page One

Following the Suppliers' Luncheon (included in the registration fee) classes will be held.

The day will conclude with Hospitality Suites sponsored by a number of Associate Members.

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

Classes will be held in the morning and attendees will be free for lunch. At 1:30 p.m. the Business Meeting will commence, with elections scheduled from 2:00-2:30 p.m. If you are interested in running for an officer or even-numbered regional director position, please submit your name by August 9 to the Nominating Committee (c/o the WFCOA office).

The Eye-to-Eye Exposition, featuring a number of state and other agency representatives who work directly with the fire service, will run concurrently with the Business Meeting.

The awards banquet will begin at 6:30 p.m. (no-host social hour at 6:00) during which the following presentations will be made:

**Commissioner Service Recognition.** Fire commissioners who have completed 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50 years of service to their districts/RFAs are awarded a special commemorative pin honoring their years of dedication as commissioners. NOTE: This program is designed to recognize commissioner service *only*—time served in other capacities within the district/RFA does not apply. Contact the WFCOA for application.

**Management Excellence Awards.** This is a great opportunity to highlight your district's/RFA's innovative and progressive programs and services, so be sure to participate—you could win a trophy! MEA questionnaires were mailed in May and the deadline to return the completed entries is September 1.

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

The 2017 Board Installation Breakfast will begin at 8 a.m. At 9 a.m. a general session will be held, which will conclude at 12 noon.

Look for complete conference details, including class outlines and other events, in mid-August. In the meantime, if you have any questions regarding conference, please contact the WFCOA office at 800.491.9322 or email [wfca@wfca.wa.gov](mailto:wfca@wfca.wa.gov). See you in October!

## Message From Page Two

L&I funded a pamphlet entitled "Fire Service Safety Plan" that provides an effective overview of the WAC 296-305 fire safety requirements. There are tips and monthly training calendars to help you design a first class safety program within your district. These pamphlets are available from the Washington Fire Chiefs (call 360.352.0161 or email [wfc@washingtonfirechiefs.org](mailto:wfc@washingtonfirechiefs.org)).

**Give Us Your Best Shot** – Nora Eyllenfeldt is creating a new library on the WFCOA website to list best practices from districts all over the state. Each of us has found new or improved ways of doing business that could be a valuable resource for other districts. By sharing our best practices, districts will be able to browse ideas that have worked well and perhaps apply them to improve their own business practice. By sharing great ideas, we make everyone better and the fire service as a whole benefits. So let's hear it from you. Send your summaries of your best practices to Nora in the WFCOA office at [norae@wfca.wa.gov](mailto:norae@wfca.wa.gov).

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve you as the WFCOA President and it is an even greater privilege to do so with the leadership of our WFCOA Board, our volunteers serving in committees across the state, WFCOA Executive Secretary Roger Ferris and the WFCOA staff. Because of our collective efforts, our membership has grown, our outreach has multiplied and service to our member districts has improved.

We must always remember, however, the presidency or board position of WFCOA must never be about the person who is in any of these positions—it is, however, about us serving our organization to the best of our abilities and inspiring all of us to fulfill its mission.

During this year, I would like very much to meet and talk with as many of you as possible about how we will work together to achieve our mission to better serve our communities and to apply best practices to improve our individual and collective effectiveness. Together, we can set our sights on an even brighter future for WFCOA.

## State Fire Training Academy Launches Basic Firefighter Regional Academy

*The following was provided by the State Fire Marshal's Office*



On March 12 and 13, twenty-nine recruits from Grays Harbor and Pacific Counties participated in live-fire and search and rescue training at the Washington State Fire Training Academy in North Bend.

The recruits were part of a new regional delivery program that was developed and coordinated by the Fire Training Academy, delivering Firefighter 1 and Hazardous Materials Operations training at the local level. Upon completion of the training, the recruits were scheduled to be tested to International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) standards.

The Grays Harbor Basic Firefighter Regional Training graduation was held May 8 and the Pacific County Basic Firefighter Regional Training graduation was held June 2, 2016.

## Ads

**FOR SALE by Skagit 6:** Surplus 1988 Seagrave Pumper, Pump Test Certified 11/15. "As is". Min bid \$6,000 US OBO. For info, call Chief Paul Wagner @ 360.757.2891. View vehicle/send bids to: 16220 Peterson Rd, Burlington, WA 98233. Sealed bids will be collected until 12 pm, 7/12/16. Bids must 1) be delivered/mailed to Dist at above address, ATTN: Chief Paul Wagner; 2) be received in sealed envelope marked "1988 Pumper Bid Enclosed"; 3) be sent by certified mail; 4) clearly identify bid amount; 5) clearly identify department, org, person submitting bid; 6) contain name, title/position, mlg address & contact phone #. Bidding open to all agencies/members of public. Dist reserves right to reject any/all bids. 1) Pumper awarded to highest bidder. 2) After verification of the following info: a) Min bid amt of \$6,000 US OBO; b) Proof of avail funds. Pmt accepted in form of cash or cashier's check, payable to district w/i 24 hrs of bid opening; vehicle to be removed w/i 24 hrs of receipt of payment.



### 2016 WASHINGTON STATE FIRE SERVICE DIRECTORY UPDATE

*The following are changes submitted to the WFCA February 18 - May 26, 2016*

#### ADAMS COUNTY

Fire District 1

District mailing address: c/o John Kragt, Secretary, 108 N Adams St, Ritzville 99169, (509)659-0425  
New commissioner replacing Jacob Carl Harder: Matt Kubik, 2197 E Heinemann, Ritzville 99169, (509)660-1471, 4kubiks@gmail.com

#### BENTON COUNTY

Kennewick Fire Department

Mailing address: PO Box 6108, Kennewick 99336  
Telephone: (509)585-4452 Fax: (509)585-2239  
New administrative assistant replacing Stacy Jackson: Julie Passey, julie.passey@ci.kennewick.wa.us

#### CLARK COUNTY

Fire District 11

Add Fire Chief John Nohr, 911 N 65th Ave, Ridgefield 98642, (360)887-4609, john.nohr@clarkfr.org

#### GRANT COUNTY

Fire District 7

Annexed the City of Soap Lake

#### GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

Fire District 16

New commissioner, Position 2: Jodi Hartle, PO Box 730, Copalis Crossing 98536, (360) 589-1184, ghfd16firechief@coastaccess.com  
New commissioner, Position 3: Larry Butler, PO Box 730, Copalis Crossing 98536, (360)593-3758, pitchwoodpyro@gmail.com  
New email address for Commissioner Caroline Perry: sidandcaroine@gmail.com

*Continued on Page Five*

**Continued From Page Four****JEFFERSON COUNTY**

Fire District 4

New fire chief replacing Patrick Nicholson: Tim Manly, PO Box 42, Brinnon 98320, (360)796-4450, tmanly@brinnonfire.org

**LEWIS COUNTY**

Fire District 9

New email address for Commissioner Lisa Libby: lcf9comm1@gmail.com

**LINCOLN COUNTY**

Fire District 1

New fire chief replacing Scott Clemenson: Mitchell Lowry, 124 Old Airport Rd, Sprague 99032, lcfiredist1@gmail.com

**MASON COUNTY**

Fire District 11

New commissioner, Position 3: Kelly Frazier, PO Box 743, Shelton 98584, (360)426-1822, kfrazier@mcf11.org

**OKANOGAN COUNTY**

Fire District 4

New commissioner, Position 2: Jack Dennison, 37 Rolling Hills Dr, Tonasket 98855, (509)429-8189

New commissioner, Position 3: Duane Van Woert, 31807-D Hwy 97, Tonasket 98855, (509)486-4947

New fire chief replacing Jim Rice: Andy Gasho, PO Box 1170, Tonasket 98855

**PEND OREILLE COUNTY**

Fire District 4

New commissioner, Position 1: Donald Kendrick, 11 Dalkena St, Newport 99156, dskendrick36@yahoo.com

New office manager replacing DarLynn Thompson: Theresa Bryant, 11 Dalkena St, Newport 99156, theresa.bryant@pofd4.org

Add Fire Chief Nick Knaack, 11 Dalkena St, Newport 99156, nick.knaack@pofd4.org

**PIERCE COUNTY**

Fire District 5

New commissioner, Position 2: Zach Smith, 10222 Bujacich Rd NW, Gig Harbor 98332

Fire District 17

New district secretary replacing Brenda Murphy: Summer Miller, 5403 340th St E, Eatonville 98328, (253)847-4333, smiller@spfr.org

**SAN JUAN COUNTY**

Fire District 2

Remove HR representative Jana Webb; Remove Fire Chief Mik Preysz

**SKAGIT COUNTY**

Fire District 14

District website: www.algerfiredepartment.com

New commissioner, Position 3: Steve Thomas, 18726 Parkview Lane, Burlington 98233, scfd14comm.position3@gmail.com

Meets 2nd Tuesday, 7 pm, 18726 Parkview Lane, Burlington

Fire District 16

Remove District Secretary Carol Meyers

**SNOHOMISH COUNTY**

Fire District 1

Remove Fire Chief Ed Widdis

Fire District 7

New district secretary replacing Soo Son: Summer Young, 8010 180th St SE, Snohomish 98296, (360)668-5357, syoung@snofire7.org

Fire District 21

Meets 2nd Wednesday, 6:30 pm, 12131 228th St NE, Arlington

**SPOKANE COUNTY**

Fire District 5

Meets 4th Monday, 6 pm, Station 51, 17217 W Four Mound Rd, Nine Mile Falls

**WHATCOM COUNTY**

Fire District 17

New commissioner replacing Michael Burnett: James Taxdahl, 4332 Sucia Dr, Ferndale 98248, (360)384-1480

New district secretary replacing Sharon Peterson: Val Klepac, 4332 Sucia Dr, Ferndale 98248, (360)384-1480, wcf1701@comcast.net

**WHITMAN COUNTY**

Fire District 5

New fire chief replacing Ed Bageant: Gil White, 29702 SR 23, Lamont 99017, (509)648-3634

**YAKIMA COUNTY**

Fire District 2

New Commissioner, Position 3: Rex Reed, 206 W Fremont Ave, Selah 98942

Fire District 4

Add Position 3 Commissioner David Ramynke, PO Box 11138, Yakima 98909, (509)833-5453, dramynke@hotmail.com



**WASHINGTON  
FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
ASSOCIATION**

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OLYMPIA WA 98507

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**WASHINGTON FIRE  
COMMISSIONERS  
ASSOCIATION**

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OLYMPIA WA 98507

(360) 943-3880  
1-800-491-WFCA (9322)  
FAX (360) 664-0415

WFCA@WFCA.WA.GOV  
WWW.WFCA.WA.GOV

**LOCATION**  
605 11<sup>TH</sup> AVE SE  
SUITE 205  
OLYMPIA WA 98501

**OFFICE HOURS**  
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM



## 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**OFFICERS**  
 PRESIDENT ..... DAVID ELLINGSON - POULSBO FIRE DEPARTMENT  
 VICE PRESIDENT ..... GERRY GUSTAFSON - GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE  
 SECRETARY | TREASURER ..... BRAD LOTH SPEICH - CLARK 6

**DIRECTORS**  
 REGION 1 ..... JACK HENSLEY - SPOKANE 4  
 REGION 2 ..... BRAD LANGDELL - WALLA WALLA 5  
 REGION 3 ..... DWIGHT VANDER VORSTE - GRANT 10  
 REGION 4 ..... LES RIEL - YAKIMA 4  
 REGION 5 ..... JIM KENNY - SNOHOMISH 1  
 REGION 6 ..... CHRIS ELWELL - KING 2  
 REGION 7 ..... DANIEL RANKIN - WEST PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE  
 REGION 8 ..... JERRY KOLKE - CLARK COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE  
 REGION 9 ..... GENE CARMODY - PORT LUDLOW FIRE & RESCUE  
 IMMED. PAST PRESIDENT ..... JIM FARRELL - MOUNTAIN VIEW FIRE & RESCUE

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**  
 ROGER FERRIS



THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF  
THE WFCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND/OR MEMBERSHIP