



# SDFRA

SAN DIEGO FIREMAN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION

SINCE 1907



Summer/ Spring 2019 Edition

Caring for our Firefighters for over 100 years!

Photo Credit: Hans Schwing

# Want to be featured

in our next newsletter?



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Photo Credit: Bob Graham

## **MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

**By: Brandt Truver**



Hello SDFRA Family,

We hope that you're all kicking your Summer off and enjoying some warm weather. Our office staff and directors hit the ground running at the beginning of 2019 and we've all been going, going, going ever since! We're happy to share with you that our SDFRA newsletters are back on track! We sure hope you enjoy the latest edition!

As previously stated in the 2019 welcome letter, our top priority in 2019 is to build a staff and Board of Directors that can run our organization to its fullest capacity and serve our membership in every way possible. If you've stopped by the office in the last six months, you've probably noticed some staffing changes.

The Board of Directors recently promoted Marisa Nunes to our Manager of Operations. Marisa has always had a special place in her heart for our organization. She began as a Summer intern in 2009, she then came back to the organization in 2013 as a volunteer and our photographer for many of our events until 2017.

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After graduating from San Diego State University, she took what she refers to as her "dream job," being able to serve our firefighters and your families. Marisa loves spending time with her husband, Scott and their two adorable chihuahuas, Tilly and Petrie. Marisa used to be a photographer; she started taking photos when she was 16 and found a love for art. She says that photography gave her the power to create and give back in ways she never knew were possible.

Marisa's been doing a fantastic job filling in her new position. She's hard at work with a professional team to deliver you a new claims system. She's hired a property management company to take the best possible care of our building, Old Mission Plaza. But the thing she enjoys most is when you stop by the office to hand drop-off your claims in person. She loves hearing about your day.

Also new to our team is Diana Fierro. Diana started with our organization in September of 2018 and was the perfect fit for our growing team. We've been hearing lots of compliments from our members about how you're receiving your claims so quickly; you can thank Diana for that. Diana relocated to San Diego coming from New York in 2014 because she loves the outdoors and San Diego has the weather she'd been looking for.

The next time you're in the office you'll see Diana, she's sitting up front with a huge smile on her face. She'd love for you to come and have a cup of coffee with her any time of day!

Speaking of claims, I'm often asked questions about SDFRA benefits and how to use them. Our Retired Directors also field a good amount of the same questions. Our Active and Retired Claims Benefit document is very comprehensive and breaks out all your benefits for you in a few ways. It can be found on our website, [SDFRA.org](http://SDFRA.org), under the MEMBER BENEFITS section.

If you would like, a copy mailed to you, please call or email the office and we'd be happy to send one your way. If you have any further questions regarding your benefits, please call Marisa and Diana at 619-281-0354. They're just a phone call away!

Another topic that is important for me to share with you is how you can transition from an active Member to a retired Member very easily. Our goal is to retain 100% of our Members during the transition from active to retired. Please stop by or give us a call to update your information and allow us to better serve you.



Marisa Nunes - Manager of Operations



Diana Fierro - Claims Processor

## NEW TO THE SDFRA FAMILY

They're not new to the fire family, but they're new to your Board of Directors! We've recently welcomed three new Board Directors. Two Active, Captain Dan King and Firefighter Geof Cummings and one Retired, Assistant Chief Kenneth Barnes. All three gentlemen are in different stages in their firefighting career and they all bring unique knowledge, and viewpoints adding incredible value and depth to your SDFRA Board of Directors.



Kenneth Barnes



Dan King



Geof Cummings

We'd like to introduce you to Kenneth Barnes. Kenneth served on the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department for 33+ years and retired in 2016. The majority of his career was spent in Operations, but he also spent time in Training, Logistics, and Administration. He served on numerous committees, including the department's Safety Committee. While serving as the Safety Officer and later as the Logistics Assistant Chief (now known as Business Operations), he constantly worked to enhance firefighter safety and the department's response to tragic events. Kenneth and his wife, Erin, have four children that are all grown and out of the house. He has a strong desire to be involved and give back. We're so excited to welcome him to the Board of Directors and continue his great work with us!



Kenneth Barnes and his wife, Erin



Crew Chief Air Operations Fire Captain, Dan King, his wife Teresa, and their dog, Kaia

If you've looked up in the sky over San Diego and seen Copter 1 in the air, then you've met Dan King. Dan joined the Board of Directors after being elected in the last regular election in December of 2018. He's been a longtime supporter of SDFRA and our mission. Dan has been a part of so many of our events and is always there to support us and our members. It was a natural progression for him to become a part of our team. Dan and his wife, Teresa, have only missed one SD911MSC event. If he's not climbing in the stairwell, he's flying Copter 1 in our opening ceremony. Dan is the B Division Crew Chief at Air Operations. He loves surfing, stand up paddle boarding with his wife, and playing with, Kaia, their German puppy. They're proud of their two sons, Greg and Austin, who are both in college currently. Thank you, Dan, for joining our team and being so committed to making a difference in our Members' lives.

Last, but certainly not least, Geof Cummings has also joined our Board of Directors. I've known him since our days in the SDFD Cadet Program. He outranked me then, but I've got the last laugh now. Like Dan, Geof was elected in the December 2018 election. Geof started as a volunteer at the SD911MSC event. For the last few years, he's commanded over 60 Cadets. The Cadets are an integral part of our event, and we could not produce it without them and their support. When Geof isn't working as a Firefighter/Paramedic on Engine 19/A, he's down teaching at the Academy, surfing, or working on a project at his home. He also enjoys traveling with his wife, Lisa.

When you see any of our new Directors in the stations or out and about, take a moment to say hello, ask them any questions you might have, or share your ideas on how we can better serve you. Our goal is to provide you and your family with outstanding service, and we have no doubt that these three men will help us with our mission.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this newsletter. We're here to answer any questions or just to listen if there is anything, we can assist you with. Providing you with excellent service as your President is very important to me and I look forward to serving you with the assistance of the Board of Directors and staff.



Firefighter and Paramedic, Geof Cummings and wife, Lisa

Fraternally,  
Brandt Truver

# WE'RE HERE WHEN YOU NEED US

By: Marisa Nunes



Engineer, Dianne York-Karty and part of her support crew



Joshua Karty with his wife, Lynnea, and kids Emery, Roman, and Kennedy

At SDFRA, we pride ourselves on being there for our members when you need us most. In the case of Engineer, Dianne York-Karty, we're so grateful that she thought of us in her time of need. In late April, Dianne approached President Truver to see if the organization could aid her in her search for a bone marrow donor for her stepson, Joshua Karty. Joshua had been diagnosed with aggressive chronic Myeloid Leukemia at the age of 31.

With full Board support, we quickly jumped on board with Be The Match, and were assisted by Local 145 and the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department to help Dianne and her family in their search. In a few short weeks, we had organized a swabbing event at the Portuguese Hall with Be The Match. We were able to raise awareness about what it takes to be a donor for someone in need of a marrow transplant and also share stories of Joshua.

It's with heavy hearts that we share the news of Joshua's passing. He left the world surrounded by his loving family on May 22, 2019. Joshua leaves behind a wife, Lynnea, three beautiful children, and an army of friends and family who will carry on his memory. Though we never had the pleasure of meeting Joshua, his loss is felt by many here in our San Diego fire family. If you would like to do something in Joshua's honor, you can donate to the Karty family's Go Fund Me account [www.gofundme.com/joshuasleukemiabattle](http://www.gofundme.com/joshuasleukemiabattle).

It's important to our organization that we at SDFRA continue to support Be The Match in their mission and in honor of Joshua Karty. Perhaps you could be a match for a stranger and have the opportunity to touch and save a life. Simply scan the QR code, sign up, and take a swab test to be added to the registry. A kit will arrive and takes less than five minutes to complete.

Be The Match QR Code. Scan and join the registry to save a life!



# WHAT'S NEW IN THE WORLD

By: Marisa Nunes

Spring was in full swing in 2019! Many of our members welcomed their bundles of joy and we enjoyed seeing all of their cute little faces out and about on their adventures. If you haven't met them yet, we've got the full scoop on their stories. Enjoy meeting all our new mini members and wishing our older ones happy birthday!

Congratulations if you've bought a house, had a baby, celebrated an important life moment or even a big birthday. Please send us your photos so we can share your exciting news with our members! After all, we're family!



Engineer, Zak Shultz, with his wife Karey and kids Johnny and River

## River Lauren Shultz born July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 1:52 pm

Even though she was first introduced to us as Quinoa Shultz, we've come to know her as the beautiful River Lauren Shultz. Congratulations, Engineer, Zak Shultz and family. River came into the world at 6 pounds 6 ounces and 19 inches long. Zak shared with us that his son, Johnny, wants to be a firefighter even though he would like him to be a drummer or guitar player. Zak loves coming home to the wonder, dreams, smiles, imaginations and yes, even poopy diapers of his children.

We hope that your family has enjoyed every moment with River since the day she was born. We know she's going to get you back for that little quinoa prank someday.

## Eleanor Faye Loftis born October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 9:29 am

Say hello to sweet Eleanor Faye Loftis who came into the world at 7 pounds 8.8 ounces and 19.8 inches long. Eleanor enjoys spending time with her big brother, Wyatt, visiting dad at Hazmat Station 45, hanging out with her mom, Jess, and going on trips to the Grand Canyon.

Justin became a firefighter to work in a skilled, ever-changing environment, contribute to his hometown, and be part of an esteemed tradition of service that cares for others. He faces challenges in managing family time, his career, and keeping his family healthy and safe. The support of his wife and their commitment to each other is what keeps them so strong. Justin says that every day with his family is the best day of his life.



Firefighter/Paramedic, Justin Loftis, with his wife Jess and kids Wyatt and Eleanor



Firefighter and Helicopter Rescue Paramedic, Dre Dominguez, with her wife Michelle and kids Reed and Lincoln

**Reed Dominguez February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7:44 am**

Welcome to the world you little handsome man! Reed joined us weighing in at 7 pounds and 6 ounces and 20.5 inches long. Reed is so very loved by his big brother, Lincoln, and both Dre and Michelle. Reed enjoys hiking, baseball games, sushi dates, yoga, and swim lessons. He's already accomplished so much at just three months old.

Dre shared that she's a better person for being able to be a mother and in her career as a firefighter and Helicopter Rescue Paramedic. Reed gives her so much drive to be the best human she can be by caring for others. We can't wait to meet Rees and squeeze him so hard. We're sending you so much love!

**Eroly Selah Porche born May, 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 12:11 pm**

Welcome to the world, little miss Eroly (Aero-Lee)! Congratulations to Firefighter/Paramedic, Michael Porche and his wife, Demitra Porche, on the birth of their little lady. She came into the world at 6 pounds and 7 ounces, and 19.5 inches long. Michael said, his knowledge from being a firefighter allowed him to help assist the doctor in delivering his baby girl. He said it was an amazing experience, a precious beginning to fatherhood. Michael owes this to his profession and the training that San Diego Fire-Rescue provides in keeping our citizens safe.

Now that's one amazing birth story! We can't wait to meet sweet Eroly. You better look out, Porche, if she's got Demi's good looks and your sense of humor, you're going to be in big trouble. Enjoy every little moment!



Firefighter/Paramedic, Michael Porche, with his wife Demitra and daughter Eroly



Fire Captain, George Duardo blowing out his candles on his 50th birthday

**Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday, George Duardo**

You may know him as your re-elected L145 Vice President, but we refer to him as the Godfather here at SDFRA. George dedicated nine years to SDFRA and was our President for seven of them. He did so much to build us up to the organization we are today. Without George, there would be no lights at the SDFRA office, literally, no lights, he installed them all.

To one of the most amazing SDFD Captains on the job, happiest of birthdays to you, George Duardo! Cheers to 50 more years!

# MEMBER SERVICES UPDATE

**By: Diana Fierro**

Hello Members! It's been a pleasure serving you for the last nine months and getting to meet so many of you in person. For those of you I've not yet met, I can't wait to do so! It's important to me that you know I'm here for you and all your claims needs. If you ever have a question, I'd be happy to assist you. Please feel free to call or email me [dfierro@sdfra.org](mailto:dfierro@sdfra.org). And don't forget to update me when you move, add or remove a dependent, or change your phone number. I hope that you enjoy your Summer with your family and friends.

## 86TH FIRE ACADEMY

**By: Geof Cummings**



The 86th Academy graduated at the beginning of the year, and the 87th is now underway. Congratulations to the 86th on a job well done! The San Diego Fire-Rescue Training Division is working hard at taking a good look into the past practices that have been developed over the last decade to find areas to better prepare our fire recruits for a smoother transition when they become firefighters.

Training Division has adopted the California State Fire Training curriculum to meet statewide requirements and provide standardized training, in order to maintain the San Diego standard on the grinder. This provides recruits with more information found across the state and in neighboring fire departments, but still emphasizes our San Diego Fire-Rescue Department drill manual throughout their probationary year. We're using the manual to discuss monthly training topics, assignments, manipulative drills, and tests. Also, the Spiels and standards, which are the operating guidelines found within the manual, are the backbones for the sixteen-week academy. This allows recruits to build a solid foundation on the grinder.

A straight-day training instructor Cadre position is being built to help provide consistency for the recruits. The goal of this position is to create probationary firefighters who are confident and competent, hungry to learn, train, and build upon their academy knowledge.

# THE BREAKFAST CLUB

By: Dan King



Scott Dion, Tony Jefferys, Scott Lowe, Dan King, Todd Bechtel, Kyle O'Neill and daughter Ashlyn

The Breakfast Club is what we've come to call ourselves. Not because we're a group of cliquey teenagers from 1985 who're all sharing a weekend in detention together with a grumpy assistant principal. We're a group of firefighters who unfortunately share cancer as a connection. There aren't too many people on the job who know what it feels like to get that call from your physician that makes your heart stop. Your entire life flashes before your very eyes and flips your world upside down all in one moment.

What started as a phone call to check-in on one another has turned into breakfast every few months when all our schedules allow it. This group enables us to have a different type of conversation than you would typically have with others who haven't experienced cancer and being a firefighter as well.

Each one of us is in a different stage of our journey, which allows us to help each other. We're able to talk about what we've been through and where we're headed. We're able to share hard times and good times and the roller coaster that is the battle with cancer. We aren't judged and we can speak freely about how our lives are affected at home and on the job. It may sound odd, but it's always positive vibes and good times.

We've created a great connection out of a negative piece of our lives and it helps us all be positive and support one another. And while Todd Bechtel will never own up to it, he's totally the Emilio Estevez of our SDFD Cancer Survivors Breakfast Club.



Jonathan Bowens, Kyle O'Neill, Dan King and Scott Lowe

# YOU'RE INVITED: SDFRA IS HOSTING AN OPEN HOUSE

By: Marisa Nunes



Our Staff: Diana Fierro, Jayma Casias, Marisa Nunes, Carlye Wund, Priscilla Cespedes, Gabby Rockwell

It's a new year! We've got new Board Directors and some new staff members. So we're opening our doors and inviting you all to join us on either June 12<sup>th</sup> or June 13<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the SDFRA office. We invite you to meet our new staff, our new Board Directors, and chat with us about anything and everything. Have you had questions about receipts and benefits? Come on down and let us help you get a better understanding. Been wondering what it means to be an SDFRA member? We've got answers. Confused about the difference between SDFRA and FirefighterAid? We'd love to clear that up for you. Do you just want to see all the new faces and share a few hand shakes? We'd love to shake your hands too!

We'll be hosting a taco cart and drinks. Come share ideas, ask questions, or just come for a taco and a high-five. We love serving you and want you to know we're always here for you. If you do plan on attending, please RSVP to Marisa Nunes [mnunes@sdfra.org](mailto:mnunes@sdfra.org) or call the office, so we can make sure we have enough tacos for all. We can't wait to chat and eat tacos with you!



# OLD TIMERS' LUNCHEON

By: Marisa Nunes

The Chief Officer's Club, San Diego Fire-Rescue Department, Retired Fire & Police Association, San Diego City Fire Fighters Local 145, Sports Club, and the San Diego Fireman's Relief Association are excited to invite you all to the 3rd Annual Old Timers' Luncheon! This event is specifically for Retired and Active Fire-Rescue Department employees only, no significant others, please. This is an excellent time for all to catch up and share stories of your time in the department.



Retired Firefighters at the 2018 Old Timers' Luncheon



**Please save the date!**

**Date:** August 28th, 2019

**Time:** 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

**Cost:** \$10 per person

**Location:** TBD

**Please RSVP by August 22nd, 2019**

**Questions?** Please contact Marisa Nunes at [mnunes@sdfra.org](mailto:mnunes@sdfra.org) or retired Fire Captain Ron Moskowitz at [colmosk@cox.net](mailto:colmosk@cox.net)



# CHECKING IN WITH FIREFIGHTERAID

**By: Carlye Wund and Gabby Rockwell**



Director of Development - Carlye Wund

HelloooOoo to you all! It's been some time since we sent out our last newsletter and we've missed you oh, so much! There's been so many new things happening here at FirefighterAid and I can't wait to get you all caught up!

The most exciting thing to happen so far has been the hiring of the first official employee of FirefighterAid! Do you know what that means?! This means we're thriving, things are good, and we're helping our heroes when they need us most! So much so, we need more people to help us do more good things. So please welcome to the family, Gabrielle Rockwell. Gabby started with us at the end of April and it feels like she's already been here for years. She's incredible and has already done so much to help the organization grow. I can go on and on about how amazing she is, but I'd rather let you hear it from her. Gabby, please share some things about yourself with our fire family.

Thank you so much, Carlye! I'm excited to be part of FirefighterAid and the Stair Climb Crew. I grew up in Upstate, New York, in a firefighter neighborhood and have many family members who are first responders in and around New York City. It's wonderful to be able to come back to my roots of caring for firefighters and fire families in my new home of San Diego.

I was only five years old on September 11, 2001, but it's one of my earliest memories. My mom picked me up from the principal's office and on the drive home, she had told me that we needed to take care of all the neighborhood kids and call our family members. At that age, I didn't fully understand how that day would impact the rest of my life. When we got home, we only watched the news. I remember re-watching the events of that day over and over, very confused and concerned about my family and neighbors.

Looking back, I'm grateful that my mom was transparent and honest with me about what took place that day, the events, and the long-term impacts because now I understand how to help firefighters and their families in all fire-related emergencies better. I hope to use my experience and everyone's knowledge here to help better serve firefighters in San Diego. Thank you for welcoming me into the fire family with open arms!

So, members, if you stop by the office, please be sure to come down the hall, stick your head in our office and say hello to me.



Community Engagement - Gabby Rockwell

# THE 9TH ANNUAL SAN DIEGO 9/11 MEMORIAL STAIR CLIMB EVENT

By: Carlye Wund



Can you believe that nine years ago Captain, George Duardo and Captain, Robert Bunsold took a leap of faith and kicked off the first annual SD911MSC?! I can't either! Time sure does fly when you're planning stair climbs!

I'm proud to announce that the 2019 San Diego 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb registration and volunteer sign up is now open and we are already half way sold out. As you know, this is the largest fundraiser that we do every year to fund all the good work that we do here at FirefighterAid. So, mark your calendars for Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. We hope to see you there! Last year we fell short of our \$175,000 goal, but we're not going to let that get us down or stand in the way of raising \$200,000 this year. We know we can do it with your help! This will be the most epic year yet!

If you have any questions about the 2019 SD911MSC check out our website, [SanDiegoStairClimb.com](http://SanDiegoStairClimb.com), or call the office and chat with Gabby Rockwell. As always, we hope to see you on the stairs in September!



# FIREFIGHTERAID GOODNESS

By: Carlye Wund

In the last year, FirefighterAid has been a part of so much goodness in the fire community! We're so excited to tell you all about it! Here's a recap of some of the projects we've been fortunate to be a part of over the last few months!

## 2019 BE OUR VALENTINE



On February 14, 2019, we had the great fortune of building friendship succulents with some of our lovely ladies. Whether they've lost their firefighter husband or their firefighter father, we were there for them on the day of love. We enjoyed sweets, snacks, drinks, and stories of some of our favorite retired SDFD pals. Special thank you to *Resplendent Designs* for the succulent supplies and tutorial. We also mailed over 80 boxes filled with love to our widows, widowers, and friends to let them know just how much they mean to us.



Retired Board Director Arnell Garcia with Evelyn Garza, Frances Arbaugh, and Betty Polman

## USD GREEK WEEK LIFE PARTNERSHIP



Marisa Nunes, Gus Brigantino, Mia Westphal, Brandt Truver, and Carlye Wund

In March of 2019, we partnered with the University of San Diego's Fraternity and Sorority Life organization to raise money and awareness for FirefighterAid and what we do. What began as a handwritten note on the floor of a station from two big-hearted University of San Diego students who wanted to help the firefighters who fight for their community's safety, turned in to a fantastic fundraiser for our organization.

Over the course of two weeks, we raised over \$7,000. The Greek Life chapters even had a friendly competition in which they did a comfort box supply drive. Their drive yielded enough items to create over 300 comfort bags! Now, that's a lot of toothpaste, hand sanitizer, and bandaids!

We're sending a HUGE thank you to Mia Westphal and Gus Brigantino for all their support and dedication to making this project run so smoothly. It wouldn't have been successful without them. Keep an eye out for the USD team at this year's stair climb event. They go big and we can't wait to see what they do next.

## CANCER CAN KISS MY AXE

In October of 2018, FirefighterAid had the pleasure of partnering with Lorraine Hutchinson, her Cancer Can Kiss My Axe team, Retiree Mike Merriken, and the SDFD Motorcycle Club Wind & Fire to raise money for Susan G. Koman and our Cancer Awareness and Prevention Program. There were just under 100 riders that joined us for our inaugural rally, and we raised almost \$2,000 for FirefighterAid.

Lorraine had come to us as a concerned Retiree of the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department and breast cancer survivor, who wanted to give back to the communities that she holds so close to her heart, the Fire Department and those battling cancer. If you've ever been fortunate enough to work with Lorraine, you know that cancer was a fool to step foot into her life. After she won her battle with breast cancer, she continues to fight and help educate others. We're so grateful she's shared part of her journey with us. We're excited to get the 2019 event up and running! Keep an eye out for details and get ready to ride with us!



Dena Chavez, Lorraine Hutchinson, and CCKMA Crew

## AMERICAN CONCRETE INSTITUTE GOLF TOURNAMENT



Chuck Brookes, Arnell Garcia, Greg Donnlley, Brandon Hartley, and Alex Elgas

FORE!!! For the second year in a row, we were invited back to the American Concrete Institute Annual Golf Tournament as an event beneficiary. Twin Oaks Golf Course and ACI hosts this epic day on the green. They allow us to setup a booth on the first hole to share with all the 85+ golfers the work we do at FirefighterAid. They, in turn, donated \$1,750 to our programs.

SDFD Retirees Arnell Garcia and Greg Donnelly showed the young chaps on our foursome, Alex Elgas and Brandon Hartley, what the game of golf is all about. Totally kidding, the young chaps cleaned house in the tournament.

We all had a good time and helped share the good work we do with the awesome crew at ACI. We've already been invited back for our third year in a row and can't wait to hang with our ACI friends again this September!

## ROCK BOTTOM BREWING OF FIRE CHIEF ALE

You've seen them at the Stair Climb and you've seen them on our Facebook page, but we can't get enough of the Fire Chief Ale and La Jolla Rock Bottom Brewing Company Crew!

They've been huge supporters of our mission and our event over the last three years and we're so grateful for them. Not only do they invite us to come take part in the Fire Chief Ale brewing process, but they also bring us tasty beers to hydrate climbers at our event. This year will be no different. Make sure to stop by the beer garden at the 2019 SD911MSC for something special made just for us by Dan Anderson, head brewer.

If you find yourself in the La Jolla area, be sure to stop in and grab a pint of Fire Chief Ale, a percentage of the proceeds go to FirefighterAid. Cheers!



Geof Cummings, Marisa Nunes, Brandt Truver, Jon Handley, Dan King, and Carlye Wund with Dan Anderson

## MOVEMBER

How can we talk about community partnerships and not mention Sean Brambir and his #SDFDMovember movement?! Sean has been hard at work on this event since 2015 and has come such a long way. He's been donating 100% of his proceeds to FirefighterAid's CAPP program since 2017. Sean is very passionate about helping his fellow firefighters when cancer is knocking on their door.

If you've never been to Sean's SDFD Movember event, make sure you attend it this year. It's great to see all the support and creative mustaches in one space supporting each other for a great cause.

If you've noticed an approved personal protective equipment washer in your station, it's there in part because of Sean and his successful fundraisers. Thank you, Sean, and Chelsea too! Your dedication to kicking cancer out of our stations is admirable and we appreciate you being a champion for the cause. Keep up the great work and stay stachey!



2018 #SDFDMovember at McFaddens

## SURF RIDER PIZZA COMMUNITY PARTNER



Surf Rider La Mesa location

Our friends Hilary Rossi and Rachael Musico at Surf Rider Pizza have been helping us serve San Diego Firefighters for over six years. Their menu is serving East Coast style pizza, stromboli, and cheesesteaks as well as hot sandwiches and fresh salads. Fresh from scratch desserts include cheesecakes, cakes, cupcakes, brownies, and cookies. Pizza goodness with an East Coast accent.

If you've been a recipient of our Meal Train services, then you've most likely had the privilege of their tasty goodness. If you have not used our Meal Train services, then take our word for it and stop by one of their four San Diego locations and have a slice!

They're one of our proud community partners and always support our firefighters! We thank them for helping us serve you and your tummies in time of need.

# FIREHOUSE BOARDS COMMUNITY PARTNER



Jess & Kristen Hartnett at the San Diego 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb event

If you're looking for an amazing gift, award, or something nice for a special occasion. Consider a cutting board, custom corn hole set, a personalized hydro flask, one-of-a-kind holiday ornament, or a picture frame by Jess Hartnett. He's a retired El Cajon Fire Captain who spends most of his time in a workshop that would make Santa jealous. Jess and his wife, Kristen handcraft every project from start to finish with love and dedication. If you want someone to know how special they are to you, let Jess and his family help you create a unique gift.



Some of Firehouse Boards handcrafted pieces

# GOVX COMMUNITY PARTNER

**By: Gabby Rockwell**

GovX is partnering with us again for the 9th annual San Diego 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb on Saturday, September 7th. This is our fourth year partnering with them. We are so fortunate that a global company like GovX is right here in our backyard - especially one whose mission is to provide for those serving the public. Thank you GovX for continuing to support our firefighters and FirefighterAid!



The GovX Team and Firefighter, Justin Herzog, at the 2018 San Diego 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb Event

## ESTATE PLANNING

We at SDFRA are always looking for ways to improve our member benefits. One question we often get is who we recommend for an Estate Planning Attorney. We're happy to announce we have found a law firm in Ocean Beach that is familiar with our firefighters and offers you a discounted rate on Estate Planning Services.

Lori Bolander of Gallagher Bolander Smedley, LLP, has graciously extended to SDFRA Members a \$500 discount. She will charge \$1,800 for a marital estate plan and \$1,200 for a single estate plan. The only fees this doesn't include are any recording costs to record deeds transferring real property to the Trust, which are usually about \$20. She will also allow payment arrangements for clients, if necessary. Please contact the SDFRA office if you would like more information or would like the contact for Lori.



# UPDATE ON APPARATUS #1114

By: Arnell Garcia



Checking in on our Apparatus 1114 Project! Our volunteer crew rolled up their sleeves and started working on the 1944 Seagrave Pumper back in January 2019.

Retired Fire Captain, Arnie Garcia, has a big ask for anyone that would like to take part in the preservation and restoration of this unique piece of history. If you enjoy disassembling and reassembling, welding, fabrication, engine, transmission, wiring, body paint and woodworking. Then this is the perfect job for you!

This fascinating machine has long awaited its time to be put back into the fire service. Once fully restored, the vision is to use it for parades, our 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb event and funerals.

Please contact Arnie Garcia at [agarcia@sdfra.org](mailto:agarcia@sdfra.org) or Captain Brian Fox directly at (858) 525-3377.

Fire Captain, Brian Fox, working on App #1114

## LAST ALARMS

By: Arnell Garcia

In honor of our SDFRA Members and their dedication the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department, we provide an American Flag to be flown at the station that they spent their career at. This flag is flown from sunrise to sunset and then folded in honor of the member by the on duty crew. Please take a moment to remember these everlasting heroes.

### In deepest sympathy for those whom we have lost:

- Captain, Michael "Mike" May - January 1st, 2018
- Engineer, Michael "Mike" Smith - January 16th, 2018
- Engineer, Phillip "Phil" Harwick - January 19th, 2018
- Captain, Eugene "Gene" Shepard - August 5th, 2018
- Fire Chief, Roger C. Phillips - August 19, 2018
- Captain, Andrew Pucio - November 24th, 2018
- Engineer, Ronald C. Youngquist - December 9th, 2018
- Fireman, Roger Reich - December 27th, 2018
- Captain, Joseph "Joe" Galea - January 10th, 2019



Last Alarm flag being flown at Station 1

**You're officially invited to the 2019 San Diego 9/11  
Memorial Stair Climb event!**

(SD911MSC post card insert)

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**THANK YOU 2019 SPONSORS**

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Email: mnunes@sdfra.org

**WE HONOR THE NOBLE TRADITIONS OF A  
FIREFIGHTER BY CARING FOR THEM AND  
THOSE THEY LEAVE BEHIND**



Wreath and flags laid at Police and Firefighters Rest to honor our fallen heroes on Memorial Day 2019