



Fire Chief Steve Earley
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June 2009

It's Official...Fire Chief Earley

Interim Fire Chief Steve Earley was notified by the City Manager on the morning of June 17 that he was selected to serve as the permanent Fire Chief for the City of Riverside. Chief Earley said "he is proud to serve as the Fire Chief for such a distinguished fire department with so many talented and dedicated individuals. He looks forward to working with all personnel in the future growth of our organization and personnel." The City Manager announced Chief Earley at the City Council meeting on the evening of June 23.



Phil Armentrout Memorial Trap Shoot



Local Union 1067 sponsored a shooting team in this year's Phil Armentrout Memorial Trap Shoot (proceeds going to the American Cancer Society). Our team consisted of Dave Montoya, Scott Huchting, Mike Williams, Jonathan Turley, and Ryan Hicks. The team finished in 9th place. Turner's Outdoor also helped sponsor the team with ammunition.



Email from Tyler Stanford on update of his knee surgery on June 9:

"I was released from the hospital on Monday afternoon (June 5) around 2pm. So far I am not in as much pain as I was told I would be in. It is definitely sore; I have a bruise that runs the entire length of my leg. My doctor said that I definitely needed a knee replacement. That was my biggest fear after dealing with so many doctors, that my current one would come out of surgery and tell my wife, "I put in a new knee but the other doctors were wrong; he didn't need one." My doctor said she was amazed by the amount of scar tissue and damage and that my surgery took an extra hour.

The worst part of the whole process was the hospital stay (all the noises, constantly being examined, uncomfortable beds, confined to your bed, etc.). It was really nice when people stopped by. I want to thank everyone who stopped by and called; it really made a big difference.

Rehab starts today, so probationaries you better "get on it". Tyler Stanford

Thank you letter from Interim Santa Barbara City Fire Chief Andrew DiMizio dated June 8, 2009:

Chief DiMizio wrote to Chief Earley thanking our department for its role in the Jesusita Fire. "We all know the power of working together through the State of California's well exercised mutual aid system. Only when you are on the receiving end of this process, and realized that it not only brings wings and wheels, but hearts and souls to aid your community, can you fully appreciate the values that are inherent to it.

The Jesusita Fire tested our courage as emergency professionals. With the heart that your agency provided, we were able to beat defeat, and survive disaster. The Santa Barbara community will only be stronger because of this event. Please forward my thanks to the men and women of your organization who responded to our time of need."

Thank you letter from Friar Thomas J. Elewaut, Principal of Bishop Garcia Diego High School dated June 2009:

On behalf of the students, faculty and staff of Bishop High, the friar thanked our department for their heroic work and involvement in fighting the Jesusita Fire in May.

"With the fire burning just over a mile from our school campus in the foothills of Santa Barbara, several of our families, faculty, and the school itself were among the thirty thousand displaced from their homes. We are blessed by the fact that members of our Bishop High community did not experience structure loss.

Thank you for your valiant efforts in fighting the Jesusita Fire. May you and your department have an enjoyable summer. Our prayers will be with you throughout the summer months as you prepare for the wildland season."



(cont)

Thank you letter from Gaye Hawkins of the Magnolia Avenue Baptist Church dated July 2, 2009:

Gaye Hawkins, Associate Music Minister, thanked Honor Guards Captain Jeff Loveland and FF Chris Stamper for participating in their annual "Celebrate Freedom" service honoring military and public safety personnel. She described Jeff and Chris as follows: "These men represented the department and our city in fine fashion. No different from years before, but these men were prompt, personable, and professional. Above all, they were polished in their presentation, honorable in their conduct, and seemed genuinely pleased to serve." Captain Thomas Jay recruited Jeff and Chris for the event.

In addition, FF Stamper participated in another portion of the program. He performed a part in the musical number "Because of the Brave."

She also thanked Deputy Chief Oran Pentz and Battalion Chief Dave Campos for coordinating the presence of a fire unit on site during each service.

In conclusion, Gaye thanked Chief Earley for the daily services of the fire department to the community.



Acting Battalion Chief Rotation

Captain Jeff Delaurie rotated into the position of Acting Battalion Chief assigned to "B" shift – Battalion 2 for the next three months. Chief Earley thanked Captain Mitch Wesche for the excellent job he did while assigned to the Acting Battalion Chief from March thru June.



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Joe Rosales Retires

Captain Joe Rosales visited stations on his last day of work prior to retirement.

Here is a farewell email from Joe on June 23: "Today is my last shift before the start of my retirement! I would like to say farewell to all and let you know I have enjoyed being a member of the RFD. I feel blessed and most fortunate for having had such a great job and career.

I am very appreciative of having had the assistance of such fine personnel in our clerical, fleet maintenance, fire prevention, training divisions and last, but certainly not last, our staff personnel.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with each of you on the floor (probies and veterans alike). I will miss all of you and I wish you good luck and good health. "



In Deepest Sympathy...

June and the beginning of July have proven to be tough emotional times for department members who have lost loved ones. Our hearts go out to each of you and your families:

- Tom Kleveno - Mother**
- Rand Brinkman - Father**
- LeRoy Geohagen - Father**
- Darin Muchmore - Mother**

July Birthdays



Bob Abbruzzesse	7/18
Chris Anderson	7/22
Nick Barrios	7/26
Rick Cabrera	7/19
Tony Giovannetti	7/22
Al Hernandez	7/4
Robert Leaphart	7/3
Bryan Russell	7/23
Eric Wilmer	7/30
Steve Wu	7/1

Dispatch Award

Public Safety Dispatcher Kelley Ubelhor received the Riverside County EMS Dispatcher of the Year Award on June 22 at a ceremony at the Riverside County Regional Medical Center. The following people attended the ceremony: Kelley's supervisor, Diana Silva; Communications Manager Sgt Lisa Williams; Public Safety Dispatch Training Supervisor Sherry McMillan; Communications Systems Analyst John Wright; Deputy Chief Oran Pentz; FF/PM Chuck Clements. This was the second year in a row that a Riverside City PSD earned the award. Congratulations to Kelley.



Accomplishments

6 practical: Ray Orozco, Chris Boykin, David Juarez

Downtown Dinner

Roger Cutshall and Christopher Stamper were the chefs who prepared a dinner for 20 folks at the Downtown Fire Station. This was for an auctioned dinner purchased by the Rivera and Rine families. The dinner took place on June 28th.



Spirit of Courage Award

FF/PM Jeff Lewis was selected to receive the Burn Institute's prestigious Spirit of Courage Award. He received the award at a ceremony on Sat, June 20 at the Highland Springs Resort in Cherry Valley. Chief Earley asked all personnel to join him in congratulating Jeff on his accomplishment.



Photo Album



L to R: Eng Jason Tinsman is AIQ; Anna Huldren and Norma Pagan participate in CERT CPR class on June 13; Captain Jay at Lime Fire; Auto Extrication shift training; B shift engine certification class look under the cab



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L to R: Group photo at banquet following 1st Annual Ed Teran Memorial Golf Tournament; Dana Roa's canine friends, Lilah and Charlie ham it up for the camera; DC Lesh readies for his swim at Swiftwater training in Blythe; Vince Rodgers and Dave Hernandez put on their rally caps at the Ed Teran Golf Tournament; DC Pentz and Chief Earley at informal badge presentation

