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9/11 MEMORIAL

In Honor of Those Who Gave Their Lives

Long before smart-phones, YouTube, and before most junior high age kids were even born, nearly 3,000 people, including 343 firefighters and 60 police officers, lost their lives in the 9/11 terrorist attack in New York City.

After years of planning and fundraising, a public memorial is being constructed to honor those who perished on 9/11. The memorial will contain several items on display, with space to sit, remember, and contemplate.

Three years ago on the 10th anniversary of the attack, two SKF&R firefighters drove their pickup truck to New York City to retrieve a piece of steel I-beam from the World Trade Center. In addition, they collected a large rock from Shanksville, PA, the crash site of Flight 93. Todd Beamer was on Flight 93 along with 39 other souls. This month SKF&R will receive a 150-pound block of limestone from the Pentagon, bringing together items from each of the three crash sites.

From the artist's rendition of the memorial (below right), you can see that the outside walls are pentagon shaped with the 1,217 pound I-beam located in the middle of the 400 square foot viewing area. The inside walls of the memorial will be engraved with the names of the victims of the 9/11 tragedy. The memorial will be surrounded by a water feature, with the Pentagon limestone and rock from Flight 93 prominently displayed in the landscaping around the monument.

Building this memorial has been a community project. Off-duty firefighters are mostly responsible for constructing the monument. Businesses, fire departments, service groups and individual citizens have donated thousands of dollars, including supplies, tool rentals and professional services.

One major part of the memorial still needs to be completed. The granite slabs engraved with the names of each of the 2,977 people who lost their lives that day need to be purchased and installed.

The memorial is located in front of SKF&R Station 64, 3700 S 320th Street in Federal Way, and will be dedicated on September 11, 2014, with more details to be announced. Everyone is invited to attend that day or any day to experience this important piece of our history that must not be forgotten.

Lt. Scott Mahlen and firefighter Sven Schievink used two weeks of vacation to drive to NYC, Washington, DC and Shanksville, PA to retrieve the steel and stone to be enshrined in the 9/11 memorial at 3700 S 320th Street in front of Station 64.



Lt. Chris Burdyshaw oversees construction of the memorial where items from all three 9/11 crash sites will be on display for all to see and experience.

SKF&R would like to recognize the generous companies who have donated to this project:

- Alaska Airlines
- Archterra Landscaping
- Corbet Concrete Pumping
- Corliss Concrete
- Custom Concrete Impression
- D&A Electric
- Ewing Supply
- Federal Way Collision
- Federal Way Home Depot
- Hodge Engineering
- Hot Iron Design
- Leary Foundation
- Lloyds Sand & Gravel
- Phoenix Home Maintenance
- Rodda Paint
- Scoreboard Pub
- United Rentals
- Woodman Life Insurance

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS LASTING MEMORIAL YOU MAY DO SO BY:

- Mailing a donation to: **911 Memorial Fund**
31617 1st Ave S
Federal Way, WA 98003
- Or online at: www.southkingfire.org
and click on "Donate"
- Or stop by: **Station 62 HQ**
31617 1st Ave S

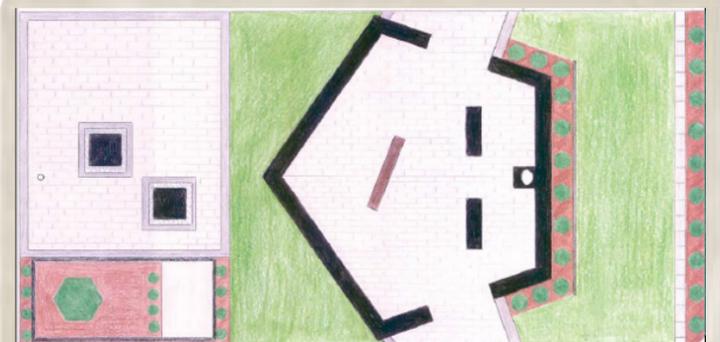
THANK YOU!

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE REMINDED OF THE DEDICATION CEREMONY AND OTHER HAPPENINGS AT SKF&R VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.southkingfire.org and click "notify me"



The setting will include a water feature, seating, and a stalwart pear tree, the only tree to have survived at Ground Zero.



Meet Our Newest Recruits . . .



Cory Freeborn

Hello,
My name is Cory Freeborn. I live with my wife Andrea and our 9 month old baby boy, Jack. I started as a volunteer firefighter in 2005 and have been working as a career firefighter since 2010 in Centralia where I was recently laid off. In my spare time I enjoy boating, hunting, and traveling. I serve as an active volunteer with a disaster response team. I am excited about being a part of South King Fire and Rescue!



Brenden Lowery

Good day! My name is Brenden Lowery and I am from Port Orchard. I started my journey in the fire service at South Kitsap Fire and Rescue, and I am very excited to begin my next chapter in life as a South King firefighter! When I am not at work, I enjoy spending time with family and friends, camping, playing music, playing sports, and participating in community events.



Craig Ellenbolt

Hello,
My name is Craig Ellenbolt. I live with my wife Carrie, and son Kaden. We enjoy hunting, fishing, and camping outdoors. I come to South King Fire & Rescue with 23 years of fire service experience, with 12 years as a career firefighter. I was recently laid off from Riverside Fire Authority in Centralia.



Nick Kostecky

Hello there, my name is Nick Kostecky. I live in Puyallup with my wife Rochell. We enjoy spending time outdoors and being active with crossfit and other sports. I have an AT degree in Fire Science from Bates Technical College, and have been a part of the fire service for 9 years. I have 1 1/2 years of career experience at Melane Black Lake Fire Department where I was faced with a layoff notice which allowed me to make the move to South King Fire and Rescue.

A Night in the Life of a Firefighter *Part 4 of a 4-part series . . .*

. . . we finally get back to the fire station well into the evening. We're famished, but must replace the dirty fire hose with clean hose and get our engine fully back in-service for the next call before we can eat. We are dispatched to an electrical odor in a home just as we get started cleaning the dirty hose. At the scene we can tell something has overheated by the odor inside, and experience tells us to check the ballasts in the fluorescent lighting. We use our heat-seeking camera to look for heat in each lighting fixture and soon find the culprit. We advise the occupant to turn off the affected light and call an electrician in the morning.

As we clear the scene, we see a man waving at us from a bus stop across the street and stop to see what he needs. It turns out he has a burn on his hand that is bothering him. It occurred about two weeks ago, but since we were driving by, he thought maybe we could treat him. We call our dispatch center to let them know we are assisting a citizen, and they log-in the call for us. We clean and bandage the gentleman's hand and tell him to stop in at a clinic tomorrow to see if he needs further treatment. He reminds us that we smell like wet dogs from our earlier fire.

Back at the station we send our rookie to the kitchen to warm up some dinner so we can grab a quick bite if we get the chance. We finish cleaning the hose, and race to a long-needed shower and...you guessed it!...the next call comes in as we step out of the showers. We know how to dress within seconds and at least we are in clean clothes. Off we go to a nice lady with flu-like symptoms. She's been sick for three days and has reached the end of her rope tonight. She's stable; just dehydrated and tired of feeling sick. Her husband says he can drive her to the hospital, so we cancel the ambulance ride and off they go.

When we return to the station this time, we make sure all our equipment is ready to go, then we eat a quick meal, clean up the kitchen, and collapse in our bunks as it is nearing midnight. After a couple hours of rest, we are alerted to a call for a man who has awakened from his sleep with chest pain. The King County Medics are also sent due to the serious nature of this call. When the paramedics arrive we already have the patient's full history for them as well as having placed the patient on a heart monitor and breathing pure oxygen. He clearly is having a cardiac episode, so we assist the paramedics in their treatment, and they transport him to the nearest hospital.

We don't always have a constantly busy night shift, but it appears to be one of those nights. No one complains; again we love our work and we know how important the work is to our citizens. We help people (our Mission Statement); day or night we'll be there when you call. Sure enough, we receive another call a couple of hours later. This one is an automatic fire alarm at a business that has had a recent history of false alarms with their system. Our Fire Marshal's Office (FMO) has been working with them to get their system repaired, but that hasn't happened yet. We still respond, because you never know for sure that it will be a false alarm. We can't, or won't, take that risk. However, this one is false again. We send a note to our FMO when we get back so that they can follow up again with the business owner in the morning.

It is now nearing 6:00am so no sense trying to get a few more minutes of sleep. We put the coffee on and pick up the morning newspaper from the front door when we get a call for a lady who may have suffered a stroke during the night. Her husband awoke to find her not acting normal and called us for help. New advances in treatment have put an emphasis on time as a priority for stroke patients. We request an ambulance transport

while we are on the way so that we can get her to the hospital immediately if indeed she shows symptoms that can be treated. We arrive and check the patient's vital signs and we immediately load her into an ambulance and send her to a hospital to get the treatment that can minimize her condition and any long-term effects.

As we arrive back at the station, the oncoming firefighters are starting to show up for their day. We get what will be our final call of the day, a fire sprinkler in a newer apartment building has activated. We are not sure why, but our dispatch center has not sent a full fire response, so there must not have been a fire. When we arrive, the apartment is soaked. Apparently, the occupant was ironing her clothes and hanging them from the sprinkler head right in front of her. She says she knew sprinkler heads are not designed to hang things from, but it was convenient at the time. She is so sorry we had to respond, but we know accidents happen. This however, will take a couple of hours to clean up. We stop the water flow quickly and go about trying to salvage the damage. We're there about an hour, past our time for shift change, so firefighters coming on-duty arrive in a pickup truck to relieve us. We swap our personal firefighting gear with theirs and fill them in on the status of our work and the plan for completing it.

It's been a long day; 16 calls for service in 24 hours. Not unusual, but busier than normal. We roll into the station, stow our gear, and say goodbye to each other as some dash off to their families to drive their kids to school or to do other activities. I sit and wonder what the next shift will bring and I smile....what a great profession and career. I quietly thank the community for allowing me to do it.

Day or night, we'll be there when you call



Mud Slide in Oso *Recovery Efforts by SKF&R Firefighters*

On March 24th, three days after the disaster, SKF&R sent five firefighters with specialized training to help in the rescue and recovery efforts of the mud-slide tragedy in Oso and Darrington, WA. Lieutenants Roy Smith and Shane Smith, along with firefighters Paul Mernaugh, Gary White and Travis McKenney, are part of SKF&R's Rescue Team and the Federal Emergency Management Association's (FEMA) specialized Federal Emergency Task Force (FETF) Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team that is sent to emergencies throughout the country.

The team consisted of 76 firefighters from around the region and two semi-trailers loaded with equipment. Our firefighters worked dawn to dusk for twelve days, joining nearly 200 community volunteers and other trained professionals. The search area was more than one square mile that consisted of mud, trees, rain, septic and fuel tanks, mixed with parts of homes, garages and vehicles in piles up to 50 feet deep. Two weeks after the disaster began, three of our members were relieved by fresh USAR team members along with SKF&R firefighters Capt. Tom Thorson and Lt. Scott Mahlen. SKF&R

firefighter Randy White, who flies helicopters for the National Guard Reserve, was also deployed as part of the massive response effort.

The recovery process is a painstakingly thorough and compassionate search for victims. It requires heavy equipment, hands-on searching, and digging by firefighters and specially trained search dogs.

FEMA maintains 26 highly-trained and self-sufficient search and rescue teams throughout the US, made up of local firefighters. Each team member has a specialty such

as rescue technician, logistics technician, driver, etc. Enhanced training is provided by their local fire department and FEMA. FEMA reimburses the local fire department for the costs associated by the team's absence when they are deployed.

SKF&R is fortunate to have nine firefighters who participate in the USAR team. The skills that our firefighters learn from the USAR team help us prepare to better serve our community.

In 2012, SKF&R received an extensive breaching and shoring equipment package from a Homeland Security grant. This equipment, plus our trained firefighters, benefits the region and our community in the event that a disaster like the one in Oso happens locally.



From left to right: Gary White, Lt Shane Smith, Paul Mernaugh, Lt Roy Smith, Travis McKenney



Devastation in the OSO area



Cleaning up after a hard day



A very tired and hard-working volunteer

From the Chief's Desk *A Message from Dr Allen D Church, EdD*



Happy Spring!!!

After a winter that began dry with a limited snowpack, to an early spring that came in with monsoon-like rains and a deeper than average amount of snow in our mountains, I have no doubt that everyone is looking forward to a bright and sunny springtime. I hope

that all of our citizens in Federal Way, Des Moines, and the unincorporated portion of King County that we protect and serve have a wonderful spring and summer. Along with having fun, however, remember to stay safe,.

As I reach my 37th year of serving you, first as a firefighter and now for the last thirteen years as your Fire Chief/Administrator, I continue to be proud and humbled by the men and women of our fire department who serve you each and every day. I have received numerous cards, letters, and verbal thanks for our dedicated members' efforts serving our respected citizens. That is truly what we are all about, serving and assisting YOU, during your time of need. We are honored to be there for you 24/7/365.

We are also honored to be working with our partners in public safety both in Federal Way and Des Moines. With the recent appointment of Police Chief Andy Hwang in Federal Way, it establishes an incredible team of police chiefs and police departments that we, in the fire service, consider our partners as we work together in serving our communities. Police Chief Andy Hwang, and Police Chief George Delgado of Des Moines, both represent high levels of integrity and

outstanding leadership which makes it a continued honor to work with them day in and day out. Their departments mirror their leadership, making for an incredible team of police officers and firefighters serving the needs within the SKF&R boundaries.

Over the past five years the community and your fire department have worked together to weather the difficult storm brought on by the worst recession this country has seen since the Great Depression of the 1930s. With citizen support we managed to reduce our expenditures, eliminated the threat of pro-rationing from further reducing our revenues, strengthened our income through the leveraging of federal grants and a citizen-approved maintenance and operations levy, and managed our finances conservatively and well within the legal requirements imposed upon governmental entities (as demonstrated through our 12th straight year of receiving a clean audit report from the State Auditor's office). All of these moving parts enabled your fire department to emerge from the recession in a strong position, and moving ahead once again to meet the expanding needs of our citizens.

Make no mistake, your fire department still has numerous challenges ahead of us as we examine potential partnership opportunities with neighboring fire agencies, with a goal of determining if we can gain efficiencies through collaboration. We are working through the challenge of balancing capital needs (equipment, apparatus, and facilities) with ongoing operational needs (maintaining and/or expanding the number of response crews in order to keep up with the growing number of emergency responses, which totaled over 16,000 in 2013 alone); and working through a number of other challenges (some would say "opportunities") associated with serving a large community spread out over 40 square miles. In the final analysis, the leadership within the fire district, from the elected Board of Fire Commissioners to the entire organization, continue to work together with the simple goal of ensuring we live up to our mission statement:

We help people by responding with professional Fire Department services.

It is truly our honor to ensure we live up to those words!!!

Support Divisions *Fleet Maintenance*

In 2013 SKF&R responded to more than 16,000 calls, averaging 45 responses per day. Our fire engines and ladder trucks are strategically positioned for the quickest response to fire and emergency medical incidents. In areas of high call volumes, aid cars are assigned to maintain short response times and improve availability. Every SKF&R response apparatus carries the necessary equipment to perform fire and emergency management (aid) services. In a 24/7 operation, this work-load requires constant maintenance of each apparatus.



Steve Denton, Jason Fent & Terry Walvoord

Safe emergency response vehicles are essential in providing Fire and Emergency Medical Responses to the community. Fortunately, in 1973, SKF&R prioritized fleet maintenance by hiring its first mechanic. Today, three certified fire apparatus mechanics maintain the entire fleet. The SKF&R mechanics are experts in their field. Fleet Supervisor Steve Denton has worked at SKF&R for 28 years and mechanics Terry Walvoord and Jason Fent have a combined 18 years. These three mechanics perform essential tasks that assist firefighters in achieving the department's mission of "helping people."

Quick facts about the SKF&R fleet:

- Fleet Total: 54 vehicles including emergency response apparatus, fire-boat, staff vehicles, special operations apparatus and equipment trailers
- Response Apparatus: 6 front-line engines, 4 reserve engines, 2 ladder trucks, 3 aid cars and 2 reserve aid cars
- Oldest Apparatus: 1991 Pierce Ladder Truck
- Newest Apparatus: 2010 Pierce Fire Engine
- Oldest Staff Vehicle: 1999
- Newest Staff Vehicle: 2008
- 2013 Miles Traveled: 210,021
- Average Mileage on Fire Engines: 100,548
- Average Mileage on Staff Vehicles: 60,000
- Average Fuel Economy: Fire Engines 6mpg, Aid Cars 10.6mpg
- Annual Fuel Cost: \$158,000
- Fire Boat: 1987 32' fire/rescue boat powered by twin 250hp outboards

A well-planned apparatus replacement schedule is important in keeping front line and reserve apparatus responding safely. Due to the recession, SKF&R further delayed apparatus replacements; choosing instead to keep firefighters on the street, responding to emergencies. As a result, vehicle servicing and maintenance has significantly increased with the aging fleet.

Getting firefighters to fire and EMS emergencies is our number one priority. Fortunately, SKF&R has dedicated mechanics that maintain the apparatus to the highest standards possible. Our mechanics play an important role in maintaining a safe and timely emergency response to our community.

Did you know ??

- ... Fire engines can pump over 1,500 gallons of water per minute. They have a 500 gallon water tank that can be pumped dry in 20 seconds! This is why fire hydrants are so important to us all.
- ... The ladder truck has a maximum reach of 105 feet; higher than the tallest structure in our service area.
- ... It takes \$20,000 above the purchase price to outfit a responding fire department staff vehicle with lights, sirens, etc. We transfer as much emergency equipment as possible to the next vehicle to keep our costs down.

2013 Incident Summary

Medical	12,295
Good Intent.....	375
False.....	1443
Public Assist	526
Fire	395
Haz Mat.....	262
Other	107
Rupture/Explosion	55
Weather.....	28
Total.....	15,486
calls outside district.....	922

Total calls 2013	Total calls 2012
16,408	16,288



Fall Prevention *One Step Ahead*

We've all seen the television commercial where someone "has fallen and can't get up," and on average, SKF&R will see three people every day who are in this very situation (1,469 falls in 2013), which is about 9% of our calls.

Statistically, over one-third of people over the age of 65 fall at least once each year and 10-15% of those incidents are serious enough to warrant a trip to the emergency room.

SKF&R has teamed up with the King County Public Health Department to help prevent some of these potential serious falls through the One-Step-Ahead Fall-Prevention Program.

The program is designed for people over 55 who live independently in their own home and have fallen in the past six months.

A public health specialist will come to your home and create a comprehensive plan that includes: education and skill-building to increase knowledge about fall risk factors; exercises to improve strength and balance; home modifications to reduce fall hazards; and medication assessment to minimize side-effects. These will be offered at little or no cost to the participants.

If you or someone you know could benefit from this program, contact the One-Step-Ahead Program directly by calling 206-263-8544, or if you have questions and would like further information, call the SKF&R Community Affairs Office at 253-946-7347.

STATION 62 - HEADQUARTERS

31617 1st Avenue South, Federal Way, WA 98003; 253-839-6234

www.southkingfire.org



SKF&R Website