



Special Edition



YEARS OF SERVICE
1947-2022

FIRE DISTRICT 8
proudly serves the
communities of:

- Moran Prairie
- Glenrose
- Hangman Hills
- Valleyford
- Bella Vista
- Mica
- Painted Hills
- Ponderosa
- Saltese
- Morningside Heights



Original Valleyford
Fire Station #2

www.scf8.org
509-926-6699



CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF SERVICE, DEDICATION, AND EXCELLENCE

A Brief History of SCFD 8

In **early 1947** several community minded citizens got together to discuss the formation of a fire district to serve the communities south of the City of Spokane and Fire District 1, which serves the Spokane Valley.

On **Tuesday, August 19, 1947**, a special election was held; and, on **August 29, 1947**, Spokane County Auditor, Lee P. Salmon and Spokane County Commissioners Wylie W. Brown, T. T. Grant and H. A. Raymond approved the formation of the Fire District. A special meeting of the first Board of Fire Commissioners was held on **September 15, 1947**, at 2801 S. Cherry Lane, Glenrose, for the purpose of establishing the Fire District. William C. Bahme of Moran, C. M. Meenach of Valleyford and A. B. Crisler of Mica were elected as the first Fire Commissioners of the District. F.R. Chamberlin was chosen as Secretary pro tem.



*The District took delivery of the first fire truck in **August 1949**. The truck was parked at the Chief's house and at McClung's wrecking yard on the north side of 57th and Regal.*

July 10, 1973: The Board of Fire Commissioners approved the purchase of land for a Ponderosa Fire Station.

November 1974: The Ponderosa Fire Station was completed and named Fire Station 4. In **1980** additional bay and resident quarters were added. This station is still in service and is known as Fire Station 84.

Annexation of the Saltese area into the Fire District occurred in **1989**. To serve this area Fire Station 5 was built and completed in **1990**. This station is still in service today and is known as Fire Station 85.

Fire Station 81, which is located at 61st/Palouse Hwy, was constructed in **2002**, and was built on property that was previously owned by former Fire Chief Walter Lasz.

AS WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE

While no one knows what the future might hold, we believe there are many things you can count on with confidence.

The Firefighters, Paramedics and EMTs, leadership and support teams — both professionals and

October 9, 1951: The Board of Fire Commissioners agreed to purchase the old Valleyford Bank building to be used as a fire station called Station 2. A new Fire Station 2 was constructed in 1980 on the Palouse Hwy. It is still in service today and is known as Fire Station 82.

January 1962: A Fire Station in Mica was completed and named Fire Station 3. That station is no longer in service.

volunteers alike — will continue to serve with the same level of dedication, commitment, and devotion you've come to depend on.

As we look ahead to the next 75 years, we remain committed to



Lonnie Rash, Fire Chief, SCFD8

If you have any questions or suggestions about how we can serve you better, please email me at lrash@scfd8.org or give me a call on my cell phone at 509-370-9801.

Follow us on social media and visit our website, scfd8.org, to see more 75th celebrations!

the wise and responsible use of the resources entrusted to us. Protecting the safety and health of the people and communities we serve is the reason we're here — and that will never change.

SCFD 8 WELCOMES FOUR NEW FIREFIGHTERS TO THE TEAM

By **Brad Mertens**, Lieutenant with Spokane County Fire District 8, Academy Instructor, Washington State Fire Academy

Two new Firefighter EMTs and two new Firefighter Paramedics are the direct result of last year's voter-approved levy. They spent twelve weeks together in the classroom and on the drill ground at the Washington State Fire Academy in Northbend. While there, the new recruits completed five-hundred hours of required training and learned traditions of the fire service. Their success at the academy would not have been possible without the support and commitment from their families and friends.

Bob Kaiser graduated class *Valedictorian*. The Valedictorian award goes to the recruit who has the overall highest test scores. Bob started off with a perfect score on his first test, and in fact, he had seven perfect scores and finished with an average of 100%.

CONTINUED BELOW



Left to Right: FF/EMT Bob Kaiser, FF/EMT Ethan Dreves, Lt. Brad Mertens Academy Instructor, FF/PM Alek Holmstrom and FF/PM Brian Jamieson.

Fire 8 Flyer



Fire 8 Flyer is a publication of
Spokane County Fire District 8

12100 E Palouse Highway | PO Box 345
Valleyford WA 99036



Lonnie Rash, Fire Chief
Lee C. Boling, Commissioner
Greg Hesse, Commissioner
Andy Rorie, Commissioner

YEARS OF SERVICE
CELEBRATION

Would you like to receive the Fire 8 Flyer and other correspondence via email?

Send your name and email address to
admin@scfd8.org to join our mailing list.

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SPOKANE, WA
PERMIT #4

NEW FIREFIGHTERS (cont'd)

Ethan Dreves earned the *First Due Truck Company award*. This award goes to the recruit with a strong desire to perfect their skills and one who has a "can do, will do" attitude. They consistently help others get better and perfect their techniques in various firefighting skills. This recruit puts more pressure on themselves to perform their job and improve their skills, and stands out among their peers. They own up to mistakes, learn from them and become better because of them. When in a leadership role, Ethan led by example and with humility. When part of the team, he performed well and helped others when necessary.

Alex Holmstrom earned the *First Due Engine Company award*. This award goes to the recruit who has consistently shown a desire to be a role model within their community and for other recruits. Alex showed up every day at the academy with a plan to become a great firefighter. If he made a mistake along the way, he owned up to it, learned from it and became a better firefighter as a result. Alex was accountable when serving as an engine company leader and helped ensure the success of the engine company when he was not.

Brian Jamieson did a great job during the academy and academically finished top ten in his class. FF/PM Jamieson has previous firefighting experience and excelled at gaining new skills during the academy. His "you can do this" attitude had an impact on other recruits who had no previous firefighting experience. Brian enjoys the outdoors, spending time with his family and video editing. He created the Recruit Class 2022-02 class video and did a great job. The class video is a fire academy tradition that allows the new firefighters an opportunity to reflect on the skills they learned and the relationships they made.