



*A Bi-Monthly Publication for the Friends and Firefighters of the Stayton Fire District*

[www.staytonfire.org](http://www.staytonfire.org)

March-April



## **FROM THE CHIEF'S DESK**—*Fire Chief Jay Alley*

March madness is here! This month we will be honoring members of the district for a great year in 2023. All members contributed to a successful year and many accomplishments.

Rhonda is in the final month of her full-time employment with the district, 24.5 years of outstanding service. Rhonda will be working back part-time for a month to continue helping Julia learn the position and help me with the budget process. Rhonda's smile and knowledge will be missed, but she assures me she will check in on us. Congratulations on retirement, well deserved!!!

Julia Budlong, who we hired to fill Rhonda's position, started March 18<sup>th</sup>. She was quickly thrown into the fire with learning a new payroll program for the district, budget process, annual banquet, and the multitude of responsibilities and tasks Rhonda does.

Julia has been a rock star and is a fast learner. We are lucky to bring such a talented individual to our team.

We are recruiting to fill the position left vacant from AC Kintz being promoted. We are now accepting applications and once the assessment center is complete, we will bring on another 40-hour week employee.

We have completed just over 1.5 years with the shift crews and have seen many positive outcomes and decreased response times. We have had some challenges along the way and worked through them, we continue to grow as a combination department.

Finally, it is budget time of year, we enter into the coming budget year in a good position after accomplishing several projects. Thank you to every member of the district and awarded grants for keeping the district financially stable.



**THANK YOU RHONDA!**  
(the real Chief of the District)

## **STAYTON FIRE WELCOMES OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBER**



Ken Rich was raised on a farm in the hills of West Salem. He and his wife Sue are graduates of South Salem High School. He actively served in Naval Aviation from 1964 to 1968, then active reserve until discharge in 1970. During Ken's military service, he went through fire-fighting training.

Ken worked for the City of Salem Water Department for 43 years until retirement. While employed with the Salem Water Department, Ken was called upon to work closely with the Salem Fire Dept. on many occasions.

After raising their children in Keizer, Ken and Sue moved to their home on a small acreage in Linn County in 1997 and started raising llamas.

Ken began attending Stayton Fire Board meetings in Oct 2023 as an observer. He attended classes in Board member training in November in Seaside at the OFDDA conference. Ken was sworn in as our newest Board Member on Feb 12, 2024.

## VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT

Recruitment has been working with multiple businesses and organizations lately for upcoming events. Some of the events are Suzy's Taqueria firefighter fundraiser and the Canyon Service Center firefighter recognition project.

I'm working hard on getting another reader board for recruitment use as well as distributing more recruitment media into the community. We've had a lot of new interest cards for volunteering which is exciting. Next month we will be hosting an open house at Marion station to pull more first responders into our departments.



## UPDATE ON RECENT PURCHASES

-Assistant Chief Kintz

### SCBA Update

We have received the new SCBA, masks, and cylinders that were purchased on the 2022 AFG grant. We are currently in the process of putting inventory numbers on them and entering them into inventory. We will be doing some in service training in the next month or so as well as mask fit testing before we issue masks and place packs into service. We will still need to purchase extra batteries, chargers, and fill station adaptors before we can place them into service.

### Hose Order

We received the remainder of the hose order earlier this month. Once it has been inventoried, we can place it in service. All of the apparatus has been upgraded with the new hose.

### Wildland Pants

Most of the new wildland pants have arrived. We are still waiting on 7 pairs that are back ordered. We are hopeful that the remaining pants will arrive soon so that we can get them issued and in service for the upcoming wildland season. Partial funding for this purchase was through a Siletz Tribal grant that we received in 2023. The grant provided approximately 50% of the cost of this purchase.

*Chief and I would like to sincerely thank everyone who participated in the research, product evaluations, and grant process in helping make these purchases possible. Your continued support of the District's fiscal policies and seeking other means of securing funds allows the District to continue to provide quality PPE and supplies to meet our safety and operational needs.*

## WELCOME JULIA!

Julia Budlong comes to us from the Department of Public Safety Standards & Training (DPSST) serving previously as a Fire Program Support Specialist. In this role, she provided complex administrative support to both Fire Training and Fire Certification.



Julia is driven by her passion for serving the community and the Oregon Fire Service. While working for DPSST's multi-faceted Fire Program, she honed many skills that closely align with her new position with Stayton Fire District. Julia believes in Stayton Fire District's Mission, Vision, and Values as they mirror her own personal ideologies.

Julia was affiliated with Public Safety even before her time at DPSST. She worked directly with incarcerated youth ranging from 12-25 years old at Oak Creek Youth Correctional Facility.

Julia was born in Salem, Oregon and grew up in the wonderful town of Stayton. Julia relocated to Spokane, WA in 2000 and resided there for 14 years before making her way back to the town she once called home.

When Julia isn't working, she is raising her two young daughters, Naia and Zahra. Their enthusiasm for life is what drives her to be the best version of herself. Julia enjoys spending time on her family's property in the mountains of Mill City. Cooking and candle-making allow for a comforting and creative outlet in her down time.

Julia is excited and feels very fortunate to start the next chapter in her career at Stayton Fire District and to serve the community she loves.

Stop by the station any time and help us welcome Julia to the District!

## DISTRICT ANNIVERSARIES

C

**April**

Adam Bailey—20 years

Craig Griffith—18 years

O

N

**May**

Jay Alley—39 years

Taunie Alley—25 years

Micole Heater—1 year

G

R

Richelle Lundervold—1 year

Michael Odenthal—24 years

A

**June**

Wyatt McDougall—3 years

Alexander Mitchell—1 year

T

S

Doug Smith—13 years

### **THANK YOU FOR 145 YEARS OF SERVICE!**

*New Sign!*

**Thank you OSFM for providing Stayton Fire District a new Fire Danger sign!**



Located on North Fork Road just up from Highway 22.

## DISTRICT BIRTHDAYS

### April

1st—Ashley Griffith

12th—Jay Alley

17th—Bradford Dees

18th—Gene Dershewitz

26th—Braedon Davidson

### May

9th—Tim Wilson

13th—Rachael Potter

13th—Barbara Nelson

14th—Kurt Hueller

16th—Allyson Wren

21st—Scott Orr

### June

3rd—Cody Murphy

5th—Dan Houston

10th—Nicholas Lulay

11th—Taunie Alley

14th—Craig Griffith

17th—Marcus Andrews

17th—James McDougall

24th—Christopher Nichols



*Stayton Fire District's 2023 Awards Banquet was held on March 23, 2024, to celebrate our members' accomplishments and years of service. We want to congratulate the following personnel:*

### LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS

#### **5 Years:**

Firefighters: Marcus Andrews, Brian Harris, and Antonio Johnson

EMS Responder Craig Randall

#### **7 Years:**

Support Member: Dana Orr

Firefighters: Mike Beaumont and Daniel Koellmann

#### **10 Years:**

Lieutenant Scott Cooper

Engineer James McDougall

#### **15 Years:**

Support Member Kristin Griffith

#### **20 Years:**

Captain Kurt Hueller

#### **30 Years:**

Captain Sherry Bensema

#### **Life Membership:**

Board Director Jay Myers (24 years of service)

Board Director Ray Porter (34 years of service)

### DISTRICT AWARDS

**Volunteer Service With Pride Award:** FF Jonathan Jensen

**Rookie of the Year:** Recruit Sean Mullins

**Support Person of the Year:** Kristin Griffith

**Officer of the Year:** Lt. Kelly Oliver

**Medic of the Year:** FF/EMT Cody Murphy

**Firefighter of the Year:** Jonathan Jensen



## SVPC#1 Pancake Breakfast

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**When:** Sunday, May 19, 2024—8am-11am

**Where:** Stayton Station—1988 W. Ida St Stayton, OR 97383

**Type:** Community Event

**Cost:** Adults \$10; Children 5-13 years old \$8

**Details:** Volunteer Firefighters and Support members will serve all-you-can-eat Pancakes, Ham, & Eggs hot off the grill. This is our largest fundraiser of the year and a long-standing community tradition. Enjoy some great food and get to know your neighbors. We look forward to seeing you there!



## SVPC#1's 34th Annual Golf Tournament

**When:** Saturday, June 22, 2024—7:30am-2:00pm

**Where:** Santiam Golf Club— 8724 Golf Club RD SE Aumsville, OR 97325

**Type:** Community Event

**Details:** Stayton Volunteer Protection Co. #1's 34th Annual Golf Tournament to benefit the Legacy Oregon Burn Center and Willamette Valley Fire Responder Chaplains. The tournament is a 4-person scramble. The tournament is limited to the first 30 paid teams.

To register or sponsor the event, visit [www.staytonfire.org](http://www.staytonfire.org) then click "Golf Tournament" from the right side menu.

*The registration deadline is June 8th. For registration information, please get in touch with our Volunteer Golf Registrar at [golfregistrar@staytonfire.org](mailto:golfregistrar@staytonfire.org).*

**Cost:** \$400 Per Team (4-person)

**Fees Include:** 18 holes of golf, 2 golf carts, and lunch.



# Congratulations CORNER



Congratulations to new grandparents Doug & Cindy Kintz! Welcome to the world Mallory!



Congratulations to new parents Scott and Melany Orr! Welcome to the world Spencer!



1988 W. Ida St.  
Stayton, OR 97383