



# Lake Stevens Fire Dispatch

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## *Touching Lives Today – Planning for Tomorrow*



### **It's All About the Service**

Article by Chief Gary Faucett

Recently our department adopted a new motto. It reflects the values of Lake Stevens Fire. We're about *"Touching Lives Today ~ Planning for Tomorrow"*. In this newsletter, I would like to address the first part of this motto, *"Touching Lives Today"*. How does Lake Stevens Fire touch lives? Have you ever

heard a salesperson say, "...what makes us better is our service"? In the past when I've heard these words my tendency was to dismiss them as just another cliché.

Since coming to Lake Stevens as your new Fire Chief I've been able to observe and evaluate the services Lake Stevens Fire provides to our community. What I quickly found out reminded me of that salesperson's words, "...what makes us better is our service". As I see your support for us, I ask the question why. Is it because we have such a good response time? Is it because we have superior vehicles and equipment? The answer to these questions is no. We are always striving towards better response times. There is always a better piece of equipment on the market. The answer is found in those words, "...what makes us better is our service".

So what is that saying about our fire fighters, officers, and administration? After all, we know that people are a company's most valuable asset, right? The answers to both of these questions are synonymous with one another; to have great service you must have great people. Lake Stevens Fire personnel serve our community and they serve us well. It's our fire fighters, officers and administration who make the difference and ultimately provide us the great level of service we receive. Lake Stevens Fire has a great team and they are unique to our community.

I am proud to be the Fire Chief of such great people. Our community can be proud of the service received from Lake Stevens Fire. We do not take our commitment lightly, we are always working to improve the way we do business, provide the best service possible, and do it better than anyone else. It isn't just about the Fire Chief and his leadership; it's about our entire team. It isn't just about having the best equipment; it's about the team of people who use the equipment. I've yet to have a citizen compliment me on how well our fire engine pumped water or how well the defibrillator performed. However I do receive many calls and letters thanking us for the great service our people provide. It's all about our service and our people. Our people make the difference. As your Fire Chief I assure you the Lake Stevens community will always receive the best customer service possible with the resources we have available.

So it is true after all, "...what makes us better is our service." Ultimately, it's the integrity of our service we offer our community as we go about *"Touching Lives Today"*.

### *Our Community Message:*

*#1 Preserve Essential Services*

*#2 Maximize Our Resources*

*#3 Stabilize District Funding*

*#4 Improve Community Communications*

### **Opportunity Leads to Top Notch Medics!**

Article by Laana Larson

Lake Stevens Fire needed additional paramedics and opted to offer the training to fire fighters within our department. Our career fire fighters were unable to make the one year commitment without pay. We then offered this opportunity to our part-time fire fighters. We knew they were capable and already worked well with our full-time fire fighters.

Throughout the testing process we had two candidates consistently score high. We asked Harborview if we could send two candidates. It is highly unusual to have any part-time fire fighters in their paramedic program, even more so two from the same department. The Director of Paramedic Training at Harborview commented, "These are your guys, if you think they are quality people I am going to trust you on that." And upon the recommendation of Deputy Chief Lingenfelter, both Brandon Mauer and Patrick Terry were accepted into Harborview's Paramedic Training program.

Financially, this was an amazing opportunity for us at Lake Stevens Fire. The Medic One Foundation funded 100% of the tuition for both of them. In return, both Mauer and Terry made a commitment to work with us at Lake Stevens Fire. What an incredible investment in our future!

Mauer commented, "The training was intense and it is because of the hands on training we received that we are well prepared for the job." Terry echoed his comments, "Our training was tough and expectations were high. Harborview gave us the chance to train with their emergency room, operating room, critical incident care unit, neurology, burn unit and children's hospital. It was an amazing learning opportunity."

The Director of Paramedic Training at Harborview stated, "Mauer and Terry are some of the best medics that have ever come out of our Harborview Paramedic Training program."

As recent graduates from paramedic training, both Mauer and Terry have had a series of evaluated patient contacts to determine how they are doing in the field. Both of them excelled through this process. Not only is their patient care top notch, so is their attitude and professionalism.

Deputy Chief Lingenfelter commented, "We feel both Mauer and Terry are tremendous additions to our department. During their evaluation process, they have received nothing but praise for their patient care, knowledge, and professionalism."

Brandon Mauer and Patrick Terry are now working independently, with the same status as all other medics in our district. Lake Stevens Fire has complete confidence in them.



*Paramedic Brandon Mauer looks forward to being more involved in the care of people.*



*Paramedic Patrick Terry is excited to be serving the community with Lake Stevens Fire.*

### **There is currently no additional burn ban in effect.**

Residential burn permits are available at no cost allowing a maximum burn pile size of 4x4x3. Land Clearing burn permits are available for \$75 allowing a maximum burn pile size of 20x10. Permits are available as long as you are not located in the Prohibited Outdoor Burning Area.



## Association Thanks Community!

Article by Josh Olsen,  
Association President

The Lake Stevens Fire Fighters' Association would like to thank everyone in the community for their overwhelming support this past year. A little over \$12,000 was raised to help support the following programs: Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Muscular Dystrophy

Association, Habitat for Humanity, and Red Cross. We have also been able to help support local programs such as: LSJAA sports teams, Lake Stevens Food Bank, scholarships for local high school students, and support for individual families in need. Thanks to the support of our community we are able to help when we see the need.

The Fire Fighters' Association is made up of men and women from Lake Stevens Fire. Our goal is to provide a service that goes beyond the every day duties of our job as fire fighters. It is our privilege to serve our community that has shown us support over the last 48 years. We enjoyed serving you at our annual Fire Fighters' Pancake Breakfast during the summer's Aquafest and providing an Aid Car this fall at every Lake Stevens High School (LSHS) home football game at no cost to Lake Stevens Fire or LSHS. We hope to continue to provide great services like these to our community.

The Fire Fighters' Association welcomes your ideas on how we can help the people in our community. Feel free to e-mail us at [lsffassociation@gmail.com](mailto:lsffassociation@gmail.com) or, you can send a letter to Lake Stevens Fire Fighters' Association, PO Box 1175, Lake Stevens, WA 98258. Please include a phone number or a return e-mail address so we can respond to you regarding how we can help.

We have some fun events planned for the upcoming months, so keep your eye on the Lake Stevens Journal for the dates and times.



## Back To School!

Lake Stevens Fire went back to school on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, along with many of our elementary students. Our goal was to help direct traffic on one of the busiest days of the school year and simply wish the students a great first day of school! (Emergencies permitting.) Chief Faucett commented, "It's all about touching lives. If it benefits the schools, I'd hope this becomes a tradition that we can look forward to on an annual basis."

## How Can We Serve You?

Do you have a reflective address sign that is easily visible from the road? Do you have working smoke detectors in each bedroom of your home? Don't wait until an emergency to find out. Please call us if you need an address sign or a smoke detector! Grant funds allow us to provide you these services.

Would you like your blood pressure checked? Please feel free to stop by Station 81 or Station 82 anytime. As long as the crews are in, they are happy to take a blood pressure check for you!

Please call phone #425 334 3034 with any questions.



## Getting to Know Lake Stevens Fire

Article by  
Deputy Chief Adkins

Lake Stevens Fire, located in the central portion of Sno-

homish County, is the fifth largest fire service provider in Snohomish County, Washington. Within its boundaries, the Fire District provides Fire, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and Rescue response service to approximately 41.8 square miles of land and water that serves an estimated population of 35,644. Our Fire District has the largest body of fresh water in Snohomish County as well as several other smaller lakes, ponds and rivers.

The greater Lake Stevens area is the fourth fastest growing community in Snohomish County experiencing a steady growth rate since the 1990's. Our economy is stable due to the long-term economic base derived from the United States Naval Base in north Everett and the Boeing Company in Everett.

Lake Stevens Fire responds to alarms from three stations strategically located throughout our boundaries. Stations 81 & 82 are primary stations that cover 89% of all emergency alarms received each year. They are staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Station 83 located on our southern border in Machias is considered a secondary station and is equipped with apparatus and equipment similar to our two primary stations. Due to a lack of funding, Station 83 staffing has been reduced and reallocated.

Fire services are provided using nationally recognized Class A fire engines. These fire engines are outfitted with fire fighting equipment in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association standards.

EMS resources consist of two Advanced Life Support (ALS) paramedic units and three Basic Life Support (BLS) units. Additionally, all the department's fire engines are equipped with medical equipment and supplies.

Lake Stevens Fire also has a 24 foot Fire/Rescue boat that is moored at the northern end of the lake year-round. A second rescue watercraft is a 14 foot inflatable boat located at Station 82 on a trailer for a rapid response to other lakes, rivers, and ponds throughout our Fire District.

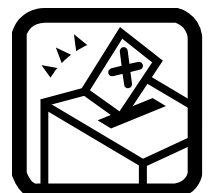
Our Fire District covers a considerable amount of Department of Natural Resources (DNR) land on a contractual basis. Wildland fire fighting is a specialty in itself and requires unique tools and equipment. Lake Stevens Fire maintains one wildland brush truck that is a four-wheel drive vehicle with a small pump and water tank for off road use. We also have a 3000-gallon water tender which is used to supply water to our brush truck and fire engines in non fire hydrant areas.

In 2004 Lake Stevens Fire responded to over 4,000 incidents. These incidents broken down were 3,293 medical calls, 480 fire calls and 312 calls classified as other alarms.

Lake Stevens Fire continuously evaluates the risks to our community and our fire fighters. We will continue to provide the best level of service with our available resources.

## Are you registered to vote?

Voter registration cards are available at our post office and the library. They are also provided in our new resident packets for Lake Stevens, located at the Chamber Office and City Hall.



Remember you can always sign up for an absentee ballot. It will be sent to you in the mail. How's that for convenience?

## Improving Radio Communications

Article by Deputy Chief Lingenfelter

Lake Stevens Fire is scheduled to begin implementation of Phase 2 of the 800mhz radio and communication transition during the first quarter of 2006. Thanks to the Homeland Security Grant we received, the acquisition of all the necessary radios, pagers, and equipment has not become an overwhelming financial burden to Lake Stevens Fire. The Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant will cover roughly 85% of the total costs of equipment and labor for the communications upgrade project (\$176,373).

This communication system will provide Lake Stevens Fire with better reception, fewer "dead spots" and more available channels to utilize. Fire fighter safety depends on reliable communication. Towers will be strategically located at King Lake, Three Lakes, Marysville, Granite Falls, and Clearview as well as numerous other areas throughout the county.

The Homeland Security obligations of the nation's public safety agencies make it imperative that their communications systems are robust, highly reliable and free from harmful interference. To address harmful interference to public safety communication systems operating in the 800mhz band, the Federal Communications Commission adopted a plan. The plan was specifically designed to protect the lives of first responders and other emergency personnel and fulfills the Commission's obligation to promote safety of life and property through the use of wire and radio communications.

It was this obligation in conjunction with a federal grant from the Department of Homeland Security that will greatly enhance our fire fighters' ability to assist our community better than ever before.



## IAFF Local #3235 Thanks You for Supporting MDA

Article by Perry Putnam, Local #3235 President

The International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) is the largest national sponsor of the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). In 2003 tens of thousands of fire fighters and paramedics across the U.S. and Canada raised a record breaking \$18.3 million. In its 50-year partnership with MDA, the IAFF has raised over \$200 million.

This past August, over 30 Lake Stevens fire fighters of IAFF Local #3235 and Lake Stevens Fire once again teamed up to raise money for MDA.

MDA is a voluntary health agency working to defeat more than 40 neuromuscular diseases. The money raised by the IAFF is used for research and treatment to prolong children's lives. The contributions also help fund a network of 230 clinics and 30 ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) centers, professional and public health education and summer camps for more than 4,000 youngsters with muscular dystrophy and related diseases.

With the support of our citizens IAFF Local #3235 and Lake Stevens Fire raised \$8366.44. President Perry Putnam commented, "I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to everyone that came out and supported such a worthy cause."

## Chaplains



Shown above (left to right) are Chaplains Ron Sallee, Jerry Brady, Mike Baughman and Tim Moore who are a part of the Lake Stevens Fire Support Services Team. Deputy Chief Lingenfelter comments, "These gentlemen volunteer their time to help our citizens deal with unexpected tragedies. They help coordinate whichever resources are needed and available. We greatly appreciate their time and efforts."

## Fire Commissioners

*Chairman of the Board Troy Elmore has served Lake Stevens Fire since January 1, 2000.*



"I envision Lake Stevens Fire continuing to provide progressive regional leadership in regards to fire suppression, emergency medical care, and fire prevention/public education. Through innovation and efficiency our team will continue to seek out better ways to provide service and meet the challenges of our rapidly growing community. Ensuring that we have an adequate number of well-trained fire fighters and paramedics for emergency response will continue to be our top priority."

*Commissioner Daniel Lorentzen has served Lake Stevens Fire since July 7, 2004.*



"I would like to take this time to welcome you to Lake Stevens Fire. Whether you've just moved to the Lake Stevens community or have lived here for a lifetime, you can expect nothing but excellence from your fire department. As your fire commissioner I want you to know we have some of the best and brightest men and women working for you everyday. They are dedicated to their profession and it shows in their service to this community.

As your elected official, I want you to be assured that I will make sure we continue to provide our community with the best possible service and personnel, while being responsible with your tax dollars. In closing I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your fire commissioner and as always please let us know how we can be of service to you."

**It is our  
privilege to  
serve you!**

## It Starts with Education

Article by  
Robert Marshall,  
Fire Prevention Specialist



Prevention begins with education. Lake Stevens Fire is dedicated to providing the best education possible to help you prevent fires and injuries.

Fire Prevention Week, October 9-15, helped kick off the Risk Watch program in local schools. New to the program was the introduction of "Sparky's Hazard House". This desk top display replicates a home with the various rooms. In each of the rooms there are hazards that students can identify and change to become safe environments for the prevention of fire and injuries in the home setting. It is very interactive with features that are electronically controlled. It has been a resounding hit in all classrooms. The purchase of Sparky's Hazard House was made possible with grant money received in a Fire Prevention and Safety Grant.

"Risk Watch", the injury prevention program for students 14 years and younger, is providing prevention education for the eighth straight year in Lake Stevens schools, Machias Elementary, and Zion Lutheran. The average knowledge gain for participants has been 8% per year. The program has also been responsible for recording six "successes" or "saves", a student putting into action what was learned through Risk Watch to prevent a serious injury or save a life. The latest "success" story involved two students at Machias Elementary discovering a handgun on the playground and responding by keeping kids away and summoning a teacher.

Studies show a child playing with fire is the leading cause of deaths at the preschool age. It's not limited to any social or economic level, and it's a problem that any parent may have to deal with. Lake Stevens Fire recognizes the importance of having an intervention program to help families in need. The program called "Firestoppers" is in place to help curtail the fire setter behavior by utilizing an interview process and prevention education.

Lake Stevens Fire is continually striving to provide the best in safety and injury prevention education to meet the growing needs of our community. Thank you for your continued support of all our education programs. Please direct any questions to Robert Marshall, Fire Prevention Specialist, at phone # 425 334 3034.



## Fire Prevention Week!

Lake Stevens Fire provided blood pressure checks, sign-ups for address signs and smoke detectors, and answered general questions from our

community both October 8th and 15th at both Safeway and Hagen. Fire Prevention Week was a great opportunity to connect with our community!

## You're Invited!

Our Commissioner Meetings are normally the third Thursday of every month and the public is welcome. This is a great way to stay informed on the happenings of Lake Stevens Fire. Meetings begin at 7pm and are located at Station 82, 04-99th Avenue NE, Lake Stevens. Hope to see you there!

# Lake Stevens Fire Team Players

Ad-kins, Richard  
Bailey, James  
Barry, Mike  
Baughman, Michael  
Bernethy, Matt  
Blix, Lisa  
Boswell, Scott  
Brady, Jerry  
Buck, Michael  
Cardona, Augie  
Castillo, Kenneth  
Chandler, Gary  
Cook, Patrick  
Dillon, Nathaniel  
Divers, Del  
Divers, Linda  
Dudder, Jon  
Dudder, Sonya  
Duncan, Josh  
Duran, Marc  
Eagle, Michael  
Elmore, Troy  
Faucett, Gary  
Figgins, Ryon  
Gilden, Jim  
Gowan, Steven  
Grassl, Josef  
Harris, Nick  
Huber, Adam  
Huff, Larry  
Huston, Bruce  
Jones, Scott  
Kosiba, Ray  
Larson, Laana  
Lengkeek, Joel  
Lingenfelter, Dave  
Lorentzen, Daniel  
Lowe, Ryan  
Marshall, Robert  
Mason, Jefferson  
Mauer, Brandon  
McAuslan, Chris  
McConnell, Michael  
McLaurin, Andrew  
McManus, Casey  
Middleton, Kurt  
Molitor, Dave  
Monroe, James  
Mooney, Michael  
Moore, Tim  
Mulligan, Joseph  
Nelson, Shane  
Olsen, Josh  
Putnam, Perry  
Rasmussen, Ron  
Rayner, David  
Russell, Jason  
Safford, Dave  
Sallee, Ron  
Sharpe, Jack  
Shea, Michael  
Smith, Ted  
Snyder, Michael  
Stechly, Ken  
Swain, Blake  
Swain, Doug  
Terry, Patrick  
Walradt, Carol  
Weisenberger, Dennis  
Welch, Travis  
Withrow, Tom