



# SALT LAKE RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

1864 South Berkeley Street,  
Salt Lake City, UT 84108  
(801) 582-0467 [www.slrfa.org](http://www.slrfa.org)



October 6, 2008

## Retired Firefighters' Dinner Meeting Tuesday, October 14, 2008.

**Cowboy Grub Restaurant, 2350 ½ South Foothill Drive (Rear)  
Social Hour 6:30. Dinner 7:00.**

Dinner will be from the restaurant menu which has a nice selection of options.

**R.S.V.P. by 5:00 PM Sunday, 10/12/08**  
to George Sumner (801) 582-0467 or (801) 831-5010.

Our meetings are fun, friendly and informative. We especially want to encourage our new members to come out and share friendship, conversation and common interests with us.

## Mark Your Calendar

- **Informal “meeting” of retired firefighters, Golden Corral, 3399 W 3500 South.** 11:30AM, the second Tuesday of every month. All retired firefighters are welcome.
- **Salt Lake Retired Firefighter Association Christmas Party.** Tuesday, December 9, 2008. Cowboy Grub Restaurant, 2350 ½ South Foothill Drive (rear), SLC. Social Hour 6:30pm, dinner at 7:00pm.

## New Officers Elected at the Summer Party

As his last official act as President of our Association, Dale Lund presided over a brief business meeting during the summer party in order to officially elect a slate of new officers. There will be a lot of familiar faces in the executive board, because only Dale Lund and Varnel “Parky” Parkinson left the board. Other incumbent board members kept their seats or moved to new positions. New board members are Norm Anderson and Andy Gomez.

**At right:** Parky and Yvonne, Betty and Dale show off their “Thank You” plaques.



<b>POSITION</b>	<b>NEW OFFICER</b>
President	<b>Rick Soltis</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	<b>Norm Anderson</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	<b>Barry Bonham</b>
Trustee	<b>Gene Campbell</b>
Trustee	<b>Andy Gomez</b>
Trustee	<b>Ray Schelble</b>
Trustee	<b>Brent Darger</b>
Trustee (Alternate)	<b>Bob Pendleton</b>

Some of our current and former officers are pictured, from left to right: Parky Parkinson, Rick Soltis, Bill Page, Barry Bonham, Dale Lund, Jeff Forrey, Gina Bell, Gene Campbell, Ray Schelble, George Sumner.



## Good Turn-Out and Good Times at the Summer Party



About 60 people showed up for a buffet, music and good times at the September 6 summer party. “The Right Combonation” provided live music before dinner. This band, with Gene Campbell on drums, has treated us well. This is the second year in a row they played for us for free.

The music ended just before dinner because some of the band members had to leave to get to their football games at U of U and BYU. It was a treat having them play for us again.

The weather was unseasonable sunny and hot for September, so the shade of the pavilion was especially welcome and comfortable. Catered by Golden Corral, the food was

plentiful, hot and good. “Thanks” are sent out to everyone who brought extra paying guests to share in the party, and who paid extra for leftovers to take home. More guests made the party more fun, and the extra contributions helped keep the cost in line.

Everyone got extra blessings. We were wished “God bless,” repeatedly from the staff, cooks and residents of the men’s shelter, where we took the leftovers.



## Flu Shot Clinics

We should all be getting our flu shots. Now that we're at retirement age, we are in the "high risk" category for flu. You can find a clinic near your home, or go to one of the clinics sponsored by Salt Lake City or UPEA.

### Salt Lake City Clinics

As part of SLC's Wellness Program, flu shots will be provided at no cost to retired City employees and their family members who are insured under the City's PEHP Medicare Supplement or PEHP Preferred, Advantage or Summit Care plan. Following are the dates, times and locations:

Oct 8, 9:30am-12:30pm. Fire Station #1

Oct 9, 10:30am-1:30pm, 349 S 200 E

Oct 9, 2:00-5:00pm, Pioneer Precinct, 1040 W 700 S.

Oct 10, 7:00-11:00am, CED, 212 E 600 S

Oct 13, 8:00am-5:00pm, PSB, 315 E 200 S

Oct 14, 7:00-9:00am, Pioneer Precinct, 1040 W 700 S.

### UPEA Clinics

Public employees and their families may visit any of the Flu Shot Clinics to receive vaccinations provided by Community Nursing Services. \$25.00 cost is covered by any of the following insurance: PEHP Summit Care, Altius, Blue Cross, DMBA, Select Health, United Health Care or Medicare Part B.

Oct 8, 9:00am-3:00, Health Bldg, Rm 114, 288 N 1460 W, SLC

Oct 14, 10:00am-2:00, Workforce Services, 140 E 300 S, SLC

Oct 21, 10:00am-1:00, Dept of Education, 250 E 500 S, SLC

Oct 22, 10:00am-1:00, CED Rm 501, 324 S State, SLC

Oct 27, 10:00am-2:00, Human Services, 120 N 200 W, SLC

## Firefighter Presumptive Disease Study Still Accepting Surveys

This study was funded by the 2006 Utah legislature to study whether certain diseases should be presumed to be job related for firefighters and police officers and therefore automatically covered by workers' compensation insurance. University of Utah/Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational & Environmental Health (RMC) is conducting the study.

Even though RMC still does not have enough responses to make a statistically significant sample, they are scheduled to

report the results of their survey to this year's session of the Utah Legislature. There is a lot riding on this. Without good data linking the diseases to the work, it will be tough to convince the legislature to designate the diseases as job related. In order to get a bigger sample, RMC has extended their deadline.

If you haven't done the survey, you can participate by calling Toni Chambers (801-581-4800, or toll free at 1-800-444-8683, extension 14800) and she can assist you

## SLCFD Yearbook Photos

Barry Bonham wants everyone to know he is looking for candid shots and human interest shots, especially parent/child firefighters or sibling firefighters, for the SLCFD yearbook. He is willing to go out and take pictures at your convenience if necessary.

Call him (801-706-2904) if you have anything you think he might like

## Pension Membership Council Report

Marty Peterson, who represents the interests of firefighters on the Pension Membership Council (PMC), is currently serving as chair of PMC. Marty gave us a preview of his report to Professional Firefighters of Utah (PFFU), excerpts of which are included below. To get his full detailed report, watch for your next issue of "Backdraft," the magazine of PFFU.

- Because revenue from investments is down due to economic conditions, contribution rates for all systems will increase next year, but any firefighter increase will likely be covered by the insurance tax.
- There are several pending legislative issues for the next session
  - Public Safety's 4% COLA which passed last year has only been funded by Riverdale and Orem so far. Public Safety is again proposing to increase their surviving spouse benefit. Employers will be responsible for funding the increase, which would affect local governments' budgets.
  - Increasing benefits for retired educators will again be proposed.
  - There will be more attempts to change Utah's system from "defined benefits: (Pays a defined monthly income) to "defined contributions" (Provides a savings account for the employee/retiree to manage), probably for small selected employee groups at first. Interestingly, there is pending legislation in other states to restore DB plans which had been done away with.
  - Nationally, IAFF and other employee groups are working with Congress to restore the full earned Social Security benefit to those of us with state pensions.

## In Memorium

*Our condolences are extended to the survivors of our departed friends.*

- Ruth White, wife of retired Salt Lake City Firefighter, the late Russell Harold "Whiz" White, died August 16, 2008.
- Helmut Fischer, retired Salt Lake County Firefighter, died August 20, 2008.
- Merrill C. Cantonwine, father of retired Salt Lake City Firefighter Cal Cantonwine, died September 2, 2008.
- Myron Gail Potter, retired Salt Lake City Firefighter, died September 29, 2008.
- Wayne Harrison, retired Salt Lake County Firefighter, died October 2, 2008.

## Transitions

### Retirements

September 30, 2008

John Maxwell, SLCFD

October 3, 2008

Gary Welsh, SLCFD