

Spotlight on SFFD Emergency Medical Services

While it's common to think of a fire department for its fire suppression capabilities, equally important to the strength and stability are the other divisions that provide support and services to the populations it serves. Within many fire departments are Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and many more departments are also adding Community Paramedicine (CP) programs. This issue of the Siren Newsletter takes a closer look at the San Francisco Fire Department's EMS and CP Divisions and highlights their vital role as a core component of the SFFD and the history of the City.

Ada Wong knew she wanted to be a Paramedic from a young age. Fueled by popular television shows at the time, like ER and Doogie Howser, M.D., she'd always been interested in emergency medicine. Today, she has dual responsibility as an EMS Rescue Captain and as the Office of the Chief of Department. This March will be the 130th anniversary of San Francisco's municipal ambulance services, making it the oldest continuously operating public resource in the country.*

"It's exciting that the San Francisco Fire Department's Emergency Medical Services have been an enduring, stable resource for San Franciscans for generations," says Ada, reflecting upon this milestone. "Our team is dedicated to helping people and providing public assistance when people need it most."



SFFD will host a series of events throughout the year to honor and celebrate the city's 130 years of continuous municipal ambulance service including a mural for SFFD headquarters in development by local Academy of Art students, new Challenge Coins, and other opportunities to recognize the occasion.

April Sloan always had an interest in medicine. After high school, a chance encounter with some volunteer firefighters prompted her to join the local fire department and she never looked back. Today, she serves as Assistant Deputy Chief of Community Paramedicine Operations, which is established as a successful alternative to law enforcement. When asked about memorable moments of helping people, there were too many to name. She's especially proud of the grant SFFD received from the National Science Foundation which is administered by San Jose State University. With these resources, her division supports the local community every day, particularly

people who rely heavily on 911 services, experience behavioral health crises, or deal with street issues such as finding shelters or addressing substance abuse. The grant seeks to increase the equitable distribution of community paramedicine services and supports paramedics dealing with the moral injury—also known as compassion fatigue or simply burnout—they experience on the job every day.

"If I had one piece of advice for new recruits or, frankly, anyone in the SFFD, it's the importance of practicing self-care," says April. True to her word, April sets boundaries between work and home life, and finds rejuvenation by spending free time engaging in water activities like kayaking and paddleboarding.

Despite the challenges, she continues to find the work invigorating. "This is my dream job," says April.

*Source: Lipsky, William (2002). San Francisco's Midwinter Exposition. Charleston, SC: Arcadia Publishing. p. 60. - Wikipedia article (California Midwinter International Exposition of 1894 - Wikipedia)

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MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT & CEO

KATHY DUVALL

Happy New Year! I hope 2025 is off to a great start for our entire SF Fire CU community. With the start of a new year, I often think about resolutions and new beginnings, which can be hard to do in our busy daily lives. Personally, I hope to find more time to pause and reflect, practice gratitude, and find a little peace in an otherwise busy world.

December was a fun-filled month as SF Fire proudly continued its tradition of supporting the SF Firefighters Local 798 Toy Program, the city's largest and the nation's oldest program of its kind. Since 1949, the SF Firefighters Toy Program has grown from a small group of volunteers repairing broken toys and bikes for a handful of families to the present day where hundreds of volunteers distribute more than 200,000 toys to over 40,000 underprivileged children each year. SF Fire CU supported the 2024 Toy Program by sponsoring events like the Chili Cookoff, the Basketball Tournament, and Golf Tournament. We also contributed by sourcing and

donating 960 toys plus placed toy barrels in our branches to collect donations. We are very proud of this program and the good will it fosters in our local community. Beyond the Toy Program, thanks to our members, we were able to give over \$143,000 in charitable contributions to the SF Fire CU community in 2024 and we look forward to continue this tradition of giving back in 2025.

Our Annual Meeting is coming up, and we are taking a new approach to this event. To encourage greater attendance and make the meeting more accessible, we will host a virtual meeting on Tuesday, February 11, 2025. We'll provide business updates at this meeting including evidence of our ongoing strength and stability, as well as share perspective for the year ahead. Please check our website for more details about how to join the meeting and stay tuned for information about in-person events that are being planned throughout the year that bring our community of members together. We look forward to seeing you!

Lastly, for many, the start of a new year may include things like getting to projects that have taken the back burner. SF Fire is here to support all your financial needs, whether you may be thinking of that long-overdue kitchen remodel, contemplating buying a car or considering refinancing your mortgage. With the safety and security of a trusted financial partner like SF Fire, we're beside you every step of the way.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2025!

Kathy Duvall

President & CEO

2024 Community Giveback

Charitable Contributions **\$143,946**

Supporting **SFFD**

- 11 Academy Lunches
- 16 SFFD Special Event Catering
- 4 Golf Tournaments
- 4 Holiday Events
- 5,700 Watch Calendars

Member Events

- Shred Days
- SF Giants Tailgate
- Stonestown Reopening Party
- Financial Education Seminars



Awarded **\$22,500** in Scholarships

Supported

52 Events



6 Internships



Sourced & Donated **950+** Toys

We exist to serve our members and their communities by building the foundation for their prosperity.

Out & About

Local 798 & San Mateo County Local 2400 Golf Tournament | Oct 18



SFFD 134th Class Graduation | Nov 15



Local 798 Toy Program Kickoff | Nov 21



Local 798 Toy Program Volunteer Day | Dec 10



A HOLIDAY TRADITION

5th Annual Fire Station Decoration Contest

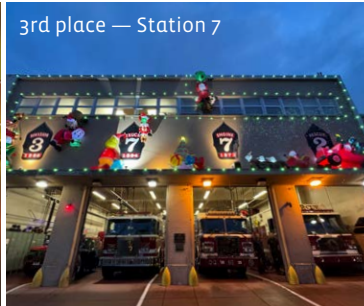
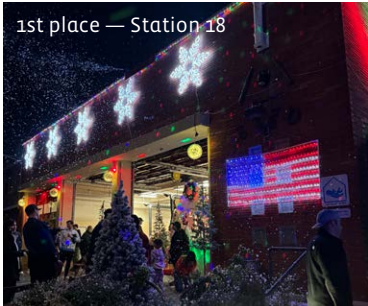
The fire stations went bigger and brighter this year with 10 stations officially entering the Fire Station Decoration Contest. We awarded a total of \$5,000, \$4,000 going to the winners' charity of choice and \$1,000 to SF Fire station accounts.

Congratulations to the 2024 winners:

- 1st place — Station 18
- 2nd place — Station 39
- 3rd place — Station 7
- 4th place — Station 40

SF Fire Credit Union sponsored \$5,000.

- 1st place — \$2,000 + \$300 to station account
- 2nd place — \$1,000 + \$300 to station account
- 3rd place — \$500 + \$200 to station account
- 4th place — \$500 + \$200 to station account



74th Annual Meeting of the Members

WHEN

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 8:00am - 8:30am

WHERE

Meeting will be held virtually.

RSVP

If you'd like to attend please make sure to RSVP no later than Jan 17: sffirecu.org/2025meeting

This event is for SF Fire Credit Union members only.

DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1, 2025

Arthur F. McIntyre Scholarship Program

We're proud to honor Arthur F. McIntyre's legacy of service by investing in the future of our members. Every year, members in high school or college can apply for a \$2,500 scholarship.

- Must be a member of SF Fire Credit Union in good standing
- Current grade point average of 2.5 or higher
- Enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited university, college, community college, or high school

To learn more or apply, visit: sffirecu.org/scholarship



California Street Branch

3201 California Street, SF, CA 94118

Stonestown Branch

565 Buckingham Way, SF, CA 94132

Noe Valley Branch

3908 24th Street, SF, CA 94114

Branch Hours

Monday – Friday 9:30am-5:30pm
Saturday 10:00am-2:00pm

Contact Center & Web Chat Hours

Monday – Friday 7:00am-7:00pm
Saturday 9:00am-5:00pm

Hours and closures are subject to change, so members are encouraged to check our website frequently for the most current information.

Credit Union Branch Holidays

Wednesday, January 1 - New Year's Day
Monday, January 20 - MLK Jr. Day
Monday, February 17 - Presidents' Day

The Contact Center will be unavailable on these holidays.



NMLS #262686

We do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law and the Equal Credit Opportunity Act.



AMERICAN SHARE INSURANCE
Your savings insured to \$250,000 per account.
By members' choice, this institution is not federally insured, or insured by any state government.



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