



# The Billy & Spanner

## PRESIDENT'S NOTES

By Ray Storms



I hope everyone had a wonderful Saint Patrick's Day as for me I was in Lake Tahoe as Mother Nature dumped over 2 feet of snow. It was wonderful.

With the number of funerals we have had recently I wanted to remind our membership that on our web page there is a check list to assist you. Special Thanks to VP Fire Walter Bugna and VP PD John Shuman for putting this checklist together. I was also just informed of the passing of retired FE Elwin Ragsdale he was 90

years old, he retired in 1979, and was living in Patagonia, Arizona.

Spring is around the corner and I just want to remind everyone that with the late rains will come much growth of the vegetation around us so please make sure that you cut it back accordingly to protect your property. Check with your local jurisdiction for the specifics but generally in rural areas they advise at least a 30-foot clearance around your structures.

May 19, 2018 is the day for the Folsom BBQ as was the case last year, there is no charge but please sign up on the website, so we can have a head count on how much food and drinks will be needed. Special thanks to Retired Fire Inspector Ed Cutter who has volunteered to chair the event.

Director Moffett, VP Bugna and myself had a meeting with County Fire Retirees who are interested in developing an Association similar to ours. They are starting to have similar issues like we had a few years back. It was the consensus of the Board to provide support to the County Fire Retirees to get their Association started. If you came from the county and then San Jose you can be in both associations.

We have great retiree health care benefits that we all earned and paid for. One of the challenges to those benefits, however, is the reliance on benefits that apply to active employees. This has not been an issue in the past, however, for some of our members who have mainly moved out of Northern California, the City's overreliance on Kaiser as an insurance provider has left many without reasonably priced health care options.

This applies only to those who are pre Medicare, however, it is affecting several hundred retirees, spouses or family members. Essentially, because Blue Shield has pulled out of the PPO business for the City of San Jose, those who live outside of the Kaiser (and to a smaller extent Sutter) service areas are scrambling for coverage.

All stakeholders realize this is a problem. We met recently with the City of San Jose, as well as the Federated retirees association to begin to discuss what realistic steps can be taken to provide options to the out-of-area retirees. There is no simple fix, however, our initial take is that this is a problem that everyone would like to solve. We will keep you posted as we address this issue.

### INSIDE:

- ASSOCIATION MEETING  
DATE CHANGE: JUNE MEETING  
WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY JUNE  
13 INSTEAD OF THURSDAY  
JUNE 14
- FATHER STOUT REMEMBERED
- HEALTH TIPS

### NEW MEMBERS

Scott T. Herrero  
Curtis Jacobson  
Michael Nagel  
Max Boyer  
Anthony Pianto  
Eric Phan

# SJFD CHAPLAIN FATHER WILLIAM JOHN STOUT

January 27, 1933 - March 14, 2018

Submitted by Retired Assistant Chief John McMillan



On March 14, 2018, our wonderful and dedicated San Jose Fire Department (SJFD) Chaplain passed away. Father Stout served our Department for 45 years. He will be remembered by so many of us that have served the City of San Jose as a SJFD Firefighter. We are talking about thousands of firefighters both active and retired that were touched by Father Stout. Father Stout was a remarkable person. He served under 13 Fire Chiefs, think about that! It is probable safe to say that Father Stout was present at more major emergencies during his 45-year Chaplain career than any person in the City of San Jose's history.

So how and when did the Chaplain career start? Two people are involved: Retired and deceased Fire Chief John Jones and Retired Firefighter Ken Martin. It all started about 1972 when a young Catholic priest, Father Bill Stout, was hanging around Old Fire Station

2 at East Julian and 6th Streets. It turns out Father Bill (As Ken would call him) was a second cousin to Ken Martin who was working on Engine 2C. Father Bill was quite the Fire buff (A person with considerable interest in firefighting and emergency services). Apparently, Father Bill started visiting Old Fire Station 2 because Ken was working there and then would show up on other shifts also, especially if they were going to major emergencies. Father Bill owned his own scanner and would monitor fire dispatch emergency calls. In 1973, the current SJFD Chaplain had passed away and Fire Chief John Jones needed to find a replacement. Chief Jones knew about Father Stout and decided to approach Ken Martin. The Chief asked Ken if he would approach Father Stout to see if he had an interest in becoming the Department Chaplain and Father Stout agreed. Father Stout received his own set of structure turnout gear (Helmet, coat, pants and boots) and started responding to emergencies officially. Later in the late 1990's, Fire Chief Bob Dorman officially presented Father Stout his own Class A Uniform with Gold Striping & crosses symbolizing a Battalion Chief level of officer.

There are so many wonderful things to say about Father Stout. He was there for everyone. He would attend most large emergencies and offered firefighters his emotional support. He would visit every fire house multiple times each year, especially around St. Florian Day when he would bring a cake to each station, including the training center, fire dispatch and fire administration. Father Bill was always present at all SJFD Ceremonies and events to provide prayer. San Jose Firefighters Local 230 was very close to Father Stout and supported his Annual Firefighter Mass for over 40 years. Father Bill also attended all retirement parties to support and wish retirees a healthy retirement.

Father Stout set the example for all of us. He was a very kind person. If you gave him a gift like a car or cash, he would turn around and give it away to a family more deserving. When he was presiding over a mass, people loved his sermon and the stories he would tell to help all of us understand the Bible and church better. Here is a great fact: Father Bill was born on January 29th, the same day of the year that our great Fire Department was officially organized by the Common Council of San Jose (January 29th, 1854). Father William Stout will be missed, and I don't think anyone will ever fill his shoes. All of us should take this moment to refocus on how we can be kinder and more supportive of those in need. That is what Father Stout would wish.

## CONDOLENCES

**WILLIAM G. BENNETT** *Police Officer, retired*  
January 10, 1978, died December 20, 2017.

**MICHAEL P. BROWN**, *Police Sergeant, retired*  
June 26, 2010, died November 8, 2017.

**PETER D. LOVIER**, *Fire Engineer, retired*  
January 4, 2003, died January 2, 2018.

**NICHOLAS MAYER**, *Fire Engineer, retired*  
September 9, 1984, died December 10, 2017.

**CARLOS A. VALENCIA**, *Police Officer, retired*  
December 10, 2011, died December 24, 2017.



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visit our website:  
[www.retiredsjpoff.org](http://www.retiredsjpoff.org)

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

4/4 Goodies - Wine 2201 S. Bascom Ave Campbell, 408-369-1236  
4/11 Holders Country Inn. – Green, 1424b Saratoga Ave. SJ., 408-378-6022  
4/12 Association Meeting 11AM to 1PM at the San Jose P.O.A. Hall 1151 N. 4th St San Jose  
4/18 Hick'ry Pit – Gray, 980 E. Campbell Ave., Campbell 408-371-2400  
4/18 Police Benevolent Association, 5P at the San Jose POA Hall, 1151 N. 4th St., San Jose  
4/25 City Diner – Tan, 2951 Monterey Rd., SJ 408-269-5490  
5/2 Burger Pit - Blue, 120 Blossom Hill Rd. San Jose 408-225-6030  
5/9 Goodies - Wine 2201 S. Bascom Ave Campbell, 408-369-1236  
5/10 Association Meeting 11AM to 1PM at the San Jose P.O.A. Hall 1151 N. 4th St San Jose  
5/16 Holders Country Inn. – Green, 1424b Saratoga Ave. SJ., 408-378-6022  
5/16 Police Benevolent Association, 5P at the San Jose POA Hall, 1151 N. 4th St., San Jose  
5/19 Association Annual Bobby Burroughs Membership Folsom BBQ 2018, NOON,  
The Lou Howard Pavillion, 7100 Baldwin Dam Rd., Folsom, CA 95630  
5/23 Hick'ry Pit – Gray, 980 E. Campbell Ave., Campbell 408-371-2400  
5/30 City Diner – Tan, 2951 Monterey Rd., SJ 408-269-5490  
6/6 Burger Pit - Blue, 120 Blossom Hill Rd. San Jose 408-225-6030  
6/13 Goodies - Wine 2201 S. Bascom Ave Campbell, 408-369-1236  
6/13 NEW TIME: Association Meeting 11AM to 1PM at the San Jose P.O.A. Hall 1151 N. 4th St San Jose  
6/20 Hick'ry Pit – Gray, 980 E. Campbell Ave., Campbell 408-371-2400

## CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT

Khanh D. Nguyen, Police Sergeant, 25.01 years of service,

## ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

Ray Storms, President	510 507-1136 <a href="mailto:president@retiredsjpoff.org">president@retiredsjpoff.org</a>
John Shuman, VP of Police	<a href="mailto:vppolice@retiredsjpoff.org">vppolice@retiredsjpoff.org</a>
Walter Bugna, VP of Fire	<a href="mailto:vpfire@retiredsjpoff.org">vpfire@retiredsjpoff.org</a>
Dale Foster, Secretary	<a href="mailto:secretary@retiredsjpoff.org">secretary@retiredsjpoff.org</a>
Larry Samarron, Jr. Treasurer	<a href="mailto:treasurer@retiredsjpoff.org">treasurer@retiredsjpoff.org</a>

## DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Mike Alford, Don Bartels, Craig Blank, Pat Boyd, Jerry Ellis,  
Tim Miller, Mike Moffett, Jim Spence

## WIDOWS & ORPHANS OFFICERS

President (COA) Jeremy Wise	831-566-7624
VP (SJA) Larry R. Chua	408-926-2709
VP (COR) Bill McCluskey	408-985-7563
Secretary (SJR) Luis Chacon	408-642-0385
Treasurer (SJR) Jerry Ellis	408-730-9974
Treas. Emeritus (SJR) Mike Moffett	408-867-0405

## POLICE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President - David Wysuph, Vice President - Steve Windisch,  
Sec-Treasurer - Larry Lundberg, Sgt at arms - Bob Moir [www.sjba.net](http://www.sjba.net)

# TALKING ABOUT YOUR HEALTH

Submitted by Walter Bugna, VP of Fire

from National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.

## WALKING: A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Have you been thinking of adding more physical activity to your life? Have you thought about walking? Walking is a great way to be more active and is the most popular physical activity among adults.

Most people can walk, including many people with disabilities who are able to walk on their own or with walkers or other aids.

The information and tips below can help you make walking and physical activity part of your daily routine.

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF WALKING?

Two benefits of walking are that it's easy to do and has a low risk of injury. Walking also is free or low-cost because you don't need special equipment, clothing, facilities, or training. Because walking can easily fit your schedule, needs, and abilities, it's a good way to start getting active if you've been inactive.

## HEALTH BENEFITS

Like other kinds of regular physical activity, walking at a brisk pace also may offer health benefits, such as

- lowering your risk of high blood pressure, high cholesterol, heart disease, and type 2 diabetes
- strengthening your bones and muscles
- helping you burn more calories
- improving your fitness lifting your mood

## HOW MUCH PHYSICAL ACTIVITY DO I NEED?

Physical activity is good for your health at every age. If you have never been active, starting regular physical activity now may improve your endurance, strength, balance, and flexibility. Being active may help you live on your own for a longer time and keep you healthy.

Being active can be hard if your mobility is limited or if you have serious health problems. But, you can find activities to meet your needs. Slowly raising your arms or legs, for example, may help you when done on a regular, repeated basis.



## NEED TO RSVP NOW!

**REMINDER TO RSVP FOR THE 11TH ANNUAL BOBBY BURROUGHS  
MEMBERSHIP FOLSOM BBQ FOR SATURDAY MAY 19.  
THIS IS A NO COST EVENT. RSVP TO JERRY ELLIS AT  
408-730-9974 OR DIR@JELLIS@RETIREDSJPOFF.ORG.  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS**

## Save money, save paper.

Sign up for E-Newsletter. By signing up to receive the newsletter through e-mail, you will get the same content, only you will help the Association save money on printing and postage costs. If you wish to receive the newsletter via e-mail versus regular mail, please send an e-mail to [treasurer@retiredsjpoff.org](mailto:treasurer@retiredsjpoff.org)