



CLALLAM 2 FIRE-RESCUE

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Date: 1/29/2024

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Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue Annual Awards Ceremony

Port Angeles, WA – On Saturday, January 27th, 2024, the staff of Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue, along with their guest, held the Fire District's annual awards ceremony and dinner. The event was hosted at the Port Angeles Eagles Club in Gales Addition with a great meal catered by Coyote BBQ. This annual event allows the Fire District to recognize our members and show our appreciation for their service to the community.

Three members were recognized for their service in 2023 that went above and beyond. While we also recognize that all our firefighters, EMTs, and paramedics do an outstanding job every year, we wanted to take time to honor a few who stood out.

Volunteer Firefighter of the Year- Firefighter/EMT Tim Davis

Tim has been a member of the Fire District since 2012 and is also a volunteer Firefighter/EMT with the Port Angeles Fire Department. He spends extra time covering duty-shifts with our career staff when there is scheduled leave. Tim was recognized because of his positive attitude and determination. When confronted with issues he

rises to the challenge and successfully accomplishes his goals. He is a valuable asset to the community and our team here at Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue.

Volunteer EMT of the Year- Firefighter/EMT Makayla Jackson

Makayla joined the Fire District in 2022 and hit the ground running. She quickly obtained her EMT certification and moved onto her firefighter training. While the schedule for the next local Clallam County Fire Academy was in the works, Makayla decided that in order to keep chasing her goals as fast as should could, she enrolled in a fire academy hosted in Mason County. She drove down to classes for about three months in order to get her Firefighter 1 certification. Since then she hasn't slowed down and has frequently conducted ride-alongs with our duty crew and gained valuable experience as both an EMT and firefighter. Makayla's pursuit and accomplishment of her goals was a big part in the decision to recognize her as the EMT of the Year.

Career Firefighter of the Year- Captain/Paramedic Ian Brueckner

Ian first started working for the Fire District as a part-time firefighter/paramedic and then was hired full-time in 2016. What makes Ian an outstanding emergency responder is his calm demeanor during some of the most challenging incidents. His decision making and sound judgment can make a chaotic scene operate smoothly and effectively. Ian was promoted to Captain in 2021 and now serves as the Facilities Officer for the Fire District in addition to his captain and paramedic roles. Another area that he takes the lead on is managing our annual wildland firefighter training. Prior to coming to the Fire District Ian spent some time as an engine boss for Washington State DNR. His positive

attitude and command presence during emergency incidents is what made Ian stand out this year as our Career Firefighter of the Year.

Top Responder Awards

As a combination agency that uses both career and volunteer staff, our volunteers are critical to the services we provide. With all the time demands on people today, it is especially a challenge for them to be able to drop what they are doing with work and family and rush off to an emergency call. The Fire District each year recognizes those volunteer responders who respond to over 10% of the total calls for the Fire District. In 2023 the Fire District ran 1,994 calls for service. We would like to recognize the following individuals for achieving this accomplishment;

Captain/EMT Marty Martinez

FF/EMT Brett Strid

FF/EMT Matt Aston

FF Theo Sax

Captain/EMT Kevin Thompson (a total of 23% of all calls, or 458 calls in the year)

Retirement and Recognition- Firefighter/EMT Al Oman

The Fire District also had the opportunity to recognize one of our members for their many years of service to the Fire District and community. Firefighter/EMT Al Oman retired as a volunteer after more than 26 years with the Fire District. Not only did he spend countless hours over the years dedicated to his role here at the Fire District, he also volunteered for many other community functions, one of which was the Dream Playground construction both for the original build and replacement. Over the past two and a half decades, Al has been a fixture serving out of Fire Station 22 in Dry Creek.

He has responded to countless emergencies when needed, always with a positive attitude and outlook. Al has also spend countless hours in wildland fire support when the local WA DNR would ask for Fire District assistance with water supply. We would like to recognize Al and congratulate him and his wife Nancy on his retirement as a volunteer firefighter/EMT with the Fire District.

While there are many challenges on the horizon, your emergency responders here at the Fire District are dedicated to providing the highest level of service to the community. They have been trusted with the monumental task of making our area a safe place to live and they all rise to the challenge day in and day out. Congratulations to all our members and to those who were recognized for their outstanding service in 2023.

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Clallam 2 Fire-Rescue provides fire suppression and Advanced Life Support emergency medical service to 9,500 people over 85 square miles outside the city of Port Angeles serving the communities of Deer Park, Gales Addition, Mt. Pleasant Community, Black Diamond, Dry Creek, and Lake Sutherland as well as the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe. Forty-five volunteers and nine full-time Firefighter/Paramedics/EMTs respond to an average of 1,900 emergency calls per year.

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