

2010 Affiliate Leadership Training Seminar report

First of all I'd like to thank the e-board of IAFF Local F-282 for selecting me and sending me to the 2010 ALTS in Lake Buena Vista, Florida for much needed union leadership training.

January 26th 2010

We arrived the evening of the 26th and met with Arnie Janssen for dinner, our bodies were on west coast time but obviously we were on east coast time. Since we arrived at 11:30 est. we just went to the Sports bar at the Hotel and indulged in two for one beer and 50-cent chicken wings. At dinner we did some social networking and met some fellow WSCFF members from Maple Valley, and then it was off to bed.

January 27th

Was a day to pick-up our registration and confirm the classes that we would be attending. We ran into some firefighters from Local 2819 Kitsap county and had lunch with them and talked shop. Mark and I then thought it would be nice to enjoy some R&R next to the pool for the afternoon. That evening we attended the opening reception and speech hosted by General President Schaitberger. Then off to an Irish pub for dinner and drinks with Local 2819.

January 28th

0800-1000 Session was “**Introduction to Federal Service Labor-Management Relations**” This class was a refresher for me that covers 5 USC Chapter 71, which includes Employees rights, Managements right, Representation rights, Appeals Process and Official time. This class was only 2 hrs (when I took it 5 years ago it was 6 hrs) and a lot of information was compressed into 2hrs. The same class will be held in Bremerton for the WSCFF educational seminar. VP Jimmie Johnson said that at the next ALTS he'll request more time for the class, because this is our bread and butter, this chapter is our rules of what we can and can't do.

1030-1230 Session was “**Peer Fitness Trainers-Implementation**” In this class we were instructed on the benefits, and the process of implementing the Peer Fitness program that the IAFF and IAFC have endorsed. I believe that our union and department would benefit greatly if we were to implement this program, it would be very time consuming at first for those that are selected as the fitness trainers. One key stat that stuck with me is that the average death for a Firefighter after retirement is 7 years. I don't know about anyone else but I've put in too much time and money to only enjoy 7 years of retirement.

1400-1600 Session was “**Dimension of Leadership**”, In this class we completed a workbook “An approach to understanding & developing effective leaders” which is suppose to let you know what your strong points are and your weak points for being a

leader, it also tells you what kind of leader you are. I recommend this class to any first time attendee to ALTS.

January 29th

1000-1230 Session was “**Approaches to work place discipline**” this class was geared more towards County, City, and Municipal departments. There was some good information but looking back I think future attendees should find a different class to attend.

1400-1600

Session was “**How to run a Union meeting**” I went into this class thinking I’ve been a VP for about 6 years, I’m running a meeting right, but I’ll see if there is anything I can learn. Boy was I surprised. Even the E-Board meeting can be changed and improved. I was not the only one in there that got an eye opener. Since my return I’ve held a monthly meeting and conducted that meeting in the same order that I was taught, it ran much smoother.

In closing once again I’d like to say thank you for sending me to ALTS and I would recommend sending personnel every year.

Submitted By

VP Baze, Bangor Facility.