

UNIFIED



RESPONSE

Area C Quarterly Bulletin Winter 2009

Serving the cities of:

*Alhambra, Arcadia, Burbank,
Glendale, Monrovia, Monterey Park,
Pasadena, San Gabriel, San Marino,
Sierra Madre and South Pasadena*



Inside

- Unified Resp. Update . . . 1
- Foothill Training Officers . 2
- Alhambra 3
- Arcadia 4
- Burbank 6
- Glendale 8
- Monrovia 10
- Monterey Park 11
- Pasadena 12
- San Gabriel 13
- San Marino 14
- Sierra Madre 15
- South Pasadena 16
- Response Time Analysis . 16
- Live Fuel Moisture 16
- Verdugo Dispatch 17
- Area C Statistics 18-21
- Fire Academy @ GCC . . . 22

Unified Response Update

Towards the latter part of February, we will enthusiastically welcome the Montebello Fire Department to the Verdugo System. While Montebello will retain their Operational Area affiliation with Area E, for all intents and purposes their resources, specialized equipment, and experience (including their Type III OES Engine) will add to the collaborative efforts we all rely upon from each other within the Verdugo System.

As a result of this last wildland fire season, adding our first Type III Engine to the Verdugo System menu is a comforting notion. This is due to the ever-increasing devastation from interface fires in California; Type III Engines serve those challenges perfectly. This recent wild fire devastation has caused pause and reflection from our most senior and experienced leaders in the fire service. One of the contemporary and more passionately debated topics within our own ranks is the discussion of “stay-and-defend.”

The “stay-and-defend” concept is not a new one. Its origins trace back to the Australia Outback and the remote fire-ravaged communities that necessitated this strategy. This concept has evidently proven productive in Australia, which is why some of our more visible Fire Chiefs are taking a closer look. The Firescope Board of Directors will meet next week on the matter to continue the dialogue on its possibilities in our own communities. As we all know, one prescription cannot treat every ill; homeowners defending their own homes in every case is not a plausible solution for all. While it may work in some agricultural communities with protracted response times, it likely would add to the confusion and risk in the more densely populated interface neighborhoods.

In the meantime, with strained budgets and a “do more with less” marching order, it is vital we partner and leverage with each other as we are doing within Unified Response. This partnership must also extend into our interface-threatened communities. Our citizens depend on us to answer the call when their need occurs, but it is not possible for *any* fire department to place a fire engine in every driveway; hence, the desire for some homeowners to choose the “stay and defend” mode.

We must continue to educate our citizens; they need to know clearly what will result if they do not evacuate. While we risk it all to save our communities, we are not in the business of trading firefighters’ lives for non-defendable structures. The need to get out in our communities to educate our stakeholders has never been more critical; property owners need to know what level of exposure from fire their families and investments face, and that situational awareness can best be delivered by us.

In the realm of structure pro-



tection, there are four species of structures: the *stand alones* (does not require our or any mitigation to survive), the *non-defendable* (they will burn regardless what we do), the *prep and stay* (can survive but requires immediate mitigation work and it is safe to ride the fire front out), and the *prep and leave* (questionably defendable, requires mitigation but personnel cannot safely stay when fire front hits).

I would contend that able-bodied citizens could stay and defend those structures that require little to no pre-mitigation efforts, the “stand-alones.” However, before doing so, they must have an understanding on what riding

it out really means. Proper attire and clearly knowing the probable trouble areas of the structure such as attic vent accesses, the potential of combustibles exterior products, slope orientation, and predicting where the fire will hit are an absolute minimum. I am not suggesting or supporting the argument in either direction; I am saying that we as a profession need to address the issue for our respective citizens who dwell in these high fire hazard areas.

Good luck, stay safe and take good care.

*Robert Doyle, Training Officer
Glendale Fire Department*

FOOTHILL TRAINING OFFICERS' NEWS

by BC Richard Beckman

Foothill T.O.A. Plans Ventilation Class

At the end of the RIC training in 2007, Captain Dave Schmitt and BC Greg Fish had already started planning a ventilation drill that would allow the truck companies in Area C the opportunity to compare notes and promote standardization. In order to help this process along, the Foothill Training Officers Association has offered to help plan and coordinate this activity. As a result, each department in Area C has a representative attending the planning sessions for a proposed ventilation drill set to begin in July 2009.

Upon evaluation, it was found that each of our Trucks operates in pretty much the same fashion. For this reason, the Ventilation Committee has approved John Mittendorf's second edition of Truck Company Operations as the guiding document for this training. Now the task of coordinating the logistics of the drill is the challenge of the group. If you have questions or suggestions for this program, please seek out your agency's representative to this committee.

State Fire Marshal Classes

On the CSFM front, several things are happening that affect personnel in Area C. The old Fire Instructor 1A and 1B are being replaced by Training Instructor 1A, 1B and 1C. The change does not affect people who already hold a CSFM Fire Officer cert, nor those who are Registered Instructors with the State Fire Marshal's Office. The people who *are* affected are those who have not yet received Fire Officer certification or have not yet been registered as an instructor.

The good news is that students should find Training

Instructor 1A and 1B less homework- and writing-intensive than the old 1A and 1B classes. The confusing news is that the classes have flipped content direction. Old 1A is the new 1B and focuses on manipulative (psychomotor) lessons. Old 1B is the new 1A and focuses on technical (cognitive) lessons.

If you have taken old Fire Instructor 1A or 1B in the past and would like to finish your Fire Officer cert, or want to become a registered instructor, check the CSFM website at <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/training/pdf/Firelinefall2008.pdf> for more information. Members who want to become registered instructors of any CSFM classes will now need to take three instructor classes. The Fire Officer curriculum will still require Instructor 1A and 1B.

Fire Officer and Chief Officer Classes Changing

The State Fire Marshal's Office has formed a committee from throughout the state to review the Certification Training Standards (CTS) of Fire Officers and Chief Officers in California. What this means to you is that significant changes to these programs are coming. If you are in the middle of getting either of these certifications, get them finished soon!

Wildland Standardization Committee

In November, the first meeting of the Foothill Training Officers Wildland Standardization Committee met at San Gabriel Station 51. At this meeting, the results of the Wildland Questionnaires completed by each of the Foothill fire agencies were discussed. The committee established its scope and its plan for developing proposals that will enhance the standardization of equipment and practices of Type 1 Engines that respond to wildland incidents. This committee has been formed at the request of the Foothill Fire Chiefs' Association. If you would like to participate in this committee, contact your agency's Training Officer.



ALHAMBRA

Population: 89,259

Area: 7.62 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$6,058,041,932



Alhambra Welcomes New Fire Chief

On October 30, the City of Alhambra officially installed former Alhambra Deputy Chief Bruce Stedman as its new Fire Chief, replacing retired Chief Vincent Kemp.

Chief Stedman brings almost 30 years of experience in the fire service to his new position and he holds both a Bachelor of Arts degree in Professional Studies and a Master of Arts degree in Emergency Services Administration. Chief Stedman has been a college instructor in fire sciences and management for over 20 years, teaching both at the community and university levels.

Influenced in part by a neighbor who worked for the fire service and also by never missing an episode of the TV show *Emergency*, Chief Stedman knew from the age of 14 that he wanted to be a firefighter. He was hired by the City of Alhambra as a full-time Fireman in April 1979 and was promoted to the rank of Fire Engineer in 1984. Just two years later, he was promoted again to the rank of Fire Captain, followed by appointment as the C-Shift Battalion Chief in February 1992.

After less than three months as a Battalion Chief, Chief Stedman was assigned as a Strike Team Leader during the Los Angeles Riots of 1992. To this day, he considers that assignment as his most memorable, stating that he was “privileged to be part of a group of quality people trying to do the right thing in the most difficult of circumstances, and in the very midst of people who were intent on causing only harm and destruction, even to firefighters.”

Chief Stedman was promoted again in October 2006, serving as the Department’s Deputy Chief for the past two years.

After participating in a voluntary bone-marrow donor program, Chief Stedman was recently determined to be a match for an unknown person needing a transplant. Although the specifics of the patient are confidential, he is happy to hear that the operation was successful and the donor recipient appears to be doing well. He is the third Alhambra Fire employee to have donated matching bone marrow for someone in need, following retired Captain Tim Gardner and Engineer Michael Manley.

Chief Stedman has accepted invitations from all over the world to teach members of other fire departments, including those in Japan, China, Australia and Denmark. He is presently an active member of the Rotary Club and resides in Orange County with his wife Susan and son Scott.

Chief Stedman plans to expand Alhambra’s Fire Training Center to include all aspects of urban search and rescue, and also to develop and maintain a strong succession planning program for the fire department. Area C congratulates Chief Stedman on his new position as Fire Chief!

Third-Alarm Blaze Causes \$4 Million in Damages

Describing it as a “giant wall of fire against a black sky,” residents of



North Third Street in Alhambra watched as a 35-unit condominium project, still under construction, went up in flames just before 11:00 p.m. on November 18.

Alhambra Battalion Chief Ray Mosack could clearly see the near 75-foot flames as he pulled out of the station, just two blocks away. He immediately called for a second alarm, and then a third alarm as he pulled up to the scene. The majority of Area C fire departments responded to assist Alhambra, including Arcadia, Glendale, Monterey Park, Pasadena, San Marino, and South Pasadena, as well as LA County Fire. With this assistance, the fire, which completely engulfed the three-story, 26,000 square foot structure, was well-contained within 45 minutes.

The scope and intensity of the fire prompted Alhambra Assistant Chief John Kabala, who arrived on scene to investigate the cause, to request extra help from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. ATF Agents and members of the San Gabriel Valley Arson Task Force spent most of the week combing through the blackened rubble and interviewing witnesses. After an intensive preliminary investigation, it was determined that the fire was intentionally set.



Exposure damage was limited to an adjoining apartment building and a few shattered windows, including those on Alhambra's Truck 71, which also lost some light bars to the intense heat radiating from the blaze. Other issues related to the fire included the precautionary evacuation of a nearby senior housing complex, a power out-

age to over 7,000 homes, and heat damage to parked vehicles and two other adjoining buildings.

Because the complex was only 70% completed, no one was living in the building. No injuries resulted to either civilians or firefighters.

The investigation into the arson is still being conducted. The ATF is

offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to an arrest in this case.

Nearby residents who observed the blaze continue to be thankful for the efforts of firefighters at the scene and have expressed how well they thought the entire incident was handled.

ARCADIA

Population: 56,491

Area: 12.00 sq. mi.

Assessed Value:
\$8,857,746,981

Incidents

Structure fire in an auto dealership located on Huntington Drive: Upon arrival, Engine 105 encountered heavy fire from a fully involved building on the property. Crews had the fire extinguished within 15 minutes, containing the fire to the building of origin. There was \$40,000 in damage to the building and \$85,000 in damage to five vehicles.



House fire located on Genoa Street: Upon arrival, Engine 105 reported heavy smoke coming from a single story residential dwelling. Two of the occupants self evacuated from the structure prior to Fire Department arrival, and the crew of Engine 105 rescued one elderly male from the burning structure. The victim suffering from smoke inhalation was treated



on the scene with advanced life support and transported to a local hospital for observation. Crews had the fire knocked down within 10 minutes; fire damage to the structure was confined to two rooms, with smoke damage throughout the entire building. The estimated damage to the structure is \$100,000 and \$50,000 to the contents.

Emergency Medical Services

The Arcadia Fire Department has purchased EMS equipment provided by a \$5,000 grant from the Fireman's Fund, including a carbon monoxide oximeter, which can determine the amount of carbon monoxide present in a person's blood in a noninvasive manner. It works in a fashion similar to that of a pulse oximeter; a sensor is placed on the



finger of the patient or firefighter and the parts per million of carbon monoxide is displayed on the unit's digital screen. Three pediatric immobilization splints were also purchased with the grant money. They will be used to bridge the gap between the "papoose board" and adult-sized spinal immobilization equipment.

Training

Over the past year, the Arcadia Fire Department has been hosting State Fire Marshal Fire Officer courses, providing department personnel opportunities to obtain valuable training as they prepare for future promotional exams. With future retirements, succession planning remains a priority of the Training Division.

In November 2008, the Arcadia Fire Department Training Division, in conjunction with Rio Hondo College, hosted Management I. The classes focused on fire officer leadership and management techniques and were attended by members from Arcadia, Pasadena, Glendale, and Los Angeles County Fire Departments.

The Arcadia Fire Department will be offering I-300 February 18-20, 2009 at Station 106, 630 South Baldwin, Arcadia. Those interested in attending this class can contact the Arcadia Fire Department Training Division, Battalion Chief Kurt Norwood at knorwood@ci.arcadia.ca.us.

Apparatus/Equipment

In early November, the Arcadia



Fire Department took delivery of a 2009 Chevrolet Suburban as a replacement vehicle for our current 1999 Battalion Chief Command Vehicle. We are anticipating this new Battalion 105 vehicle will be placed in service at the end of January 2009. The above photos were taken prior to the installation of the light-bar package.

Construction on our 2009, E450 Rescue Ambulance is proceeding on schedule and it should be delivered by the end of January 2009.

On December 1, new level II body armor was issued to all safety personnel to replace expired body armor. October 24, an order for High Visibility Safety Vests was placed and an accompanying Standard Operating Procedure was developed and implemented.

Facilities

Virtually all of the bugs have been worked out and all personnel assigned



to Fire Station 105 are settled in and truly enjoying our new Headquarters Fire Station. All of our families have enjoyed eating their holiday meals at our new facility as well.

December 1, C shift hosted an extremely successful Holiday Open House to all City employees. For two hours, City employees were able to tour Station 107, socialize with other employees, and snack on a variety of side dishes and desserts.

Fire Prevention Bureau

The Westfield Shoppingtown expansion continues on schedule for a May 2009 opening. The 180,000 square foot expansion will feature an open air shopping environment, with a three-story below grade parking structure. The parking structure was allowed to open temporarily during the holiday shopping season to assist the mall. The expansion has been named The Promenade and consists of retail stores and restaurants.

New inspection fees were put in place for the fiscal year. The fees will recover cost to the Fire Department incurred during annual inspections of commercial and apartment occupancies. The new fees are being assessed on the property and business owner's business license renewal.

Personnel

During the past three months, the Arcadia Fire Department has seen some personnel changes. Denny Wren and Jim Banks retired this past December.

Denny spent 26 years on the department, most of which as a Paramedic. His immediate retirement plan is to relocate his family to Tennessee



and to play as much golf as humanly possible.

Jim spent 20 years with the department, most of that time as an Engineer. Jim's plans are to surf and eventually build a new home on his property on the Oregon coast. The department thanks both of these men for their years of dedication and wishes each of them a long, healthy and well deserved retirement.



Firefighter Mike Herdman has been appointed to Paramedic effective January 2 and will be a welcomed addition to the department's Paramedic ranks.

We are also proud to announce the two newest members of our family, Probationary Firefighters George Coutts and Joel Rodas. Both George and Joel started the basic recruit academy January 5, and if all goes well, they will be assigned to an engine company in late February.



Arcadia Fire Fighters Association

The Arcadia Firefighters made a special holiday visit to the City of Hope Pediatric Cancer Ward on December 18. With the help of Santa Claus, the Firefighters were able to give gifts to every pediatric inpatient. This was a very special time for everyone involved and the Christmas spirit was definitely felt by all.

The Arcadia Firefighters Association has been distributing toys at the City of Hope Pediatric Ward for many years and hopes to continue this tradition for many years to come.



BURBANK

Population: 108,029

Area: 17.15 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$14,512,674,882

Once again, from our Fire Family to yours, best wishes for a safe and prosperous New Year.

Fire Prevention Week

In October, the BFD started off our observance of Fire Prevention Week by partnering with the Burbank Unified School District and the Children's Burn Foundation and visiting our public elementary schools with our Kids' Safety Trailer. Burbank firefighters offered an hour-long hands-on experience to our city's third graders, including escaping from a second story bedroom window; crawling through a smoked-filled room; Stop, Drop and Roll techniques; kitchen safety; and "cool a burn" training for treating an accidental burn. This program, to date, has reached over 7,000 Burbank students with lifesaving training.

Also in October, the Fire Marshal's office, along with our Disaster Volunteers, EMS Division, and ROP students, set up a restored 1966 Crown engine company as part of an information display located on our Paseo Del Fuego, adjoining the down-



town AMC walkway. Hundreds of movie-goers, shoppers, and residents out for an evening meal were greeted and offered information on fire safety, disaster training, and our EMS membership programs. Our department's elephant mascot, Lil' Squirt, was there to the delight of the children and adults.

Spark of Love Toy Drive

The Spark of Love Toy Drive for the city of Burbank came to a close with the passing of the holiday season. Even though our economy is in a recession, we still matched the toy collection of last year. The community of Burbank really stepped up to help out our neighbors who are less fortunate.

The Metrolink Holiday Train attendance reached 2,000 people and we collected a ton of toys. We also



had an increase in corporate involvement this year that really helped us achieve our collection goals. The efforts of all the firefighters have again produced another successful season. A special thanks to Engineer John Freeborn for all the volunteer hours he put in as "Chief Elf." Thanks, and we'll see you next year.



Apparatus Division



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Our Apparatus Division has been very busy with the recent delivery of our three new Seagrave Engines as well as a new Patrol and replacement vehicles for our Fire Prevention fleet. The outfitting of these vehicles is an arduous task, from emergency lights to the gold leaf.

Disaster Services Division

The last quarter of 2008 was a very busy time for all cities in Los Angeles County. The statewide Golden Guardian earthquake exercise

was the main focus for our Disaster Services Division. The City of Burbank participated in all three days of the earthquake exercise at a full scale level.

The first two days of the exercise were devoted to emergency response. All City departments participated in the Great Southern California Shakeout "Duck, Cover and Hold On" drill, followed by an evacuation drill of all City employees.

The City EOC was also activated and fully staffed to manage and mitigate scenario-driven events in the field. Representatives from all City departments participated in their EOC section or management roles during the earthquake simulation. Additionally, our Community Disaster Volunteers and Burbank Emergency Amateur Radio Service members played an important role in the support and functioning of our EOC.

All fire companies exercised the department's earthquake mode policy and performed windshield surveys in their districts while responding to scenarios in the field. The fire department, in collaboration with the Burbank Unified School District, staged a post-earthquake fire/EMS scenario at Stevenson Elementary School. Lucy Jones (USGS) and the Secretary of the Interior, along with international dignitaries, were present to participate in the earthquake drill and observe the cooperation between the school district and the City. We were also very fortunate to have three representatives from the U.S. Forest Service evaluating our exercise and providing valuable feedback.

The last day of the earthquake exercise was a discussion-based forum consisting of City officials, department managers, and community stakeholders who were tasked to discuss recovery issues that can and will disrupt critical infrastructure services in the event of a catastrophic event.

Leading up to the Golden Guard-

ian earthquake exercise were weeks of EOC Section training, NIMS training, and exercise planning from all departments in the City. Our Community Disaster Volunteer (CDV) instructor cadre completed a Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) class on October 18, graduating 8 students.

Chief Robertson, Captain Isozaki, and Jennifer Kaplan (Administrative Analyst) flew to Texas to participate in the "Enhanced Incident Management Unified Command" course offered at TEEX. This was a comprehensive 28-hour intensive course that focused on unified command and ICS section training. This is the same campus that is home to the all-hazard "Disaster City." This course is federally funded by the Department of Homeland Security.

The City of Burbank has implemented a mass notification system, a.k.a. Reverse 911, to notify the residents of Burbank of any emergency situations in the City that would warrant an immediate and/or widespread dissemination of information or instructions. This implementation is still in its infancy but has been proven effective to notify residents and businesses of electrical power issues caused by the recent Sayre Fire.

Training Division

The Burbank Fire Department had seven new recruits graduate from the Verdugo Fire Recruit Academy on December 18, 2008.



All Burbank Firefighters com-

pleted the Swede Survival Flashover Training, Phase II, on December 1-3.

Burbank completed an Engineer's Exam in September and a Captain's Exam in November.

All Burbank Captains attended the Fire Service Leadership L-380 Class in October.

All members attended a defensive driver training refresher course and new members attended the C.E.V.O. (Coaching the Emergency Vehicle Operator) II Fire Defensive Driving Class. Members of the department also attended a Motion Picture Fire Safety Officer Refresher Class.

Notable Incidents



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There were several noteworthy incidents in Burbank during the last calendar quarter. Burbank units responded to a late afternoon apartment fire and found a two-story building with the lower story heavily charged with smoke. The fire was located and extinguished due to an aggressive fire attack and ventilation, resulting in the damage being isolated to the room of origin. A single alarm was utilized. Units on scene were assisted by the Burbank Police for traffic and crowd control. The fire was investigated and determined to be a probable electrical malfunction.

An early afternoon auto body shop fire was reported and found to be lo-



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cated in the spray booth portion of the business. After the evacuation of occupants and employees, an aggressive fire attack again held the fire to the room of origin. This fire remains under investigation. There was extensive damage, not only to the business, but to the exhaust system in the spray booth as well. There were no injuries

to firefighters or civilians at either of these fires.

Lastly, a full Hazardous Materials response was dispatched to a high rise building for a suspected letter containing Anthrax. The white powder, as well as threatening literature received, caused the evacuation of several floors of the building. Several

potential patients were triaged and the substance was tested twice for the potential of Anthrax, both with negative results. The Burbank Police Department assisted with a perimeter and extensive crowd control as well as crime scene investigation. The Fire Marshal and the PIO were utilized due to high media interest.

GLENDALE

Population: 207,157

Area: 30.59 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$20,611,375,045



Personnel

Congratulations to Steve Dobbs, who was promoted to the rank of Fire Captain on Oct. 13.

Nine people were honored for their years of service at the GFD Annual Retirement Banquet: Battalion Chief Don Wright, Fire Captain Jeff Muis, Fire Captain Greg Phipps, Engineer Clark Cumbess, Engineer Ron Bostick, Engineer Pat Shelton, Firefighter Jim Kaufmann, Firefighter Scott French, and Firefighter Chuck Manente. A tenth retirement oc-



curred just before 2008 ended: Deputy Chief Steve Howard worked his final shift on Dec. 30, after 30 years of dedicated service. We extend our thanks and best wishes to all of these outstanding men.

A Battalion Chief's exam was held in December and two were promoted in January: Greg Godfrey will serve as an Administrative Battalion Chief in charge of EMS, Public Education, Facilities, Emergency Services, and Public Information. Tom Propst is the new Operations Battalion Chief assigned to the "B" Platoon.



Events and Activities

Oct. 8 was the date of the Annual Awards Luncheon, co-sponsored by Glendale Fire and the Glendale Sunrise Rotary Club. Among those honored were Distinguished Service Award recipients Fire Captain Vincent Rifino, Fire Engineer Steven Haleen, and Firefighter James Kauffmann.

Breaking all previous records for contributions, the GFD used a different approach this year for the Muscular Dystrophe Association fundraiser on Oct. 8 and pulled in



nearly \$12,000!

GFD also participated in the annual Coats for Kids drive, and the Public Education office represented the department at the Glendale Healthy Kids mini health fair and eye screening in conjunction with the USC mobile dental clinic.

The need for toys from the community was especially great this holiday season, but city residents were gracious and the Spark of Love Toy Drive boxes filled up quickly. About 800 toys were distributed to the four Head Start locations, and a whopping 1,300 toys went to the New Horizons Family Center for their grandiose toy giveaway on December 20. We also distributed about 700 toys to the Padres Contra El Cancer (Parents Against Cancer) organization. Many, many toys were distributed to smaller local organizations and families.

Incidents

On October 13, 35 firefighters from the Glendale and Burbank Fire Departments under the direction of Glendale Fire Battalion Chief Corey Creasey responded to a reported house fire in the 1900 block of Chilton Drive. First arriving firefighters discovered a large two-story single fam-



ily home with smoke showing from the rear of the structure. Firefighters immediately removed the home's occupant from harm's way and deployed an aggressive attack on the fire located in the service porch and basement areas of the structure. Through coordination, firefighters worked aggressively to contain the fire and prevent its spread to other areas of the home.

The sole occupant, an 88 year old man, was evaluated by paramedics for smoke inhalation and transported in good condition to a local hospital for further evaluation. There were no other reports of injuries or fatalities and the Glendale Arson unit was investigating the cause of the fire.



Over a seven day period in November, Southern California was hit hard by several large brush fires in Los Angeles and surrounding counties. The GFD deployed 22 personnel to assist with combating the fires at the Tea Incident in Montecito, the Sayre Incident in Sylmar, and the Triangle Complex Incident along the 91 freeway corridor.

Three significant fires occurred in December: duplex fires on Dec. 17 and 27 on Elm and E. Windsor, respectively, and an apartment fire on W. Lomita December 20.



Exercises and Drills

As part of the Great Southern California ShakeOut earthquake drill in mid-November, fire personnel performed mock rescues using a scenario where victims were reported missing following a major earthquake. The exercise was held at the Area C Regional Training Facility in the 3800 block of Glenoaks Blvd.



Two "victims" were found by firefighters in a collapsed building, another was trapped under a car, and a fourth one was pinned under a concrete block. Test dummies were used as victims.

The city's Public Works Department and Glendale Water & Power collaborated with the Fire Department for the drill. After an actual earthquake, City departments will undoubtedly need to work together to rescue victims and mitigate dangerous situations.

The initial portion of the drill was held Nov. 13 with full activation of the City's Emergency Operations Center. This exercise provided an invaluable opportunity for recent CERT graduates and GEARS radio volunteers to work with City staff on mock disaster scenarios.



Company and individual evaluations were held by the Training Section during the Fall months, with minor interruptions due to wind-driven

interface fires and a significant storm. Training & Safety Chief Bob Doyle was pleased with the tactical competency demonstrated by department personnel and fire companies.



Annual inspections were held Dec. 10-12, when all fire companies and sections of the department were visited and reviewed. Once again, Jerry Jacobs donated three full days of his time to travel from station to station with the Chief Officers and photograph all department personnel, both individually and in groups.



Additional Incident Photos



MONROVIA

Population: 39,327

Area: 13.73 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$3,566,033,952

Sayre Fire

On Saturday, November 14 at 0025 hours, Engine 101 was dispatched as part of Strike Team 1206A to the Sayre Fire. The Strike Team arrived in Sylmar and was immediately deployed to the Oak Ridge Mobile Home Park, which was being threatened by approaching wild-fire. Engine 101, along with four other strike teams, battled the blaze well into the early morning. Nearly 500 structures were lost in the mobile home park, but a few hundred remained due to the valiant efforts of the firefighters onscene.

New Fire Patrol

The Department took delivery of its newest vehicle in the fleet, a 2008 Chevrolet four-wheel-drive pickup truck which has been placed into service as Patrol 101. This heavy duty truck has been outfitted with emergency response capabilities and will be certified as a wildland Type 6 Engine, given the drop-in pump has a 140-gallon water tank and a 30 GPM capability. The new Patrol will also be outfitted with all equipment that is mandated to meet NWCG specifications. The previous fire patrol has been kept in the fleet and gives the



department two Fire Patrols during high fire danger patrols and in the event of fire.

Wilderness Fire Station

The City of Monrovia has had an empty fire station in the wilderness preserve for many years now and we are proud to announce the days of vacancy are over! The fire station, located off of Cloverleaf Drive, has moved one step closer to becoming a reality as the City Council and the Rio Hondo Community College District Board of Directors have approved a facility user agreement. Next week, Fire Department staff will be meeting with Rio Hondo Fire Academy staff to iron out the final details in getting the wildland fire academy to occupy the station, with a grand opening event scheduled for the middle of February.

The academy will be using the wilderness station as their staging location and a starting place to perform field exercises such as physical fitness, compass work, carrying heavy equipment such as chain saws and pruning saws in tool order, and other field procedures. The crews will also be working in collaboration with the Monrovia Fire Department as part of the plan to give the them invaluable training opportunities, while adding to our arsenal of fuel reduction strategies that have been used to clear brush and create fuel breaks. Certainly this is a win-win situation and we look forward to having the Rio Hondo College wildland academy working collaboratively with the Monrovia Fire Department!

CERT

On September 27, the fifth CERT class graduated, bringing the total to 82 local residents in the past 18 months having completed the 20-hour program. On November 13, CERT members were deployed as part of the Great California Shakeout.



The volunteers responded to a multi-casualty incident and provided triage and treatment for the victims. The scenario proved a valuable experience for both the CERT volunteers and City Staff and reaffirmed our thoughts that the City's newest first responders are ready and capable to assist during disasters.

Monrovia Fire Department Family Christmas Dinner 2008

On Sunday, December 14, Monrovia Fire Department hosted their annual Christmas dinner at Station 101 for the firefighters and family members. Over 175 people attended this festive event, with many of the firefighters' children anxiously awaiting the arrival of Santa Claus. The food was prepared by Monrovia firefighters, with Engineer Steve Mikity in charge as the head chef. Prime rib, smoked turkey, smoked ham, secret stuffing, and a wide array of desserts were just some of the mouth-watering items on the menu. Engineer Ben Esparza as the D.J. filled the station with Christmas music while everyone contentedly ate. Finally, Santa Claus graciously came by the station to hand out gifts to the children, making it an enjoyable evening had by all at the Monrovia Fire Department.

Helping Anyone in Need

On December 14, Monrovia and Arcadia firefighters, under the direction of Battalion Chief Scott Haberle, responded to a reported structure fire on West Walnut Avenue in the City of Monrovia. Upon arrival, respond-

ing personnel reported smoke coming from the rear of the residence. Upon further investigation, an active fire in the laundry room with extension into the attic was found.

After a well coordinated interior attack with top-side ventilation, knockdown was declared, but sadly not before significant structural damage forced the residents out of the home and into the care of the American Red Cross.

There were three children living in the house. Leo (age 8), Andrew (age 5), and Sebastian (age 3) had many of their clothes destroyed. Also destroyed in the fire were all of their school supplies and the Christmas gifts that Santa Claus was going to bring them.

Monrovia firefighters, following their organizational mission statement, "Helping Anyone in Need," were able to replace the ruined clothing, school supplies, and Christmas gifts with the assistance of local merchants. A formal presentation was made on December 18 at Fire Station 101 and the spirit of giving was felt by all!

Extrication Training



MONTEREY PARK

Population: 64,434

Area: 7.70 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$4,830,397,006

The past few months have been busy on the south side of Area C. Like the rest of us, we saw a lot of local Strike Team Responses. Everyone had a good time, saw a lot of fire, and nobody got hurt.

A few construction projects have been going on here. There is a new Butler Building being built behind Fire Station 63. This structure will be used to house two reserve Fire Engines, as well as a Reserve RA and fire hose storage. It is being built by our own members and will be a good addition for our fleet.

Our Headquarters is also undergoing an expansion and remodel of our front lobby area for the support staff personnel, as well as better access for the public.

After these two projects are com-

pleted, Fire Station 63 will get a make-over of the kitchen and common area.

Another new project is a ventilation prop built behind Fire station 63. This should be completed just in time for the upcoming Area C ventilation training in July.

The department has hired four new recruits to our ranks. Please welcome Steven Melton, Roger Luna, Jason Morales, and Candace Kutrosky. The new recruits will have a 12-day mini-academy prior to their start on the floor beginning January 23.

The Monterey Park Public Access Defibrillator program is now placing Zoll AEDs in public buildings. This program has been coming along for the past year. It began with training our own in-house CPR/AED instructors. These new instructors have been training fellow City employees.

The first AEDs have been installed in the Senior Citizen Center as well as City Hall and the City's Library. Future sites are the pools as well as recreation center buildings.

Monterey Park is taking delivery of a new Chevy Suburban for Battalion 6. This should be placed in service in the next few months.

UNIFIED RESPONSE Upcoming Deadlines

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
Spring 2009	Apr. 13
Summer 2009	Jul. 13
Fall 2009	Oct. 12
Winter 2010	Jan. 11

UNIFIED RESPONSE

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PASADENA

Population: 148,126

Area: 23.0 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$18,205,023,771

Hazmat at PD

Pasadena Fire units were dispatched to 207 N. Garfield Ave. on a report of an employee feeling sick in the Property Room of Pasadena PD. Prior to our arrival on scene, an update from the Police Department advised that the employee may have become sick from an evidence package containing PCP. Upon arrival of the first due company; Truck 31 (Captain La Presle) made contact with the employee, who had been moved upstairs, away from the Property Room.

A Unified Command was established and the incident was managed using hazmat protocols. The Property Room was identified as the only area in the exclusion zone. The Hazmat Group (Captain Malloy, Burbank F.D.) sent in an inspection team for product identification and to assess the possibility of a spill or off-gassing. Air sampling and detection equipment came back negative. It was noted on exam that the evidence package had expanded, which raised the question of the package's integrity. Both employees who work in the immediate area were transported to the hospital for evaluation. The area was deemed cleared by the Hazmat Group and the area was released to Specialist 3 Weckerle.

House Fire/Fatality

Pasadena Fire Units were dispatched on a reported house fire at 1091 N. Wilson. Upon arrival, Engine 33 (Captain Fung) reported heavy smoke coming from the front win-

dows of a single story residence. Engine 33 received information from a neighbor that at least one resident lived at the location. Engine 33 initiated fire attack and assigned Engine 36 (Captain Hurtado) to assist primary search of the residence. Engine 33 reported that there were several areas involved in fire and it appeared that there were multiple starts.

During the search, Engine 36 found one victim, a middle-aged female who is believed to be the homeowner. The victim was not breathing and was rescued from the house. Engine 32 (Captain Rosetti) and Rescue Ambulance 33 (Basulto & Lazaryan) took over patient care and transported the patient.

During the rescue effort, a small handgun was found in the bed with the patient. The conditions in the room were hostile with moderate smoke. There were no gross signs of trauma present on the patient on initial contact. A request was made for a Pasadena Police Supervisor and an Arson Investigator.

The fire was knocked down in seventeen minutes and the scene was secured and processed as a crime scene. It was also noted that a "pack rat" condition was present at the location. A request for Code Enforcement and the CRASH Team was made.

Traffic Collision/Rescue

Engine 33 (Captain Fung) and Rescue Ambulance 33 were dispatched to a traffic collision at the intersection of Lake Ave. and Orange



Grove Blvd. Pasadena Police arrived on scene and reported a person trapped under a car. The dispatch was upgraded to a rescue assignment, with Truck 32 (Captain Trautwein) and Battalion 3 being added to the incident. Engine 33 reported a solo vehicle on the sidewalk with an adult male trapped under an SUV.

Truck 32 was assigned extrication, Engine 33 was assigned medical treatment and one additional Engine and RA were requested to assist. Engine 34 (Captain Clark) was assigned to assist Truck 32 with extrication and RA34 was assigned to evaluate the driver of the vehicle, who was reported to be several months pregnant and had requested a medical evaluation. The patient was extricated from under the vehicle and was transported to a hospital with moderate injuries. The driver of the SUV was transported for evaluation.



Fire With Burn Victim

Pasadena Engine 33 was dispatched on a single-engine response to investigate a fire alarm activated at 44 N. Madison. The building is a very large apartment complex addressed off of both Madison and El Molino. A short time after their arrival, Verdugo Dispatch received several calls from occupants on the El Molino side, reporting smoke in the hallway of the building. A full structure response was requested, adding E34, E31, T31, T32, RA33, and BC3.

The occupants led firefighters to the third floor, where they discovered a pile of clothing smoldering inside an

apartment. The fire sprinkler system had activated and extinguished the fire. A short time later, firefighters found a 27 year old female occupant in the bedroom. She had locked herself in to prevent entry. The occupant had first, second and third degree burns on her feet, legs and abdomen, along with possible smoke inhalation. The burns covered approximately 36% of her body. Firefighters carried the victim down to RA33, where she was treated and transported to a local hospital. The building sustained fire, smoke and water damage to five units. Damage to the property was set at \$30,000.

New Firefighters



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Our four newest employees graduated from the Verdugo Fire Academy. Their assignments are as follows:

Busko, Matthew	FS31-A
Watson, Ryan	FS33-B
Katt, Sean	FS31-C
Malray, O'Bryan	FS33-C



Probationary Firefighters

U.S.S. Pasadena Plaque

Pasadena Fire Chief Dennis Downs and Pasadena Police Chief Bernard Melekian presented the commanding officers of the U.S.S. Pasadena with a plaque recognizing their ongoing collaboration. Pictured below are, from left to right: Police Chief Melekian, Senior Chief Bobby Keyes COB (Chief of the Boat), Commander Doug Perry (Captain of the USS Pasadena SSN 752), and Fire Chief Dennis Downs.



Spark of Love: Helping a Family Displaced by Fire

(Excerpts from *Pasadena Star News*, reprinted with permission from the author, Robert Hong)

The last time Maya Garrison saw

firefighters, she and her family were standing on their porch as smoke billowed from the attic of their North Mentor Avenue home. It took firefighters about 20 minutes to douse the fire, which caused about \$55,000 in damages and rendered their house unlivable.

A few days before Christmas, the 5-year-old's eyes lit up as Santa Claus, riding in a red Pasadena Fire Department fire engine, pulled up to her former house and hopped out with a bushel of toys for her and her infant brother Lucas.

"I'm just blown away," said Maya's mother, Linda Garrison. It was a small respite during a tumultuous week for the family, who has been moving from hotel to hotel since the fire last Friday.

To bring some Christmas cheer to the Garrisons, who will be displaced through the holidays, Pasadena Fire officials sprung into action, selecting toys for Maya and Lucas from the department's annual Spark of Love toy drive. Among the gifts: a new bicycle, a rocking horse and lots of stuffed animals.

Officials determined the fire was caused accidentally, and investigators are still looking into exactly how it ignited. In the meantime, local Red Cross officials have helped the family with temporary housing. "We're trying to spread some Christmas cheer," said fire Capt. Daniel Serna. "Santa took some time out of his schedule to make a special trip."

SAN GABRIEL

Population: 42,762

Area: 4.10 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$3,217,547,319

Retirements, Promotions and Hiring

The San Gabriel Fire Department had two significant retirements at the end of 2008. As you can tell by reading this droll article, our erudite comedic author of so many newsletter articles, Battalion Chief Richard Garstang, has retired after 30 years of service. Chief Garstang has stated

that he will be spending time with his family and traveling to his favorite town of Cambria, or his wife's favorite town of Las Vegas.

Also retiring in December of 2008 was Engineer Dave Blancett, who plans to travel in his new 40-foot fifth-wheel trailer and spend time with his young grandson. The San Gabriel Fire Department wishes both of these re-

tireses a long, fun-filled retirement.

In December and January, two promotional exams have been conducted. Five Captains participated in a multi-phased Battalion Chief's examination. Final selection should be made sometime in February. Concurrently, a Captain's test is ongoing to fill the position created by this eventual promotion.

Fire Chief's interviews have been conducted off an existing list of Engineer candidates, and a promotion to fill this vacancy will be announced in late January. Finally, a continuous recruitment for Firefighter with Paramedic Certification will be used to fill the three openings currently existing in the department.

Fire Marshal Classes Conducted in San Gabriel

In 2008, several California State Fire Marshal Level 2 classes were held in San Gabriel. At the end of the year, Fire Management 2B was conducted by Battalion Chief Cliff

Hadsell, who is retired from the San Marino Fire Department. Fire Management 2C was taught by Battalion Chief Kurt Norwood of the Arcadia Fire Department. Future Level 2 classes are slated to be held in 2009. For information, email Captain Bryan Frieders at Bfrieders@sgfd.org.

In 2009, San Gabriel and Monterey Park will host the new CSFM Training Instructor 1A and 1B classes. These classes are slated to occur in March, and the contact for these classes is Firefighter/Paramedic Chris Fetner at Cfetner@sgfd.org.

San Gabriel Starts CERT Team

San Gabriel Fire Department conducted three Community Emergency Response Team training classes in 2008. The training staff developed an interactive training program that has been received enthusiastically by 34 members of the San Gabriel Community.

The CERT program, which is led by Engineer Dennis Barwick and As-

sistant Instructors Firefighter/Paramedics Chris Fetner and Alex Robbins, has provide 16 hours of training to each CERT member at Fire Station 51 on Saturdays. This training focuses on hands-on practices that would enable these citizens to assist the fire department with first aid, field observation, light rescue and building security immediately following a disaster.

This weekend training also enables on-duty fire crews to participate in the training. The crews have really enjoyed the interaction with the citizens, and this interaction provides for a face and name connection with members of the community when the crews are going about their day-to-day activities. Many CERT members have pointed to the dynamic interaction with the on-duty crews as the main reason they stay involved with CERT.

The San Gabriel Fire Department will hold its next CERT training in February and March of 2009.

SAN MARINO

Population: 13,455

Area: 3.75 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$3,730,115,912

Excitement is all around in San Marino. A new Paramedic Ambulance is being placed into service. It is a Road Rescue Ultramedic Type3 modular on a Ford E450 chassis. It



has several nice additions and creature comforts for the Paramedics and the patients we treat. Thanks go to Russell Wilcox for putting the specifications together and Jason Sutliff for filling it with all new equipment and supplies. You should be able to hear the new siren configuration all the way over in Burbank. Coming soon to San Marino will be a Pierce Arrow XT to replace Engine 91. More on that in the next newsletter.

Other equipment improvements involve the programming of the new XTS 5000 portables. Radio coverage and clarity have improved significantly within San Marino. Many thanks to Steve Page and Gordon Arnold for their assistance in helping us through some of the difficult issues that everyone has been experiencing with the Motorola radios. Conversion of all of

the mobile radios is beginning with our new RA.

In September, 12 members from SMFD and SMPD chartered a 3/4-day boat out of Oceanside. We definitely timed it right. The barracuda bite was "wide open" and the sea bass were plentiful. The highlight of the trip was when we came across a hungry school of yellowtail. We were able to pull in ten just before heading back.



November proved to be a busy month filled with disaster preparedness activities. Along with the Golden

Guardian and the Great Shakeout exercises, San Marino focused on employee preparedness by conducting a first-ever City Hall Evacuation Drill and Employee Preparedness Workshop. This was a real eye-opener for everyone. It was determined that the health and well being of family members and loved ones was the highest priority following a devastating earthquake. This finding only solidified the need for everyone to become prepared, especially employees.

Each year, the San Marino Chamber of Commerce hosts a pro-

gram called “Christmas Around the Drive.” The highlight of this event is the arrival of Santa Claus at the Fire Station aboard Old Number 1 (SMFD’s antique 1923 American La France). A line of eager youngsters wrapped around the block in front of City Hall, awaiting the arrival of Ole Saint Nick. Fire Department members assisted Santa in greeting all who were waiting, along with conducting Station tours and serving hot dogs.

On Christmas Day, the San Marino Fire Department assisted Santa again by driving him around the

city to meet the dedicated residents who stood in the rain with the hopes of meeting Santa and getting a candy cane. The day was gloomy, but the spirits were bright.



SIERRA MADRE

Population: 11,116

Area: 3.0 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$1,466,024,282

No fire department can maintain a state of readiness without all the members being equipped to handle any potential call for service. The best way for a fire department to make sure its members are ready for the next call is through constant and routine training.

All the members of the Sierra Madre Fire Department are required to attend regular training sessions in a variety of subjects related to the fire service in areas such as fire, emergency medical services, and fire prevention. Each member of the fire department is also encouraged to maintain a healthy mind and body through routine physical exercise.

The Sierra Madre Fire Department places a high priority on training; each member of the department is encouraged to spend a significant amount of his or her time training while on or off duty.

The Sierra Madre Fire Department currently trains its firefighters on the first two Wednesday nights of each month. These Wednesday night training sessions

are conducted by members of the department, instructors from Rio Hondo College, outside third-party lecturers, or a combination of the above. Each of these training sessions lasts approximately two hours. However, recently department officers concluded that this was not enough training to safely keep the firefighters skills proficient.

The 2009 training schedule will make a significant change in the way we make training available to both individual members of the department and the membership as a whole. It will increase the number of training sessions and the hours of training available to each individual member. This change will allow each firefighter to meet the current NFPA recommendation of 240 training hours per year.

The new training schedule will include department-wide training sessions on the third Saturday of each month from 0700 to 1500 hours. Also included is Engine Company training, where each crew will be responsible to train a minimum of two hours per shift. Each crew is scheduled about 60 shifts per year.

We hope the increase in training will have a positive effect on our firefighting skills and ultimately aid in the safety of all firefighters.



SOUTH PASADENA

Population: 25,792

Area: 3.44 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$2,944,221,824

South Pasadena Fire Department has been awarded an Assistance to

Firefighters grant for a new Rescue Ambulance. Battalion Chief Mike Clark will be working with the City's grant expert to bid out for this new RA, with the goal of having it in service before the end of the year.

We would like to welcome Justin Furtado as the newest member of our department. He is a new paramedic and has worked as a paid call with the Manhattan Beach Fire Department. Justin's addition to the department leaves us with one opening to

be filled pending a paramedic/firefighter exam.



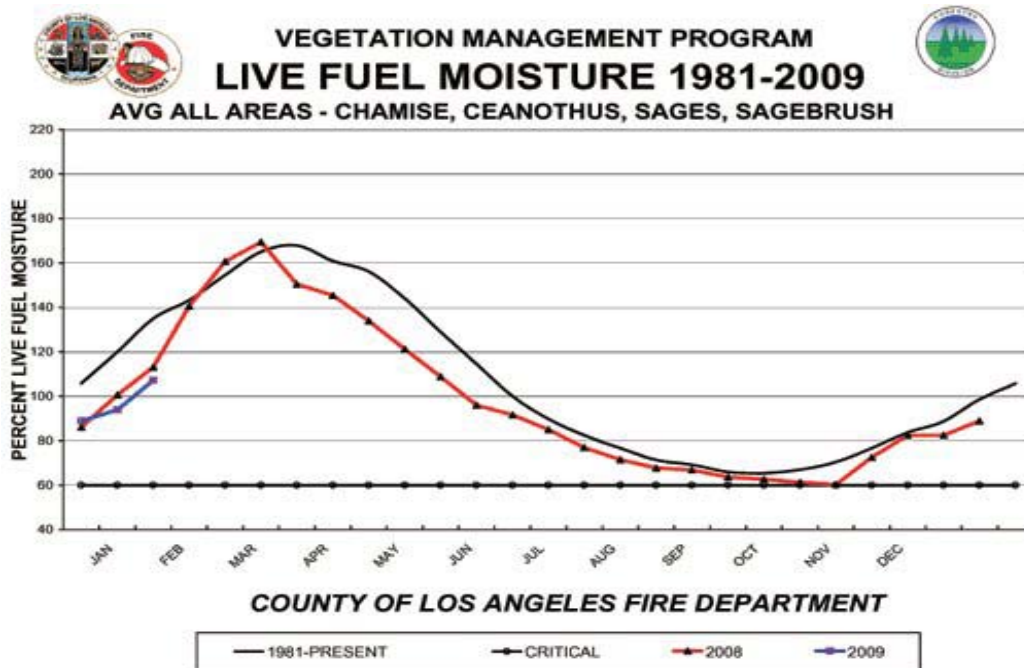
RESPONSE TIME ANALYSIS: 2008

Agency	Av. Dispatch to Enroute (Min:Sec)	Av. Enroute to Onscene (Min:Sec)	Av. Dispatch to Onscene (Min:Sec)	Percent 5 Min. or Less	Total Incidents
ALH	1:03	3:25	4:28	69.1%	4,724
ARC	1:06	3:14	4:19	70.6%	4,232
BRK	0:59	3:23	4:22	71.4%	9,516
GLN	0:59	3:08	4:08	78.7%	15,491
MPK	1:11	3:35	4:47	60.9%	3,641
MRV	1:05	3:24	4:29	66.8%	3,238
PAS	1:01	3:12	4:13	73.3%	15,687
SGB	0:54	3:26	4:21	71.8%	2,151
SMD	1:17	3:10	4:26	70.4%	811
SNM	0:55	3:05	3:59	78.2%	955
SPS	1:02	3:18	4:21	70.8%	1,521

Dispatch to Enroute: From dispatch to leaving the station (all personnel suited up and belted in). Also known as turnout time, the NFPA recommends 60 seconds for this phase of the response.

Enroute & Onscene Times: These come solely from field personnel pressing buttons on the mobile computer terminal; announcing a unit's status over the radio does not record the time of the status change where it would be picked up for statistical analysis.

Percent 5 Min. or Less: The goal is for the entire response, from dispatch to arriving onscene, to be 5 minutes or less as often as possible. Travel time may vary due to many factors such as the city's geographical layout, the time of day or night, traffic density, and road conditions. Area served by each fire station is also a factor – the average fire district in Area C is 3 square miles, but the range is from 1.3 to 11.9 sq.mi.



http://fire.lacounty.gov/Forestry/PDF/LFMA1Area.pdf

Montebello

A cutover date of February 26 has been identified for the addition of Montebello to the Verdugo System, bringing Verdugo's total to 12 cities. Montebello is an Area E city in the State OES mutual aid system, whereas the other 11 Verdugo cities are in Area C. An Operating Plan has been drafted to clarify the specifics related to which resources will be dispatched in different situations, as Montebello's geographic location and ongoing commitments with Area E also need to be taken into consideration.

In addition to the Operating Plan, Verdugo is actively working on many other details that must be resolved to add another city, such as wireless data systems, phone connectivity, access to the computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system, staffing, and training. New programming on the CAD system is being tested to confirm that Verdugo will be able to process mutual aid incidents involving several Area E cities. Montebello streets, hydrants, fire stations, and other points of interest have been added to Verdugo's geofile and testing has commenced to assure that incident locations in the new city will immediately and accurately be recognized by the CAD system and the correct units will be recommended for dispatch.

Meetings between Verdugo and Montebello Fire personnel have been highly productive and a new collaborative relationship is being forged with Area E to facilitate seamless dispatching between Verdugo and Area E's dispatch center in Downey.

Staffing

It is anticipated that two Fire Communications Operators (FCO's) will be hired and trained to assist with handling the additional call volume related to adding Montebello, and Verdugo has posted a job bulletin for a Fire Communications Shift Supervisor vacancy. Call volume and other factors will determine which times of day or night demonstrate the greatest need for the new FCO's.

Hospital Status At Your Fingertips

A new feature has been added to ambulances, fire engines, and other fire units that provides up-to-the-minute hospital emergency room status information with the push of a button. This feature enables para-



medics to determine which hospital to use for transporting a patient, without having to contact Verdugo dispatchers via radio for an update on emergency room status. This new feature was designed by Verdugo personnel in collaboration with paramedic coordinators prior to being programmed by the CAD system vendor.

Verdugo Adopts A Family Over the Holidays

This year Verdugo Fire Communications had the privilege of helping a Glendale Head Start family over the Christmas holidays. Verdugo provided gifts and food to all seven family members, including new shoes and coats for all five kids and also plenty of toys!

Fire Communications Operator Jennifer Speed, who delivered the gifts and goodies with a GFD Engine Company, commented on what a humbling experience it was to visit the Ortiz family. She said they may not have had a lot of material items, but they were a very loving and appreciative family and were truly touched by everything Verdugo provided. Jennifer said it was a great experience to help such a wonderful family.



Jennifer Speed (right) poses with six people from the seven-member family adopted by Verdugo Fire Communications for this year's Christmas Family Charity event. The children were ecstatic to see the many wrapped gifts being delivered and the parents generously expressed their gratitude by providing a large plate of homemade tamales for the firefighters and dispatcher who delivered the wrapped gifts and gift cards donated by the dispatch center staff.

TICP Pocket Guide

Several hundred copies of the pocket-sized 2008 TICP (Tactical Interoperability Communications Plan) booklet have been distributed to the 11 fire departments in the Verdugo System for line personnel. Each booklet includes the VHF and UHF channel plans, along with a directory of channels listed by frequency. The 2009 TICP revision is expected in late spring and will involve minor changes such as the renaming of several channels.

INCIDENTS BY CATEGORY: 2008

JANUARY	VERDUGO	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	882	38	63	142	145	48	36	278	28	12	8	27
MEDICAL	4,554	353	319	628	1,174	208	244	1,132	152	56	65	81
SERVICE	416	31	35	63	70	36	21	96	9	14	10	15
OTHER	6	0	0	1	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
OOV*	159	0	3	10	51	5	19	40	3	16	0	4
TOTAL	6,017	422	420	844	1,442	297	320	1,549	192	98	83	127

FEBRUARY	VERDUGO	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	708	49	68	80	120	45	35	224	26	19	9	12
MEDICAL	4,304	332	289	613	1,113	217	270	1,069	146	49	46	106
SERVICE	231	27	16	35	46	16	13	45	10	10	3	8
OTHER	6	0	0	0	2	0	1	3	0	0	0	0
OOV*	85	1	3	8	31	2	9	16	1	13	1	0
TOTAL	5,334	409	376	736	1,312	280	328	1,357	183	91	59	126

MARCH	VERDUGO	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	687	58	55	99	114	38	31	211	18	21	5	18
MEDICAL	4,269	327	282	624	1,088	197	270	1,076	148	58	50	104
SERVICE	255	28	18	31	65	11	13	65	4	4	6	10
OTHER	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
OOV*	72	1	3	6	30	1	8	10	1	10	1	1
TOTAL	5,285	414	358	760	1,298	248	322	1,362	171	93	62	133

APRIL	VERDUGO	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	759	51	61	99	134	39	28	238	22	11	19	20
MEDICAL	4,074	317	268	616	1,045	213	252	968	143	58	56	99
SERVICE	244	16	16	47	44	19	16	58	8	3	7	8
OTHER	6	0	0	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	1
OOV*	87	0	4	8	34	2	16	8	4	7	1	1
TOTAL	5,170	384	349	771	1,258	273	312	1,275	177	79	83	129

MAY	VERDUGO	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	747	59	62	113	152	31	36	208	18	9	15	13
MEDICAL	4,047	313	283	601	1,043	217	247	961	144	43	46	93
SERVICE	256	30	16	32	62	16	15	53	11	4	7	8
OTHER	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OOV*	108	2	0	17	48	6	8	13	2	12	0	0
TOTAL	5,160	405	361	763	1,306	270	306	1,235	175	68	68	114

JUNE	VERDUGO	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	766	45	59	109	130	40	30	232	14	16	7	22
MEDICAL	4,059	283	303	564	1,129	238	237	948	143	54	45	75
SERVICE	257	23	16	33	58	20	14	57	13	8	6	9
OTHER	7	1	0	1	2	0	0	2	0	0	1	0
OOV*	131	1	6	15	41	11	16	17	5	7	6	2
TOTAL	5,220	353	384	722	1,360	309	297	1,256	175	85	65	108

*OOV = Responses outside the 11 Verdugo cities to such locations as Montebello, Los Angeles City and Los Angeles County.

JULY	VERDUGO	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	816	70	73	133	126	24	32	239	15	15	9	13
MEDICAL	3,962	307	255	569	1,066	186	203	999	129	44	41	92
SERVICE	241	24	18	33	46	18	10	63	8	7	8	4
OTHER	6	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	0
OOV*	157	1	5	20	59	9	19	23	8	7	1	1
TOTAL	5,182	403	351	756	1,298	237	264	1,326	160	74	59	110

AUGUST	VERDUGO	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	745	58	71	111	125	33	32	214	17	17	5	23
MEDICAL	4,081	342	262	598	1,034	184	244	1,010	123	48	61	112
SERVICE	292	40	17	48	54	19	17	58	13	6	8	11
OTHER	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	6	0	0	0	0
OOV*	115	0	0	21	53	4	14	8	2	11	0	1
TOTAL	5,240	440	350	778	1,267	240	307	1,296	155	82	74	147

SEPTEMBER	VERDUGO	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	717	42	73	95	122	44	25	230	17	12	10	14
MEDICAL	3,999	326	269	556	1,041	181	247	975	133	63	60	101
SERVICE	261	22	19	39	65	22	18	49	7	5	8	7
OTHER	7	0	1	0	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
OOV*	86	0	4	7	43	1	9	16	3	3	0	0
TOTAL	5,070	390	366	697	1,272	248	299	1,275	160	83	78	122

OCTOBER	VERDUGO	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	857	39	71	111	165	45	38	258	24	16	9	27
MEDICAL	4,200	305	268	622	1,117	242	233	1,005	150	52	57	90
SERVICE	269	20	25	38	69	18	22	49	6	5	8	7
OTHER	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
OOV*	144	2	6	13	59	10	15	11	5	15	1	3
TOTAL	5,474	366	371	784	1,410	315	308	1,325	185	88	75	127

NOVEMBER	VERDUGO	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	888	50	65	148	151	53	47	253	30	13	10	19
MEDICAL	3,834	325	230	532	994	194	217	956	150	36	42	99
SERVICE	251	24	15	43	56	13	10	64	4	3	9	9
OTHER	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
OOV*	146	5	11	19	47	7	12	16	5	17	3	0
TOTAL	5,120	404	321	742	1,248	267	286	1,290	189	69	64	127

DECEMBER	VERDUGO	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	899	52	60	133	170	52	41	285	29	13	11	24
MEDICAL	4,239	324	281	668	1,112	189	237	1,043	145	39	57	91
SERVICE	263	25	24	34	68	17	15	51	7	5	7	9
OTHER	9	0	0	1	1	0	0	6	0	0	0	0
OOV*	94	0	1	5	41	2	12	15	14	12	0	0
TOTAL	5,504	401	366	841	1,392	260	305	1,400	195	69	75	124

2008 Totals	VERDUGO	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	9,471	611	781	1,373	1,654	492	411	2,870	258	174	117	232
MEDICAL	49,622	3,854	3,309	7,191	12,956	2,466	2,901	12,142	1,706	600	626	1,143
SERVICE	3,236	310	235	476	703	225	184	708	100	74	87	105
OTHER	63	3	2	5	13	1	1	33	0	1	1	1
OOV*	1,384	13	46	149	537	60	157	193	53	130	14	13
TOTAL	63,776	4,791	4,373	9,194	15,863	3,244	3,654	15,946	2,117	979	845	1,494

*OOV=Outside the Verdugo System

UNITS DISPATCHED BY VERDUGO ANNUALLY: 2005-2008

Agency	Unit	# Responses in...				
		2008	2007	2006	2005	
ALH	E71	1,763	1,755	1,310	(Alhambra joined the Verdugo System on April 13, 2006)	
	E72	1,415	1,418	1,108		
	E73	965	995	698		
	E74	1,170	1,177	875		
	RA71	2,406	2,387	1,717		
	RA74	1,809	1,750	1,204		
	T71	719	707	634		
	USR71	4	-	-		-
ARC	E105	1,683	1,718	1,616	1,569	
	E106	2,135	1,961	2,073	2,069	
	E107	917	913	877	786	
	RA105	1,685	1,677	1,567	1,540	
	RA106	1,827	1,788	1,800	1,638	
	T105	626	685	641	584	
	AU106	6	5	7	4	
	USAR106	5	7	9	9	
BRK	E11	2,571	2,708	2,584	2,433	
	E12	1,489	1,638	1,527	1,482	
	E13	1,732	1,722	1,670	1,685	
	E14	1,329	1,383	1,327	1,296	
	E15	1,900	1,993	1,998	1,936	
	E16	822	901	843	747	
	E18	105	146	97	88	
	HM12	38	40	41	57	
	RA11	2,553	2,753	2,723	2,426	
	RA13	2,425	2,373	2,215	2,165	
	RA15	2,752	2,750	2,721	2,571	
	T11	749	803	735	762	
	T12	561	568	498	534	
	WT16	5	3	5	2	
	GLN	AU28	12	23	16	30
		E21	3,345	3,256	3,192	3,133
E22		2,424	2,412	2,372	2,359	
E23		283	278	258	287	
E24		938	975	953	1,043	
E25		3,084	3,208	3,047	3,050	
E26		2,769	2,638	2,566	2,573	
E27		2,266	2,195	2,114	2,100	
E28		750	655	692	682	
E29		974	964	983	1,083	
HM24		40	35	38	44	
RA21		3,479	3,604	4,346	4,252	
RA22		2,502	1,997	-	-	
RA25		3,381	3,478	3,877	3,852	
RA26		3,582	3,536	3,655	3,587	
RA29		1,508	1,547	1,667	1,822	
T21		1,155	961	883	1,022	
T26		961	961	864	989	
T29		282	295	268	294	
USAR29		18	19	25	35	
WT21	6	5	4	6		
WT27	6	7	2	1		

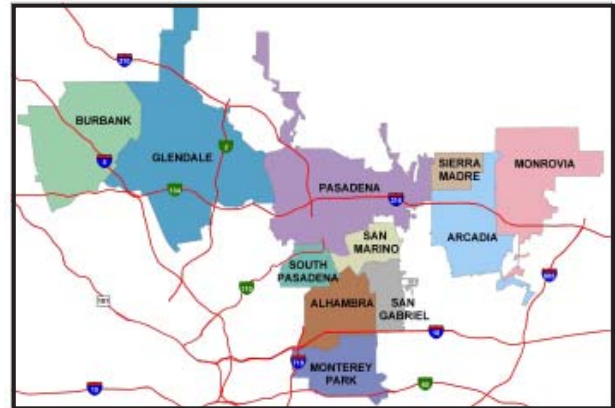
Agency	Unit	# Responses in...			
		2008	2007	2006	2005
MPK	E61	1,717	1,740	1,585	1,420
	E62	1,233	1,278	1,211	1,135
	E63	1,083	1,077	997	995
	RA61	1,796	1,772	1,668	1,534
	RA62	1,405	1,397	1,362	1,236
	T61	546	553	476	404
MRV	E101	2,086	2,038	1,924	1,944
	E102	1,628	1,622	1,677	1,556
	SQ101	1,671	1,668	1,637	1,624
	T101	485	444	516	552
PAS	WT101	7	15	3	7
	E31	3,734	3,619	3,534	3,488
	E32	1,876	1,879	1,883	1,809
	E33	3,321	3,268	3,304	3,219
	E34	2,148	2,216	2,266	2,265
	E36	3,118	3,109	2,999	3,077
	E37	1,429	1,492	1,558	1,423
	E38	712	702	713	708
	E39	682	703	642	652
	RA31	2,891	2,923	3,122	3,083
RA32	2,252	2,395	2,712	2,546	
RA33	3,097	3,248	3,586	3,465	
RA34	2,186	1,501	-	-	
RA36	2,943	2,981	3,155	3,051	
T31	1,480	1,306	1,264	1,104	
T32	865	826	924	799	
USAR32	17	28	33	32	
SGB	E51	1,256	1,315	1,188	1,323
	E52	1,122	1,103	1,011	1,027
	RA51	1,599	1,589	1,473	1,583
SMD	USR51	0	4	-	-
	E41	245	270	286	224
SNM	RA41	829	806	751	671
	WT41	1	0	1	1
SPS	E91	991	989	1,048	1,055
	RA91	1,021	1,013	1,142	1,151
	AU81	216	242	248	283
	E81	1,548	1,557	1,675	1,656
	RA81	1,225	1,103	1,201	1,190

Notes:

- Total *unit responses* for a given agency will be much higher than the number of *incidents* they responded on because two or more units respond on most types of incidents.
- Reserve rigs are included in the total for their assigned station. For example, the E21 total includes E721 and E821 responses.
- Total *completed responses* for each unit will be somewhat lower if the unit was occasionally cancelled enroute to an incident.

OUT OF JURISDICTION RESPONSES: Fall 2008 vs. Fall 2007

The following tables show the number of out of jurisdiction responses for each fire department in October through December 2008. This includes only those incidents that were dispatched by Verdugo Fire Communications Center. The leftmost column shows which agency responded; columns to the right show where that agency responded and how many times they responded to that jurisdiction during the year. "XBB" refers to locations outside the normal Area C/Los Angeles response region. "XAA" includes units such as private ambulances, private company fire engines, airport crash-related vehicles, and helicopters.



Fall 2008

Responding Agencies	City Where Incident Occurred														Subtotals
	Fall 2008	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS	LAC	LFD	
ALH	X	0	0	0	1	51	9	74	7	0	18	4	3	0	167
ARC	2	X	1	1	75	1	26	2	0	2	0	16	1	1	128
BRK	0	0	X	80	2	1	5	0	0	0	0	12	23	2	125
GLN	1	0	80	X	3	1	11	0	0	0	0	34	109	4	243
MRV	1	88	0	0	X	0	1	0	0	3	0	18	0	1	112
MPK	73	1	0	0	0	X	1	28	1	0	0	25	1	13	143
PAS	9	23	2	13	4	7	X	11	7	2	19	29	12	1	139
SGB	50	1	0	1	2	13	0	X	5	0	1	12	1	1	87
SNM	5	1	0	0	2	1	24	44	X	0	26	44	0	0	147
SMD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	X	0	4	0	0	4
SPS	5	0	0	0	1	1	50	0	11	0	X	0	3	0	71
LAC	0	15	0	21	16	20	9	11	4	0	0	X	1	0	97
LFD	0	0	9	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	X	0	32
XAA	1	39	20	3	634	14	3	0	1	2	1	6	0	X	724
Subtotals	147	168	112	139	740	110	139	170	36	9	67	205	154	23	2,219

Fall 2007

Responding Agencies	City Where Incident Occurred														Subtotals
	Fall 2007	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS	LAC	LFD	
ALH	X	0	0	0	0	52	6	52	7	0	33	5	2	0	157
ARC	1	X	0	2	55	2	22	5	2	3	0	22	0	1	115
BRK	1	0	X	66	1	1	4	0	0	0	0	10	33	4	120
GLN	3	0	80	X	0	1	15	0	0	0	0	29	96	4	228
MRV	1	62	0	0	X	0	1	0	0	1	0	16	0	2	83
MPK	68	0	0	1	0	X	0	18	2	0	1	19	0	17	126
PAS	5	18	3	8	3	4	X	2	10	1	28	42	12	2	138
SGB	61	1	0	0	0	6	1	X	11	0	0	19	0	1	100
SNM	9	2	0	0	1	0	22	58	X	0	37	42	0	0	171
SMD	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	X	0	6	0	1	8
SPS	10	0	0	0	0	2	32	1	19	0	X	3	2	0	69
LAC	1	11	0	17	14	19	6	6	7	0	0	X	0	0	81
LFD	2	0	5	8	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	X	0	19
XAA	1	28	26	6	626	17	4	0	0	0	1	4	0	X	713
Subtotals	163	122	114	109	700	104	115	142	58	5	102	217	145	32	2,128



Verdugo Fire Academy at Glendale Community College

by Sam DiGiovanna

Graduation ceremonies for Class XI were held January 10 and Class XII began in early January. I wanted to thank everyone involved for their hard work and dedication. Special thanks to Glendale Fire as our sponsoring agency!

The auditorium was filled to capacity for the graduation ceremonies and we had great representation from Glendale, Burbank, Pasadena, Arcadia, South Pasadena, San Gabriel, Los Angeles City, and several other fire departments, including Oakland (yes, there were two Cadets from Oakland Fire in our academy).

This program is growing stronger every year and I want to acknowledge and thank everyone who has contributed to its success.

This new academy, Class XII, has the largest majority of sponsored Cadets from Area C we've ever had. There are 58 students in this class.



Class XI, taken after one of our final training drills.

Thank you again, and I look forward to working with all of you in 2009.

Chief DiGiovanna
Verdugo Fire Academy
Glendale Community College

"Once the game is over, the king and the pawn go back in the same box."
– Italian Proverb

Strike Team Activity: Oct.-Dec. 2008

Team	Incident Name	Dispatch Date	Dispatch Time	Leader	Trainee	Release Date	Release Time
1205-A	Marek	10/12/2008	5:45	SGB BC5 - Beckman		10/12/2008	21:28
1203-A	Marek	10/12/2008	5:51	BRK BC1 - Lenahan	BRK Capt Baldrige	10/12/2008	20:54
1202-A	Marek	10/13/2008	4:38	GLN BC2 - Fish	GLN Capt Lynch	10/14/2008	19:00
WT16	Marek	10/13/2008	6:50	WT16 - Burgess/Marquez		10/13/2008	6:50
1361-A	Sesnon	10/13/2008	11:42	MPK E61	SGB E51	10/16/2008	17:56
1204-A	Sesnon	10/13/2008	12:22	MPK BC6 - Khail	MPK PR6 - Harper	10/16/2008	13:38
1800-A	Sesnon	10/13/2008	15:08	SMD BC4 - Lowe	SNM DC9 - Frawley	10/16/2008	20:40
WT11	Sesnon	10/14/2008	21:05	Eng Boyle	FF Griffith	10/18/2008	13:57
1203-A	Sepulveda	10/23/2008	4:50	BC3 Gibson	GLN Capt Lynch	10/23/2008	11:23
1205-A	Sepulveda	10/23/2008	4:55	BC10 Fabrizio	SGB Capt Frieders	10/23/2008	11:03
	CSR Special Select Staffing October #2	10/21/2008	6:30	Eng Richey	FF Castro	10/25/2008	6:39
	CSR Special Select Staffing November	11/13/2008	8:14	WT11 Eng Frazier	FF Dawson	11/14/2008	11:20
1870-C	Tea Inc.	11/14/2008	11:20	WT11 Eng Frazier	FF Dawson	11/17/2008	10:00
1204-A	Tea Inc.	11/13/2008	19:53	SGB BC5 - Terry	Capt Doehler	11/15/2008	11:04
1800-A	Tea Inc.	11/13/2008	20:16	OES343/341		11/15/2008	15:17
1201-A	Tea Inc.	11/13/2008	19:41	BRK BC1 - Robertson	Capt Mac New	11/15/2008	15:10
5810-A	Prado Staging	11/14/2008	18:04	OES281		11/15/2008	15:34
WT11	Prado Staging	11/17/2008	10:00	WT11 Eng Frazier	FF Dawson	11/17/2008	16:34
1204-A	Sayre Inc.	11/15/2008	11:05	SGB BC5 - Terry	Capt Doehler	11/15/2008	11:05
1206-A	Sayre Inc.	11/15/2008	0:25	GLN BC2 - Creasey	Capt Luchetta	11/16/2008	9:00
WT16	Sayre Inc.	11/15/2008	4:42	WT16 - Williamson	Burke	11/19/2008	12:27
5810-A	Sayre Inc.	11/15/2008	15:34	OES281		11/18/2008	8:57
1201-A	Freeway Inc.	11/15/2008	15:10	BRK BC1 -Robertson	Capt Mac New	11/19/2008	11:58
1800-A	Freeway Inc.	11/15/2008	15:17	OES343/341		11/18/2008	16:43
1204-A	Freeway Inc.	11/15/2008	21:39	SGB BC5 - Terry	Capt Doehler	11/18/2008	15:55
1206-A	Freeway Inc.	11/16/2008	9:00	GLN BC2 - Creasey	Capt. Luchetta	11/19/2008	13:40