

UNIFIED



RESPONSE

Area "C" Quarterly Bulletin Winter 2007

Serving the cities of:
Alhambra, Arcadia, Burbank,
Glendale, Monrovia, Monterey Park,
Pasadena, San Gabriel, San Marino,
Sierra Madre and South Pasadena



Inside

- Coordinator's Update . . . 1
- Academy Graduation . . . 3
- Alhambra 5
- Arcadia 6
- Burbank 7
- Glendale 9
- Monrovia 10
- Monterey Park 12
- Pasadena 13
- San Gabriel 14
- San Marino 15
- Sierra Madre 15
- South Pasadena 15
- Verdugo Fire Comm. . . . 16
- Area C Statistics 17-21
- STEMI Centers 22
- Verdugo Fire Academy . . 23
- Live Fuel Moisture 23

Coordinator's Update

Our thanks and congratulations go out to Los Angeles City Fire Chief William Bamattre, who retired on Jan. 1 after 31 years of service. Chief Bamattre's courage, vision, and professionalism have been an inspiration and we applaud his career and accomplishments. In addition to Chief Bamattre's work within LAFD, his comfortable and confident approach to a very serious business also brought the LAFD closer to the other LA area fire departments. It was a great pleasure and privilege to work with Bill, both in emergency and non-emergency situations we were involved in over the years. Always one to help others, Bill and his lovely wife Liz truly put the LAFD first, and we wish them both the best in retirement and life ahead.



AP Photo / Nick Ut

We would also like to extend our best wishes to Acting Fire Chief Douglas L. Barry, who has served the LAFD with an exemplary record for 31 years and now assumes command of this department. We look forward to continuing our work with the LAFD and assisting them in any way possible as the need arises.

Congratulations and welcome to the 24 new Firefighters who graduated from Class One of the Verdugo Fire Recruit Academy on January 13 at the Ambassador Auditorium in Pasadena. This inaugural joint training endeavor between Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena Fire Departments proved even more successful than anticipated, with all three departments benefiting from each other's strengths and willingness to collaborate. Special thanks to Chiefs Bill Sanders and Norm Stockton from Burbank, Chief Steve Howard from Glendale, and Chief Ray Gordon from Pasadena for their efforts overseeing this academy. When a follow-up meeting was held between the three Training staffs this week, the consensus was that joint training among fire departments in Area C has the potential to be profoundly beneficial for all.



Congratulations and thanks go out to Rich Kaufman following his retirement

from Verdugo Fire Communications Center on November 15. During his 27-year tenure with Glendale, Rich shaped the operations of the dispatch center and system through his capable management. Since he first joined the Center, the volume of dispatched incidents has more than doubled to its present level of over 60,000 per year. Under his leadership, Verdugo also now provides dispatch services for ten other fire agencies. Enjoy your retirement, Rich – you’ve earned it!



Tomorrow is the second anniversary of the Metrolink disaster that killed 11 and injured nearly 200 others. It was an “All Hands” effort and I could not be more pleased and proud about the collective actions of our departments during this horrific event. Although the incident was tragic, our response was no accident and was years in the making. This was the “Big One” that many of us having been preparing for our entire career. I believe there was a unique blend of personnel that helped contribute to the successful outcome that day, combining Operations and Emergency Medical Services experience and improvising wherever necessary. This was a Special Ops incident, with Fire, EMS, USAR and HZMT from multiple agencies all involved, in addition to being a huge crime scene. Our success was measured in minutes by how quickly we effected rescue, triage, and transport for over 200 passengers and it came together in 80 minutes or less while the world was watching. We also had some great help (familiar faces working together), timing, and a geographical location that assisted our efforts. Fortunately we had fewer than 40 critical patients sent to 15 area hospitals. The combined GFD/LAFD/hospital effort resulted in no additional fatalities; all of our patients survived. There were a lot of challenges along the way, but all involved public safety personnel carried it out with “Grit and Grace.” The human side of the losses became more difficult with victims Scott McKeown, Liz Hill, and Julie Bennett, who all had special ties to us. The lack of a passenger manifest and missing persons list was another challenge. Fortunately we were able to account for everyone, literally leaving nothing unturned on this difficult accident site before relinquishing the scene at the 24 hour mark to the criminal investigation team.



Last Sunday I was privileged to be present for the dedication of a stone memorial near the site of the disaster, to honor the victims and those who risked their lives to save the others. Afterward, my wife Cynthia and I were able to talk briefly with family members of two of the Metrolink victims, Scott McKeown and Liz Hill. Susan McKeown and her children are pictured above left, and Teresa and Justes Nance, the daughter and grandson of Liz Hill, are above on the right. Justes wrote and illustrated this thank-you note.

- In Memory Of...**
- Manual Alcala*
 - Julie Bennett*
 - Alfonso Caballero*
 - Elizabeth Hill*
 - Henry Kilinski*
 - Scott McKeown*
 - Thomas Ormiston*
 - William Parent*
 - Leonard Romero*
 - James Tutino*
 - Donald Wiley*



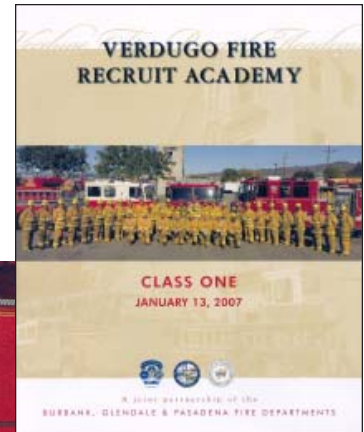
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VERDUGO FIRE RECRUIT ACADEMY GRADUATION

Photos by Kenji Luster, Jerry Jacobs and Ross Benson

It was with a profound sense of accomplishment and pride that we graduated Class One of the Verdugo Fire Recruit Academy, with 24 graduates from Burbank, Glendale, and Pasadena Fire Departments. Commencement exercises were held at the Ambassador Auditorium in Pasadena on Saturday, January 13. In a departure from the usual graduation format, the ceremony was held indoors, with the demonstration portion of the event shown by DVD on a screen above the stage. Many thanks to everyone who made the academy and graduation a resounding success.





Twenty-four graduates from three fire departments await their swearing-in and pinning.

Chief Officers from Burbank, Glendale, Pasadena, and other Area C cities were onstage for the graduation ceremony.



The weather on graduation day was perfect. A flag was suspended between two fire trucks that had extended their aerial ladders in the traditional fire service tribute, creating a doorway or passage symbolizing the transition from Firefighter Recruit to Probationary Firefighter.

ALHAMBRA

Population: 89,326

Area: 7.62 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$5,103,093,384

Alhambra Battalion Chief Retires

After 41 years on the job, Battalion Chief Tom Hudecek retired from the Alhambra Fire Department in October, giving him the distinction of being one of the longest employed firefighters in the department's history.

Chief Hudecek was hired by the Department as a "Hoseman" in 1965, and was promoted to the rank of Fire Engineer in 1977. He was appointed a Fire Captain in 1984 and was promoted to the rank of Battalion Chief ten years later, in 1994.

Throughout the years, Chief Hudecek has been active in many motorcycle charity rides for the benefit of those less fortunate. We wish him the best in his retirement years.

Firefighters Come to Rescue on Christmas Day

Early on Christmas morning, our Verdugo dispatch center received a call from an Alhambra resident, asking if there might be any donated toys left to be given to a family in need. Verdugo personnel checked with the Alhambra stations and were told that all donated "Spark of Love" toys had already been distributed. Alhambra Fire Captains Mike Paulson and Michael Manley then contacted the Alhambra Police Department, the San Gabriel Fire Department, and individual employees in an effort to round up any remaining toys. On-duty Alhambra firefighters took up a collection and went out and purchased some additional toys, and the com-



bined effort of all resulted in one very surprised and happy family.

Year Ends With Multiple House Fires

As a relatively quiet year, in terms of residential fires, came to a close, the last week of December 2006 proved a busy one for Alhambra firefighters, as they battled one house fire after another.

The first of six fires that week occurred in the 1800 block of South Valencia Street, where a faulty and unclean fireplace resulted in a three-city fire response and one injured Alhambra firefighter.

The second fire occurred two days later on South Almanson Avenue, when a single family home with attached garage went up in flames. Although no one was injured, the fire caused \$250,000 in structural and content loss and was later determined by Division Chief John Kabala to be arson-related.

The following day, a full response was dispatched to the 2000 block of South Stoneman Avenue for an apartment fire. Monterey Park Engine 61 arrived first at the fire, and Acting Alhambra Battalion Chief John Cermak established on-scene command. The accidental, cooking-related fire resulted in \$20,000 damage to the structure.

On December 28, another accidental fire occurred on South Prim-



rose Avenue, which resulted in \$100,000 damage and the demise of the resident's cat, despite firefighters' best efforts to save and transport it to a nearby veterinarian. The cause was likely faulty electrical wiring in the attic above the kitchen area.

Another apartment fire occurred on the 29th, when a bedroom of one of the units became engulfed in flame. The fire was quickly extinguished by firefighters, and Battalion Chief Cermak and Acting Fire Captain Andy Messorre located a curling iron on top of a pile of combustible clothing in the area of origin.

On New Year's Eve, the final fire occurred when residents left home for the evening, leaving an oil lamp burning near a small religious shrine inside. The home was equipped with fire sprinklers, but unfortunately they were inoperable during the fire as an addition was under construction at the rear of the house. Dollar loss was estimated at \$15,000.



US&R 71 Newest Addition to Alhambra Fleet

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services recently bestowed a Type 1, Heavy Rescue designation upon the Alhambra Fire Department, after evaluating its new US&R 71 vehicle in November. The new rig is one of only 40 Type 1 Heavy Rescue

vehicles in the state of California.

The tractor/trailer vehicle, obtained by grant funding, was built by American La France and was delivered to Alhambra in October. Built-in systems include a 50 kw generator, Scott air pack filling station, tele-

scoping light mast, and a Vanair screw-drive air compressor capable of delivering 185 cfm @ 150 psi.

Other capabilities, including those required by OES, are a Paratech strut system, an air knife system, technical rope rescue, building collapse and

trench rescue equipment, and confined space rescue capability. US&R 71 is now the fourth Type 1 Heavy Rescue vehicle available to Area C cities which make up Regional Task Force 4 within the State of California.

ARCADIA

Population: 56,145

Area: 12.00 sq. mi.

Assessed Value:
\$7,552,672,371



Emergency Operations Center

On November 15, the city of Arcadia participated in a full-scale disaster drill entitled "Big Wednesday," in which the city's Emergency Operation Center was activated with all city departments participating. The drill took place at the Arcadia High School (AHS) and involved AHS staff and students, Arcadia Methodist Hospital, Arcadia Police Department, Arcadia Fire Department, and crews from Alhambra and Monrovia Fire Departments. The incident simulated an earthquake and the total evacuation of AHS, along with the treatment and transportation of 21 patients to local hospitals.

Drama students from AHS volunteered as the patients and provided their own make-up to provide realistic injuries for fire personnel providing "treatment." The exercise design

team, led by Fire Captain Kevin Valentine, spent many hours preparing the scenario. The drill was in conjunction with the statewide hospital exercise and also included the Arcadia Unified School District and the Red Cross as major role players in the drill. The various entities in the city worked well together and will continue to prepare for the many challenges that face a community in a disaster.



New Fire Headquarters (FS 105)

The construction of the new Fire Station 105 (Headquarters) is moving along with an anticipated completion of December 2007.

Demolition of the old Fire Headquarters station officially began July 5, 2006. The city's Development Services and Fire Department staffs continue to work diligently on the rebuild of Fire Station 105 at 710 South Santa Anita Avenue. The plans call for a 450-day or approximately 15-month construction phase.

As a reminder to all Area C agencies, the Fire Administration, Fire Prevention Bureau, Truck 105, and Battalion 105 continue to be located at Fire Station 106 (630 South Baldwin Avenue). Engine 105 and RA105 continue to be located in a converted single-family dwelling at 141 Alice St.

Battalion Chief David Haney is the Project Coordinator for the Fire

Department. The new Headquarters will feature a modern two-story design, with the Administrative Offices, including Fire Prevention, on the first level and the suppression living quarters on the second level. Also featured is a large four-door apparatus room designed to house all Station 105 apparatus.

Paramedic Membership Program

The Paramedic Membership Program is a unique and voluntary program offered to the residents and businesses of the city of Arcadia. For a small annual fee, the program protects its members and their households from out-of-pocket costs for emergency paramedic and ambulance transport services received within the city. The program has been in existence since 1994 and at year's end has over 3,700 members enrolled.

During November, at an annual presentation to an area retirement community on the Paramedic Membership Program, department personnel were presented with a contribution from its residents for the families of fallen firefighters. One of the residents of the retirement home had taken it upon herself to collect donations for firefighters who have died in the line of duty. She asked that we share their sympathy for the loss to the fire community as a whole and expressed their gratitude for the job that was performed by firefighters within the state on the recent wildfires and on a daily basis to protect our communities.

The contribution from the retirement home was forwarded to the

families of the five USFS firefighters who tragically lost their lives fighting the recent wildfires. Please contact Heather McDowell, Management Analyst for the Arcadia Fire Department, at (626) 574-5126 for more information on Arcadia's Paramedic Membership Program.

Christmas Toy Drive

On Christmas Eve, on-duty crews climbed aboard their "sleighs" of red and helped Santa by making toy deliveries to delighted children throughout the city. Toys were donated to the Fire Department by generous citizens and through KB Toys in the Westfield Mall and CVS Pharmacy on Naomi/Baldwin Avenue in



Arcadia. Hundreds of toys were distributed and enjoyed by a similar number of children. In addition, Firefighter Santa in his vintage 1926 fire engine, accompanied by several "elves," visited children and their families at City of Hope.

Fire Apparatus

The department will take deliv-

ery of a Pierce Arrow XT Engine at the end of March. With this addition, all three of our first-line engine companies will have Compressed Air Foam (CAFS) capabilities plumbed to a 50-gallon Class A foam tank. For the past six years, the Arcadia Fire Department has utilized CAFS for suppressing all types of fires, with excellent results. During structure protection in the urban interface, the CAFS has repeatedly proven to be effective for structure protection and firefighter safety. During initial attack on structure fires, CAFS has also proven to be an effective tool, providing faster knockdown and reducing water damage throughout the involved structure.

BURBANK

Population: 106,879

Area: 17.15 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$11,900,455,179

Greetings for a safe, happy and prosperous New Year from everyone at the Burbank Fire Department to our friends and fire family across Area C.

October saw the start of the first tri-city Recruit Training Academy, which continued through the quarter and culminated in the formal graduation on Saturday, Jan. 13, 2007. A great deal of dedication and effort were given by the Tri-City Fire Chiefs, their Chief Officers, Training Officers, and Training Captains to see this important effort through to a successful conclusion and graduate the next generation of our firefighters. A review of the process and system will be held in January to see how best to make a joint academy part of our

normal training process. It is anticipated that the three Fire Chiefs, Training Officers, and Training Captains will participate for an all-inclusive review.

The Flashover Training Facility was installed in October at temporary quarters in Burbank. A group of tri-city Chief Officers and training staff traveled to Sweden on October 25 for a full and action-packed week to visit the manufacturing site and learn about the modules and training firsthand. Training for tri-city personnel began on November 13 and was scheduled for the recruits prior to their graduation from the academy. This facility and technology is a valuable addition to the multi-department training arsenal, and thanks go to Fireman's Fund for making the funding available through a Heritage Grant.

This year we made a change to our annual physical process and implemented a Wellness and Fitness program under the auspices of Santa Ana College. In addition to the usual annual physical exam, Santa Ana College provided detailed orientation sessions, together with nutrition and

physical fitness counseling for all three shifts and administrative personnel. The results were presented to each employee in the form of a personalized handbook that can be used as a comparison to next year's results to provide the employee with actual data on their progress or lack thereof in the areas of health, strength and weight. The new program appears to have been very well received by all employees.

On December 19, we said goodbye to Battalion Chief Bill Sanders, with 32 years of service to BFD; Fire Marshal Dave Starr, with 6 years of service in Burbank and 33 in Glendale; and Firefighter Kelly Chulick, with 25 years of service. Their boots will be hard to fill.

During this quarter, Frank





Walbert was promoted to Battalion Chief, starting on December 1, and his first assignment is Fire Marshal in the Fire Prevention Bureau. Kenet Robertson was promoted to Battalion Chief for the B Shift/EMS Division effective January 1, and Battalion Chief Norm Stockton assumed responsibility for the Training and Safety Division effective January 1.



On October 24, the following personnel were recognized for reaching 20 years of service with the Burbank Fire Department: Jim Baldrige, Mike Boufford, Pat Burgess, Tim Doppenberg, Daryl Isozaki, Dennis Kenehan, Pat Latham, Ruben Mercado, Kevin O'Neill, Ron Pearlman, Doug Riha, and Dave Schmitt. Reaching 25 years of service were Kelly Chulick, James Finerty, Jeff Howe, Bob Lanning, Ken MacNew, Bruce Smentek, Guy Thompson, and Bob Trowbridge. Bob Sheffield topped the list with 30 years of service. Our congratulations and thanks go to all these dedicated members for their service.

Former Battalion Chief Mario Gagnon passed through Burbank in November on the way from Idaho to a family event in Arizona and visited Station 11 on November 15. He and his family are doing well and have ac-

climated well to life in Idaho. This was his first visit since retirement.

PreparationS for a new format of Station Inspections are underway to take effect in 2007. Station Inspection will be held for half a day over the course of one week rather than at quarterly intervals and will include a detailed and hands-on review of the station maintenance, apparatus, paperwork, filing, and fire prevention activities.

The Apparatus and Equipment Division reports that the new Hazmat vehicle has arrived in Southern California and should be in service in February. The Division is also in the process of preparing specifications for the purchase of two new fire engine pumpers. This purchase and delivery are approximately 18 months away.

As part of our observation of Fire Prevention Week in October, BFD partnered with the Burbank Unified School District and the Children's Burn Foundation and visited all the public elementary schools in Burbank with the Kids Safety Trailer. Burbank firefighters offered an hour-long, hands-on experience to over 1,400 third-graders, including escaping from a second story, smoked-filled room; Stop, Drop and Roll training; kitchen safety; and "Cool A Burn" techniques for treating an accidental burn. This program, to date, has reached over 6,000 Burbank students with life saving training.

Also during October, Burbank Fire set up an antique fire engine at the Paseo Del Fiego in downtown Burbank, greeting hundreds of Burbank residents and movie goers, offering information on fire safety, disaster training and preparation, and our EMS membership program.

On October 3, a brief event was held to acknowledge and install Smokey Bear signs in the foothill area which will indicate and remind the community of the level of fire dan-

ger. Vice-Mayor Marshal Ramos was in attendance to thank the Eagle Scouts who made and donated the signs.

Our Chief Officers attended the tri-city Chiefs' meeting at Disney on October 17. The next meeting is scheduled for January 23.

Chief Tracy Pansini was delighted and proud to attend the Glendale Fire Department's awards luncheon on October 13.



Our Disaster Preparedness Division participated in L.A. County's Emergency Exercise on November 9.

Our amazing Community Disaster Volunteers held their annual dinner on the apparatus floor at Station 11 on November 15 and wrapped up another very successful year of contributing to the life and safety of the community of Burbank.

The Burbank Fire Chief and Chief Officers attended the Emergency Services Recognition luncheon hosted by LA County Supervisor Mike Antonovich and The Gas Company on November 29 at Brookside Country Club.

The annual Holiday Parade took place in December and the Holiday Toy Train arrived in Burbank on Dec. 8. BFD's participation in the Spark of Love toy drive, with guidance from Kelly Chulick and Tony Freeborn, contributed to many Christmas tables and stockings.

Personnel from the department attended Fire Chief Neil Welland's retirement from Santa Fe Springs Fire Department on Dec. 14 to wish Chief Welland well and thank him for his years of dedication to the fire service and to the L.A. Area Fire Chiefs Association.

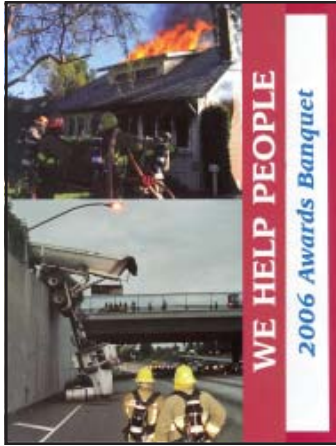


GLENDALE

Population: 206,308

Area: 30.59 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$17,278,729,026



Awards Luncheon

The Glendale Fire Department held its annual Awards Luncheon in a modified format this year. The Glendale Sunrise Rotary Club co-sponsored the October 13 event for the first time, and record numbers of community members attended. Among the 27 people honored were members of the Fire Department for their actions and distinguished service to the fire department and the city, along with several members of the community who acted in a selfless manner to come to the aid of those in need.

Public Safety Academy

The Hoover Public Safety Academy was established to provide Glendale high school students an exposure to the knowledge and skills required to be firefighters and police officers. Working with our partners the GPD, Glendale Unified School District, the Los Angeles Regional Occupational Program, and Glendale Community College, we are providing a pathway



program for young people who aspire to become public safety employees. The three-year program begins with tenth grade, and a new class of students will be added each year as the previous year's students move on to second- and then third-year coursework in the academy. Battalion Chief Bill Bailey is overseeing this program and community response has been excellent.

Station 26 Rebuild

A sum of \$1.2 million has been allocated to begin design of a new Fire Station 26 to replace the existing structure. Built in 1951, the current building is approximately 6,870 square feet. The proposed replacement is approximately 18,000 square feet. Replacement of Station 29 is also in the Capital Improvement budget for the next five years.

Fifth Rescue Ambulance

The department was very fortunate that the City Council, City Manager and Executive Staff all recognized the value of several of our "unfunded needs" and important community based initiatives. Ultimately, other city departments were willing to reprioritize funding to support several Fire related requests that will benefit the entire Glendale community. One of the requests will fund an additional paramedic rescue ambulance with six additional Firefighter/Paramedics (two each for A, B and C Platoons) beginning in March 2007. The new RA's home will be Station 22.

Training Completed

Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Rescue Systems II and

program for young people who aspire to become public safety employees. The three-year program begins with tenth grade,



Hazmat F & G Specialist training were completed in October. These classes were the final pieces of training for their respective programs to become "typed" by OES for their respective disciplines.



PCR Shredding

Through the work of many people, the Glendale Fire Department became the first agency in Los Angeles County to receive authorization to shred Patient Care Records. In October, a shredding firm came and took the first load to be shredded. While this may not seem like a big deal to most, for those involved in the process, it is a huge milestone. Congratulations and thanks to all involved.

Universal Waste Program

Last February, the Universal Waste Rule went into effect. Under this rule, households and Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators (CESQG) are no longer allowed to dispose of fluorescent lamps, batteries, mercury containing items, and electronic devices into the trash. The rule change has impacted the Environmental Management Center's Permanent Household Hazardous Waste Facility (PHHWF) dramatically.

In part to improve convenience for citizens and also to accommodate the increased volume of waste, in October the EMC expanded its Household Hazardous Waste Collection days to every Wednesday and Saturday from 9 to 1. Also for citizens' convenience, five-gallon buckets for battery recycling were distributed to locations throughout the city.



pared for disasters. This in turn will provide a cadre of knowledgeable volunteers who will be available to the city after a disaster strikes.

Glendale graduated its first 25 CERT volunteer trainees from the 16-hour course last summer, and in 2007 the program has geared up to train at least 300, with courses for 25 students beginning each month. Each class has the same subject matter in accordance with standard operating procedures, with students learning about disaster preparedness, fire safety, disaster medical operations (triage), light search and rescue, disaster psychology, terrorism, and CERT organization.

CERT Trains the Community

The CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Program is designed to train citizens to be pre-



A woman was seriously injured when she was thrown from her vehicle into the wash below on December 22.

MONROVIA

Population: 39,006

Area: 13.73 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$2,938,208,033



Temporary Fire Station

On January 18, the crews located at fire station 101 moved to temporary quarters while a \$1.5 million renovation is completed at the existing structure. Included in the move are E101, Squad 101, Battalion 10, Fire Prevention, and Fire Administration. The temporary fire station should be in use for eight months while new dormitories, restroom facilities, Captain and Battalion Chief offices, Fire Prevention offices, and Fire Administration offices are com-

pleted. The new location is 138 W. Olive at the corner of Olive and Ivy, with all of the existing contact phone numbers remaining the same.

Strategic Plan

The Monrovia Fire Department is in the final stages of completing a five-year strategic plan. A strategic planning process was initiated, made up of all members of the fire department, with supportive assistance from Department Directors within the City of Monrovia and the Chamber of Commerce. This process was detailed, focused, and dedicated to giving clear insight, honest feedback, and open communication to elicit the opinions of all who participated. Many, if not all of the recommendations made in this plan have been borne from the feedback gathered from the various strategic planning sessions held over the past several month.

In general, the stakeholders provided information about how the Fire Department could better serve or work more collaboratively. The stakeholders also offered their advice about issues that the strategic planning process should consider during

formulation of the plan and, more importantly, during the improvement of the department's service delivery. Group meetings were held with all three shifts, with the Chamber of Commerce, and with Monrovia residents, and surveys were emailed to all Department Directors for their perspective on how the Fire Department could be more collaborative with city-wide initiatives.

During the process, the information gathered from all stakeholders was analyzed, evaluated, and formatted for consistency and commonality. Within the process, strengths and weaknesses, as well as challenges and opportunities, were addressed. Several issues were identified and the plan is based upon them; those issues have been distilled into five strategic priorities, each with a set of action plans to address them. The five Strategic Priorities are as follows:

1. Improving Our Organization
2. Developing Our People
3. Optimizing Our Resources
4. Enhancing Community Outreach
5. Improving Fire Prevention and Emergency Preparedness Activities

In all, there are 24 action plans which serve as further description of the needs associated with the strategic priorities. In essence, the action plans are the specific needs that should be addressed, within the next five years, in order to meet the goals established. Each action plan will serve as a guide to those responsible for its completion. They are the set of instructions about what the planning team had intended.

For those interested in a copy of the Monrovia Fire Department Five-Year Strategic Plan, please contact Fire Administration at (626) 256-8102.

New Mission Statement

As part of the strategic plan, the department realized that the existing mission statement and value statements had not been amended in over 12 years. As a result, a working group was assembled to create a new mission statement, new value statements, and a department slogan. The results of their efforts created an improved and refreshing look to the document (the old mission and value statements were three pages in length and did not completely reflect the current status of the department). The Monrovia Fire Department is proud to present the new mission statement, value statements and department slogan:

Our Mission:

The Monrovia Fire Department is committed to helping anyone in need, with pride, through quality life safety services and rapid response, focusing on operational readiness, departmental unity and professionalism.

Our Values:

The Monrovia Fire Department is committed to serving with PRIDE and enhancing quality of life whenever possible.

Professionalism – Excellence in everything we do

Responsiveness – Efficient, effective service delivery

Integrity – Dedication to honesty, respect and truthfulness

Dedication – Assisting the needs of others above all else

Ethics – Always doing the right thing

Our Slogan:



Fire Prevention

It has been increasingly apparent that the residents in the high-fire zone are having to deal with high surcharges from the California Fair Plan resulting from inspections conducted by subcontractors on behalf of ISO. Because of the misinformation provided in these inspection reports, fire inspectors in Monrovia and neighboring jurisdictions have had to deal with irate homeowners and have been requested to be present on re-inspections.

On December 22, Battalion Chief Haberle was present at the appointed time for a re-inspection by an ISO representative at 1091 Briarcliff Road. The homeowner has lived in the home for approximately 30 years and had landscaped the hillside with fire resistive plants to ensure that his home was safe and that he would not have a surcharge assessed by the California Fair Plan. He had not had a surcharge for the past 30 years and suddenly was hit with a \$2,000 surcharge because the inspector stated that the roof on the neighbor's home was wood shake – which it was not. A re-inspection was performed and the previous report

was found to be in error. This homeowner was fortunate that the fire department was able to step in before having to pay the surcharge. Others have not been as fortunate.

This is an example of what fire departments have had to deal with, related to providing enhanced customer service for our homeowners. Monrovia Fire Prevention has been asked to be part of a committee consisting of other Verdugo city fire departments, L.A. County Fire, the State Fire Marshal's office, and possibly the California Fair Plan. The goal is to come up with consistent requirements, training, and inspections for all agencies involved. In the meantime, the Monrovia Fire Department will continue to advocate on behalf of our homeowners in the high-fire zone to prevent these egregious surcharges.



Chili Cook-Off Winners

In November, the Monrovia Fire Department participated in a chili cook-off, hosted by the Los Angeles Fire Fighter's Credit Union, in which 15 fire departments showcased their version of the best firehouse chili in Los Angeles. Providing an incredible mix of ingredients, many of which have been kept secret, the Monrovia Firefighters took second-place in the competition and continued the spirit of friendly competition and involvement that has become the culture of this department. Congratulations go out to Captain Mike Cate, Engineer Ben Begheri, Firefighter Hal Kaliman, Firefighter/Paramedic Dave Phillips, and Firefighter/Paramedic Ernesto Moreno for their participation – job well done!

MONTEREY PARK

Population: 64,387

Area: 7.70 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$4,092,636,015

As with most of us in the fire service, recent months have proven busy for the Monterey Park Fire Department. With a safe and fairly quiet holiday season behind us, we're looking forward to some planned endeavors coming to fruition in the coming months.

In early October, the department added four new individuals to our fold: FF Jillian Herbert, FF Daniel Park, Fire Safety Specialist Wing Shum (photos below), and Senior Management Analyst Lillian Bow, in a newly approved position for the department. The Training Division and crews are keeping Jillian and Daniel busy with probationary training. Wing hit the ground running with his inspection and plan check responsibilities in Fire Prevention, under the guidance of Acting Fire Marshal and Battalion Chief Randy Harper. Lillian, a 26 year employee of the City, has proven invaluable to the Department. Her primary responsibilities are grants and

budget. She lost no time in organizing all department grant materials in preparation for the state and federal monitoring processes. Due to her tireless efforts and those of B.C. Jim Birrell, we have encumbered all allotted monies and passed audits with flying colors.

Speaking of grants, with the grant-funded USAR 5 now typed, the San Gabriel and Monterey Park Fire Departments are working to fine-tune deployment procedures and staffing configurations for the joint USAR team.

From the Fire Prevention Division, Fire Safety Specialist Chris Gomez secured grant funding from the Alisa Ann Ruch Foundation and from the local Haaka Foundation to begin the Firefighters in Safety Education (FISE) Program in our local elementary schools. Captain Don Tollefson and his crew represent the department in the schools, providing safety information to the kids and teachers.

Operationally, the department took delivery of a new KME fire engine in November, which was equipped and placed into service at Fire Station 63 in December. The department has also ordered and expects to take delivery of a new Leader ambulance shortly in the new year.

Additionally, Battalion Chief Mark Khail has been instrumental this year in compiling, with the help of many, our ISO data for submission to the insurance agency.

The Department has also just taken delivery of its complement of Zoll 12-lead monitors in compliance with the County's STEMI Center program. Our 12-lead related training is scheduled for January.

On a final note, the department is poised to reach a long-held goal of establishment of its CERT team. The community response has been exceptional, with the first class slated to begin in January. Earlier this year, the City Manager, Chris Jeffers, and the City Council approved a significant upgrade in funding for the City's Disaster Preparedness Program. B.C. Birrell and the Fire Department Emergency Preparedness team have been putting in long hours developing a comprehensive strategy to address the city's needs in the event of a major disaster. Initial work includes development of a City Emergency Response Guide, the CERT Program planning, recruitment, and curriculum, and development of an enhanced disaster preparedness trailer.

In all, we look forward to what the new year brings. Happy New Year!



FF Jillian Herbert



FF Daniel Park



Fire Safety Specialist Wing Shum

WHERE'S THE NEAREST STEMI CENTER?

Effective January 1, 2007, the following local facilities are now approved as ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) Receiving Centers: Glendale Adventist Medical Center, Huntington Memorial Hospital, Providence St. Joseph Medical Center, and Methodist Hospital of Southern California.

PASADENA

Population: 146,138

Area: 23.0 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$14,937,558,499



Personnel

Chief Downs was elected President of the Los Angeles Area Fire Chief's Association, effective January 11, 2007.

Eleven Pasadena recruits graduated on January 13 from the First Class of the Verdugo Fire Recruit Academy.



Firefighter/Paramedic Art Hurtado was promoted to the position of Engineer. He will remain at his current assignment at Station 31A.

Firefighter John Bustos has been assigned as Acting Engineer at Station 37A.

Congratulations to Paramedic/Engineer Stan Kelley and Captain Craig Flanders on their recent retirements.

Three Arrests Made

Pasadena Arson Investigator Jon Samardzich, with assistance from

Investigator Robert Jones (South Pasadena), arrested three family members for setting fire to the house they had lived in for more than 25 years. Multiple counts, including child abuse and animal cruelty, were cited in the felony complaint in which a family dog burned to death. A four-year-old child was home at the time of the fire.

Public Education

The Pasadena Fire Department received our second grant for 2006 from Fireman's Fund Insurance Company and Dealey Renton & Associates of Oakland, CA for \$10,000. This grant will be used for our Pasadena Emergency Response Team (PERT) training program and Public Education programs. The grant will allow us to upgrade our PERT training site and enable us to purchase 500 PERT kits for upcoming participants.

Everything Came Up Roses

The Red Cross coordinated a Rose Parade Safety Press Conference which included a live fire demonstration, with Chief Downs highlighting safety tips for overnights along the parade route. Over ten television stations, three radio stations, and seven newspapers covered the event.

Special thanks to the Los Angeles City Fire Department, Los Angeles County Fire Department, Area C Fire Departments, Verdugo Fire Communications, and the Pasadena Fire Department Emergency Medical Services Reserves (EMSR) for their invaluable assistance during the Rose Parade and game on January 1.

In late 2006, Pasadena Fire placed 18 Medtronic Lifepak 12 monitors, one on every front-line engine, truck, RA and reserve RA. Prior to the purchase of these new machines, we had placed three of the 12-lead machines in service on RA31, 33, and 36. FF/PM Christo-

pher Ramstead wrote of his experience regarding the use of the new machine below.

12-Lead EKG's Save Lives

The implementation of the 12-lead EKG's has had a positive impact on cardiac patients in EMS. Initially, there was a sense of opposition to the use of these new monitors. But once the new-gear jitters wore off, paramedics and EMT's alike became very comfortable with their setup, operation, and interpretation. Now that hospitals have begun the new designation of STEMI Receiving Center, (SRC), paramedics can now better choose the hospital destination of their ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) patients, which now improves the patient's chances of survival and recovery after an MI. More often than not, the 12-lead EKG comes up with an interpretation that does not have an effect on the outcome of the patient destination, but in some cases, it can make a huge difference.

At the beginning of December, Engine 31 and RA31 responded to an "unknown medical" call regarding a 60-year-old male in an office building. Upon arrival, the patient was sitting with his feet up on his desk and the only signs and symptoms that were presenting were pale skin and a feeling of generalized lethargy. A thorough assessment revealed that the patient had a blood pressure, pulse, respirations, lung sounds, and EKG (via Lead 2) that were all within normal limits. There was a collective decision made to treat the patient under General ALS protocols and transport to HMH Code 2. Base contact was made and they concurred with the course of treatment. When the paramedics began to load the patient onto the gurney, he mentioned that he had experienced some mild heartburn earlier during the day as well. The crew then decided that

it would be prudent to do a 12-lead EKG before they loaded him up. The printout showed ST-elevation in multiple leads, and the interpretation on the EKG strip read, “***ACUTE MI SUSPECTED***”. Base contact was reestablished and they informed HMH that the patient was now designated a STEMI patient and that he would be still be transported to their facility, but with a Code 3 upgraded follow-up response. The patient was transported without further incident and was met in the ambulance bay at HMH by Dr. Goldwebber, who began his assessment as soon as the ambulance doors were opened. The patient was then moved into a hospital bed in the ER and the crew stepped out of the room to begin re-

setting the ambulance and paperwork. Less than two minutes after the patient had been delivered to the hospital gurney, he “coded” (cardiac arrest) twice and was defibrillated numerous times. He was then stabilized after resuscitation and cardiac care was continued by hospital staff. It was later learned that the patient had made a full recovery after a coronary balloon inflation procedure. The hospital sent a letter stating that without the 12-lead EKG and quick response of PFD EMS, the patient’s outcome would not have been as favorable.

This patient is just one recent example of PFD’s quality equipment and skilled paramedics making a difference. Without the thorough as-

sessments of the medics and advanced technological diagnostic equipment, this patient would not have received the definitive life-saving care that he needed.

Toy & Book Distribution

With the help of the Pasadena Fire Department, El Centro de Acción Social’s 2007 Three Kings Day Celebration was a success, with more than 300 low-income children and their families receiving gifts. El Centro was able to expand its reach this year and provide gifts to more low-income youth than ever before.

This year, El Centro chose to give the children not only toys but books as well, in an effort to encourage reading.

SAN GABRIEL

Population: 42,320

Area: 4.10 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$2,688,594,458

San Gabriel has added two new members to the department. FF/PM Chris Fetner started on December 12 with a two-week orientation and began his shift assignment on the “C” shift on Dec. 24. FF/PM Art Sanabria is scheduled to start his two-week orientation on Jan. 22. As it always happens, both new Firefighters were dragged kicking and screaming into the job: “Take me, take me! Please!”

There is a baby boom happening in the San Gabriel Fire Department. Look forward to some sleep deprivation as the new additions impose their “feed me” agendas on the parents. I remember those days; I looked forward to coming to work because

I stood a better chance of getting some sleep. Looks like there’ll be a new generation of toddlers in the stations on Christmas, Easter, Fire Service Day, Dad’s birthday, etc.

Captain Dave Pacela and wife Mary are the proud parents of their first child, a daughter who arrived on Jan. 3, weighing 6 pounds, 6 ounces and calling herself Claire Kathryn.

Captain Bryan Frieders and wife Jaimie are expecting their first little girl, while the Adkins family, FF/PM John and Carrie, are awaiting their second (a girl) to go along with rowdy son Jake, who’s going on 2.

FF/PM Dave Williams and wife Michelle are expecting a boy; little Lauren (age 2) can’t wait to finally have some seniority.

All San Gabriel paramedics have completed 12-lead training and the technology is now in use. The department has taken delivery of four brand-new Zoll E-Series cardiac monitors.

As a member of the LA City Regional Training Unit (RTU) Simulator and Exercise Cadre, Captain

Bryan Frieders recently conducted three days of basic size-up training to several neighboring departments. The purpose of the RTU is to bring the concept of regionalization to all departments in LA County, to get everyone on the same “page” if and when the “big one” hits. Future training sessions will be held in Glendale, Long Beach, and LA City.

The new Leader-made RA is scheduled to arrive at the end of January; just can’t wait for that new-RA smell. Deep down, I’m hoping maybe this new RA will be something really out of the ordinary, incredibly unique in local EMS that causes great jealousy in the rest of Verdugo, but in my more realistic moments I realize that it’ll be just like the others: red, boxy, and where are those Paramedics?



SAN MARINO

Population: 13,482

Area: 3.75 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$3,271,681,646

The holiday season was rather quiet in San Marino, so we used the time to prepare for our upcoming visit from the ISO. Thanks to all the departments who provided vital information and advice to assist us with this important review. Thanks also to Pasadena for their excellent MCI training at the Rose Bowl.

It appears that the fire season is

becoming year-round. We responded with two strike teams on incidents in Moorpark and Beaumont.



SIERRA MADRE

Population: 11,010

Area: 3.0 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$1,209,753,445

The Sierra Madre Fire Department has begun implementing the directions mandated by the Sierra Madre City Council last fall. Under the leadership of Chief Roger Lowe, a new full-time position of Paramedic Coordinator has been filled (to begin January 16) and start-up of delivery of ALS services to our citizens is anticipated in April of this year. The City has also created a new full-time position of Assistant Chief, and we are pleased to announce that Steve Heydorff has been named to this position.

Construction has begun on sleeping quarters in our station as well. This will be the first time in its 84 years of history that Sierra Madre Fire will have the capacity to staff its station around the clock. All in all, this is a time of quiet but momentous change for Sierra Madre and its Fire Department.

Other changes that we are proud to announce are promotions of Jeff Bohn to Senior Engineer and Chris Gaylord to Safety Officer. Jeff is a graduate of Montana State University in Bozeman, with a degree in Electrical Engineering, and is employed by Southern California Edison. Chris is a graduate of the University of Southern California with a B.S. in Safety and Health. He works for Poms and Associates as a Senior Risk Consultant. In addition, four firefighters – Robert Newton, Chet Wamboldt, Ryan Souder, and Josh Knowles – have completed their probationary period.

This past fall has seen a typical pattern of activity for our Fire Department. Our municipal Engine, Water Tender, OES Engine, and Strike Team Leaders were dispatched to the Day Fire, Esperanza Fire, and Shekell Fire.

Our training program through Rio Hondo Community College continues to progress and develop.



SOUTH PASADENA

Population: 25,674

Area: 3.44 sq.mi.

Assessed Value:
\$2,491,710,424

The South Pasadena Fire Depart-

ment ended the year in the true Christmas fashion. We received two new equipment purchases and are expecting the third item to be here near the beginning of 2007. The first item we received occurred after three months of thorough technical and hands-on research. Three new 12-lead monitors were placed in service in the month of December.

Secondly, we recently received new mobile and portable radios. The

department will soon be compatible with the “trunked system” already in place throughout most of Area C.

Lastly, progress continues to be made with the new Pierce Fire Engine. We should be taking delivery of the new unit the first week in February.



VERDUGO FIRE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Retirements

Thanks and best wishes to Fire Communications Operators Cindy Williamson and Linda Coogan, who retired from Verdugo in recent months. As Chief Gray mentioned in his column, Fire Communications Administrator Rich Kaufman also retired several weeks ago, following 27 years of service to Verdugo. It has been a privilege to work alongside these outstanding individuals and we are grateful for their many years of dedicated service.

Personnel

In the wake of so many retirements, there will inevitably be some serious recruitment going on at Verdugo. We are happy to announce the reinstatement of dispatcher Jennifer Speed, who has moved back to the area, and the good news that Cindy Williamson and Linda Coogan have agreed to come back on a part-time hourly basis to help staff Verdugo as needed. Paperwork for these positions is nearly completed. We also have several potential dispatchers in backgrounds and hope to complete this process shortly so they can begin training. The bulletin for the open recruitment of a new Fire Communications Administrator is expected to be posted in the near future.

Don Wise has been assigned as the new Administrative Shift Supervisor and will assume responsibility for several important projects while also filling in as needed on the dispatch floor. Of primary importance is revising and updating Verdugo's Policy & Procedures Manual to reflect current methods of operation.

Equipment

A third row of dispatch console furniture is being purchased to provide seating and hardware for three



additional dispatchers for those times when significant incidents occur such as earthquakes or wildfires, and for special events like the annual Rose Parade and Rose Bowl.

The ReddiNet hospital status system will be upgraded in early March to a new version that will provide substantially more information to personnel in dispatch centers, hospitals, and now also in the field, for those who purchase the license and have the appropriate handheld devices.

Specifications have also been identified for replacing Verdugo's 14 year old uninterruptible power supply (UPS) system and upgrading the rear screen projection system which has been inoperable for over a year.

CAD Upgrade

All five Fire Communications Shift Supervisors received training in the new CommandPoint mapping system in late November, along with Jason Pfau and dispatcher Sean O'Connor. Verdugo staff is currently performing the final checks on the new geofile for the 11 Area C cities and a February 1 implementation date has tentatively been set. Verdugo's current geofile will be replaced with updated and corrected information and the dispatchers will soon be able to see the locations of incoming calls on a map display. A phone icon will blink at the call's location until the call is answered. An incident type code will be assigned while speaking to the caller, changing the phone icon to a symbol related to the type of incident. When the incident is closed, the icon will disappear from the map.

Mobile mapping, or map displays on the mobile computer terminals in

front-line apparatus, is expected to be implemented simultaneously with automatic vehicle location (AVL) this spring. A meeting between Verdugo staff and the tri-cities Radio Shops will be held in February to begin planning the installation of GPS receivers on all 155 Area C apparatus that have mobile computer terminals on board.

Once AVL has been implemented, each unit that is logged on to Verdugo's CAD system will appear on Verdugo's map and the dispatchers will be able to view all logged-on units throughout the system. Each unit's identifier on the map will be colored based on its status: yellow for enroute to the call, red for onscene at the call, green for available on radio, white for in quarters, and blue for special contact. The map display for a given unit will be programmed to update with every change of status or quarter-mile traveled or 15 minutes elapsed, whichever comes first.

Because the current button configuration on the CommandPoint map is not practical for use in the field, Verdugo staff redesigned the button layout and functionality to resemble the buttons firefighters are already accustomed to using along the top of the mobile computer display.

Once mobile mapping and AVL have been implemented, the final phase of the CAD upgrade will be tested and implemented when ready. This will be automatic vehicle recommendation and routing (AVRR), which will perform calculations based on the location of an incident and where units are that could be assigned to that incident, taking into account which streets and/or freeways would be traversed by each unit enroute to the incident. It is expected that this will enable Verdugo to dispatch the closest unit with even more precision than is currently available.

INCIDENTS BY CATEGORY: 2006

January	Verdugo	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	870	0	75	139	159	55	34	282	25	19	16	17
MEDICAL	3,883	0	293	599	1,132	213	222	1,034	126	52	47	123
SERVICE	456	0	36	59	105	35	23	105	11	12	49	17
OTHER	83	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
OOV*	103	0	5	5	19	1	30	11	8	20	0	4
TOTAL	5,395	0	409	802	1,415	304	309	1,433	170	103	112	161

February	Verdugo	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	688	0	56	101	120	48	26	219	34	26	9	18
MEDICAL	3,450	0	261	576	965	199	218	876	131	45	44	100
SERVICE	221	0	11	25	46	18	20	65	4	3	10	16
OTHER	59	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OOV*	79	0	6	3	10	4	23	8	8	10	0	5
TOTAL	4,497	0	334	705	1,141	269	287	1,168	177	84	63	139

March	Verdugo	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	745	0	57	108	156	43	37	250	30	10	8	19
MEDICAL	3,816	0	282	600	1,165	176	241	994	121	46	51	96
SERVICE	230	0	20	38	57	19	11	53	11	7	6	7
OTHER	116	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
OOV*	76	0	2	2	15	4	23	5	9	13	0	3
TOTAL	4,983	0	361	749	1,394	242	313	1,302	171	76	65	125

April	Verdugo	ALH*	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	694	27	58	109	128	33	31	230	22	13	7	14
MEDICAL	3,580	183	251	522	950	207	229	940	111	44	33	86
SERVICE	247	12	15	45	57	14	9	65	5	3	7	12
OTHER	85	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
OOV*	53	0	3	9	11	0	17	3	2	7	0	0
TOTAL	4,659	222	327	685	1,146	254	286	1,239	140	67	47	112

May	Verdugo	ALH*	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	742	46	49	116	111	51	42	241	29	9	2	20
MEDICAL	3,949	322	246	610	1,006	209	232	977	112	61	39	88
SERVICE	281	33	16	40	68	19	11	62	8	4	7	12
OTHER	40	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	1	0	1	0
OOV*	79	0	3	4	22	2	20	11	5	14	0	0
TOTAL	5,091	401	314	771	1,207	281	305	1,296	155	88	49	120

June	Verdugo	ALH*	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	817	62	58	117	150	34	32	253	29	13	10	29
MEDICAL	3,917	330	255	599	934	207	237	990	138	49	37	104
SERVICE	300	37	21	42	67	24	14	57	11	9	3	14
OTHER	34	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
OOV*	83	0	3	8	38	2	8	15	0	7	0	1
TOTAL	5,151	429	338	767	1,190	268	291	1,315	178	78	50	148

*OOV = Responses outside the 11 Verdugo cities to such locations as Montebello, Los Angeles City and Los Angeles County (also included Alhambra before it joined the Verdugo System on Apr. 13, 2006.)

July	Verdugo	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	971	81	79	115	165	59	44	286	39	19	17	26
MEDICAL	4,047	323	243	641	1,021	217	214	1,008	141	46	53	97
SERVICE	352	42	32	47	71	23	11	79	9	11	9	16
OTHER	58	2	5	4	5	0	0	11	0	1	1	0
OOV*	104	0	5	12	30	5	17	12	4	10	3	1
TOTAL	5,532	448	364	819	1,292	304	286	1,396	193	87	83	140

August	Verdugo	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	794	47	79	100	128	42	34	249	25	20	8	35
MEDICAL	3798	298	204	602	1025	193	210	935	129	49	34	79
SERVICE	263	25	11	43	61	10	20	60	8	4	10	11
OTHER	87	1	0	1	2	1	0	4	0	0	0	0
OOV*	81	2	6	13	28	2	13	6	3	7	0	1
TOTAL	5,023	373	300	759	1,244	248	277	1,254	165	80	52	126

September	Verdugo	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	820	53	71	142	134	28	40	251	24	10	7	24
MEDICAL	3,745	279	265	534	1,019	170	214	941	119	33	40	94
SERVICE	266	26	18	54	61	13	11	56	4	3	8	11
OTHER	31	0	0	1	1	0	0	4	1	0	0	0
OOV*	110	4	9	12	29	10	18	10	4	6	4	1
TOTAL	4,972	362	363	743	1,244	221	283	1,262	152	52	59	130

October	Verdugo	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	803	42	65	124	154	49	30	241	21	18	5	18
MEDICAL	3,898	301	285	589	1032	183	215	943	127	55	47	77
SERVICE	276	23	17	37	69	13	16	64	9	4	9	14
OTHER	26	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
OOV*	107	1	7	11	31	4	21	12	4	10	2	1
TOTAL	5,110	367	374	761	1,287	250	282	1,262	161	87	63	110

November	Verdugo	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	860	52	78	124	154	48	29	251	25	25	9	22
MEDICAL	3,862	293	257	600	946	218	233	961	128	43	41	105
SERVICE	257	26	27	32	54	13	13	56	11	5	8	8
OTHER	34	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1
OOV*	96	0	5	9	40	7	12	13	2	7	0	1
TOTAL	5,109	371	367	766	1,194	286	287	1,285	166	80	58	137

December	Verdugo	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	934	66	64	152	145	38	36	303	27	27	11	23
MEDICAL	4,178	347	262	604	1,069	236	252	1,013	138	48	51	100
SERVICE	291	18	21	36	54	19	17	65	9	13	13	24
OTHER	49	0	0	1	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
OOV*	124	2	8	15	51	2	13	11	4	13	1	2
TOTAL	5,576	433	355	808	1,322	295	318	1,395	178	101	76	149

2006 TOTALS	Verdugo	ALH*	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS
FIRE	9,738	476	789	1,447	1,704	528	415	3,056	330	209	109	265
MEDICAL	46,123	2,676	3,104	7,076	12,264	2,428	2,717	11,612	1,521	571	517	1,149
SERVICE	3,440	242	245	498	770	220	176	787	100	78	139	162
OTHER	702	3	6	11	14	3	1	35	2	1	2	1
OOV*	1,095	9	62	103	324	43	215	117	53	124	10	20
TOTAL	61,098	3,406	4,206	9,135	15,076	3,222	3,524	15,607	2,006	983	777	1,597

*Alhambra joined Verdugo on April 13, 2006

UNITS DISPATCHED BY VERDUGO: 2006 (and historical data for 2004 & 2005)

Agency	Unit	Responses in 2006	Responses in 2005	Responses in 2004	
ALH*	E71	1,310	(Alhambra joined the Verdugo System on April 13, 2006)		
	E72	1,108			
	E73	698			
	E74	875			
	RA71	1,717			
	RA74	1,204			
	T71	634			
ARC	E105	1,616	1,569	1,613	
	E106	2,073	2,069	2,120	
	E107	877	786	760	
	RA105	1,567	1,540	1,579	
	RA106	1,800	1,638	1,712	
	T105	641	584	535	
	AU106	7	4	5	
	USAR106	9	9	1	
	BRK	E11	2,584	2,433	2,355
E12		1,527	1,482	1,480	
E13		1,670	1,685	1,564	
E14		1,327	1,296	1,254	
E15		1,998	1,936	1,919	
E16		843	747	736	
E18		97	88	82	
HM12		41	57	25	
RA11		2,723	2,426	2,471	
RA13		2,215	2,165	2,121	
RA15		2,721	2,571	2,651	
T11		735	762	713	
T12		498	534	496	
WT16		5	2	3	
GLN		AU28	16	30	24
		E21	3,192	3,133	2,875
		E22	2,372	2,359	2,205
		E23	258	287	252
		E24	953	1,043	915
		E25	3,047	3,050	2,890
	E26	2,566	2,573	2,324	
	E27	2,114	2,100	1,879	
	E28	692	682	716	
	E29	983	1,083	961	
	HM24	38	44	28	
	RA21	4,346	4,252	4,016	
	RA25	3,877	3,852	3,697	
	RA26	3,655	3,587	3,309	
	RA29	1,667	1,822	1,743	
	T21	883	1,022	970	
	T26	864	989	904	
	T29	268	294	341	
	USAR29	25	35	6	
	WT21	4	6	1	
WT27	2	1	2		

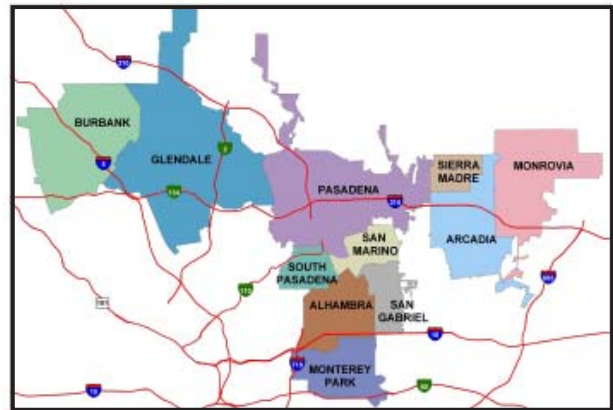
Agency	Unit	Responses in 2006	Responses in 2005	Responses in 2004
MPK *	E61	1,585	1,420	(Monterey Park joined Verdugo Feb. 15, 2005)
	E62	1,211	1,135	
	E63	997	995	
	RA61	1,668	1,534	
	RA62	1,362	1,236	
	T61	476	404	
	MRV	E101	1,924	
E102		1,677	1,556	1,552
SQ101		1,637	1,624	1,732
T101		516	552	605
WT101		3	7	8
PAS	E31	3,534	3,488	3,722
	E32	1,883	1,809	1,710
	E33	3,304	3,219	3,285
	E34	2,266	2,265	2,183
	E36	2,999	3,077	2,951
	E37	1,558	1,423	1,423
	E38	713	708	640
	E39	642	652	575
	RA31	3,122	3,083	3,039
	RA32	2,712	2,546	2,381
	RA33	3,586	3,465	3,635
	RA36	3,155	3,051	2,927
	T31	1,264	1,104	1,028
T32	924	799	694	
USAR32	33	32	16	
SGB	E51	1,188	1,323	1,318
	E52	1,011	1,027	1,046
	RA51	1,473	1,583	1,552
SMD	E41	286	224	183
	RA41	751	671	633
	WT41	1	1	0
SNM	E91	1,048	1,055	1,160
	RA91	1,142	1,151	1,249
SPS	AU81	248	283	1,116
	E81	1,675	1,656	566
	RA81	1,201	1,190	1,532

Notes:

- Monterey Park joined the Verdugo System on 2/15/05, and Alhambra joined on 4/13/06.
- Total *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 responses.

OUT OF JURISDICTION RESPONSES: 2006 vs 2005

The following tables show the number of out of jurisdiction responses for each fire department in 2006 and 2005. 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. Note that Monterey Park joined the Verdugo System on Feb. 1, 2005 and Alhambra joined Apr. 13, 2006, so data prior to these dates represent only the occasions when Verdugo dispatched units into or out of these cities.



2006

Responding Agencies	City Where Incident Occurred														Subtotals
	2006	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS	LAC	LFD	
ALH	X	5	0	0	3	217	29	196	39	0	88	5	3	2	587
ARC	5	X	1	0	279	12	94	23	11	1	1	56	0	6	489
BRK	0	1	X	311	1	1	15	1	2	1	0	17	83	3	436
GLN	3	2	281	X	5	2	144	4	2	1	2	80	240	4	770
MRV	0	324	0	0	X	2	12	1	0	0	0	38	0	5	382
MPK	250	3	1	2	3	X	3	88	1	0	2	90	1	91	535
PAS	33	105	13	46	25	24	X	23	47	1	80	78	37	1	513
SGB	141	5	0	0	6	41	3	X	26	0	3	35	0	1	261
SNM	24	10	0	1	6	3	344	199	X	0	104	112	0	0	803
SMD	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	X	1	3	0	7	13
SPS	45	4	1	1	1	8	177	11	69	1	X	2	10	0	330
LAC	1	58	0	46	55	62	34	32	15	0	0	X	1	1	305
LFD	0	0	22	19	0	0	4	0	0	0	14	1	X	0	60
XAA	2	107	108	22	2,483	64	9	6	0	1	3	4	2	X	2,811
Subtotals	504	625	427	448	2,867	436	868	584	213	6	298	521	377	121	8,295

2005

Responding Agencies	City Where Incident Occurred														Subtotals
	2005	ALH	ARC	BRK	GLN	MRV	MPK	PAS	SGB	SNM	SMD	SPS	LAC	LFD	
ALH	X	3	7	2	1	204	10	174	41	0	73	5	1	1	522
ARC	0	X	2	3	236	1	72	10	1	4	0	37	0	2	368
BRK	2	4	X	338	1	3	23	0	1	0	0	28	31	0	431
GLN	0	1	284	X	1	4	119	0	1	0	0	83	106	0	599
MRV	0	286	8	3	X	1	5	1	0	1	0	42	0	1	348
MPK	102	2	1	4	3	X	3	70	2	0	3	83	1	55	329
PAS	3	96	22	67	14	12	X	16	38	1	103	87	9	0	468
SGB	63	4	2	3	2	35	8	X	17	0	3	35	0	0	172
SNM	28	7	1	1	6	6	287	207	X	0	148	81	0	0	772
SMD	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	X	0	4	0	2	8
SPS	30	6	0	0	2	6	157	6	72	0	X	0	8	1	288
LAC	0	55	1	60	51	46	28	42	7	1	0	X	1	2	294
LFD	0	0	5	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	1	X	0	37
XAA	3	82	100	38	2,425	67	27	2	2	0	1	4	2	X	2,753
Subtotals	231	546	434	538	2,742	385	739	528	182	7	344	490	159	64	7,389

AVERAGE ENROUTE & ONSCENE TIME BY CITY: 2006

Agency	Av. Dispatch to Enroute (Min:Sec)	Av. Dispatch to Onscene (Min:Sec)	Percent Onscene <5 min.	Total Incidents (2006)
ALH	1:03	4:26	70.1%	3,406
ARC	1:03	4:17	72.1%	4,206
BRK	1:03	4:27	70.1%	9,135
GLN	1:02	4:12	76.6%	15,076
MRV	0:59	4:35	66.9%	3,222
MPK	1:04	5:04	54.9%	3,524
PAS	0:57	4:19	71.2%	15,607
SGB	1:02	4:23	72.5%	2,006
SMD	1:46	4:43	64.7%	983
SNM	0:39	3:52	78.3%	777
SPS	0:55	4:03	75.7%	1,597

Average times from dispatch to enroute (leaving the station) and from dispatch to onscene (arrival at incident) for the first unit arriving at an incident are shown for incidents that occurred in each city during 2006. These include those instances where a unit providing automatic aid arrived onscene first.

Dispatch to onscene times may vary due to many factors such as the city's geographical layout, the time of day or night, traffic density, road conditions, and emergency unit availability. They can also be adversely affected by human error (failure to press ONSCENE on the mobile computer terminal when arriving at an incident) or failure of the mobile computer terminal to transmit the ONSCENE message.

2006 STRIKE TEAM RESPONSES BY AREA C UNITS

Team	Incident Name	Dispatch Date	Dispatch Time	Leader	Trainee	Release Date	Release Time
1204-A	Sierra	2/6/2006	8:38	MPK BC6 - Donovan	MPK PR6 - Fabrizio	2/7/2006	18:44
1202-A	Sierra	2/6/2006	8:40	GLN BC2 - Howard	GLN BC Arrellanes	2/7/2006	18:50
1850-B	Sawtooth	7/12/2006	17:06	MTB BC Lynsky	MTB - Cpt. Middlebrooks	7/16/2006	19:12
WT11	Edgemont	7/15/2006	0:58	GLN Eng. Griffith	GLN - FF. Detro	7/20/2006	13:33
1800-A	Prado Mobilization	7/24/2006	5:59	ARC BC105 - Norwood	GLN BC Arrellanes	7/28/2006	21:52
1205-A	Cross	8/28/2006	14:20	ARC BC105 - Norwood	MRV BC Fabrizio	8/28/2006	23:57
1203-A	Cross	8/28/2006	14:22	PAS BC3 - Gordon	PAS BC Imler	8/28/2006	22:59
1204-A	Day	9/11/2006	16:40	MPK BC6 - Khail	MRV BC Fabrizio	9/12/2006	0:40
1201-A	Day	9/16/2006	21:30	BRK BC1 - Lenahan	BRK - Capt Howe	9/18/2006	12:28
1205-A	Day	9/16/2006	21:35	MRV BC10 - Dennis	MRV BC Haberle	9/18/2006	13:17
WT16	Day	9/17/2006	11:39	BRK - Eng. Lanning	BRK - FF. Mercado	9/29/2006	8:31
WT11	Day	9/17/2006	11:39	GLN - Eng. Ortiz	GLN - FF. Detro	9/29/2006	21:20
WT41	Day	9/17/2006	11:39	SMD - Eng. Bartlett	SMD - Eng. Wamboldt	9/29/2006	18:54
1840-A	Day	9/17/2006	13:58	MTB BC Lynsky	MTB - Capt. Valentine	9/17/2006	20:24
1800-A	Day	9/21/2006	14:11	MRV BC10 - Dennis	MRV BC Fabrizio	9/25/2006	16:11
1202-A	Day	9/26/2006	16:52	GLN BC2-Scoggins	BRK - Cpt. Robertson	9/28/2006	20:02
1204-A	Day	9/26/2006	16:55	ALH BC7-Stedman	PAS-BC Blades	9/28/2006	21:58
1203-A	Esperanza	10/27/2006	0:30	PAS BC3 - Costa	PAS BC -Blades	10/29/2006	15:20
1805-A	Esperanza	10/27/2006	3:00	SMD CH4 - Lowe	SGB BC5 - Terry	10/29/2006	11:29
1205-A	Esperanza	10/27/2006	3:00	MPK BC6 - Khail	BRK - Cpt. Robertson	10/29/2006	15:56
WT11	Esperanza	10/27/2006	18:11	GLN - Eng. Bostick	GLN - FF. Boyle	10/31/2006	14:43
1802-A	Shekell	12/3/2006	12:01	SMD CH4 - Lowe	SMD - BC4 Bamberger	12/5/2006	10:03
1201-A	Shekell	12/3/2006	12:11	BRK BC1 Trowbridge	PAS BC3 Blades	12/5/2006	15:37
1204-A	Shekell	12/3/2006	12:33	MPK BC6 - Khail	SGB- Capt Frieders	12/5/2006	15:37
WT16	Shekell	12/4/2006	14:28	BRK - Dennis Kenehan	BRK - Robert Hills	12/6/2006	14:54
WT101	Shekell	12/4/2006	14:28	MRV - Capt. John Rooks	MRV - Steve Mikity	12/6/2006	14:54

STEMI Receiving Centers (SRC)

The L.A. County EMS Agency is in the process of implementing a new policy (513) on destination for patients who are experiencing a myocardial infarction. The term STEMI refers to those patients who are experiencing ST-elevation myocardial infarctions. These patients will be transported or diverted to the closest open STEMI Receiving Center (SRC).

Currently, hospitals in L.A. County are applying to become STEMI Receiving Centers. These facilities must have 24/7 cardiac catheterization/surgical capabilities. They are then surveyed by the L.A. County EMS Agency, and once approved, patients with acute MI's can be directed to them.

If your 12-lead EKG displays **** Acute MI **** this is a STEMI patient. You will be directed to transport to the closest open STEMI receiving center. If a facility is closed to STEMI patients, you may be diverted up to 30 minutes to an open STEMI receiving center. If ground transport time is greater than 30 minutes, the patient shall be transported to the most accessible receiving facility.

Please note: ReddiNet now has a "STEMI" closure status that will be displayed for facilities that are on diversion for STEMI patients. Be aware that when an ER is closed due to saturation, it does not necessarily apply to STEMI patients. If an SRC is on diversion for ER-sat, they may still receive STEMI patients.

Paramedic Reminders:

- Indications for a 12-lead EKG: Patients complaining of chest pain of suspected cardiac etiology. 12-leads should be done on all patients 21 to 100+ years old if the chief complaint is potentially indicative of being cardiac related. This includes presentations of shortness of breath, weak and dizzy, syncope, dysrhythmias, etc.
- On these types of patients, the 12-lead EKG must be completed before base station contact.
- Paramedics must ensure correct placement of 12-lead electrodes and leave them in place until patient care is transferred at the SRC.
- Paramedics are to report ****Acute MI**** or ****Acute MI Suspected**** message to MICN on Base contact.

- Paramedics are to ensure the time stamp on EKG's and rhythm strips is accurate. If the time stamp is incorrect, cross out the incorrect time and initial and write in the correct time.
- Document the EKG reading in the narrative section of your EMS Report, i.e., "No acute," "+AMI," "Abnormal EKG, cannot rule out," etc.
- Write the Sequence # on the 12-lead and/or strip, if your unit doesn't have the capability of imprinting it on the strip.
- Give the 12-lead and/or rhythm strip to the receiving RN at the SRC.
- Document the 12-lead in the treatment section of your patient care record.
- Attach the second copy of the 12-lead and/or rhythm strip to the back of the original copy of the patient care record. Also ensure the PCR sequence number is listed on the EKG strip.
- Document completely all treatments and meds given on your patient care record.
- Leave the Receiving Hospital copy of the EMS Report with the Receiving RN.
- Ensure the 12-lead box is checked.
- The cardiologists at these SRC facilities are encouraging all paramedics to occasionally follow a patient through the entire process, from patient contact to cardiac catheterization. If you would like to do this, please discuss it with your EMS Coordinator or Battalion Chief.

UNIFIED RESPONSE

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VERDUGO FIRE ACADEMY @ GCC

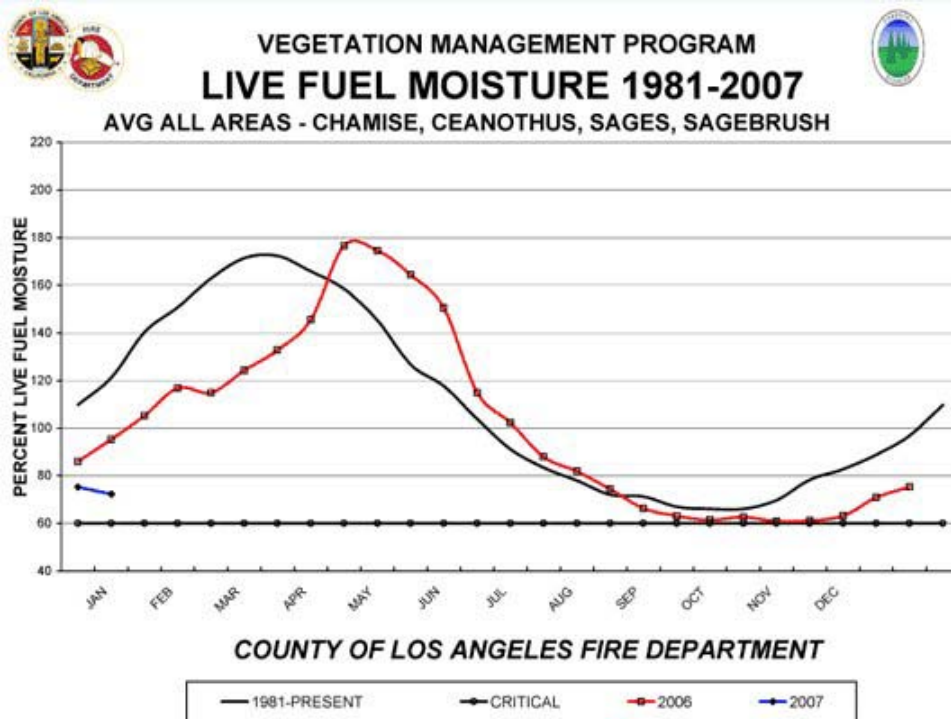
On December 23, a graduation ceremony was held at the Alex Theatre in Glendale for 45 recruits who had successfully completed the Verdugo Fire Academy. With a goal of providing qualified cadets to the Area C departments a list of the top 18 recruits from this class was provided to the Area C Fire Chiefs.

The next academy will begin February 22, with a schedule of Thursday nights plus all day Saturdays and Sundays. So far, about 40 cadets are enrolled in this academy. It is anticipated that two five-month academies will be held each year, including a firefighter wellness and fitness program.

Meetings with Glendale Community College have been held to explore the possibility of beginning a Paramedic Program there. This would serve the San Gabriel, San Fernando, and Greater Los Angeles Areas.

The Verdugo Fire Academy would like to extend our thanks to Fire Chief Chris Gray and the Glendale Fire Department for their support, and to all the academy staff and instructors who are making this program a success. We also appreciate all the support from the Area C agencies and Los Angeles City Fire Department, particularly for sharing their resources during training days.

Anyone interested in becoming an instructor at the academy, should not hesitate to contact us as there is plenty of opportunity for everyone to have fun while supporting this regional training endeavor. Emails may be sent to Sam DiGiovanna at lshammy@cox.net.



<http://www.lacofd.org/Forestry/FireWeatherDangerLiveFuelMoistureAllAreas.asp>

