

Annual Report

2000

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Vista Fire Department is to minimize deaths, injuries and property loss by taking all feasible action to prevent fires and, if they occur, to extinguish them promptly, and to provide advanced life-support and emergency medical transportation for the community.

To serve

without prejudice or favoritism, all citizens within the City of Vista and the Vista Fire Protection District, by safeguarding collectively and individually, their lives against injurious effects of fire, explosion, other related hazards and provide emergency medical care.

To safeguard

the general economy and welfare of the community by preventing major conflagrations and the destruction by fire of economically essential industries and businesses.

To serve

all the community's citizens and property owners by protecting their individual material wealth and economic well-being against the destructive effects of fire and explosions. All property deserves to have an equivalent degree of protection, commensurate with the actual property hazard involved regardless of geographic location or monetary value.

DEPARTMENT HISTORY

The earliest recorded history of the area we know as Vista includes references to wild land fires which periodically burned through the area. Early ranch outbuildings were occasionally destroyed by fire, and the historic Guajome and Rancho Adobe each suffered fires.

Across the nation, one of the earliest threats that brought people together was fire. Fire also created issues that motivated groups of people to establish community standards, such as fire and building codes following disastrous conflagrations.

EARLY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

In July 1927, seventeen men, including the Fire Chief, formed the Vista Volunteer Fire Department, complete with 250 feet of hose, one nozzle and a hand-drawn hose cart, courtesy of the City of Oceanside.

*Original hand-drawn hose cart preserved by
the Vista FireFighters Association*

Citizens worked together to raise money over the years to train and equip the volunteers, and:

- u Purchased a used 1911 Seagraves “chemical and hose” fire engine, in September 1928 from the Orange Fire Department
- u Obtained a pumper truck that carried its own water supply in 1930
- u Were honored as “best equipped rural firefighting unit in the County” in 1930
- u Purchased an oxygen resuscitator in 1931, forging towards the diversified services provided today
- u Officially formed the “Vista Rural Fire Protection District” in 1932, which became the “Vista Fire Protection District” in 1961.

With the incorporation of the City of Vista in 1963, the two governing entities, the Vista Fire Protection District Board of Directors, serving the unincorporated areas surrounding the new City, and the Vista City Council, formed a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) for fire and emergency services. By this time, emergency call loads had finally necessitated an end to the volunteer era.

Vista Press article - February 28, 1929

Under the agreement, the new City would employ the full-paid fire fighters, and the cost of fire services would be divided between the City and District under a formula based on assessed valuation. The

same level of service would be provided without regard to the City/District boundary.

1911 Seagraves 'Chemical and Hose' fire engine purchased by the Vista Volunteer Fire Department - September, 1928.

This mural was painted by Doug Davis in November on the *wall of the Curbside Cafe & Bakery - 307 Main St., Downtown*

TODAY'S MODERN FIRE DEPARTMENT

At the end of 2000, the total population served was 104,000, with

approximately 19 square miles of the combined jurisdiction located in the City and the Fire District. As of

January, 2000, 60 fire suppression personnel were supported by three clerical staff, four fire inspectors, an emergency services officer, a fire marshal, three division chiefs, a deputy chief and the fire chief – for a total of 74 positions.

Four fire stations house three frontline fire engines and crews, a new ladder truck with crew, one cross-staffed rescue unit and two full-time paramedic units. An additional paramedic unit is staffed 50% of the time during historically peak hours.

Two engines which are housed in stations without paramedic teams are staffed as “assessment engines” – with at least one paramedic fire fighter.

Assessment engines also carry advanced life support equipment and drugs, and telemetry communications equipment. Thus, under most circumstances, the first-arriving fire unit, whether engine or transport unit, has paramedic advanced life support capability.

Station 1 - Medic 1290 - Medic 1291 - Truck 1271

Station 2 - OES 261 - Engine 1212 - Rescue 1292

Station 3 - Medic 1293 - Engine 1213

Station 4 - Engine 1214

THE ORGANIZATION

The Fire Department is organized with the goal of providing maximum

support for those providing direct service to our citizens. The typical organizational chart shows

the manager at the top, and a pyramid shape with the people actually delivering the service at the bottom. While our chart looks about the same, in concept, the management staff functions to make our fire fighters and paramedics as effective as possible in dealing with individual and community emergency problems.

Everyone, from top to bottom, is dedicated to providing effective intervention in the big and not-so-big crises that befall the people we serve. We train and equip our personnel, establish procedures, plan community infrastructure and evaluate performance to ensure that the citizen is served to the best of our ability.

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM -

consists of the following positions; Fire Chief, Deputy Chief, three shift Battalion Chiefs, Fire Marshal and an Emergency Services Officer. An elected representative of the Firefighters Association also participates in weekly meetings. This team works collectively to provide guidance and direction for the organization.

Members act as advisors to the Fire Chief, and have responsibilities that affect every aspect of the organization. In addition to managing various fire department operations, the Executive Staff maintains communications with other City, County and State agencies that have an impact on our mission. Executive Staff meets weekly.

EXECUTIVE STAFF ASSIGNMENTS

The executive staff provides “overhead” at major incidents as needed. Chief

Officers

may respond to significant incidents in other jurisdictions across the state, assisting in command or support functions as required by the host agency.

FIRE CHIEF - ROGER PURDIE

The Fire Chief has department head-status on the City management team. He stands emergency response duty as necessary to relieve for vacations or illnesses, and is part of the standard assignment to second alarms of major incidents, or when requested by emergency commanders.

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF - TOM DAY

The Deputy Chief over sees the Budget, Personnel and Emergency Medical Services Division of the Department. In the absence of the Fire Chief, and in lieu of specific assignment, the Deputy Fire Chief is assigned as the Acting Fire Chief.

FIRE MARSHAL - PAUL DAWSON

The Fire Marshal is responsible for planning community fire defenses, inspection of existing buildings and operations, and those under construction, compliance of fire detection and control systems, fire investigation and arson prosecution, code and policy development, public education in fire survival and prevention, and media contact.

RETIREMENT NOTE

After 25 plus years of service, Paul Dawson retired from the Vista Fire Department, October 9, 2000. Congratulations Paul! A nationwide search has begun to find his successor. The position should be filled in early 2001.

Each Battalion Chief is responsible for one of the three suppression shifts, designated as "A", "B" and "C". They work the same schedule of 24 hour shifts and respond to specific emergencies, all structure fires and major incidents in the City of Vista and the Fire Protection District. They also oversee personnel matters for their platoons.

In addition, each Battalion Chief is responsible for a portion of the administrative duties of the Fire Department.

A SHIFT BATTALION CHIEF - KENT NORTON

Battalion Chief Kent Norton is charge of Building, Facilities, Apparatus and Equipment.

B SHIFT BATTALION CHIEF - RANDY TERICH

The areas of responsibilities of Battalion Chief Randy Terich include, Emergency Operations, Communications and Management Information Systems.

C SHIFT BATTALION CHIEF - JEFF BERG

Battalion Chief Jeff Berg duties include Training and Disaster Preparedness.

DAY PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS

Fire Chief	Roger Purdie	Department Head
Deputy Chief	Tom Day	Personnel Services
Emergency Services Officer Services Officer	Marilyn Anderson	Emergency
Fire Marshal Division	Paul Dawson	Fire Prevention
Fire Inspectors Inspector	Rich Leak	Senior Fire
	Lance Ryness	Fire Inspector
	Art Eckdahl	Fire Inspector
	Bob Gmur	Fire Inspector
Administrative Secretary	Toni Kleider	Executive Secretary
Office Specialist II	Kathy Johnston	Administration
Office Specialist I	Astrid Starcher <i>Astrid Starcher</i> <i>Toni Kleider</i> <i>Kathy Johnston</i>	Administration

EMERGENCY SERVICES OFFICER - MARILYN ANDERSON

The Emergency Services Officer (ESO) functions as the Paramedic Program Coordinator. Duties include providing in-house Continuing Education training at the paramedic and emergency medical technician levels. Planning and implementing the City's Emergency Operations policy. Working towards a smooth-functioning City government under emergency conditions through advanced department-by-department planning, training and Emergency

Operations Center drills. Direct community education relating to disaster preparedness is also provided.

SENIOR FIRE INSPECTOR - RICH LEAK

The Senior Fire Inspector is the functional supervisor of Fire Inspectors, and coordinates building and system plan review activities. Fire Inspectors share the emergency call-out duty, and respond from home in off-hours to conduct fire investigations and emergency enforcement activities.

RETIREMENT NOTE

The retirement of Senior Inspector Rich Leak in September provided an opening in that position. As a result of an internal and external recruitment, our own Inspector Lance Ryness was selected to fill the Senior Inspector position. Congratulations Lance!

*Lance Ryness
Promoted - Senior Fire Inspector*

STATION AND SHIFT ASSIGNMENTS

Work hours for fire suppression personnel on the West Coast are generally 24 hours long, followed by at least one day off. Vista Fire Department shift personnel work a 56-hour work week, which is scheduled in a three platoon pattern. Shifts are identified as A, B or C, and the same personnel work together as a team, both within one station and across the jurisdiction on any given 24 hour period. Exceptions occur during illness or injury, trades of duty or vacation coverage.

JANUARY 1, 2000

STATION 1	A SHIFT	B SHIFT	C SHIFT
Captain	Shellhammer	Minnick	Greenstone
Engineer	Fandel	Cox	Birrenkott

FF/PM	Blumeyer	Bauer	Duncan
FF/PM	Bowden	Gray	Garrahy
FF/PM	Brown	Johnson	Gelrud
FF/PM	Carreon	Lemire	Kennedy
FF/PM	Chumbley	Schroeder	Mentzer
FF/PM	Usher	(Vacant)	Shelton
FF	Wold	Hill	Linden

STATION 2

Captain	Grubaugh	Arcularius	Magoon
Engineer	George	Easterling	Delaney
FF/PM	Conover	Ford	Kaumeyer

STATION 3

Captain	Pusey	Ormond	Napier
Engineer	Sass	Parish	Fellows
FF/PM	Craig	Collier	Jimenez
FF/PM	Vander Pol	Gregson	Stangeland
FF	Tilch	Ballard	Standifird

STATION 4

Captain	Harris	Murphy	Hahn
Engineer	Gravlin	Wilkinson	Stacey
FF/PM	Harville	Mayo	Ackerman

PERSONNEL - FINANCE & BUDGET

Personnel - The year 2000 brought many personnel changes

to the fire department. It was a year of heavy recruitments at many levels. Through a very labor intensive process, several positions were filled with the best of candidates.

Firefighter/Paramedics are recruited from a list established through a consortium testing process at Palomar College on behalf of several North County fire departments. The Vista Fire Department invites potential recruits from the Palomar list to compete in a high-level paramedic skills assessment administered

by our personnel. The most qualified candidates are offered employment after further interview and a background investigation.

Two complete and separate firefighter/paramedic recruitments took place in the year 2000. The process got off to a fast start in February and March with the recruitment of four firefighter/paramedics. After two of the new recruits left employment with Vista for other opportunities and another vacancy opened up, the second recruitment from a fresh Palomar list was initiated in August. Three firefighter/paramedic positions were subsequently filled.

This year's new firefighter/paramedic recruits are David Nelson, Francisco Soto, Jim Sawyer, Eric Kilpatrick and Chad Stewart. They are a fine bunch, and we are lucky to have them on board!

	<i>David Nelson</i>	
	<i>Francisco Soto</i>	
<i>Jim Sawyer</i>	<i>Eric Kilpatrick</i>	<i>Chad Stewart</i>

With the retirement of Senior Inspector Rich Leak and subsequent promotion of Inspector Lance Ryness to the Senior Inspector position the domino effect continued with the need to fill now Senior Inspector Ryness' former position.

An aggressive fire inspector recruitment resulted in the employment of Inspector George Lucia, formerly of New Jersey. We welcome the addition of George's high skill level and extensive experience in fire prevention.

George Lucia
Fire Inspector

One new position was added in the year 2000, that of Fire Prevention Specialist. The Specialist is primarily responsible for the city's weed abatement program and the fire district's high wildland brush program. Micah Phelps, a former code compliance officer in Oceanside was brought in to fill the need. Micah is an appreciated addition to the fire prevention staff.

Micah Phelps
Fire Prevention Specialist

Fire Marshal Paul Dawson retired in October after a long and fruitful career. The City of Vista initiated a nationwide search for qualified candidates to fill this vital position. The recruitment began in earnest in November and continued through the end of the year. A new Fire Marshal is expected to take office in the beginning of 2001.

Finance & Budget - The second year of a two-year budget process kicked in

during

the year 2000. A great deal of staff time was saved in the beginning of the year since

the second year budget was already completed. The fire department spent the second half of the year adjusting to the new two-year concept. Some minor budget revisions were made due to unforeseen events, but overall the two-year process was deemed a success.

All department members participate in the budget process. Individuals submit budget ideas and requests through proper channels to the Deputy Fire Chief who compiles the data and formulates the budget documents. Preparation for the 2001-02 and 2002-03 budget units began in December of this year. Once the budget documents are complete, they are reviewed and adjusted by the executive staff before being sent to the City Manager for further review.

Combined Fire Protection, Paramedic Services, Disaster Preparedness, Weed Abatement and Equipment Replacement budget units amount to over 7.5 million dollars in fiscal year 2000-01.

“A” SHIFT BATTALION CHIEF FLEET, EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES

Fleet - Normal maintenance issues were coordinated with the

City Shop for all of our vehicles. There were also, a few additions to our fleet this year which include;

- u A 1995 Chevrolet Suburban received in a vehicle 'swap' with the City of Vista Wastewater Division. It was retrofitted with emergency lights and siren, radios, painted and added to the fleet as a Command Vehicle for the Shift Battalion Chiefs.
- u After a committee study, a new 1999 Ford Chassis/Horton Type III Ambulance was chosen from available "as built" ambulances and

added to the fleet as a front line ambulance. Both of these “new” additions were placed in service in June 2000.

- u All engines received their annual pump test at the San Marcos Facility.

Equipment - A new Thermal Imager was approved for purchase. When it is

received, it will be placed on the Battalion Chief’s Command Vehicle to allow better utilization

during fire operations. A thermal Imager is a valuable, practical and reliable tool that can protect firefighters and enhance their effectiveness as they work to protect the lives of citizens in our community.

Thermal imagers can help firefighters find unconscious victims in smoke-filled rooms, pinpoint the sources of fires, and detect structural dangers before they cause injuries and deaths. The benefits of thermal imaging in structural firefighting far outweigh any disadvantages, especially since the disadvantages can be eliminated or overcome through proper training and application.

- u Personal Protective Equipment, PPE - Firefighter/Paramedic Jim Gelrud took the position of Personal Protective Equipment Officer. This new position is in charge of research and development of new types of PPE ensembles that are required by state and federal regulations. Recommendations on changes and advances in types, makes and uses for personal protective equipment will come from this position. Currently, helmets and eye protection are being researched for possible future use.

- u Uniforms - A new uniform look was added to the Summer wear this year. A golf-type dark blue shirt was introduced sporting a badge and the member's name. This was well received with positive feedback at the end of the trial period. This was utilized in conjunction with the new emergency medical protective jackets.
- u Wildland hand tools were purchased and placed on the Type 1 Engines.

Facilities - Station One received a new liquid dispensing system. It was installed to aid in the dispensing of cleaning liquids. This system should save money in overall cleaning liquid supply use.

- u A chest type freezer was donated to the department and put to good use. Bags of ice, purchased in conjunction with the City Yard, are kept in the freezer. Flats of bottled water and Gatorade are also stored nearby for use during extended emergencies and strike team assignments.
- u A remodel of the Battalion Chief's office was accomplished with a wall mounted computer desk and book shelves being added. Turnout lockers were also added to the apparatus bay and additional personal lockers in the truck dormitory. Our thanks for the help from Captain Don Shellhammer.
- u Station Three - The Landscape project is finally finished with the help of many individuals, too numerous to mention. A larger, safer turn-in approach was also incorporated in the new landscape design. This will allow easier backing of apparatus into the station.
- u The storage shed was also finalized and is being used to store salvage material, (plywood, nails, etc). These materials are for emergency use during fires to board up businesses or residences as needed.

“B” SHIFT BATTALION CHIEF

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

Operations - The Vista Fire Department continues to

operate as an effective and efficient organization.

Emergency responses have continued their trend of sharp increases as the department handled **7663 incidents** in the year 2000 as compared to 7286 in 1999.

- u During 2000, the operations section developed and improved our ability to record and document incidents. Each company officer (captain) is responsible for completing a report on every incident. These detailed reports include; correct NFIRS (National Fire Incident Reporting System) codes for response type and actions taken, accurate response times, response personnel, detailed narratives and patient/resident information. The captain “completes” the report, which is followed by a total “review” of the report by the shift battalion chief. The effectiveness of the reporting system has increased dramatically due to the efforts of our personnel.
- u Firefighter/Paramedic Robert Ford completes the monthly incident report, which details the response activity of the department. This information is compiled through coordination with Dispatch, the Sun Pro reporting program and individual effort. The data gleaned from these reports is the most detailed and accurate information the department has ever developed.
- u In the latter part of the year the department contracted with DMG – Maximus to provide a Fire Department Response Effectiveness Study. The operations section has been actively involved with providing complete and accurate data to ensure that the most thorough evaluation can be completed.
- u Captain Joe Napier is the department cartographer. Joe has worked feverishly to provide an updated and completely revised mapping system for the department. The maps will be placed in the stations and in the vehicles very shortly. Our dependence on these quality maps can never be overstated.

- u Firefighter Mark Standifird is the hydrant officer who is responsible for facilitating the hydrant maintenance program. Each captain is assigned a specific area to perform maintenance checks twice annually. This program takes an enormous amount of time, as there are over 3000 hydrants in the department/district. Hydrant painting, blue dot installation, map updating and record keeping is included in this program.
- u With the assistance of the City Attorney, the department took over the responsibility for scene management of all hazardous materials incidents in the City of Vista. The San Diego County Sheriffs Department handled this responsibility in the past.
- u Firefighter Tim Ballard, studied the perceived problem regarding the staging of fire department units for a variety of Sheriff Department involved incidents. Data was collected and reviewed, and a common sense and effective solution to the problem was determined. A policy for these responses was developed and implemented through coordination with North County Dispatch. This policy has proven to be successful, reducing unit “out of service” time, while assuring that units are available for higher priority incidents.
- u We are currently in the midst of a total revision of the Manual of Operations. Captains’ Greenstone, Murphy and Ormond are full participants in this huge project.

C Communications - A new position within the operations

section, “Communications Specialist”, has been established. Firefighter Richard Tilch has volunteered to fill this role, utilizing his tremendous knowledge base in the area of radio communications. Duties of the position include: maintaining radio inventories, upgrading radio capabilities, specifying new purchases, reviewing procedures and providing training. Firefighter Tilch upgraded our VHF mobile and portable radios and has provided a training class to all personnel.

The communications section is responsible for maintaining the Rancho Paging System (75 pagers) that provides redundant alarm notification, routine information notification and emergency recall. During the year the Vista Fire

Department tested two alternate paging systems at the request of the North County Dispatch JPA.

- u During 2000, each of the fire stations was outfitted with a West Net Alerting System through a contract with "Teleque ...on Fire" a Vista based company. This system provides unit and station notification through the dispatch computer and a radio interface with unsurpassed quality and reliability.
- u At the request of the Fire Chief, a report was written regarding the need for additional 800 MHz portable radios to provide increased safety and improved communication capability to our personnel. The City Manager has recommended that item be placed in the upcoming budget for discussion.

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS (MIS) - The operations chief

coordinates the activities of the MIS Committee. Department-wide training in CAD/RMS and computer related equipment purchases (scanner, CD-rewriter, laptop computer, projector, etc.) are coordinated through this committee. A continuing project is the update of information on the Fire Department portion of the city web page.

"C" SHIFT BATTALION CHIEF TRAINING & DISASTER PREP

Training Division - The overall goal of Training Division is to

support the mission of the Vista Fire Department by maintaining the high standards of our industry. Introducing personnel to the latest techniques and constantly training to meet operational standards. Year 2000 training subjects included: pre-fire plans, multi-company drills, paramedic and EMT education, safety, firefighting tactics and strategy, and customer service

training. Additionally, the training staff offered advanced courses in command, management, hazardous materials, fire prevention and computer technology.

Recruit Training - Selection and training of new personnel is an

integral part of the development of Vista quality firefighters. This year the department recruited and trained seven new firefighter-paramedics in two academies. The academies are 240 hours of concentrated study in subjects ranging from basic fire chemistry to advanced paramedic skills. The academy environment is supported by the efforts of on duty personnel and specialized instructors scheduled to come in off duty to lead evolutions in their area of expertise.

Additionally, new personnel are being developed through a newly introduced probationary study guide and mentor program. Mentors are selected from a cadre of experienced shift members and provide on-going skills development to facilitate the transition from recruit to career employee.

- u The Department conducted over 17,000 hours of training; averaging approximately 259 hours per member in 2000.
- u Seven new Firefighter/Paramedics graduated from a six week in-house recruit academy.
- u The Department participated in a full-scale exercise at the Vista Regional Center Courthouse. Fire companies were able to practice high rise fire tactics, incident command techniques and advanced firefighting principles during this night drill.

- u Selected suppression personnel and disaster preparedness staff participated in the formation of the **San Diego County Operational Area - Metropolitan Medical Strike Team (MMST)**. The MMST is developed as a locally available nuclear, biological or chemical (NBC) trained incident response team. Within this framework, tactical medical response Strike Teams will be mobilized for large scale NBC terrorist events on a local, state and national basis.

Four members of the department are participating in the San Diego County Metropolitan Medical Strike Team. The members are all Firefighter/Paramedics:

Jay Ackerman, Jon Blumeyer, William Conover and Keith
Kaumeyer.

Training includes; bio-terrorism response and mass casualty incident strategies. Additionally, team members and the Chief's staff were involved in Grand Slam 2000, a large-scale disaster drill held at Qualcomm Stadium.

- u Continued participation in the California Joint Apprenticeship Program; a joint venture between the fire department and labor group through which funds are allocated from Community Colleges for training equipment and services. Four Department members completed the program and received individual recognition from the California State Board of Fire Services.
- u Fire Department Paramedics were recertified in Advanced Cardiac Life Support techniques in addition to continuing paramedic level in-service training through in house and regional fire department instructors, and partnerships with Tri-City Medical Center staff.
- u In cooperation with the City of Vista Wastewater Division, the Fire Department completed a bi-annual Confined Space Rescue training. Together with Waste Water crews, Fire Department suppression personnel perform actual entries into below-ground spaces under simulated hazardous conditions. Waste Water Division personnel are part of the Fire Department response to any confined space rescue, such as a trench collapse, storm drain or man hole. With a combined effort the two city departments bring both expertise and essential equipment to effect any of these technical rescues.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

- u Community Preparedness - The Disaster Preparedness staff participated in regional, county and local functions to ensure preparation and appropriate response in the event of a disaster. Fire Department members regularly act as a two-way conduit between the community and the San Diego County Office of Disaster Preparedness. Locally, the department sponsored community presentations, school presentations and drills, and winter weather briefings.
- u Emergency Plan Updates - The City of Vista Emergency Plan describes a comprehensive emergency management system; which provides for a planned response to disaster situations associated with natural disasters, technological incidents, and man-made disasters; such as nuclear, biological, or chemical incidents. This year the Disaster Preparedness staff began utilizing the information that was gleaned from last year's Y2K preparations. The staff has begun updated the plan including new personnel and contingencies for each city department.
- u Emergency Operations Center - The emergency operations center radio capabilities were enhanced with the addition of several new radio systems for the EOC at City Hall and at the alternate EOC at Fire Station #1.
- u Personnel from the Fire Department, Wastewater Division and Public Works also gained valuable skills through mutual resource training with the Sheriff's Department's Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and while attending a State of California Enhanced Exercise Design course. The course work and subsequent certification will allow staff members to design, coordinate and facilitate upcoming disaster drills.

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

- u Firefighter Paramedics serving as team members and several members of the Chief's staff participated in the Operational Area's full-scale exercise at Qualcomm Stadium in August.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Emergency Medical Services - continues to represent a large part of the mission of the Vista Fire Department. During 2000, the department responded to over 5052 calls for medical and

- u **Planning** - Fire-related aspects of plan review that involve land division, site development, building construction and building use modification.
- u **Inspection** - Of existing buildings and operations for compliance with state and local fire and building codes, and inspections of all new construction including fire protection and detection systems.
- u **Weed and Brush Fire Protection** - For the city and the fire district with the weed abatement program in the city and high hazard inspections in the fire district, to protect the community from wildland and weed fires.
- u **Investigation of Fires** - To determine the cause of accidental fires and to detect arson and juvenile fire setting. To determine if noncompliance with existing codes as a fire cause. To determine if there are product performance problems, and to provide public education for fire safety.
- u **Code and Policy Development** - To be responsive to changing fire safety issues and community fire safety.
- u **Public Education** - For the prevention of fires and to provide education on issues related to fire safety and related life-threatening topics.

Other highlights in 2000 were: u Both Senior Fire Inspector Rich Leak and Fire Marshal Paul E. Dawson retired after long successful careers. u Fire Inspector Lance D. Ryness was promoted to Senior Fire Inspector in July. u George Lucia was hired as a Fire Inspector to fill the gap created by Lance's promotion. (With Art Eckdahl and Bob Gmur we now have three Fire Inspectors). u A new position, Fire Prevention Specialist, was staffed by Micah Phelps. He will be managing the cities weed abatement program, the fire districts high hazard program, complaints and numerous other tasks. The new Fire Marshal will not be on board until early 2001.

It was a challenging year with the retirements and one Inspector being off on sick leave for over 2 months. The manpower shortage kept the on duty Inspectors very busy. There was an increase in plan reviews and fire investigations, that created a major impact on the workload.

We adjusted the flex days of the inspectors to better serve the department and community. This adjustment means that only one Inspector will be off on a flex day at a time.

Some of the Prevention Bureau statistics are listed below:

u Plans Reviewed 2000 885
 1999 717
 increase of 168 or 24%

u Fire Investigations 2000 76
 1999 51
 increase of 25 or 46%

u Complaints/Request for Service 2000 295
 1999 334
 decrease of 30 or 13%

FIRE INVESTIGATIONS IN 2000

Dollar

Loss

Accidental	54	1,241,000
Incendiary	14	16,200
Undetermined	08	12,050
TOTAL	76	1,269,250

INJURIES 2

DEATHS 2

Fire Investigations involving JUVENILES - 21 Incidents 27%

EMERGENCY INCIDENT SUMMARY

2000 STATISTICS

Category

Fires

Explosions

EMS / Rescue

Hazardous Conditions

Public Service Calls

Good Intent Calls

False Calls

Natural Disaster

Special Situation

Unclassified

Total

7657

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

FIREFIGHTER RICHARD TILCH - was named the Vista Fire Department's 2000 Firefighter of the Year. This is the second time in his Vista Fire Department career, he has been chosen for this award. The first time was five years ago in 1995.

An employee with the City of Vista for 10 years he joined the department in 1990. His assignment as of January 1, 2000 was as the Station 3 / A Shift - Engine 1213, Firefighter / EMT. Some of his duties include serving as the department Communications Specialist and Fire Extinguisher Officer.

Richard was Honorably Discharged from the United States Marine Corps in 1980. He was stationed at the Fallbrook Naval Weapons Station for four years in the Military Police Battalion. Upon discharge he worked for the Camp Pendleton Fire Department and Orange County Fire Department before coming to Vista.

Richard is very active as the department Public Education and Fire Safety representative, providing classes for businesses and schools. He especially enjoys working with children in fire safety classes.

His dedication to methodical equipment maintenance and the department Fire Safety / Public Education programs are unmatched. Mentoring newly hired firefighters is also an area in which he takes a lead role in. This is complemented by his caring and compassionate manner for patients he encounters. On a personal level Richard is known for his philosophy of always being willing to share information for the betterment of the department and the profession.

FIRE INCIDENT CHRONOLOGY

January - 2000

- 1-17-00 615 Cortez - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
2nd chimney fire in neighborhood \$35,000 damage letters sent
accidental
- 1-22-00 390 Pala Vista - Vegetation
Incendiary no details undetermined
- 1-23-00 600 Eucalyptus
Sunscreen fire incendiary \$200 damage at
city hall tennis courts
- 1-24-00 247 Bobier - Vegetation
Fire undetermined
- 1-26-00 E. Vista Wy & Evergreen - Vehicle
Accidental fuel system leak \$12,000
- 1-28-00 1737 W. Vista Wy - Vandalism / Arson
Vacant building \$ 5,000 juveniles trashed building
- 1-29-00 128 Bautista Ave - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Heater vent fire in wall \$ 12,000 no smoke detectors, accidental

February - 2000

- 2-3-00 960 Sheffield Dr. - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Dryer fire in garage \$ 2,250 smoke detector activated alerting occupants
damage
confined to garage accidental
- 2-7-00 220 W. Bobier Dr. - Vandalism / Arson
Play ground slide juveniles \$ 1,000 no suspects incendiary
- 2-10-00 0816 836 Olive Ave. - Vandalism / Arson
Juvenile set trash can on fire on a dare \$ 0.00 juvenile was
counseled
- 2-14-00 890 Brooktree # 236 - Accidental
Cooking fire accidental \$ 3,500 smoke detector alerted occupant

- 2-24-00 1663 Vale Terrace - Vehicle / Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Electric scooter in garage accidental \$ 5,000
- 2-27-00 223 Nevada St. #9 - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Bed fire juvenile playing with fire accidental \$5,000 smoke detector alerted occupants
- 2-29-00 1185 Beverly Dr. - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Heater vent in floor accidental \$ 75,000, smoke detector did not
activate had
problem with heater for over 1 year

March - 2000

- 3-9-00 435 W. Vista Wy.
Hood & dust activation from steam cleaning \$ 50
- 3-13-00 241 Weston Cir - Vandalism / Arson
2 juveniles playing with fire \$ 0.00 both juveniles were counseled
- 3-18-00 241 Weston Cir - Structure / Multi Family Dwelling / Accidental
Accidental light bulb wrapped with towel smoke detector
disconnected \$3,000
- 3-19-00 920 Sycamore Ave. - Structure / Multi Family Dwelling
Accidental fire in apartment, hot charcoals placed in trash can \$ 7,500,
1 sprinkler
head activated
- 3-24-00 2106 Warmlands Ave. - Structure
Undetermined trailer fire old construction trailer used for misc.
storage \$ 5,000

April - 2000

- 4-7-00 1344 Calera - Vegetation / Rubbish
Brush fire and couch in bushes incendiary \$ 0.00
- 4-7-00 320 Pomelo Dr. - Accidental
Burn to juvenile playing with electrical outlet minor injuries
- 4-8-00 1515 S. Melrose Dr.
Juveniles playing with fire set mattress juveniles were counseled \$
0.00
- 4-9-00 200 Olive Ave. # 33 - - Structure / Mobile Home
Juvenile playing with candle mobile home \$ 90,000
- 4-14-00 1380 Poinsettia Ave. - Vehicle
Careless use of smoking material semitrailer parked in
loading dock \$ 6,000
- 4-19-00 2860 E. Vista Wy - Structure / Single Family Dwelling

Structure fire mattress leaned against wall over
heater vent accidental \$ 40,000

4-24-00 1451 S. Santa Fe Ave. - Vegetation
Brush fire suspect juveniles incendiary \$0.00

May - 2000

5-2-00 508 Grapevine Rd. - - Structure / Rubbish
Trash can fire undetermined \$ 1,500

5-2-00 1905 Warmlands Ave. - Explosion
Exploded mailbox juveniles observed in area \$ 200 S.D.S.O.
following up

5-3-00 134 Santa Clara - Structure / Arson
Attempted arson of structure \$ 200

5-10-00 466 W. Los Angeles Dr. - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Juvenile's adventure with fire left unattended in bedroom smoke detectors \$43,000

5-19-00 1338 Calera St. - Vegetation
Brush suspect juveniles incendiary \$ 0

5-22-00 241 Avenida De La Plaza - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Cooking fire in home smoke detectors did not activate small fire accidental \$
1500

5-23-00 1303 Engineer St
Wood pile large dimension lumber \$ 3,600 incendiary

5-29-00 1661 W. Vista Wy - Structure / Arson
Attempted arson of vacant commercial building \$ 500

June - 2000

6-1-00 753 Melrose Pl. - Structure / Single Family Dwelling / Vehicle
Vehicle fire in garage 5150 running vehicle in garage until rear tires ignited \$
60,000

6-10-00 805 Earth Dr. - Structure / Single Family Dwelling - FIRE DEATH
House fire - 2 fatalities cause undetermined \$130,000

6-20-00 864 Shelsteve Terr. - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Grease fire on stove with injury smoke detector disconnected
accidental \$ 700

6-21-20 2910 Hutchison - Vegetation
Vegetation, juvenile with fireworks

6-30-00 348 Windy Ln. - Structure / Multi-
Family Dwelling
Building fire caused by plumber with
soldering torch \$ 44,000

July - 2000

- 7-07-00 630 Grapevine Rd. - Vegetation / Arson
Vegetation, juvenile w/ fireworks \$0.00
- 7-08-00 2112 E. Vista Wy - - Structure
Structure, undetermined \$2,000
- 7-09-00 1705 Eldred Ln. - Vegetation
Vegetation, undetermined \$0.00
- 7-18-00 212 Gannet - Vegetation
Vegetation, juvenile fire play \$0.00
- 7-19-00 700 E. Vista Wy - Vegetation
Vegetation, cooking fire accidental \$0.00

August - 2000

- 8-01-00 723 Eucalyptus - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Structure fire, \$1,200
- 8-12-00 Emma & Salem
Chip pile, \$0.00
- 8-12-00 186 Terrace St. - Vegetation
Bush fire, accidental \$0.00
- 8-16-00 1010 E. Bobier #63 - Structure / Single Family Dwelling / Mobile
Home
Accidental \$300
- 8-19-00 2022 Elevado - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Oven fire, accidental \$0.00
- 8-23-00 320 Grapevine - Vehicle
Vehicle, \$3,000 incendiary

September - 2000

- 9-06-00 300 W. Los Angeles Dr. - Vegetation
Vegetation, juvenile fire play \$0.00
- 9-06-00 460 W. California - Structure
Building fire, accidental \$100
- 9-27-00 2152 University - Vehicle
Vehicle fire, accidental \$2,800

October - 2000

- 10-03-00 955 Postal Wy - Vehicle
Vehicle fire, accidental \$ 3,500

- 10-05-00 663 Matagual Dr. - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Building fire, accidental \$ 110,000
- 10-10-00 1600 E.Vista #51 - Structure / Single Family Dwelling / Mobile Home
Mobile home, \$ 65,000 - This fire was accidental in nature and was the result of the ignition of paper waste material in the wicker basket by a smoldering cigarette.

November - 2000

- 11-02-00 Park Ctr. & Business Park - Vehicle
Bus fire, \$ 130,000 accidental
- 11-03-00 3250 Park Center Dr. - Commercial Structure
Commercial oven fire, accidental \$ 0.00
- 11-07-00 1176 Warmlands Ave. - Vegetation
Vegetation fire, accidental \$ 0.00
- 11-12-00 498 W Los Angeles Dr. - Vegetation
Vegetation / Shed fire incendiary \$ 500
- 11-20-00 2015 Buena Creek Rd. - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
\$ 110,000 accidental, combustibles too close electric heater / delayed alarm.
- 11-22-00 201 E. Washington St. - Structure
Incendiary – Structure fire \$5,000. Flammable liquid ignited on exterior.
- 11-24-00 1219 N. Santa Fe Ave. - Structure
Shed / Garage fire undetermined \$2,500
- 11-29-00 760 Mason Rd. - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Accidental garage fire \$35,000.
Homeowner left burning rope on shelf.
Roof collapsed into structure

December - 2000

- 12-2-00 819 Eucalyptus Ave - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Accidental structure fire -\$180,000. Combustibles stored too close to base of hot water in garage injury.
- 12-07-00 Avocado Dr. @ Kurenda Wy - Vegetation / Arson
100'x100' grass & vegetation fire. Juvenile fire play
- 12-09-00 1067 Shadowridge Dr. #33 - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Mop & Porch / Juvenile fire play. \$500 damage to outside trim.

- 12-10-00 1704 Sunrise Dr. - Structure / Single Family Dwelling / Vegetation
Outside siding, doghouse & vegetation. Hot embers & brands from
fireplace
flue. Accidental, \$500 damage.
- 12-12-00 943 Olive Ave. - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Bedroom Fire due to unattended candle and 3 year old juvenile. \$3,000
damage.
- 12-13-00 760 Lemon Ave - Vehicle
Auto / interior – smoldering cigarette accidental \$7,000 damage.
- 12-17-00 861 Soft Wind - Structure / Multi Family Dwelling
Building/Apartment – accidental pizza boxes on top of stove ignited,
sprinkler
activated and put fire out \$12,000 damage.
- 12-18-00 3419 Hollyberry - Structure / Single Family Dwelling
Structure fire (covered walkway), potting soil ignited in pot
spreading to wood
overhead. Undetermined cause of ignition, most likely a cigarette. \$1,050
damage.
- 12-21-00 225 Smilax Rd. - Structure / Multi Family Dwelling
Minor fire in light above electric stovetop. Accidental, \$200
damage.
- 12-23-00 1352 Clear Crest - Vegetation
Vegetation fire on isolated hillside. No eye witnesses or suspects. Incendiary.
- 12-27-00 2746 Ormsby Way - Rubbish
Illegal open burning of scrap wood and plastic.
No dollar loss.
- 12-28-00 906 Strawberry Hill Lane - Structure / Single
Family Dwelling
Juvenile Fire Play / Christmas tree in house.
Accidental, \$2,000 damages

STRIKE TEAM RESPONSES

6/14/00 - Mutual Aid Station Coverage - Brush Fire
31403 Old River Road - Fallbrook, California

E1213 - Captain Randy Pusey, Engineer Kelcey Sass and FF Richard Tilch
Provided move-up coverage for North County Fire Station 5 in Bonsall - during a
brush fire. Less than 30 minutes.

6/24/00 - Mutual Aid - Brush Fire
Lake Wolford Road & Valley Center Road - Valley Center, California

E1213 - Captain Jerry Ormond, Engineer Marty Parish and FF Tim Ballard

Provided mutual aid to California Department of Forestry (CDF) for structure protection strike team. Less than 2 hours.

6/24/00 - Mutual Aid - Brush Fire

Lake Wolford Road & Valley Center Road - Valley Center, California

E1212 - Captain Will Arcularius, Engineer Mike Easterling and FF/PM William Conover

Provided mutual aid to California Department of Forestry (CDF) for structure protection strike team. Approximately 1 hour.

6/30/00 - Mutual Aid - Brush Fire

Potero Valley Road - San Diego County

E1214 - Captain Jeff Hahn, Engineer Bob Stacey and FF/PM Jim Gelrud

Provided mutual aid to California Department of Forestry (CDF) for structure protection out of zone strike team. Approximately 13 hours.

7/27/00 - Mutual Aid - Brush Fire

Lake Morena - Morena Village, California

E1214 - Captain Roger Harris, Engineer Rich Wilkinson and FF/PM Chris Bowden

Provided mutual aid to California Department of Forestry (CDF) for structure protection strike team. Approximately 19 hours.

7/30/00 - Mutual Aid - Brush Fire

Highway 79 at Vail Lake Road

B1203 - Battalion Chief Randy Terich and Battalion Chief Jeff Berg

Relief Crew for 1203 - Battalion Chief Kent Norton and Captain Don Shellhammer

OES-261 - Captain Pat Murphy, Engineer Mike Easterling and FF/PM Mark Gray

Provided mutual aid to California Department of Forestry (CDF) for structure protection out of zone strike team. Approximately 5 days 8 hours.

7/30/00 - Mutual Aid - Brush Fire

Kernville Work Station - Rigecrest California

B1261 - Captain Rick Minnick, Engineer Dave Cox and FF/PM Diane Collier

Relief Crew - Captain Randy Pusey, Engineer Bob Gravlin and FF/PM Brian Mentzer

Provided mutual aid to California Department of Forestry (CDF) for out of zone wildland strike team. Approximately 13 days 6 hours.

8/4/00 - Mutual Aid - Brush Fire

Vail Lake - Pechanga Fire - Temecula, California

E1213 - Captain Randy Pusey, Engineer Kelcey Sass and FF Richard Tilch

Provided mutual aid to California Department of Forestry (CDF) for out of zone structure protection strike team. Approximately 2 days 8 hours.

8/27/00 - Mutual Aid - Brush Fire

Paltee Staging - Missoula, Montana

OES-261 - Captain Kevin Magoon, Engineer Rick Delaney and FF/PM Jeff Shelton

Provided mutual aid to United States forest Service (USFS) for out of zone structure protection strike team. Unit assigned to structure protection in Frenchtown, Montana for three days. Approximately 9 days 20 hours.

OES-261

Provided by the State of California Office of Emergency Services, this Type III Light Rescue, 1998 Freightliner, is stationed at Vista Fire Department Station 2. One hundred and twenty (120), OES fire engines are stationed with fire districts at strategic locations throughout the state and can be dispatched when needed.

On 8/27/00, Station 2/C (Kevin Magoon, Rick Delaney and Jeff Shelton) were dispatched on a OES strike team to Montana to help with the wildfires that were ravaging the state.

The crew left at 2:00 in the afternoon and spent the first night in Mesquite, Nevada. After two more days of travel the units reached Missoula, Montana and spent the night in one of the many fire camps that were operating in the region

The next morning the strike team was assigned Type I protection for the city of Frenchtown, Montana. The team stayed in the area for three more days and shared camp with U.S. Army troops and firefighters as far away as Tasmania (those little devils).

Our strike team spent the days taking in much of the local scenery planning for any potential conflagration that may have occurred. After the state was deluged by two days of rain, our "Team Green" was sent packing back to California.

On the return trip our unit was starting to lose power and we barely limped into Las Vegas, Nevada. (really, we didn't plan this). After a nights rest (sort of) the rest of our units headed home as we arranged repairs to the vehicle. We then returned home to Vista on the night of September 5th, a little road weary but glad to be back home.

The following article appeared in the North County Times, September 8, 2000;

Vista crew returns from Montana firefighting effort

JO MORELAND

Staff Writer

VISTA - A local fire crew that helped protect a town from the worst fire season in decades in Montana was back on the job Thursday at Fire Station No. 2.

Fire Capt. Kevin Magoon, fire engineer Rick Delaney and firefighter paramedic Jeff Shelton were among 11,000 firefighters from all over the world who drove or flew into the fire-ravaged state by late August to help fight more than two dozen blazes or protect communities from flames.

“The fires were so large that they couldn’t put them out,” Magoon said. “They used defensive measures. There were some fires that they didn’t even put people on, they just monitored them from the air.”

With 645,289 acres burned so far in Montana, almost 10,000 firefighters remained there Thursday, still trying to quell the largest blazes.

It was the biggest fire campaign of their careers for Magoon, Delaney and Shelton, who have 37 years of firefighting experience among them.

The Vista crew went as part of a state Office of Emergency Services Strike Team. Four other truck crews came from the San Diego, San Miguel, Cathedral City and Corona fire departments.

“We had an idea that it (fire problem) was pretty big, because it was the furthest that our OES unit had ever gone,” Magoon said. “It’s pretty rare to go out of state. We knew if they called us, it was pretty bad.”

The crew left Vista the afternoon of Aug. 27 to spend the next three days rolling along 1,400 miles of highway. They could see smoke from Montana when they hit Idaho, and it got worse as they rolled toward the firefighters’ staging area in Missoula.

“It looked like the worst smog day you’ve ever seen, times 100,” Shelton said. “You couldn’t see the mountains a mile away.”

Delaney said he was impressed by the sheer number of firefighters, some from as far away as Tasmania, Australia and New Zealand. The Vista firefighters were assigned to the Nine Mile Complex in the Lolo National Forest, 30 miles west of Missoula, sharing a camp with 500 firefighting soldiers from Fort Hood, Texas.

The San Diego County strike team was ordered to protect Frenchtown, a rural community in a valley surrounded by brush-covered hills. With the nearest fire about 2 1/2 miles away, the team roamed the town, learning from a local volunteer firefighter where the hazards would lie.

“They were afraid if fire got down in there, it would take out the town,” Magoon said. “The people in the area were appreciative. They were pretty worried. It was affecting their local economy. They were glad to see us.”

Although the strike team could see smoke all day they never got to fight any actual fire. However, the Southern California firefighters, armed only with sweat shirts, battled 50-degree temperature swings from the mid-80s during the day into the 30s at night..

“It got below freezing a couple of nights,” Magoon said. “We had cots and one sleeping bag. We went into town and bought tents and tarps. It was like a tent city there.”

The rains that finally brought relief on the fire lines began about Sept. 1. As it got colder and the mud got deeper in camp, the team enjoyed the generous three square meals a day that fueled each firefighter with 5,000 calories.

After two straight days of rain, the San Diego County strike team headed home Sunday. The Vista crew realized their fire truck was losing power on hills in Idaho and they left the truck in Las Vegas for computer repairs. They piled into a Suburban sports utility vehicle being driven by the fire chief from San Diego and arrived home Tuesday night.

“Good to see our families,” Magoon said. “That was the first thing on our minds up there. We’re not usually gone that long.”

The Associated Press contributed to this story. Reprinted with permission from Jo Moreland, North County Times. Contact Jo Moreland at (760) 901-4085 or e-mail moreland@nctimes.com.

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Special Assignments - are very important positions in an organization such

as the fire department. These positions allow daily, weekly, monthly and annual events or procedures to take place with regard to equipment and apparatus. Individuals usually volunteer for these positions or are chosen based on their background, expertise or rank.

The positions mentioned require extra effort without extra pay. They are essential to the daily operation of our department. Providing input into the testing, record keeping, budget and purchase of equipment.

House Captains

Coordinate activities among the three shifts at their assigned stations. This insures that necessary communications and action takes place regarding station maintenance, personnel movement, apparatus, training, supplies, budgeting, tours and public education.

Station 1	Rick Minnick	Station 2	Will Arcularius
Station 3	Jerry Ormond	Station 4	Pat Murphy

Training Officer

Jeff Berg

Under direction of the Training Officer, Training Assistants provide support on their respective shifts in development and production of training sessions, pre-fire plans and on-going testing and evaluation of proficiency.

Assistants

A Shift - Bob Gravlin, Les George

B Shift - Phil Johnson

C Shift - Bob Stacey

Safety Officer

Jeff Berg

Chairs the department Safety Committee, appoints other members and makes assignments. Committee reviews injury and non-injury accidents and makes recommendations based on findings. Prepares Safety Orders for review and signature of Fire Chief and provides safety educational programs and training.

Safety Committee

Members

Kent Norton, Randy Terich

Hazardous Materials Officer

Randy Pusey

Assists in implementation of required Hazardous Materials (HazMat) training at the company level. Coordinates with the Fire Prevention Bureau (FPB), for fixed site inventory maintenance in format usable in emergency field situations.

Paramedic Coordinator

Marilyn Anderson

Supervises the continuing paramedic training and maintains all related records. Maintains liaison between the fire department, the base station hospital and other emergency medical related facilities. Chairs the Paramedic Advisory Committee (PAC). Directs procurement of all department emergency medical service (EMS) supplies and equipment. Prepares annual paramedic and general EMS budgets. Assigns firefighter/paramedics special functions in support of the paramedic service.

Assistants:

EMSSupplies

PhilCarreon/MikeLemire

EMT Training

Joe Napier

PAC Committee

Sam Craig, Mark Gray and Joel Stangeland

Infection Control Officer

Marilyn Anderson

Recommends the type, number and purchase criteria for infection control materials and personnel protective equipment. Administrates the departments Infection Control Program, including policy recommendations, employee exposure evaluation and coordinates communication with other agencies post-exposure. Maintains records in accordance with the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Act.

Assistant:

Jon Blumeyer

Equipment Officer

Bob Gravlin

Assists with preparation of specification for the purchase of apparatus and equipment. Has general responsibility for preventative maintenance programs and related records. Reviews maintenance and repair work performed and submits annual budget in areas of preventative maintenance, major vehicle overhaul and/or remodeling, additional and replacement apparatus. Recommends training of personnel relating to use and care of equipment. Also, responsible for acceptance and outfitting of new apparatus.

Pump Testing Officer

Kelcey Sass

Annually in the month of February, all Type I fire apparatus are tested to assess pump, engine and transmission capability standards set forth from the N.F.P.A. Each test incorporates from a draft pumping three different evolutions, 100% capacity @ 150 psi, 70% capacity @ 200 psi and 50% capacity @ 250 psi. each for a specified amount of time. And also incorporating relief valve operations.

Breathing Apparatus Officer

Les George

Maintains status as "certified repairman" and makes all necessary repairs to breathing apparatus (BA) equipment. Maintains all records on department BA's and conducts annual tests and inspections ensuring that NFPA and OSHA standards are met.

Assistants

Jeff Hahn, Brian Mentzer, Kelcey Sass

Nozzles & Fittings

Scott Duncan

Maintains accurate records on all nozzles and fittings. Purchases, repairs and maintains all nozzles and fittings for the department.

Hose Officer

Mike Easterling

Responsible for complete record system on all department fire hose. Maintains hose records on each new, existing and surveyed section, including annual testing results and repairs. Ensures that each section is reversed and tested annually. Prepares hose budget and with approval purchases all fire hose, following the bid process. Makes all repairs to fire hose and maintains related supplies.

Extinguisher Officer

Richard Tilch

Oversees required servicing of fire department portable extinguishers. Maintains records of repairs and required hydrostatic testing. Recommends purchase of extinguishers appropriate for specific applications. Coordinates training of personnel in proper use and maintenance.

Hydrant Officer

Mark Standifird

Maintains master hydrant file including records on all hydrants within the jurisdiction. Updates maps and records as new infrastructure is added. Forwards hydrant information to the cartographer and engine companies affected.

Ladder Officer

Tim Ballard

Maintains accurate detailed records on all ladders, receives reports on damaged ladders and tracks repairs. Administers annual inspection of ladder condition and testing per NFPA Standards and prepares annual budget for maintenance and replacement.

Small Engine Repair

Jeff Hahn

Performs routine / annual maintenance and repairs on all small engines. Maintains repair records, parts lists and inventory. Provides training for suppression personnel in proper use and maintenance.

Assistant

Phil Johnson, Marty Parish

Cartographer

Joe Napier

Maintains emergency response maps, verifies accuracy and is the liaison between contract mapping resource. Coordinates updating by using parcel division, address changes and assignments, hydrants and site plans.

Radiological Defense Officer

Bob Hill

Responsible for routine tests and inspections, updating procedures and technological data. Implements appropriate Federal, State and local procedures and maintenance needs. Conducts drills and exercises, maintains instruments and participates in scheduled radiological training. Maintains a plan for communications procedures, evaluates and disseminates RADEF intelligence.

Supply Officer

Kevin Magoon

Receives requests for supplies for each station, maintains a complete record of all supplies and conducts annual inventory assessment for usage projections. Maintains consumable supplies, submits annual supply budget. Follows City purchasing procedures in acquisition of supplies.

Personal Protective Equipment Officer

Jim Gelrud

Personal Protective Equipment, PPE - Firefighter/Paramedic Jim Gelrud took the position of Personal Protective Equipment Officer. This new position is in charge of research and development of new types of PPE ensembles that are required by state and federal regulations. Recommendations on changes and advances in types, makes and uses for personal protective equipment will come from this position.

Department Historian

Jim Wold

Collects information, news articles and photographs of department related activities. Maintains a library of scrapbooks for posterity.

Department Photographer

Phil Johnson

Department Videographer

Don Shellhammer

Takes photographs in film or digital formats and video tape, documenting departmental activities for training purposes and in support of fire investigation teams when necessary.

Communications Specialist

Richard Tilch

This is a new position established this year. Duties of the position include: maintaining radio inventories, upgrading radio capabilities, specifying new purchases, reviewing procedures and providing training.

- u Auto Extrication
- u Rappelling & Rope Rescue
- u Fire Extinguisher Demonstrations
- u Apparatus Displays
- u Earthquake Awareness
- u Fire Safety
- u Traffic Safety
- u 911 Utilization

MILLENNIUM BADGE

It appeared early on that with the predictions for a local, national or international crises to develop, had some potential. It was an unusual situation to say the least, leading up to and through this new 'Millennium'.

In the later part of 1999 a suggestion was received by Firefighter/Paramedic William K. Conover that a 'keepsake' be approved for every firefighter who wanted one. Something to commemorate the new year. A different badge that each firefighter could wear for the year of 2000.

With the help of Entenmann Rovin Company, the company that makes our badges, a special badge was designed. Each one was purchased by each individual and worn during 2000. After 2000, the Fire Chief has approved the wearing of this badge ceremonially with the Class 'A' uniform.

F i r e f i g h t e r s a n d p o l i c e
o f f i c e r s f r o m o t h e r
j u r i s d i c t i o n s h a d p o s i t i v e
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