

AMERICAN CANYON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



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CHIEF'S REPORT

By Glen E. Weeks

In the month of May 2009, the Fire District and the IAFF Local 1186 commenced labor negotiations which are now well underway. We look forward to a positive process focused on sustainability, fiscal responsibility and high ethical standards.

Once again the summer wildland fire season seems to have begun early with the Jesusita Incident. Our focus with training this month has been having all personnel complete their annual wildland fire safety refresher training in preparation for what we expect to be another long, busy season.

On May 31st we held our first annual Guns and Hoses – Police vs. Fire softball game and picnic at the beautiful American Canyon Shenandoah Park. The food was delicious; the turnout was terrific and all seemed to really enjoy the event - even though we (Fire) lost again. The final score was Guns – 23 Hoses – 14. The most valuable player for the Police Department was Assistant Fire Chief John Fitch, who's pitching walked home 4 runs for the Guns in the first inning!

Thank you Chairman Garcia and Board-member Coffey for coming out to join us!



Fire Crews on scene at the Fire on Melvin Road

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Notable Calls

On May 27, American Canyon Fire Units along with the balance of a first alarm assignment (Vallejo Engine 25, Truck 21, Battalion 21 and Cal Fire Engine 27) were dispatched to a reported structure Fire on Melvin Road. Upon arrival, dark grey smoke was visible and pushing from the attic vents from the two story single family dwelling. Engine 11 established a water supply from across the street as Captain 11 evaluated the house. Fire and smoke were exiting the upstairs back door and what appeared to be a utility room window. Neighbors and police officers at the rear of the house stated that a teenager could possibly be upstairs. Chief 1101 arrived on scene and the Engine 11 crew made entry with the thermal imager camera and fire attack line, knocked down the fire in the wash room and then did a search of the second floor. Engine 25 from Vallejo arrived on scene and was assigned to a primary search of the first floor. Engine 27 was assigned to vertical ventilation. Vallejo Truck 21 was asked to do a secondary search (back up search) of the entire structure. All searches were clear. Once the fire was completely extinguished, Vallejo Units were released and an investigation as to cause and origin began. The cause was determined to be an overloaded electrical multi-plug adaptor. Fortunately, no one was injured in this incident.

2009 Swiftwater Rescue Training

Since the inception of the Napa County Interagency Rescue Team (NIRT), which consists of Napa City Fire, Napa County/Cal Fire, St.Helena Fire and American Canyon Fire; team members have participated in a Swiftwater Rescue Training event each year. In order to maintain rescue skills in a moving water environment, it is necessary for team members to travel to a site such as the American River at Coloma where we have access to Class II rapids. This year over 3000 cubic feet per second was flowing making the training challenging and realistic.



Swiftwater Rescue Training - American River, Coloma

Jesusita Fire

On May 6, 2009 Captain Bryant was one of 1857 personnel requested to help control the Jesusita Fire in Santa Barbara County. Captain Bryant spent 9 days assisting Incident Command Team 4 as a GIS Specialist, updating maps of the fire's location and damage caused by the fire. By the end of the fire 8,733 acres of land had burned, 80 homes were destroyed, 15 homes were damaged, and 30 firefighters were injured. It is very unusual to have a fire of this intensity this early in the year, and is a good example of the fire danger caused by three years of drought in California.



Jesusita Fire

Explorer Training

Explorer training during the month of May consisted of wild land fire safety and fire shelter deployment. In this picture, our explorers were practicing fire shelter deployment. Fire shelters are a last resort line of defense during extreme fire conditions. Understanding how and when to deploy a fire shelter can be life saving and is absolutely crucial in the basic training of wild land firefighters.



Explorer Fire Safety Training

ACFD MONTHLY REPORT

For

5/1/2009 to 6/1/2009

FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

Inspections and Plan Checks	Hours this Month	Year to Date Hours	Monthly Total	Year to Date Total
Check Plans and Specifications (Review)	8	62	5	53
Fire Prevention Re-Inspection	12	91	9	54
Initial Fire Prevention Inspection	37	312	11	116
Inspect & Evaluate Commercial Sprinkler Systems	3	59	2	31
Inspect & Evaluate Residential Sprinkler Systems	8	67	7	73

Note: Total equals number if inspections and plans reviewed

FIRE INCIDENTS (ALL FIRE INCIDENT YTD TOTALS ARE BY CALENDER YEAR DUE TO NFIRS REPORTING)

Total Number of calls for month		97	Total number of calls Year to Date		566						
Fire											
Structure	2	Vegetation	1	Other Fire	1	Total Fire Calls YTD	23				
EMS		Calls for month	62	Total EMS YTD		383					
Other Misc Calls		Calls for month	31	Total Misc Calls YTD		160					
Mutual Aid and Auto Aid											
<i>Napa County</i>				<i>City of Vallejo</i>				<i>Total of All Jurisdictions</i>			
Given	8	YTD	36	Given	3	YTD	11	Given	11	YTD	47
Received	13	YTD	46	Received	4	YTD	15	Received	17	YTD	61

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Events and Activities	Hours this Month	Year to Date Hours	Monthly Total	Year to Date Total
Approved Work Detail	32	295		6
Community / Govt. Relations	14	70.55	1	1
Demonstrate & Explain Fire and Life Safety Procedure	6	70.5		
Develop Fire Prevention Programs	3	19.5		
Fire Explorer Program	8	129		13
Fire Extinguisher Training	4	74.75	15	251
Fire Station Tour	6	43.5	32	386
Make Public Appearances	60	183.75	10	70

NIHIT Participation (Reserve Only)	2.5	36.5	
Other Public Education Detail	18.5	33.5	1

Note: Total equals number of students or participants

TRAINING

Career Training Hours this Month	Career Training Hours Year to Date	Reserve Training Hours this Month	Reserve Training Hours Year to Date
345.25	4420.62	176.25	1941.7

ADMINISTRATION

Administrative Meetings	Hours this Month	Year to Date Hours	Monthly Total	Year to Date Total
ACFD Staff Meeting	19.5	189	2	18
Board of Directors Meeting	8	114	3	25
County Chiefs Meeting	3	54	1	13
EMS Meeting	3	7	2	5
Labor Management Meeting	4	50.5	1	9
Labor Negotiations Meeting	35	45	3	7
Management Team Meeting	3.25	49.25	3	24
Other Meetings	21	289.5	9	108
PRC Meeting	5	8	2	4
Training Officers Meeting	5	79	1	13
US&R Business/Planning Meeting	4.5	43.5	1	2

Note: Total equals the number of meetings

Meeting Details

Hours

ACFD Staff Meeting		
5/11/09	Company Officer Meeting	2.5
5/12/09	Quarterly Department Safety Meeting	1
Board of Directors Meeting		
5/5/09	Open and Closed Session	3
5/13/09	Finance Committee Meeting	2
5/19/09	Open and Closed Session	3
County Chiefs Meeting		
5/27/09	County Chief's Meeting Calistoga	3

EMS Meeting		
5/19/09	NVC EMS Program Advisory Committee Meeting	1
5/20/09	Quarterly EMCC Meeting	2
Labor Management Meeting		
5/4/09	Meeting with Bruce and Glen re Labor Negotiations	2
Labor Negotiations Meeting		
5/8/09	Labor Negotiations	2
5/15/09	Labor Negotiations	3
5/29/09	Labor Negotiations	3
Management Team Meeting		
5/6/09	Weekly Managers	2
5/13/09	Weekly Managers	1
5/20/09	Weekly Managers	0.25
Other Meetings		
5/1/09	Assist with NVC Paramedic Student Interviews	4
5/1/09	Meeting with Chief	1
5/1/09	Meet with Zoll Rep.	3
5/13/09	City Leadership Team Meeting	2
5/15/09	Meet with BC Parkes re: 2009 Strike Team Assignments	1
5/18/09	Morning Shift Meeting	0.5
5/21/09	Meet with CM	1
5/21/09	Meet with District Treasurer - Budget	1
5/29/09	Morning Shift Meeting	0.5
PRC Meeting		
5/6/09	PRC Meeting regarding new Casino	2
5/6/09	Meet with Planners and Engineers regarding New Casino	3
Training Officers Meeting		
5/12/09	Napa County Training Officer and NIRT Meeting	2.5
US&R Business/Planning Meeting		
5/12/09	Annual Swiftwater Rescue Training Prep	1.5
Total Hours:		53.75

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Project	Hours this Month	Year to Date Hours
Database applications	6	118.75
Fire Station Maintenance - Cleaning	38	452.25

GIS applications	1	9.5
Grant Writing	8	10.5
Inspect and Maintain Aerial Apparatus	19.5	89
Inspect and Maintain Fire Apparatus	83.25	1088.75
Napa County CERT	4.5	56.25
Vehicle and/or apparatus repair	1.5	32.5

Note: Year to Date Totals are for Fiscal year 08/09. Except Fire Incidents which are reported by calender year as per State and Federal Incident reporting requirements.