

# AMERICAN CANYON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



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## CHIEF'S REPORT

By Glen E. Weeks

The wildland "fire season" hit full force in the month of August stretching fire resources from all throughout the state thin. Agencies in the Napa Operational area and throughout Cal EMA Region 2 can be proud of their contributions of resources to assist with fire suppression efforts statewide.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to the families of the two fallen, Captain Ted Hall and Firefighter Arnie Quinones from Los Angeles County Fire Department.



## NOTABLE CALLS

### Shasta-Trinity Lightning Complex

On August 3, 2009, a Napa Op Area Strike Team was called to assist in the "Shasta Lightning Complex" Fire. The fires began on August 1st in the Burney Area of Shasta County. Engine 411 with a crew of 4 assisted in patrol, control and mop up operations. Total acres burned were 17,623. The cause of this fire was due to lightning. Twenty-two injuries occurred, 53 engines were called to respond, 27 fire crews for a total of 826 personnel. After being re-assigned to the Yuba Fire, Engine 411 returned to quarters on August 19<sup>th</sup>.

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### Airplane Crash

On August 5<sup>th</sup> Engine 11 and Chief 1100 responded to an airplane crash in the hills above Watson Lane. Engine 11 was first on scene and found wreckage from a small aircraft and an approximately two acre grass fire. Upon arrival, Incident command was established and the crew extinguished the wreckage and checked for victims. Napa County Engines 25, 27 and 1470 and Battalion 1421 arrived on scene to assist.

### Yuba Fire Incident

The Yuba Fire began on August 14 at 12:28 p.m. A total of 3,891 acres burned and 2 residences were destroyed. On August 16<sup>th</sup>, E411 was re-assigned from SHU Lightening to this incident. Engine 411 assisted in hose lay and overhaul operations. E411 finally returned on August 19<sup>th</sup>.



*Station Fire, Angeles National Forest*

## Notable Calls (continued)

### Cal Star Air Transport

On August 23<sup>rd</sup> Engine 11 responded to a medical aid call. The patient was thrown from a horse. The crews from Engine 11 and Piners began patient care including patient assessment, and C-spine immobilization. The crews packaged the patient for transport via Calstar air ambulance. Calstar transported the patient to Santa Rosa Memorial.

### US&R Team Annual Trench Rescue Drill

On August 20, 2009, members of the American Canyon Fire Protection District held their annual Trench Rescue drill at Wetlands Edge Road and Eucalyptus Drive. The drill was set up as a scenario where a victim needs to be rescued from a trench. Rescue members attempt to run the drill as a real incident using a rescue manikin into a trench, simulating the actual rescue.

There are specific steps that must be followed during a rescue of this nature. Most important is operating safely for the rescue members and the victim. Crews set up their gear around the trench and begin monitoring the air in the trench to ensure it is safe for rescue members to enter. The next step is to attempt to locate the victim. Once the victim is located, rescue members will enter the trench after ensuring it is structurally safe to prevent further collapse. This is called 'shoring.' Once the shoring is in place they can begin to enter the trench and dig the victim out for extrication.

Thank you to Captain Bryant and Reserve Firefighter Jarvi for setting up the drill and making it a success. Also thank you to E27 and T12 from Cal Fire/ Napa County Fire for participating.



## Smoke Detector Program Statistics for August

Senior citizen residential smoke detector assistance for August 2009:

- 23 appointments scheduled
- 15 new smoke detectors installed
- Replaced batteries in 7 smoke detectors

## Weed Abatement Program

Each year beginning in June we commence our weed abatement program in preparation for the dry season.

One of our firefighters, Frank Wells, contributes the majority of the work administering the program under the direction of the Fire Marshal and as per Ordinance 2008-01. Firefighter Wells maintains a database of properties that require maintenance each year to reduce the potential fire hazard created by dry fuels. At the beginning of the dry season, we mail a reminder to each property to abate dry fuels by the date specified in the ordinance.

We conduct follow up inspections after the given date and properties not abated after the first date are given a notice to comply with a second deadline. After the second specified date, properties not in compliance receive a final notice. Compliance has improved this year and the abatement program has worked well even though this year has been a challenge due to the late rains causing second growth.

It is important for all property owners to be aware of the devastating effects that a wild-land fire can have in the wildland-urban interface. The 49 fire that occurred in Auburn, Ca. this month, where a fire swept through a residential area destroying 60 homes within a few hours was a tragic example.

## Announcements

Please join us at the Public Safety Facility on 9/11 at 3:00 p.m. for a remembrance ceremony that will last approximately one hour.

The Public Safety Facility will host an Open House on October 17, starting at 10:00 A.M.

# ACFD MONTHLY REPORT

For

8/1/2009 to 9/1/2009

## 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)	5	65	4	54
Initial Fire Prevention Inspection	31	324	12	124
Inspect & Evaluate Commercial Sprinkler Systems	2	62	1	33
Inspect & Evaluate Residential Sprinkler Systems	6	67	8	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		107	Total number of calls Year to Date		913						
<b>Fire</b>											
Structure	0	Vegetation	9	Other Fire	5	Total Fire Calls YTD	58				
EMS		Calls for month	71	Total EMS YTD		619					
Other Misc Calls		Calls for month	22	Total Misc Calls YTD		236					
<b>Mutual Aid and Auto Aid</b>											
<i>Napa County</i>			<i>City of Vallejo</i>			<i>Total of All Jurisdictions</i>					
Given	7	YTD	68	Given	5	YTD	27	Given	13	YTD	99
Received	4	YTD	64	Received	2	YTD	21	Received	4	YTD	84

## PUBLIC EDUCATION

Events and Activities	Hours this Month	Year to Date Hours	Monthly Total	Year to Date Total
Approved Work Detail	25.75	328.7		6
Community / Govt. Relations	7	72.55		1
Fire Explorer Program	4	129		13
Fire Extinguisher Training	4	74.75	23	251
Fire Station Tour	20.5	49.5	22	626
Other Public Education Detail	1	33.5	1	1
Santa's Sleigh	1.25	235.5		
Toys for Tots Program	1	74.75		

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
286	4796.37	85.5	2104.95

## ADMINISTRATION

Adminstrative Meetings	Hours this Month	Year to Date Hours	Monthly Total	Year to Date Total
ACFD Staff Meeting	15	205.25	1	22
Board of Directors Meeting	6	117	2	26
County Chiefs Meeting	3	57	1	14
EMS Meeting	4	11	2	8
Labor Negotiations Meeting	35	85	2	10
Management Team Meeting	6	53.75	2	26
Other Meetings	11	316	7	120
PRC Meeting	1	9	1	5
Training Officers Meeting	2	81	1	14

**Note: Total equals the number of meetings**

### Meeting Details

### Hours

ACFD Staff Meeting			
8/10/09	Company Officer meeting		3
Board of Directors Meeting			
8/4/09	Open and closed session		3
8/18/09	Open and Closed Session		3
County Chiefs Meeting			
8/20/09	Napa County Chiefs Meeting		3
EMS Meeting			
8/19/09	Emergency Medical Care Committee Meeting		1
8/21/09	Meet with Chiefs Peterson & Michelini		3
Labor Negotiations Meeting			
8/3/09	Labor Negotiations		3
8/12/09	Labor Negotiations		5
Management Team Meeting			
8/19/09	Weekly Managers		3
8/26/09	Weekly Managers		3

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**Other Meetings**

8/14/09	Meet with Finance Director	1
8/19/09	Region 2 Conference Call	0.5
8/25/09	Napa/Solano Ops Chief Meeting	3
8/25/09	Finance Committee Meeting	2
8/27/09	Meet with Chief Sherman - Vallejo	2
8/27/09	Meet with CM	1
8/31/09	Continuity team	1.5

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**PRC Meeting**

8/18/09	Meeting to Discuss AMCAN Water Tank	1
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**Training Officers Meeting**

8/11/09	Napa County Training Officers	2
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**WARN User Group**

8/19/09	Warn User Group Meeting	1
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**Total Hours: 45**

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Hours this Month</b>	<b>Year to Date Hours</b>
Database applications	7.5	124.75
Fire Station Maintenance - Facility Repair	14	91
Fire Station Maintenance - Cleaning	36	509.25
GIS applications	1.5	9.5
Inspect and Maintain Fire Apparatus	77.75	1161.75
Inspect Test and Maintain Power Tools	10	11
Napa County CERT	2	57.25
Test Hose & Couplings	28	111.5
Vehicle and/or apparatus repair	10	42.5
Web Publishing and Management	1	10

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