



# Glendale Fire and Rescue News

December 2002

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### **Our Mission:**

*To prevent or reduce the loss of life and the destruction of property and the environment from fire, medical, hazardous materials and other emergency occurrences.*

## CHIEF'S NOTES

As we approach the new year, please accept my heartfelt thanks for your efforts in helping each other as well as thousands of people from Glendale and many surrounding communities. All of them were fortunate to receive the benefit of your outstanding service.

We certainly experienced an eventful year in 2002 and made a strong effort to capture the people, time and place through our "Glendale Fire and Rescue News," our website and just good old face to face communication. After many gains and a few losses I'm confident we are closer, better prepared and more capable of serving those that need our help and count on us every day.

Our annual inspection certainly revealed a department in very good shape. The greatest impact, however, appeared to be the attitude and interest level of each of you...members of the GFD...boy did that show.

Our recent fire on La Crescenta which was managed and fought very well and the house fire in Northridge where LAFD firefighters were shot are once again reminders of the dangers of our job. Many buildings and situations work against our efforts to succeed. Safety first, and please continue to take the time and effort for care and assistance of each other.

As Christmas draws near, we are proud of your special visits to several needy families where the call for assistance did not originate with 911. This is a time for hope and helping others which we do so well each and every day. We certainly have much to be thankful for...have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.



**CGray, GFD: "We Help People"**



## Some of the Action and Events of 2002...

- We responded to almost 14,000 incidents, slightly fewer than last year.
- Don Biggs was appointed Assistant Fire Chief, Bob Doyle became a Battalion Chief, and 16 new personnel were recruited (12 sworn and 4 civilian staff). Additional promotions: eight to Engineer, five to Captain, a Fire Communications Shift Supervisor, an Administrative Analyst, and a Senior Fire Environmental Specialist.
- “Glendale Fire and Rescue News,” our monthly online newsletter, was introduced in February.
- Two new paramedics graduated from the Paramedic Training Institute.
- The City Council authorized us to return to the red fire apparatus color. The first vehicle purchased was Battalion 2, a red suburban. We have also received approval for three RA’s and a new engine and truck.
- We adopted a list of core values and a vision statement to complement the mission statement we live by.
- The Safe Place project, a community-supported outreach program that provides fast help to kids facing difficult situations, was introduced in Glendale. All Glendale Fire Stations now display the Safe Place logo.
- Significant progress was made in developing our Metropolitan Medical Response System, which will provide a coordinated response from a variety of agencies in the event of a mass casualty incident.
- The May 11 Fire Service Day had a better turnout than ever before.
- Public Information Officer duty, which has historically been one of the Fire Marshal’s responsibilities, was delegated to a Fire Captain on a full-time basis.
- A new employee lounge was created on the first floor of Fire Station 21.
- Fifteen students graduated from the Explorer Program in June.
- We initiated a resource allocation study on fire station locations.
- We received Community Service and Patriot of the Year Awards from the Glendale Chamber of Commerce.
- The Children’s Burn Foundation donated a life-sized, interactive, educational tool, the Fire Safety House, to the cities of Glendale, Burbank and Pasadena.
- The City of Glendale and the GFFA reached agreement on a new four-year contract.
- The City of Glendale and NestleUSA participated in a high-rise Weapons of Mass Destruction exercise.
- Sept. 9-12, the Mountain Incident brush fire burned 752 acres and 76 fire, law enforcement and support agencies assisted. Rehabilitation and mitigation efforts are in progress.
- A retrofit of the Verdugo Towers was completed and fire sprinklers were installed after nearly 13 years of effort.
- A grant totaling \$28,700 was received from FEMA for producing public education videos in English and Armenian that describe the appropriate use of the emergency 9-1-1 system and the benefits of considering firefighting as a career.
- About 26 off-duty GFD personnel traveled to New York City for Sept. 11 remembrance activities and others attended the National Firefighters Memorial in Washington, D.C.
- Our Fire Stations were opened for Trick-or-Treaters on Halloween and we had hundreds of visitors.
- Third-alarm structure fires occurred at the Drilube Corporation on W. Broadway and at 3800 Honolulu.
- A pilot program was begun where Glendale, Burbank and Pasadena RA’s respond to each other’s jurisdictions when all of the city’s own RA’s are involved on other incidents.
- TeleStaff, an automated staffing and scheduling system, was purchased, installed, programmed and tested, and training of personnel is nearing completion.
- Zoll defibrillators were upgraded from monophasic to biphasic models and Oxylators (automatic ventilation devices) were installed in each RA.
- The Whiting Woods Firewise Project was awarded full status as a Firewise Community/USA – one of only 12 such communities in the nation.
- GFD Fire Stations were designated as Safe Haven Sites where newborns may be surrendered under the state’s 72-hour Safe Haven Law.
- There was an unprecedented number of local and regional responses to brush fires and strike team activity.
- Our personnel participated in a wide variety of community service projects and events throughout the year.

### 2002 ANNUAL INSPECTION

Annual inspection of all GFD facilities and personnel occurred December 3-5. Below are photos of some of the personnel. More photos may be found on our web site (<http://fire.ci.glendale.ca.us>) in the "Log In" section.



ANNUAL INSPECTION (cont.)



## DISPOSABLE CAMERAS

We in the Public Information Office are constantly trying to capture moments that portray the day to day activities of our members. We stay up to date on operational activities and public education requests, but quite frankly cannot be everywhere all the time.

We are issuing disposable cameras to all companies in an attempt to catch those times we cannot be present. We can all imagine how some of our members' creativity may take such a suggestion to extremes, and to that we say, BRING IT ON!

Have fun with it. Take candid shots of personnel conducting regular activities. Of course, at times you will be in the right place at the right time for those priceless moments.

When the camera is full, send it in to the PIO and we will have the camera replaced, developed, and if requested, send you copies.

Thanks for the help.

– Tom Marchant

## GFD PHOTO ARCHIVE

As more and more of us discover the joys and convenience of digital cameras, we are beginning to see a side-effect of this new technology in our email system. Several times recently when one person on the Fire distribution list has sent an email with an attachment containing numerous photos, it has resulted in a "traffic jam" on the Fire server and caused freezes and other headaches. To avoid this type of problem in the future, Chief Creasey and Masys have come up with a system for sharing photos with your Fire buddies.

A new folder has been created on the Fire server for archiving and sharing photos. It's called **GFD Shared Pictures**, and when you log in, most of you will see there's a new shortcut to this folder on your desktop. From now on, whenever you have pictures you'd like to share with others, open the new shortcut, select **File—New — Folder** to create a folder for your pictures, and then name the folder as precisely as possible, like "Annual Inspection-B Platoon" or "Fire Service Day 5-11-02." Then copy and paste your pictures into the folder. If possible, it's also helpful if you can give each photo a name that indicates its contents, like "BCs At Graduation" or "MountainFire1," "MountainFire2," etc.

Having the date as part of either the folder name or the photos' names will help us distinguish between events that occur every year.

Once you've saved your photos in the GFD Shared Pictures folder, you can send out an email with the name of the folder you created for the pictures you added...no need to send pictures through email anymore. Then people can view or copy pictures from the shared folder. It's still okay to email one or two pictures to a few designated people, like sharing a picture of your new son with the guys in your company, but sending many pictures or large files to the whole Fire list is what has been causing problems with the email system.

A word of caution: Be careful not to delete anyone else's pictures from the shared folder. At this point we all have the same level of access to this folder, so if you're copying pictures from this folder for your own uses, be careful to Copy and Paste; don't Cut and Paste them.

We also plan to have a "Logos" file in this folder where you can find some of the graphics we use frequently, like the picture of a red engine with the GFD patch. We're in the process of setting this up now.

One other important note: *Always, without fail*, log on under your own name when you sit down at the computer and then log off when you're finished. This is for your own protection so you don't open yourself to security issues, especially with the new TeleStaff program.

Please direct any questions about this new policy to Masys Garapetian at x6492.

## SPARK OF LOVE TOY COLLECTION

The Spark of Love Toy Drive provides toys to needy children, focusing on those in acute need who would otherwise go without any gift during the holidays. Spark of Love works in concert with other charitable programs to fulfill the dreams of Southern California's children in need. All requests for toy donations within the city of Glendale are screened by Catholic Charities.

About 1,000 toys had been collected by mid-December, somewhat fewer than in previous years.



### FROM THE TRAINING SECTION

#### Safety

One of the key issues with significant fires continues to be the extended products of combustion. This department learned many years ago, at great expense to several of its members, the importance of using Breathing Apparatus even during overhaul on fires in structures. Even when you think the fire is out, some of the gases are still hanging around and they still have the potential to cause great harm. We were very pleased with the conscientious use of BA's on the Drilube fire particularly, but also on everything we have anymore. It's important that the lesson of Western Monofilament not be forgotten. If you don't know about that fire, ask someone who does.

#### Emergency Services

As you might not be aware, Captain Ron Gulli will be reassigned to A Shift starting in mid-January and Captain Greg Fish will be taking over as the City's Emergency Services Coordinator. Captain Gulli has served this stint of the assignment since September and has been involved with the WMD training for the City since 9-11.

Captain Fish will be taking over and working out of the Training Section and the EOC. He will have a large workload and we have every confidence that he will do well in this project. The rearrangement of this position provides it with a staff through the Training Section, and when a new Battalion Chief is appointed to Training, there will be some better direction for the program as well. Captain Gulli will remain involved in the WMD side of the program as needed.

#### CFFJAC

The CFFJAC Committee will be meeting soon for its annual meeting. If you have any suggestions, please



Please submit articles, photos, etc. for the January issue of "Glendale Fire and Rescue News" to Mike Matlock by January 20.



contact the Training Section or a member of the committee.

#### Training Calendar - Reminders

January will see the startup of the new year's EMT program. Glendale will begin to assist Burbank in the training classes instruction in the next year. The EMS Section will be coordinating.

#### Explorers

Starting off, we would like to remind everyone that the graduation ceremony for the present Explorer Academy will be on Saturday, January 11. Everyone is invited to join us in the celebration of the accomplishments of this latest group of young people.

Also, on Saturday, December 14, three of our recent Explorers graduated from the Rio Hondo Fire Academy, having completed the 720 hour program starting in August. It was a very intensive program and all three did well in a graduating class of 45 excited young people. The graduates were Sean Hamilton, Jose Romero, and James Klotzle. On an additional level, James was awarded the Stephen J. Masto award for the outstanding student in the class, accomplishing both the highest score in academics and in physical fitness for the academy. The award was named after the Santa Barbara EMT firefighter who passed away on a brush fire a few years ago. Stephen was the cousin of our recently hired (and newly established veteran) Firefighter Mark Masto.

We have several of our Explorers in both the Mt.



Glendale Fire Explorer James Klotzle receives the Stephen Masto Award for most outstanding student from Santa Fe Springs Chief Neil Welland as Stephen Masto's mother Adelle looks on.

SAC Academy and the Glendale/Arroyo Seco program. It is department practice that we will sponsor our Explorers in these academies once they graduate from our Explorer Academy by providing them with serviceable safety gear. This helps them get in and saves them a lot of money in the requirement that they purchase this gear. Ordinarily we do not sponsor anyone else in these academies, however, we do consider additional requests on an individual basis.

### Examinations

We are planning to have an Engineer examination in the first months of 2003.

The bulletin for Battalion Chief has been approved by Civil Service and has been posted in Personnel. The filing period will close on January 10, 2003.

No updates on the Firefighter examination process.

### Accidents

There have been minor accidents and one significant accident involving one of our utility cars. The final reports on this accident have yet to be evaluated, but please be reminded to drive safely at all times. We have all seen the results of accidents, and whether we're at fault or not, the pain is the same.

### Training/Safety Committee

The Training/Safety Committee meeting for December has been cancelled. The next meeting will be on January 16, 2003.

## Be Safe Out There!

—Assistant Chief Don Biggs

## CHRISTMAS TREE SAFETY

The year-end holiday season is also fire season – a prime time for residential fires. Decorative lights, candles, interior heating and Christmas trees all increase the likelihood of a fire. Keep these reminders handy to keep your Christmas tree fire-safe.

- ☛ Choose a fresh-cut Christmas tree; buy a tree that's not shedding its needles. If the tree you currently own appears dry, throw it away and get a moist one.
- ☛ Remove the tree promptly if it becomes dry; store it well away from your home until you can dispose of it properly.

- ☛ Cut the trunk at an angle and install the tree in a large, deep, non-tip stand well away from fireplaces, exits, and heat sources.

- ☛ Be sure the tree has a constant supply of water; check the level daily. The heat and low humidity from indoor use can cause a tree to become dry rapidly.

- ☛ Only use holiday lights that bear the label of an independent testing laboratory. Unplug all decorative lights before leaving the house or going to bed. Do not place candles on or near Christmas trees.

- ☛ If the tree will be located in a place of business, be sure it has been treated with a flame-retardant chemical. If you use an artificial Christmas tree, be sure it's flame-retardant.

- ☛ For those observing an extended holiday season, monitor the dryness of the tree daily, and keep the tree well watered. Take extra precautions for safety towards the end of the season.

- ☛ When it is time to dispose of the tree, take it to a recycling location and have it mulched.

Contact the Office of Public Information at (818) 548-4800 for additional information.



## MONTROSE CHRISTMAS PARADE



Mayor Rafi Manoukian, his wife Zovig, and their children and friends with the Grays at the Montrose Christmas Parade on December 7.

## EMS SECTION NEWS

As 2002 comes to a close, I wanted to take a few minutes to comment on what you have accomplished. You continue to run close to 1000 medical calls per month, most without much fanfare. Your level of care for the community is second to none and is evidenced by the positive comments heard throughout the city.

We have placed two new RED ambulances into service (okay 1½, right Murph?) and a third one is on the way. We are working with our neighboring departments on a Medical Mutual Aid program, a first for the County.

The Oxylator is a new piece of equipment in the pre-hospital care environment for LA County that is being pioneered by you. We have recently been through a review of the program by the DHS and initial comments are outstanding. Twelve-lead EKGs are poised to become the standard of care for agencies in LA County and we are the agency that is on the forefront of this level of care. Agencies are seeking us out to intern their personnel in our facilities, with our people.

I was fortunate enough to inherit a program that was already on a very stable course, staffed by extremely capable people. Couple that with the commitment that each of you demonstrate on a daily basis and things couldn't be better for me. I intend to continue to help the program grow and provide the community with the best service available.

We will face challenges as we move into 2003. The first of these will be to locate a new Medical Director. Dr. Lee has informed me that she will not be renewing her contract when it comes up. This is a great loss to our program as she has provided us with outstanding guidance during the critical initial stages of our program. Her departure comes on very good terms and she has agreed to assist in the selection of a successor. Her insight and wonderful sense of balance for the program will be missed.

We will also be facing challenges related to budget. Revenues are shrinking due to influences beyond our control, and costs continue to rise. Staff will be examining ways to try to close the gap.

I want to thank each of you for your commitment to this program and to the department. Your professionalism and skills are second to none. You truly embody the term "Best Care Anywhere." Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season. *—Battalion Chief Don Wright*



### Rescue Ambulance Stats

The following table shows the number of RA responses to Glendale incidents, including all categories of calls: Fire, Medical, Service, Other. This does not include mutual/automatic aid responses to other jurisdictions.

	Nov. 2002	Year to Date
<b>RA21</b>	<b>350</b> (31.4%)	<b>3710</b> (33.1%)
<b>RA25</b>	<b>322</b> (28.9%)	<b>3206</b> (28.6%)
<b>RA26</b>	<b>284</b> (25.5%)	<b>2739</b> (24.5%)
<b>RA29</b>	<b>157</b> (14.1%)	<b>1541</b> (13.8%)

### Mutual/Automatic Aid Responses: November 2002

#### GFD Responding Outside Glendale:

Arcadia	1
Burbank	25
LA City	11
LA County	14
Pasadena	3

#### Agencies Responding Into Glendale:

Burbank	39
LA City	2
LA County	6
Pasadena	8

## GLENDALE FIRE AND RESCUE NEWS

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*Other Contributors:* Tom Marchant, Don Biggs, Mike Matlock, Doug Nickles, Mike Haney, Don Wright

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### FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank all the members of the Fire Prevention Section, including EMC, Permit Services and Fire Investigation, for their diligent work and efforts since I became Fire Marshal. I am honored to work with such knowledgeable and experienced personnel. During the past six months I have come to know new people and seen some retire and I look forward to continuing our excellent working relationship and our ongoing commitment to serving the residents of Glendale. All the best to you in 2003!

*—Battalion Chief Mike Haney*

FPB personnel reviewing plans for the new Avalon Bay Glendale Court residential development to be located at Stocker and Central.



*A Christmas party for Fire Prevention Bureau personnel and their spouses was held at Oakmont Country Club.*



Joyce Allred prepared a scrumptious holiday luncheon of Italian food for the Fire Prevention group Dec. 16.

*Pictured from left to right are Zach Story, Dave Woods, Kelly Coudsy, Doug Nickles, Chris Raden, Joyce Allred and Tom Dyrness.*

### The 21st Century FPB Inspector: Accoutrements of the Trade



*Pocket paper stapler*

*Combination knife/  
pliers tool*

*Personal safety packet*

*Cell phone*

*Fire Dept. issue pager*

*GPS coffee cup  
(an inspector doesn't go  
anywhere without it!)*

*EMT flashlight & scissors  
(around back)*

*UHF radio*

*Personal pager*

*TV controller*

## CORRESPONDENCE



Dear Chris:

Soon I will be retired from my forty-one year career in government. The past twenty-five years serving the City of Glendale as the Director of Personnel and Employee Relations have been the best years of my career. My experiences with the City have been both challenging and rewarding. Among some of my fondest memories are the times I spent working with the employees and managers of the Glendale Fire Department.

I recall many meetings conducted over the years with the GFFA representatives, Fire Management, and Personnel staff working together toward resolving numerous employee relations and human resources issues. While many of the issues were often complex and difficult to resolve, much of the time we were able to come to a reasonable and effective solution. This could not have been accomplished without respect and integrity from all parties involved.

For this and much more, I want to thank and praise the Fire folks – for their continuing dedication to excellence in serving the City of Glendale as well as for the professional relationship we have developed and enjoyed over the years.

Thanks for the memories,

*John “Jack” Hoffman, Director of Personnel  
and Employee Relations*

Dear Chief Gray,

Bonnie and I just wanted to express our heartfelt appreciation for how special you made us feel the night of the retirement dinner, and also at the Station 21 goodbye party. Your special personal touches, jokes and gifts made my wife and me very grateful to be part of such an excellent organization – “The Glendale Fire Dept.”

I spent my entire career trying to make our department the “best,” not only training our firefighters in the fundamentals of emergency operations, but also in the importance of doing a job right, caring for each other, and most importantly, caring for those we serve – the public. It makes it all worthwhile to know that our department is under your leadership. Your personnel (from Chiefs to the newest Firefighter) are so important. I am confident that you care about them and will lead them well. Because you respect them,

they will respect you.

Once again, thank you, your wife, and all those who helped to make a great end to a great career... THANKS.

*Capt. Bill Willey (Ret.) & Family*

Dear Chief Gray,

Thank you for the ride-along you arranged for Michael and me. Battalion Chief Doyle and his battalion were extremely hospitable. Not only was the experience fun, but it was educational as well. We commend you and your team’s commitment to serving the Glendale community. Thank you again!

Best regards,

*Jennifer Lin, Dreamworks*

To Chief Chris Gray:

This letter concerns Engr. Bostick, Capt. Rifino and FF Cooper, three individuals who exemplify to me the “finest” of the Glendale Fire Department. They all played an important role in helping me with fire clearance adjacent to my property on Kirkby Road. They all communicated with me constantly and in a professional manner.

Engr. Bostick actually came over on his day off to help with the project! FF Cooper was at my home this past week to do the same. I strongly feel the Glendale Fire Dept. is fortunate (as are the citizens of Glendale) to have these tremendous, dedicated, caring firemen in the department. I sleep better at night knowing they are “on the job.”

In closing, in my capacity as an educator for the Los Angeles Unified School District, I constantly remind my students to respect and appreciate the demanding job firefighters do; I know I do!

Sincerely,

*Vince J. Shellock*

Dear Chief Gray,

On Wednesday the 27th, I went outside to clear some of the Santa Ana debris off my little back patio, when I heard something that sounded like a baby bird in distress. (I live in a guest house.) I’m surrounded by apartment buildings and retaining walls and couldn’t find the source of the faint cry. Finally, I went into the next back yard and saw a little kitten three months or so old clinging to one of the topmost branches of a tree. It had cried till its voice was only a whisper.

*(Continued on page 11)*

## CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)

At age 76, I'm not much of a hero when it comes to rescue at the top of a tree! Frantically, I called every humane agency I could think of, and all said, "Sorry, we don't do animal rescue anymore."

Then I called the Glendale Fire Dept. and the lovely lady who answered said they didn't do rescues anymore either, but gave me the number for Station 25 and suggested I call them since they were closer to my address.

When the number answered, I got a recorded message that they were out on a call but would return my call. With that, my hopes for help were lessened and I returned to the tree and tried to talk the kitten down. In a few minutes, the phone rang and I missed the call but had a message. A wonderful voice said, "We've just returned and will be over to your address in a few minutes." I can't tell you how grateful I felt as I could still hear the pitiful meows from the treetop.

When the big fire engine pulled in my drive and those beautiful men arrived – what a feeling of relief!! What expertise they demonstrated! It was great. In a matter of minutes, the little trapped baby was down and on its way back to its mother.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart. It's reassuring to know that even at a time when our beloved country is at war, there's time for a truly humane gesture!

Chief Gray, once again, the heroic fire department has proved that *chivalry is not dead*.

Sincerely,

*Diane L. Fretwell*

In response to a donation made by retired Engineer Dean Hopley and his wife Donna:

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Hopley:

On behalf of all the members of the Glendale Fire Department, I would like to thank you for your generous donation for the Glendale Firefighters and Family Assistance Fund.

Your gift will assist families of Glendale Firefighters who have been injured or have lost a loved one in the line of duty. Once again, thank you for your donation and support for the Glendale Fire Department.

Sincerely,

*Michael D. Haney, GFD Fire Marshal*

## MMRS PROGRAM

Fire and Police personnel attended the Tucson MMRS Bio-terrorism-National Pharmaceutical Stockpile-Mass Dispensing Site Conference and Statewide Exercise November 20-22. This conference provided valuable insight into preparing for, responding to and mitigation of acts of biological terrorism. Speakers from the United States Surgeon General Richard Carmona to former Soviet Russian Army Doctor Igor Shafhid discussed issues related to biological terrorist activities that are relevant to the Glendale MMRS Program. Our personnel also had the opportunity to observe and experience the Tucson and State of Arizona Mass Dispensing Plan. Throughout the state several of these sites were set up with actual immunization and dispensing taking place.

## FIREWISE RECOGNITION

The Whiting Woods Firewise Project has been awarded full status as a Firewise Community/USA, one of only 12 in the nation. Larry Van Avery, Whiting Woods Fire Safety Task Force Chairman, attended a special recognition program in Washington, D.C.

Firewise Communities/USA is a project of the National Wildfire Coordinating Group's Wildland/Urban Interface Working Team and is the newest element of the Firewise Program. The Firewise Program creates a process that engages and educates the public to maintain an acceptable level of fire readiness, while ensuring that firefighters can use equipment more efficiently during a wildland fire emergency. The program draws on a community's spirit, its resolve, and its willingness to take responsibility for its ignition potential.

A community plan is being developed to specify actions to minimize the fire threat through a combination of strategies such as fire safe landscaping and hazard reduction. Another element of the program is the public information component. Materials will be created to explain the threat and the mitigation measures that can be taken. An annual public event will also be scheduled to draw attention to the program and fire safety practices in the wildland/urban interface.

## STORM SAFETY GUIDELINES

### FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE OUT DURING THE STORM

*Stay away from flood control channels, catch basins, canyons and natural waterways that are susceptible to flooding during periods of heavy rain.*

Do not attempt to cross flooded areas and never enter moving water.

If flooding traps you in your car, stay with it. If necessary, wait on top of your car for assistance.

If you become isolated, seek the highest ground available and wait for help.

Remember to use good common sense and avoid venturing into known problem areas.

If you see someone who has been swept into moving water, *do not enter the water and attempt a rescue*. Immediately call 911 for trained emergency rescue personnel, and if possible, throw them some type of flotation device.

### FOR RESIDENTS LIVING IN FLOOD-PRONE AREAS

Obtain sandbags ahead of time! Sandbags and instructional materials are available to all Glendale residents at all Glendale Fire Stations. Each household may request up to ten bags. Property owners and residents should not rely solely on these sources, as high demand may rapidly strap resources and create spot shortages.

Additional supplies of sandbags are available at the City of Glendale Public Works Yard located at 541 West Chevy Chase Drive, phone (818) 548-3950.

Fill sandbags half full with sand or soil, fold top of sandbag down and rest bag on its folded top. Place in areas where needed. *Never underestimate the power of water and debris flows!* NOTE: Sandbags are basically for small flow protection (up to two feet only) and if improperly placed could cause needless damage to your neighbor's property. Therefore a community effort must be employed!

Monitor your radio and television news closely for information concerning weather conditions and flooding in your area.

Have an emergency plan that all family members understand. Know how to contact loved ones if you are not able to get to your home because of flood-re-

lated incidents.

Clear rain gutters and drains ahead of time to help avoid possible roof collapses and other property damage.

Know how to shut off all utilities if necessary. Remember: water and electricity do not mix.

Have enough water and food on hand to supply your family for at least a 72-hour period. Also, remember to include a radio and flashlight with fresh batteries in your emergency kit for use, if necessary.

Be aware that debris basins can overflow. Be familiar with the area in which you live and have alternate escape routes if asked to evacuate your home.

Be aware when you are down canyon of mountainous terrain. It can rain in the mountains but not where you are and you can be subjected to a sudden (within seconds) mudflow.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

By following these simple safety guidelines, people who live or travel in flood-prone areas of Glendale will be much less likely to become a flood-related statistic!

The Glendale Fire Department has taken special measures to effectively manage any potential situations that may arise as a result of coming storms. This, along with a heightened level of awareness and preparation on the part of the public, will help to prevent unnecessary injury and property loss due to flood-caused occurrences.

For additional information, the public can call the Glendale Fire Department's Office of Public Information at (818) 548-4800.



### STATIONS ADOPT FAMILIES

Capt. Harold Scoggins reports that Christmas dinner, Galleria gift certificates, and presents for the children will be delivered to nine Glendale families who have been "adopted" by the nine fire stations. Families in extreme financial situations were selected for this effort and the Glendale Firefighters Club generously donated \$300 per family, which will enable companies from each fire station to assist with any special needs the families may have.

### “MASTER OF DISASTER”

On October 29, Captain Ron Gulli was honored to receive a Mayor’s Commendation in recognition for his “distinguished leadership and invaluable contributions towards the success of the Glendale Chemical Weapons Full Scale Exercise on August 29, 2002.” He was also given the prestigious title of “Master of Disaster” by Mayor Rafi Manoukian.



Ron Gulli is pictured with City Council member Frank Quintero, Mayor Rafi Manoukian and a representative from Nestle, Mike Mayhall.

### SAFE SURRENDER SITES

Following City Council action, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors officially designated the nine Glendale Fire Stations as Safe Surrender sites where certain persons with newborn children can voluntarily surrender custody of those children without violating the law. Our designation was effective on November 26, 2002. Glendale and Long Beach are the first two cities

in California to receive this designation. Further information regarding this new designation will be forthcoming.



Fire Chief Chris Gray and Mayor Rafi Manoukian accept certificate from LA County Supervisor Mike Antonovich.



### REQUESTS FOR ‘54 MACK

The Office of Public Information has received several requests through various channels for the use of the 1954 Mack fire engine. The holiday season keeps our antiques very busy. Please forward all public education requests, including those that require the presence of an antique fire apparatus, to our Pub Ed Hotline at 548-6404. A public education request will be created which will reserve the apparatus for your event and assist us in tracking needs and requests from the community. We also ask that you send any pictures (in any format) of department activities to Captain Marchant at the EMC for posterity and future publicity needs.



Personnel from Station 26 respond to a traffic collision on December 4.



T29, E24 and RA29 responded to a traffic collision on November 17 where a car overturned and a motorist was injured.

### 2003 JUNIOR FIRE PROGRAM

The Glendale Fire Department’s Junior Fire Program has been going on in Glendale since 1955. It has been a unique partnership between the Glendale Fire Department, the Glendale Unified School District, Independent Insurance Agents, and many other civic organizations with the common goal of teaching fire safety to the fifth-grade children of Glendale. This program has been credited with helping to keep Glendale’s fire loss to a minimum. And how can you measure the intangible number of burns prevented and lives saved? Thanks to the efforts of our firefighters and our teachers, this program continues to have a significant impact not only in a positive way with children, but also a rewarding relationship with our community. Many of our firefighters have been involved with this program over the years and can tell you how rewarding it is to help teach the basics of fire safety to our children.

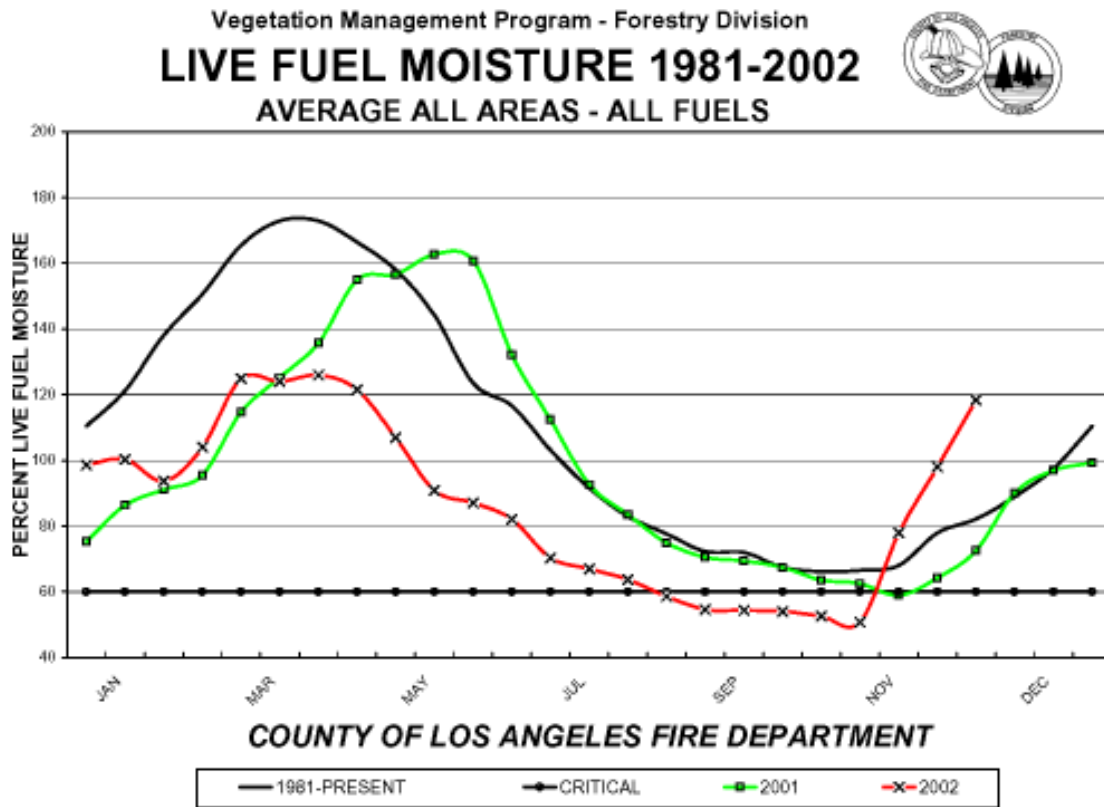
Firefighters will be presenting the program at each school during a one-hour visit at a pre-scheduled “assembly” to include all fifth-grade classes. The visits are all completed in February, March and April. You will

have a pre-scripted talk to follow, along with showing the video, “Smoke Detectives” (25 min.) You will explain that the winners of the “Fire Safety Essay” (three from each classroom) will be invited to attend our annual Junior Fire Picnic at Verdugo Park on Friday, May 30, 2003. There they will enjoy hotdogs, refreshments, games, prizes, and a chance to be selected as Junior Fire Chief, Deputy Chief or Assistant Chief. A few of the instructors will be able to help put on the picnic as well.

The teachers will have already been given all of the materials they need to prepare the students for our visit, including a Junior Fire Manual for each student and an answer guide and content standard for the manuals for the teachers. The students will also have already been shown the GFD Video, “The Junior Fire Program” (about 1 hr.), starring Capt. John Wray and FF Ted Huber prior to the fire department visit.

If you would like to participate, please submit a letter through channels to Engr. Paul Phillips at Fire Prevention. Additionally, if you have any questions about Junior Fire, feel free to contact Engr. Phillips at ext. 4810.

– B.C. Mike Haney



## Mountain Fire 90-Day Status Report

The burn site was visited on December 17 for an evaluation of erosion due to the recent storm event.

### Overview

A storm event moved through the area on December 16-17. Rainfall at the site was about 1.5 inches. The two primary stream channels draining Brand and Pomeroy Canyons stayed within their streambeds, but a fair amount of soil and rock was carried downstream along the way. Since Pomeroy Creek crosses Brand Motorway at the intersection of Brand Lateral, the motorway is now inaccessible beyond that point. The lower portion of Brand Lateral has been washed out and is no longer passable. The rock-lined channel of Brand Creek, across from the Brand Cemetery, has minimal debris and is flowing without any difficulty. The small basin above the Brand Landfill was not blocked; the stream is still flowing beneath the landfill. While a significant amount of debris was deposited in the Brand Debris Basin, there was no threat of it overflowing. Once the forecasted series of storms has passed, and the roadways are somewhat dry, another site evaluation will be conducted.

### Brand Debris Basin

*Responsible department/agency:* LA County Flood Control District.

*Potential threat:* Debris from the burned area could exceed the capacity of the debris basin.

*Mitigation measures:* Maintain maximum basin capacity and remove debris as needed.

*Current Situation:* Some debris has accumulated in the basin from the recent storm event.

*Progress:* LA County Flood Control District finished excavating excess soil from the debris basin in November.

### Brand Motorway

*Responsible department/agency:* Fire (LACoFD under contract for annual maintenance).

*Potential threat:* Drainages will deposit material on roadway and possibly erode roadway.

*Mitigation measures:* Install and/or maintain existing diversion structures (culverts, check dams, K rails, etc.)

*Current situation:* Inaccessible past Brand Lateral intersection; Pomeroy Creek has flooded across the roadbed.

*Progress:* Some drainage structures have been repaired and/or replaced.

**Lower canyon channel area** (confluence of the Brand and Pomeroy Canyons)

*Responsible department/agency:* Parks/Public Works.  
*Potential threat:* Excessive debris flows will likely overwhelm capacity of the rock-lined channels; overgrown vegetation in the channels and “fore basin” will collect debris.

*Mitigation measures:* No additional measures needed at this time.

*Current situation:* No debris accumulated in the channel area from the recent storm event.

*Progress:* No recent activity.

### Brand Landfill

*Responsible department/agency:* Public Works.

*Potential threat:* Pomeroy stream channel goes into a culvert beneath the landfill.

*Mitigation measures:* Install a riser, clean out basin, install spillway and monitor.

*Current Situation:* No debris accumulated in the basin from the recent storm event.

*Progress:* Design for “debris cage” is complete; report was presented to City Council on 12/16/02 to approve contract for fabrication and installation.

### Brand Lateral

*Responsible department/agency:* Parks.

*Potential threat:* Pomeroy stream channel traverses roadway – will likely wash out. May have to forego use as a roadway.

*Mitigation measures:* None recommended at this time.

*Current situation:* Lower roadway has been washed out.

*Progress:* No recent activity.

### Bladed Fire Line

*Responsible department/agency:* Fire.

*Potential threat:* Accelerated soil erosion on exposed ridge top between Pomeroy Canyon and Sherer Canyon.

*Mitigation measures:* None recommended at this time.

*Current Situation:* No significant erosion was observed following the recent storm event.

*Progress:* no recent activity.

### Recommendation

Due to the hazards from falling rocks, burned shrubs and debris on the Brand Motorway and Brand Lateral, it is recommended that these roadways be closed to public use and signed accordingly.



*Brand debris basin on Dec. 17 after heavy rains.*



Engine 21A recently participated in the Edison Elementary School Afterschool Library Program, where various people from the community read to kindergarten through sixth grade students. Pictured above are FF Pat Dawson, Engr. Dan Encinas, Capt. Ed Ackerman and FF/PM Derek Tamburro.



Capt. Jeff Muis traveled to Russia Oct. 3 with the international organization Firefighters for Christ, his seventh trip to Russia with this group since 1994. Pictured above: Firefighters for Christ team with the Tambor Fire Chief, Assistant Chief and other officers in front of the main fire station.



E21A attended the Glendale vs. Hoover High School football game during Homecoming Week. Pictured above are Engr. Dan Encinas, FF Fred Castro, Capt. Ed Ackerman and FF Mark Masto.



The annual Mount Baldy Bike Challenge, organized by Engr. Steve Egbert and Capt. Doug Nyeholt, was held November 19. This year's turnout was the best yet and everyone had a great time. Special thanks to Steve Egbert for hosting the post-race barbecue.



Capt. Mark Berg recently participated in a Community Read event at Once Upon a Time, a bookstore in Montrose.

**Mount Baldy Bike Challenge - 2002**

The Race		Second Climb		Totals	
1. Nyeholt	52:12	Chad Smith	50:30	Nyeholt	1:42:54
2. Tucker	52:27	Nyeholt	50:42	Chad Smith	1:44:53
3. Chad Smith	54:23	Tucker	56:25	Tucker	1:48:52
4. Burt	57:35	Condy	59:23	Burt	1:57:06
5. Condy	59:00	Burt	59:31	Condy	1:58:23
6. Welch	1:03:57	Willey	1:01:22	Samuelson	2:09:19
7. Rifino	1:04:07	Samuelson	1:03:12	Willey	2:12:45
8. Samuelson	1:06:07	Welch	1:09:14	Welch	2:14:11
9. Willey	1:11:23	Rifino	1:11:15	Rifino	2:16:00
10. S. Egbert	1:13:16	S. Egbert	1:11:29	S. Egbert	2:24:45
11. J. Egbert	1:22:17	J. Egbert	1:21:35	J. Egbert	2:43:52
12. Skidmore	1:24:13	Skidmore	1:24:13	Skidmore	2:48:23
13. Mays	1:24:13	Mays	1:27:07	Mays	2:51:27
14. Marv	1:26:17	Marv	1:30:50	Marv	2:57:07





The Public Information Office utilized the Fire Safety Trailer to teach fire safety to participants of the Children's Health Insurance Fair at Horace Mann Elementary School which was sponsored in part by the office of Congressman Adam Schiff. Pictured from left to right: Adam Schiff, Engrs. Paul Phillips and Mark Carrillo and Capt. Carlos Guerrero.



Escondido Fire Department Softball Tournament Record: 2-1. Excuse: "Our hair got in our way."

### MATH FUN

Contributed by Capt. Doug Doody & Engr. Brad Hansen

#### Hydraulics Question:

There are 200 gallons of water in a standpipe whose inside diameter is 5 inches. What is the pressure in PSI at the base of the pipe?

Submit your answers by email to Mike Matlock. The successful math wizards will be announced in next month's newsletter.

#### Answers to November Problem: Map Scale Conversion Chart

Map scale	Representative Fraction	Map (inch/mile)	Map (inch/chain)	Feet/ map inch
1:63,360	63.36	1	0.0125	5280
1:62,560	62.5	1.01	0.027	5280
1:31,680	31.68	2	0.025	2640
1:24,000	24	2.64	0.033	2000
1:15,840	15.84	4	0.05	1320



An awards presentation and reception were held at the Masonic Lodge on November 21, when B.C. Bob Doyle, Capt. Scott Mohlenbrok and Engr. Jeff Giampaolo received Distinguished Service Awards from the Masons. Pictured above are Fire Chief Chris Gray, Engr. Jeff Giampaolo, Capt. Scott Mohlenbrok, B.C.'s Mike Haney and Bob Doyle, and Assistant Fire Chief Don Biggs.



A third-alarm commercial structure fire occurred December 18 at 3800 La Crescenta Avenue in Montrose. Damage to structure and contents was estimated at \$1.7 million. Photos by Gene Blevins/LA Daily News.



Staged pyrotechnic demonstration at the Training Center during the recent Film Officer Training course. Don't try this at home!



The annual holiday luncheon was held Tuesday, December 17 in the Community Room at Fire Station 21. Special thanks to Lorena, Janice, and everyone else that helped set up, serve and clean up for this event.

### Kelly Coudsy's Retirement Reception December 16





## GLENDALE INCIDENTS

November 2002



CODE	DESCRIPTION	#INCIDENTS	CODE	DESCRIPTION	#INCIDENTS
ABD	Abdominal Pain	39	HOUSE	House Fire	2
ALARM	Fire Alarm	83	HYD	Flowing/Gushing/Sheared Hydrant	1
ALARMF	Fire Alarm - Full Assignment	2	ILLEG	Illegal Burning	4
ALLERGY	Allergic Reaction	1	INVL	Assist the Invalid	14
ALOC	Altered Level of Consciousness	37	LAW	PD Assist - Stand By	3
ANIMAL	Animal Rescue / Assist	2	LOCK	Person Locked In-Locked Out	6
APPL	Appliance Fire	4	MALF	Malfunction	3
APT	Apartment House Fire	4	MED	Misc. Medical	109
ARC	Arcing Wires	0	MEDALR	Medical Alarm	4
ASLT	Assault Victim	15	NOTBR	Person Not Breathing	25
BACK	Back Pain	18	OBGYN	Obstetrics/Gynecological	5
BEES	Bee Investigation	0	OD	Overdose	5
BIO	Biohazard Investigation	3	ODOR	Misc. Odor Investigation	4
BITE	Animal/Human/Stings	2	OUT	Miscellaneous Outside Fire	4
BOMB	Explosives/Bomb Threat/Scare	0	PD	Transfer to Police Department	0
BREATH	Shortness of Breath	129	POLE	Transformer/Street Light Fire	2
BRUSH	Brush Fire	0	PSYCH	Psychiatric	10
BURN	Burn Injury	2	PUBLIC	Public Assist	4
CARBON	Carbon Monoxide Alarm	1	REFRIG	Abandoned Refrigerator	4
CHEMO	Chemical Outside	6	REFUSE	Refuse Fire	3
CHEST	Chest Pains - Heart Attack	89	RESCUE	Rescue	2
CHOK	Person Choking	1	RESET	Fire Alarm Reset	2
CONFIN	Confined Space Rescue	0	RESFWY	TC-Rescue on the Freeway	3
CROWD	Investigate Overcrowding	1	ROOF1	One Story Roof Check	0
DAMAGE	Damage Investigation	2	ROOF2	Roof Check 2 Stories & Above	0
DIAB	Diabetic Problem	16	SEIZ	Person in Seizure	42
DOWN	Person Down	23	SICK	Person Sick	41
DROWN	Drowning/Diving Incident	0	SMOKEI	Smoke in a Structure	8
ELECF	Electrical Fire	3	SMOKEO	Smoke in the Area	12
ELEV	Elevator Rescue	10	STAB	Person Stabbed	1
EMS	EMS Call - No Details	4	STR	Structure Fire	2
EMSFWY	EMS on the Freeway	0	STROKE	CVA - Neurologic	20
ENG	Misc. Response for 1 Engine	1	TC	Traffic Collision	104
ENGR	Misc. Response for Eng. + RA	1	TCFUEL	Injury TC with Fuel Spill	0
ENGTRK	Misc. Response Engine + Truck	0	TCFWY	Traffic Collision - Freeway	17
EVENT	Special Event	1	TCRES	Traffic Collision - Rescue	5
FALL1	Fall Major	1	TCSTR	Vehicle into Structure	1
FALL2	Fall Minor	100	TOXIC	Ingestion-Poisoning-Inhalation	8
FLOOD	Major Flooded Condition	4	TR1	Major Trauma	2
FLOW	Sprinkler System Activated	2	TR2	Minor Trauma	28
FNO	Fire Now Out	3	TRK	Misc. Response for a Truck	0
FUEL	Fuel Spill	2	UNCON	Person Unconsc./Unresponsive	36
FULL	Misc. Response-Full Assignment	0	UNKF	Unknown Type Fire	3
GARAGE	Garage Fire	0	UNKMED	Unknown Medical	10
GASI	Odor of Natural Gas Inside	2	USAR	Collapse/Extrication/Rescue	0
GASO	Odor of Natural Gas Outside	5	VAULT	Electrical Vault Fire	0
GIB	G.I. Bleed	11	VEG	Vegetation Fire	4
GMAIN	Broken Gas Main	1	VEH	Vehicle Fire	8
GSW	Gunshot Wound	1	VEHFWY	Vehicle Fire on the Freeway	6
HANG	Person Hanging	0	VEHSTR	Vehicle Fire in a Structure	0
HAZARD	Investigate Hazardous Condition	6	WATER	Minor Flooding	4
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials Response	0	WIRES	Wires Down	13
HEART	Heart Problem	34	WMAIN	Broken Water Main	0

## GFD BIRTHDAYS: January



- 2 Mark Carrillo
- 5 Fred Castro  
Rudy Woody
- 6 Michael Mentzer
- 10 Zach Story
- 11 Greg Godfrey  
Neil Kingsley
- 12 Cindy Cutler
- 14 James Moser
- 16 Clark Cumbess  
Mike McGee
- 17 Gregory Jones  
Jeff Ragusa
- 20 John Avila
- 26 Jeff Halpert
- 28 John Fitzgerald  
Terry Williamson
- 30 Candace Howell
- 31 Brad Hansen



## CALENDAR

### January

- 3 Kiwanis Awards Luncheon
- 4, 11 Multi-Company Drill
- 7 Staff Meeting, Ops Meeting
- 8,11,22 Household Hazmat Collection
- 8-10 EMT-1 Training
- 11 Arroyo Seco Academy (tentative)
- 11 Explorer Graduation
- 14 Verdugo Task Force Meeting
- 15 CPR Classes for the Public  
City of Glendale Disaster Coordinators Meeting  
EMS Staff Meeting
- 16 Safety/Training Committee Meetings  
Service Pin Ceremony
- 17-19 HMRT Continuing Education
- 20 Simulator Training - Group #1 @ Sta. 21
- 21 Staff Meeting, Ops Meeting  
GFRA/GFC Meeting
- 25 Installation and Awards Banquet

## GFD Family News



*Mike and Irma Ellis are celebrating the birth of their first child, Chloe Bella, born Nov. 18.*



*On Dec. 5, Jeff and Elizabeth Rehm announced the birth of their second son, Maxwell Adam, who weighed 8 lb. 15 oz. and was 21 inches long at birth.*

Photos and information regarding births, weddings, passings and other major milestones in the GFD family may be submitted to:

[LScanlon@ci.glendale.ca.us](mailto:LScanlon@ci.glendale.ca.us)



*THE GFD FAMILY  
WISHES ALL  
A SAFE AND HAPPY  
HOLIDAY SEASON*