

California Fire Chiefs Association

Southern Division

Communications Section Newsletter

The Meeting Minutes

From the meeting May 8th, 2003

The meeting was held at Los Angeles County Fire Departments Camp 2 in LaCanada and hosted by Kerry Crabtree.

The Secretary's Report:

The minutes from the March meeting were submitted and approved on a motion from Don Wise and seconded by Gabby Moreno.

The Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Gabby Moreno reported that as of April 17th, 2003 the account balance is \$5495.00. Treasurer Moreno reported that the website bill for 2003 has been paid and that membership for 2003 is down.

Training:

At the upcoming July meeting, a PSTC class will be discussed and a training date possible set. Discussion will include but is not limited to having our section of CFCA fund all or a part of the training.

New Business

Walt Moulton advised that the National Chemical Training Center in Alabama has started incorporating dispatchers into their week long classes. The class is free of charge to those participating and is under the direction of Homeland Security.

Gabby Moreno suggested that we solicit support from corporations for sponsoring training classes. It was determined that at the July meeting we will discuss an outreach program for contacting and soliciting sponsors for training classes.

Website:

www.CalChiefsSouth.org

If anyone has links that they would like added to the website, contact the Webmaster, Jason DeVita on the website.

There is now a "Job Openings" page on the website. To have a job opening placed on the website, contact Webmaster DeVita by email and send him the information on the posting. If it is in a downloadable form, please have the form in PDF format.

If you have any training classes scheduled, email Jason with the information and he will post them on the website also.

Old Business:

The lawsuit against the city of San Francisco is scheduled for retrial in May and may be settled out of court. This is the case where the dispatcher is being sued along with the city for EMD liability.

Committee Report:

Membership Committee – No Report

Nominating Committee – Steve McClellan of Ventura Co. Fire Department has volunteered to serve as the nominating committee. Although Steve was not able to attend the May meeting, **NO** nominations were received. The following positions are still up for election.

President

Vice President

Secretary

If you have a nomination, please forward it to Steve at :
steve_mcclellan@mail.co.ventura.ca.us

Northern Update:

No Report.

Legislative Report:

No new news on dispatcher retirement issues.

Round Table:

Don Wise – Verdugo Fire, Verdugo is currently shopping for a new CAD and radio system. Don happily reported that their vacant supervisor's position has b Finally been filled after being vacant for two years.

Walt Moulton – Kern Co., Reported that the newest Vesta product “Palace” has a partial copy of Magic included with it. Walt also advised that the State of California has put out an RFP for the FRNIS system to be upgraded and more user friendly. Walt advised that Kern Co./Bakersfield is about one year away from cutting over to their new Motorola radio system.

Gabby Moreno – Mercy Air, Reported that their radio system has been experiencing more failures recently and that it is in dire need of being replaced.

DeAnn Pressley – Mercy Air, Reported that they are fully staffed and that Mercy Air is planning on opening its 12th base this summer in Imperial County.

Kerry Crabtree – L.A.Co. Fire, Reported that the most recent cities absorbed by Co. Fire were the cities of Inglewood, Gardena and Lynwood. Kerry advised that although the three cities were absorbed, the dispatch center’s staffing was not increased. Currently L.A.Co. has 3 vacant positions. Kerry advised that the county is trying to incorporate the fire departments frequencies and the sheriffs departments frequencies into one large radio system. L.A.Co. is looking to upgrade their dispatch PC’s.

Gary Stevens – South Bay Comm., Reported that South Bay will start dispatching for the city of Hermosa Beach beginning July 1st, 2003. South Bay has 1 supervisor opening.

2003 Meeting Schedule:

July 10th, 2003 – Warner Brothers
September 4th, 2003 – Ventura Co. Fire
November 6th, 2003 – South Bay Communications

Members in Attendance:

Don Wise – Verdugo Fire
Gary Stevens – So Bay Comm.
Walt Moulton – Kern Co. Fire
DeAnn Pressley – Mercy Air
Gabby Moreno – Mercy Air
Kerry Crabtree – L.A.Co. Fire

Please remember if you have not done so already, dues for 2003 membership are due the first of the year. To continue receiving the newsletter you must renew your dues for 2003. The membership application can be obtained off of the website.

Upcoming Meeting:

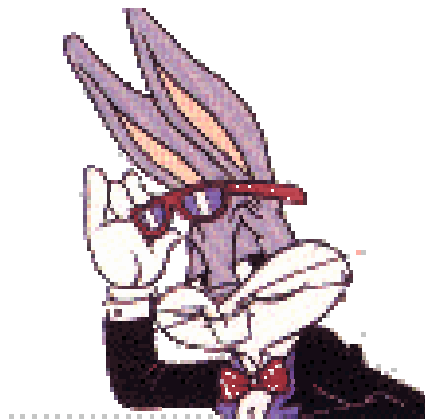
July 10th, 2003, at 10:00 a.m.
Location: Warner Brothers Studios

***** SPECIAL NOTICE *****

Due to heightened security since 9/11, RSVP’s are required for the July meeting. A list of names must be presented to Studio security prior to 6/28/03. Be sure to RSVP to Gary with the names of the people attending from your organization. Directions for parking will be provided after the 28th once security determines where they want our members to park. A tour of the studios has been arranged for attendees. Attendees must also bring identification with them.

2003 Paid Members

Anna Olivares – Santa Ana Fire Dept
Susie Dix – Santa Ana Fire Dept.
Samara Barnes – Santa Ana Fire Dept.
Don Wise – Verdugo Fire
Janey Hall – South Bay Communications
Gary Stevens – South Bay Comm.
Bonnie Agee – South Bay Comm.
Olivia Ramirez – Costa Mesa Comm.
Gabby Moreno – Mercy Air Service
DeAnn Pressley – Mercy Air Service
Lisa Matiansen – Santa Barbara Co. S.O.



That's Right Folks,,, It is Warner Brothers Time again.

Join us at the next California Fire Chief's Communications Sections meeting July 10th, 2003 at Warner Brothers Studios.

The meeting will begin at 10:00am and is limited to 30 attendees.

Be sure to R.S.V.P. to Gary by 6/28/03 to have your seat held.

After the meeting, there will be a tour of the Warner Brothers lot and lunch can be had at the Commissary