

# Communique

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION



COVER STORY ON PAGE 3

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1988

# Executive notes

## MEDAL OF VALOR RECIPIENTS

by Laurel Goddard

**F**ire Captains Ken Eller and Mike Velasquez became CDF's most recent recipients of the Governor's Medal of Valor at a ceremony December 8, 1987.

On June 18, 1987, the two captains spotted smoke on Piedra Road in Fresno County, about a mile south of the Piedra Forest Fire Station. When they arrived at the scene, they found the trunk portion of a vehicle burning, as well as the surrounding grass area. Because of thick smoke, they couldn't see the victim, but heard cries for help. Mike worked to free the driver's trapped leg while Ken covered her face with protective clothing. Without the aid of protective gear, and risking their own lives, the men rescued the woman from the burning car.

The woman, Barbara Ferrell of Sanger, suffered second and third degree burns on 30 percent of her body, a broken leg and severe respiratory distress. She was released from Valley Medical Center in Fresno in August, and is receiving therapy as an outpatient.

Ken began his CDF career in 1957 with the Fresno/Kings Ranger Unit. In his three decades with CDF, he has worked at various stations within the unit, as well



*Fire Captains Mike Velasquez and Ken Eller; the proud recipients of the Medal of Valor.*

as in the Mid Valley Fire District. In 1965, Ken was promoted to fire captain, and has served as emergency command center officer and helitack captain. Ken is now station captain at Piedra Forest Fire Station.

Mike began his CDF career in 1968 with the Fresno/Kings Ranger Unit. He has also worked in Mid Valley Fire District stations as well as CDF. Mike was one of the first CDF paramedics to be

accredited in Fresno County. He has also represented the department on various statewide emergency medical service committees. Mike was honored back in 1981 as Fireman of the Month by the Fresno County Fire Chiefs when he was involved in another rescue. Mike is now the ranger unit's training paramedic captain and is stationed at Sanger headquarters.

## ONE MORE LETTER

The following letter was sent to Director Partain in January from David Liebersbach, incident commander, Alaska Interagency Management Team.

During September of 1987 the Alaska Interagency Incident Management Team was assigned to the Paper Fire on the Stanislaus National Forest. At the time of our assignment on September 1, the fire was threatening the community of Tuolumne, California, which was being protected by suppression forces of the California Department of Forestry under the management of a CDF overhead team. A unified command, CDF and Forest Service, was established and the two teams were merged for the next 10 days to manage one of the most explosive, dangerous and potentially destructive fires in my memory.

I wish to take this opportunity to give recognition for the outstanding performance of the four principal members of your Department of Forestry overhead

team we worked with and to express my unreserved appreciation for their superb teamwork. These four people are Robert Monsen (Incident Commander), Delbert Albright (Planning Section Chief), Art Hastings (Operations Section Chief), and Leonard "Shep" Shepherd (Logistics Section Chief). These four people worked the duration of the assignment with the aggressiveness, endurance, initiative, and positive attitude exemplary of the highest levels of professional fire suppression management. Each individual demonstrated excellent knowledge and capability in fire suppression operations and practices, and each was outstanding in the execution of the duties and responsibilities of the position he was filling.

Of additional merit was this team's great attitude of cooperation, both collectively and individually, in working with our team. We were extended this cooperation from the moment I walked into their Incident Command Post in Tuolumne at 2 a.m. in the morning to in-

troduce myself and negotiate a merger of the two teams, until the successful completion of the unified command's objective ten days later—the Paper Fire contained. Throughout the assignment the four named individuals went out of their way to accept, assist and work with our team to provide professional incident management and insure the successful accomplishment of all agencies' goals.

The Alaska team feels we owe a great deal of the success in managing the Paper Fire to having the opportunity to work with such outstanding individuals as these four people. Please pass on to Bob, Del, Art and Shep the gratitude of our team for their unparalleled contribution to our effort in Tuolumne. We would be pleased to work with them again on any assignment.

These people are excellent representatives of your organization. I personally wish to compliment the California Department of Forestry for the high quality of this fire management overhead team and thank you for making them available for this assignment.

# Christmas 1987

## SAN BERNARDINO CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

The holidays were a little happier for many folks in San Bernardino, thanks to the CDF/San Bernardino County Fire Warden Department.

Staff members sacrificed their lunch breaks to take cookies, brownies, small gifts, carols and friendly smiles to the residents of Pacific Park Convalescent Home in San Bernardino.

The crews offered their time and tokens as a "thank you" to the elderly citizens, some of which helped out with "Volunteers in Prevention," by helping to prepare fire prevention materials for distribution.

Throughout the year, members of the Yucaipa Valley Fire and Rescue Association, with the help of Dunlap Elementary School's Welfare Committee Chairperson Gena Medeiros, and the Yucaipa Valley Welfare Association, collect food, clothing and toys to distribute to local, needy families at Christmastime. The project has been very successful for the last five years. "Through all of our organization we attempt to blanket the entire community and try to make sure no one is forgotten," said project coordinator Lenore Figueredo, Crafton Hills Fire Station paid-call firefighter.

Sometimes the presents are delivered by carolling firefighters, led by Smokey the Bear, aboard a fire engine — ready to respond to any emergency call.

Many firefighters and their families go carolling through various convalescent homes and senior citizen mobile home parks. They also hand out small gifts, like dusting powder and slippers, to bedridden individuals.

Folks in the Highland area are covered by the Highland Fire and Rescue Association and Highland Fire Station, who, with the help of St. Adelaide's Church, deliver food, including turkey and trimmings, to the area's needy. The organizations compile an annual list of needy families for Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets.

"It's heartwarming to see a child clutch a gift given to him by a uniformed firefighter," said San Bernardino County Fire Warden Glen J. Newman. "They understand that this person is more than just an authority figure, he is a friend."

Glen's department and its stations also serve as collection points for the U.S. Marine Corps "Toys for Tots" project. Admittance to the department's annual Christmas party includes the donation of an unwrapped toy for the project and others like it.

Members of the Grand Terrace Fire and Rescue Association and Grand Terrace Fire Station annually hold a Christmas tree sale with proceeds going toward the purchase of rescue tools and fire equipment on the fire engines and rescue squad.

"In this manner, the proceeds are returned to benefit the community," Glen said. "Our department personnel respond to life and death calls daily. When we have the opportunity to respond in a closer, more human manner, it brings into perspective why we are firefighters and why we choose to serve and protect the public."

### ON THE COVER

*San Bernardino Ranger Unit Ranger-in-Charge Glen Newman, Fire Prevention Assistant Holly Kress, and Smokey the Bear present some holiday treats to Jo Titus, a resident of the Pacific Park Convalescent Hospital. Mrs. Titus formerly lived in Crestline and is an avid supporter of CDF.*

*(Photo by Public Affairs Officer LoVae Pray Martines)*

### ELF SIGHTINGS

On Thursday, December 24, the Fort Bragg Advocate-News reported that Colorado-based North American Air Defense (NORAD) radar technicians had spotted "an object of uncertain origins" in the sky above the north pole at 4:31 Mountain Daylight Time.

The object was described as a "multiple object apparently consisting of eight detached motors pulling a larger heavily-laden module."

"We believe we've spotted Santa Claus almost directly over the North Pole," a NORAD official said in a telephone interview following the sighting. "As yet, the department is unsure whether we're witnessing a test flight or if Santa is actually beginning this year's delivery trip."

The Advocate-News also reported a related incident headlined "CDF reports local elf population moving seaward." The article read as follows:

"...California Department of Forestry officials have documented a large influx of elves to the coastal area between Navarro Point and Laguna Point.

'They're pouring out of the forests here and heading for the sea,' said Fort Bragg CDF manager Forest Tilley. 'I've heard rumors about local elves for years, but this is the first time we've had an actual sighting.'

Tilley said the elves are persons of diminutive stature, approximately 2 ½ to three feet tall, with pointy ears. 'During the last week,' he said, 'we've documented eight sightings, all by trained forest personnel. This is something big, really big,' he said.

The documentation is the first recent hard data concerning local elves, who apparently go out to sea in small boats out of Noyo Harbor. According to popular stories, Santa Claus air-drops a considerable number of carefully wrapped presents to elven crafts within ¼ mile of the Fort Bragg coastline.

Tilley said he was unsure of the elves' procedure for obtaining and distributing the gifts. He noted however, that he had, upon the third sighting earlier this week, had his chimney cleaned.

Williams did....notify Tilley of the initial sightings prompting an interoffice memorandum to headquarters in Santa Rosa.

'Basically, they said it was our ballgame,' Williams said. 'There's not a lot we can do except officially advise that local drivers be extremely careful on Highway 1, which is directly in the path of the elves as they approach the sea.'

Confusion has arisen concerning the number and purpose of the forest population among many factions within the city, but according to William Shanks, who owned the Fort Bragg Advocate News from 1950-1970, the events are not without precedence."

The Advocate-News further reported that migration of forest elves was a regular occurrence, and was first witnessed by the public in 1952.

Each year a handful of local residents hold an "elf watch" on Christmas Eve just above the harbor.

According to Shanks, "Reporters from the Chronicle came up from the City in 1952. They had three photographers and one reporter...they took a lot of pictures. They used Speedgraphics at the time, you know, but for some reason none of their pictures came out."

Never-the-less, the annual migration of elves has kept local residents, city officials and police on the alert.

Although they created some minor riotous activity, no arrests were made, and officials encouraged parents to get their kids to bed early, so the elves could distribute gifts.

# Your health and safety

The new year has arrived and one thing we all need for a good '88 is our health. The following topics may help you stay healthy.

## Things you should know about: '87 smoke, AIDS, hepatitis, tetanus

by Dr. Leonard Davis  
CDF Medical Officer

### SMOKE

With the 1987 Fire Siege came the smoke. You'd have a hard time finding a northern Californian who didn't notice it in the air. It was an ugly sight to see; and breathe.

The "smog" was unusually heavy and persistent due to a temperature inversion in early September. The Air Resources Board measured particulates at one location that were at 2-3,000 milligrams per cubic meter (mgm/mm<sup>3</sup>) and carbon monoxide (CO) levels at 40 parts per million (ppm). Compare that to a heavy smog in Los Angeles which might produce particulate levels of 250 mgm/mm<sup>3</sup> and CO levels of 15 ppm, and you can see the magnitude of the problem.

In response to reports of firefighters experiencing unusual fatigue, irritability and hallucinations, CDF management in cooperation with the California Professional Firefighters (CPF) sent a team into the fire area to investigate.

The team consisted of an industrial hygienist from the California Occupational Health Surveillance and Evaluation Program (OHSEP), an MD from the University of California Medical Center, San Francisco; an MD representing the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) and myself.  
Medical Officer.

The team's chief concern was to investigate the possibility of CO toxicity. While CO toxicity is well recognized in confined spaces and structural fires it is not usually a big factor in outdoor situations.

CO combines with hemoglobin to form carboxyhemoglobin (COHB). Normal blood COHB is approximately 0 percent. Smokers generally run about 5 percent. CO toxicity does not occur below blood COHB levels of 15 percent.

We had three sets of data concerning COHB levels. A private doctor from Happy Camp drew arterial blood from 14 firefighters and had the samples analyzed. The OHSEP team measured exhaled CO levels in about 90 firefighters

in the camp and on the actual firelines. Finally a group of 25 firefighters leaving fire camps stopped at Mercy Hospital in Redding for blood tests.

Blood COHB levels in all three studies were between 0 and 2 percent, except among smokers who ran about 5 percent. No one was any where near the 15 percent level.

The records of emergency medical technicians and of two nurses who treated patients at camps in the Klamath Valley showed frequent visits for headaches, eye irritation, miscellaneous other problems and as the week progressed a remarkable increase in the number of visits for respiratory problems. A number of firefighters were found to have coughing and wheezing, probably related to the irritant particulates in the smoke; a bad case of the problems we already know firefighters are subject to. It is interesting that when the smokey conditions first developed the medical community expected the general population in the areas to have respiratory problems, in particular in the older people with lung problems. However, a survey of the hospital emergency rooms in both Yreka and Redding showed very few cases of respiratory difficulty and a chest specialist in Redding confirmed that to his surprise and relief he had had no significant increase in cases.

In a preliminary report to CDF, OHSEP stated that "our preliminary findings are that no one exhaled CO corresponding to carboxyhemoglobin (COHB) levels that are likely to result in clinical symptoms of CO poisoning." Although the methods of monitoring for CO exposure were not technically ideal we nevertheless did not find high CO levels. The rest of the OHSEP data is still being analyzed.

As a result of this investigation immediate recommendations were to cooperate with the National Guard in setting up an emergency field hospital in the Klamath Valley and to rotate firefighters out of the area for fresh air as soon as practical, though management was already well aware of that necessity.

Long-term recommendations are that the department recognize the need to be able to assess hazardous material exposures. CDF is presently formulating plans to have industrial hygiene resources more readily available in order to be able to rapidly assess these situations.

### AIDS

During the fall of 1987, classes were held at the Fire Academy to teach instructors from each of the regions about

AIDS and hence its prevention. These instructors will in turn teach what they learned within their region.

Although we are all concerned about AIDS, the only CDF employees at risk of contracting the disease because of their occupation are safety personnel who function as emergency response workers and do emergency work commensurate to health care workers (HCW).

The Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OHSA) is about to publish guidelines for employers of such HCW's. These guidelines will emphasize personal protective equipment such as gloves, gowns and eye protection, work place practices such as washing after contact with blood, and education to understand the modes of transmission of AIDS.

CDF has been well ahead of OHSA in initiating these measures.

### HEPATITIS B (HB)

HCW's are also at risk of contracting hepatitis. In the case of the department's EMTs, the risk appears to be very small. However, because there is a possibility of infection, I have initiated a study of the problem to more clearly identify the risks, to determine alternative means of immunization and costs, and to explore ways of funding a program if necessary.

### TETANUS IMMUNIZATION

Tetanus has become a rare disease because immunization is effective and long lasting. Pediatric immunization is practically universal and doctors and hospital emergency rooms tend to give frequent boosters so that only the most disadvantaged Americans are likely to be inadequately immunized.

For convenience, diphtheria vaccines are usually combined with tetanus and the product call Adult DT (Td). Diphtheria is also a rare disease, occasionally striking groups such as migrant farm workers. However, if we do not maintain diphtheria/tetanus immunization programs these diseases will undoubtedly become a problem again.

Although it is always best to check with your physician the general guidelines for tetanus boosters are as follows:

**ROUTINE BOOSTERS** - recommended every 10 years. This is a very conservative recommendation. In New Zealand they wait 20 years.

**CLEAN MINOR WOUNDS** - no TD booster needed if patient has been immunized within the past 10 years.

**MAJOR AND/OR CONTAMINATED WOUNDS** - TD booster indicated if last booster was more than five years ago. Other measures may be necessary. Consult your physician.

## EXERCISING IN THE COLD

The shorter days and colder temperatures of winter create several challenges for those who want to start or maintain an exercise program. The winter exerciser must counteract the effects of cold and darkness by modifying clothing and type of activity. With a few changes, anyone can make winter exercise an integral part of a year around program.

The first consideration when exercising in a cold environment is clothing. Although the practice of piling on layers of sweatshirts and turtlenecks is common, there are a few principles which should be considered when choosing your clothing. The best winter exercise clothing allows for evaporation while providing added insulation from the cold. Clothing provides insulation against the cold by trapping a layer of warm air next to the skin. Because water vapor conducts up to 200 times more heat than air, a reduction in the insulative capability occurs when clothing becomes wet from sweat or rain. Thus, a fabric like cotton, which soaks up and holds water, is a poor choice of cold weather exercise clothing.

In recent years, there have been tremendous advances in clothing technology. There are now several types of synthetic fabrics (polypropylene, Thermax

polyester, Capilene polyester and other similar fabrics) which are excellent insulators that carry or wick moisture away from the body from four to 10 times faster than cotton or wool. Many of these new materials retain much of their insulation properties even when damp.

A major consideration when choosing the style of clothing is the ability to easily adjust the amount of ventilation and insulation to meet the widely varying winter conditions so you don't become too hot or too cold. Even though the air temperature may be cold, avoid creating a hot "microclimate" inside your clothing; the result will be heavy, sweat filled clothing which provides poor insulation. A front opening shirt is more versatile than a pullover and several thin layers are more versatile than one heavy layer. Each layer should allow transport of moisture away from the skin and to the outer surface of your clothing where the moisture can be dissipated.

Clothing adjustments must complement your body's own temperature regulatory mechanisms. As body temperature drops, the body increases its own insulation by reducing blood flow to the body surfaces and to the arms and legs. If your torso is cold, the blood vessels in your hands and feet constrict resulting in cold, uncomfortable extremities but a

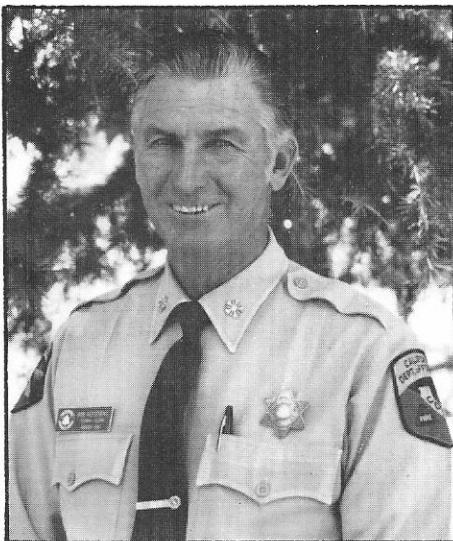
slower loss of body heat.

To avoid low body temperature (hypothermia) there are a few ideas to keep in mind. Concentrate your effort on keeping your head and torso warm. If your torso stays warm your hands and feet will also stay warmer. Cover your hands and head which are major avenues of heat loss. Clothing should be snug but not tight. Wear an easy to open, lightweight windproof jacket over your warm clothing to keep down the windchill without adding weight. Garments made of selectively permeable fabrics (such as Gore-tex or similar fabrics) keep rainwater and wind out but allow perspiration vapor to escape out through the fabric. Adjust your clothing to complement the intensity of your exercise. During continuous aerobic exercise such as hiking, jogging, cycling or cross-country skiing, metabolic heat production is proportional to exercise intensity. During activities such as these, metabolic heat production is fairly high and only a couple layers of clothing must be worn to maintain body temperature. But remember, when you stop exercising, metabolic heat production drops rapidly and your clothing may no longer be adequate to keep you warm.

Lastly, if you are going to exercise in darkness, remember to wear brightly colored and reflective clothing.

## Take note....

### CHIEF KERSTIENS RETIRES



More than 600 people gathered to honor Tehama-Glenn Ranger Unit Chief Robert Kerstiens, who retired December 30, 1987, after more than 44 years with CDF.

Starting as a seasonal firefighter in 1943, Chief Kerstiens spent his ENTIRE career in Tehama-Glenn RU, rising through the ranks to become the senior ranger unit chief within the entire department.

Among the party's 41 speakers were Senator Jim Nielson, Assemblyman Stan Statham, superior court judges Roy McFarland of Glenn County, Robert Hultgren and Noel Watkins of Tehama County, county supervisors plus other local dignitaries and friends.

Also, President and Mrs. Reagan sent Chief Kerstiens a letter of appreciation for a job well done.

CDF Chief Deputy Director Richard Ernest presented Chief Kerstiens with a belated 40-year pin and his badge, #445, which was retired from active service. He was also, on behalf of the party's attendees, presented with a trip to New York, Paris and Germany.

Chief Kerstiens, a decorated WW-II hero, has always been known for his fair-play, honesty and dedication to activities outside of CDF. He has been president and a long-time member of the Tehama County Fair Board, local president and state board member of the Cattleman's

Association, and a member of the board of directors of Mid-Valley bank.

Chief Kerstiens is one of many dedicated CDF employees who have helped build the department from a small division of the Department of Natural Resources to the strong, expanding organization it is today.

We wish him all the best.

### ANNIVERSARY T-SHIRT

Custom-line T-shirts has CDF 60-year anniversary T-shirts available for \$10 , plus \$3 shipping. The shirt says CDF on the back and depicts a horsedrawn engine and a brand new engine. On the front are the words California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection 1927-1987, and the California Golden Bear.

If you would like more information call (714) 840-9550 or write to Custom-line T-Shirts, 5901 Warner Ave, Suite 418, Huntington Beach, CA 92649.

## First CDFer to Fight Fire East of Mississippi

On November 8, 1987 John Hawkins, division chief of the Butte Ranger Unit, responded to Alabama with a U.S. Forest Service Incident Management Team. Chief Hawkins is probably the first CDF employee to ever fight fire east of the Mississippi (you'll let us know if we're wrong?).

During early November the Boise Interagency Fire Center (BIFC) began sending resources to the southeastern United States due to extreme fire activity. About noon on November 8 BIFC sent California National Incident Management Team #1, with Chief Hawkins as the deputy operations section chief, to Alabama. The team was assigned to the OakMulgee Complex on the Oak-Mulgee

Ranger District of the Taladega National Forest. The area is located in northcentral Alabama, about 30 miles east of Tuscaloosa.

The OakMulgee Complex included three fires totalling approximately 2000 acres of southern pines and hardwoods. Prior to the teams arrival the three fires were burning fiercely along with other fires in the region. A weather front dropped rain on the fires on November 9 and 10, dampening fire activity. However, the team helped with the containment, control and rehabilitation of the fires. Team #1 was released on Friday, November 13.

Most southeastern fire fighting is done with Incident Command System (ICS) type 4 dozers and limited hand crews according to Chief Hawkins. Very few engines are available and airtankers were not used, although two hired copters were assigned for reconnaissance and water drops. The southeast region (USFS Region 8) normally does not establish incident bases, but supports firefighters in

motels with sack lunches and in restaurants.

During the 1987 Fire Season Chief Hawkins and Rainbow Conservation Camp Division Chief Bill Clayton were assigned as deputy operations section chiefs on national teams. Chief Hawkins was assigned to Team #1 headed by Incident Commander Jim Stumpf of the Angeles National Forest. Chief Clayton was assigned to Team #2, commanded by Steve Gallegos of the Cleveland National Forest.

Chief Hawkins feels that the assignment was very beneficial to himself and to the USFS. He responded to four incidents during 1987 including the Hamm and Larson Fires on the Stanislaus National Forest. He added that under the ICS, working with other agencies was a "breeze". In fact he said that after a couple of days on any incident where all agencies use the same "command language" all personnel blend together and work as one team.

## SAN MATEO-SANTA CRUZ RU ARTISTS

Education is the key to fire safety, and what better way to educate than through vivid, colorful pictures.

That's the way Fire Apparatus Engineer Dave Bolster and Firefighter I Ann Petersen, both from Battalion 3, have been spreading the fire prevention word to countless motorists traveling through San Mateo-Santa Cruz Ranger Unit.

The two CDFers have been using their artistic talents to create unique "commercial quality" signs, each with a different message about fire safety. There are 10 signs posted at various locations within the battalion, which are rotated each month, making an almost unlimited number of combinations.

Fire Captain Rick Seiple directs the rotation and hazard themes of the signs, but creative control is left to artists Ann and Dave. "We try to appeal to the people that live in and visit Santa Cruz County," said Dave. "This is a very artistically oriented community so we attempt to paint signs which will not only get the message across but also reflect the quality and professionalism of the department."

The messages are changed according to seasons, holidays or special hazards and cover local fire prevention methods including smoke detectors, fireworks, chimney fires and Fire Safe California!



"We Don't Burn Your Homes" is just one of the 10 new road signs by Firefighter I Ann Petersen and Fire Apparatus Engineer Dave Bolster in the San Mateo-Santa Cruz Ranger Unit.

The artists and other program participants hope that their eye-catching messages will implant a vivid image in the

minds of passers-by, and make them think about fire safety.

## CHIMNEY SWEEPS/SMOKEY

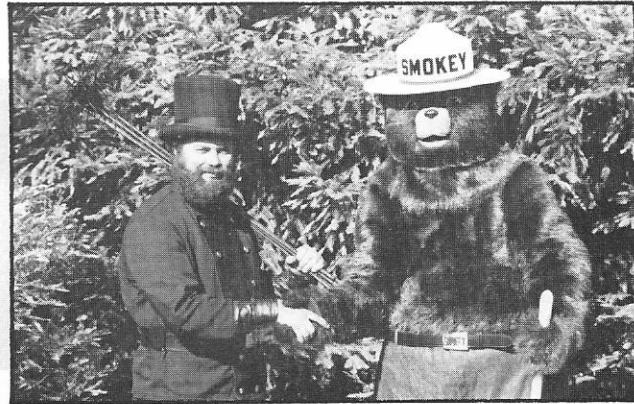
Smokey Bear and Santa Cruz members of the National Chimney Sweeps Guild recently joined forces to spread the importance of proper chimney maintenance.

(Cont. on pg. 7)

Chimney fires in various areas have prompted the guild to produce a three-page handout listing proper maintenance procedures and chimney cleaning schedules.

The schedule suggests cleaning the chimney as often as it is used, especially during the winter holidays.

The handout will be available at local fire stations and will be hand-carried door-to-door in areas where chimney fires have occurred.



*Smokey and Jim Corcoran of the National Chimney Sweeps Guild and the Golden Gate Chimney Sweeps Guild, team up to prevent chimney fires. The brass buttons and buckle of Jim's traditional German sweeps uniform depict Saint Florian, patron saint of sweeps and firefighters.*

## Ex-CDFer Helps Nab Arsonist

**R**odney Lewis, a former firefighter at Bradley Forest Fire Station, recently helped apprehend an arsonist responsible for at least 19 Monterey County fires.

It all started on the evening of September 6, 1987, when CDF and the Gonzales Fire Department responded to several suspicious fires in the Gonzales area. Rodney, now a dispatcher for Monterey County Communications, recognized the reporting party as the same person who had reported several suspicious fires earlier that week.

Fire Captain Specialist Cliff Williams and sheriff's deputies questioned Robert Lee Wyatt, also a former CDF firefighter. No specific information was obtained but Williams felt that Wyatt was not being truthful.

A follow-up investigation revealed that Wyatt actually reported many of the suspicious fires in at least four fire jurisdictions. Officials decided to put Wyatt under surveillance.

On the morning of September 11, Wyatt was arrested by members of the Monterey County Fire and Arson Task Force.

He confessed to starting at least 19 fires in Monterey County and the city of Salinas. He was charged with all 19 counts of arson and was held in Monterey County Jail with bail set at \$20,000.

Subsequently, Wyatt plead guilty to nine counts of arson. On November 13, he was sentenced to seven years and four months in state prison.

"Rodney was the one that put us onto Wyatt," said Williams. "Without Rodney's alertness and diligence Wyatt would probably be still setting fires."

## 8 TIPS FOR A BETTER COMMUNIQUE'

**A**nother year, another 12 months of the *Communique*. We made quite a few changes in 1987 what with the new paper stock, the addition of the red ink for accent, and a slightly varied layout, of course the elusive "mailing out with the paychecks" snuck by us; again. But, with the new year will come more changes, and meeting that deadline is priority. You can really help by reading the following eight tips, with an emphasis on #8; let us know what you think.

### Remember:

1. That the *Communique* deadline is the 5th of each month for the following month's issue.
2. When submitting material, that an average of 3,500 CDF employees, 345 retirees, 125 forestry-related organizations and persons, and all the members of the state Legislature are going to read it. TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR DEPARTMENT, and let it show in your articles.
3. That you may submit articles/photos directly to the *Communi-*

*qué* staff; however, we would like to have your immediate supervisor's signature on it when we receive it. Also, please send a copy to your region headquarters for their files.

4. That everything that goes on in your region is a possible *Communique* article.
5. To include the basics in all articles submitted; who, what, where, why and how. Give as many details as possible - don't worry about style, the newsletter staff will clean up any sloppy writing. MAKE SURE THE AUTHOR'S NAME/PHONE NUMBER IS ON THE SUBMITTED MATERIAL.
6. That articles should be typed (if you can't type, don't worry, we will decipher your handwriting), double-spaced, and no longer than two full pages unless previously arranged with the editor.
7. That photos should be clear, whether black and white or color. Try to get interesting shots and don't forget to take a few vertical shots (they work best for the cover). Be sure to identify all people in each photo.
8. Remember to call the *Communique* staff if you have any questions. We'd love to hear from you.

## CORRECTIONBOX

There were a few boo-boos in the December *Communique*. I know that comes as a shock, but it's true.

First we want to give credit where credit is due. The majority of the photos on pages 4, 5 and 6 of the Fire Academy's recent celebration were taken by VIP Photographer Larry Angier.

Second, on page 3 the photo of Lowell Fields and Ron Hawkins on the site of the

"new" academy was not taken in 1986 (I think you probably figured that one out), it was taken in 1966.

and

Third, on page 9, in the article about DeWitt Nelson YCC we mention that there's a two-foot aluminum boat available for camp use. Of course there's no such thing as a two-foot aluminum boat, (unless it's for the bathtub), what we really meant was a 20-foot aluminum boat.

Just seeing if you're awake.

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## JUST SMILE

**P**resident Eisenhower had a wonderful quality, an aide once observed. "He could look at people with a smile and get them to do what he wanted."

It's a wonderful quality to have. Other things being equal, a friendly, likable supervisor is always more persuasive than one who isn't.

There's nothing wrong with a pleasant, good-natured approach to people and problems - in fact, there's none better. The strange thing is that we so often forget to use it.

Why?

One reason is that - under pressure of business - we sometimes take ourselves too seriously. We get to thinking about our own feelings and problems and for-

get about the other fellows's.

Another reason - a bit more subtle - is that so many people think they have to be gruff or grumpy in order to appear firm and decisive and to get things done. That isn't so.

You can be just as firm and decisive with a smile on your face as you can with a scowl. And just as convincing too - once people have learned that you have a habit of meaning what you say and following through to make it stick.

If you take a minute to think of some of the best bosses you've ever worked for, you'll find that most of them...

- were approachable and easy to talk to,
- rarely became overexcited or flew off the handle,

- didn't let a few problems poison their whole outlook,

- took a friendly, pleasant approach,

- and showed consideration for the feelings of the people who worked for them.

It's no pleasure to work for a disagreeable, grouchy boss. His, (or her) attitude is bound to create feelings of distaste and resentment that will, sooner or later, have an adverse effect on the performances of his, (or her) subordinates.

When it comes to dealing with people, there are very few things that can't be done with a pleasant approach and a smile on your face - and done better because of them.

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## In flight

### JOINT AIR ATTACK IN REDDING

**F**inishing touches are being applied to the new California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) and United States Forest Service (USFS) joint air attack base in Redding.

The Shasta-Trinity National Forest Engineering Staff provided the design, contracting, and contract inspection for the \$1.6 million project. Included in the two story building are a double office for the CDF Fire Captain and USFS Assistant Tanker Base Manager; a pilot's day room and a pilot-ready room with a kitchenette that doubles as a 20-person classroom; a three-bay shop that has two large storage rooms, one for aircraft parts and the other for the three USFS (call when needed) fire crew gear; a hangar to house CDF's Air Attack 240; and a large dispatch office. The base layout provides for four retardant loading pits, a day off/maintenance pad, retardant plant pad and two helipads.

The base was pressed into service in early September due to the fire siege up north. Approximately half of the 846,000 gallons pumped at Redding were from the new facility.

In a separate joint venture CDF and the USFS entered into an agreement for mixing and loading retardant into the airtankers. The agencies will no longer spend budgeted dollars to maintain a retardant plant that is prone to corrosion. The retardant delivered into the airtankers this season will cost approximately



two cents less per gallon than last year and CDF/USFS personnel will not have to do the work.

A third item of interest is Tanker 01. The Aero Union Corporation of Chico is the contractor for the Redding USFS airtanker. Aero Union decided to replace their DC-4 (Tanker 18) with a newly engineered SP2H (Tanker 01), a twin-engine aircraft with a 2,000-gallon capacity.

The retardant tank is unique because it has only one drop gate that spans the entire length of the tank. The gate opens and closes against head pressure and the width of the open door determines the gallons dropped.

Make sure you stop in to see the first joint CDF/USFS airtanker base built from the ground up the next time you're in Redding.

(Cont. on pg. 9)





*Aero Union Corporation's Tanker 01 looks a lot different than CDF's S-2's.*

## JOT IT DOWN

**W**'ve been meaning to let you know that the Aircraft Parts Service Center in Fresno (see August 1987 *Communicé*) has changed its name to the Aviation Support Facility.

## COLUMBIA AIR ATTACK BASE

by Fire Captain Bob Sutton

**N**estled in the pines, in the middle of the beautiful Mother Lode county of Tuolumne sits the Columbia Air Attack Base. Situated within the Tuolumne-Calaveras Ranger Unit near Columbia State Park the base provides initial attack for the Madera-Mariposa and Amador-El Dorado ranger units, and Stanislaus National Forest and Yosemite Park; an initial attack area of approximately 3.6 million acres.

CDF took over administration of the base from the U.S. Forest Service in 1966. It remained a jointly operated base until 1975 when the forest service relocated in Stockton. CDF moved the loading area off the end of the runway toward the east side of the taxiway and constructed a new retardant storage area and air base office tower. It was a large undertaking but as the 1967 Fire Season broke the base was just about ready for action. The next large improvement came in 1982 when the loading ramp was reconstructed for a cleaner and safer operation.

Columbia is a Phos Check base with 60,000 gallons of retardant wet storage. The base is limited to the S-2 airtanker but in past years it has seen many types of tankers, even a B17 that was not asked to return after it ripped up the old runway on its departure. The base's runway is 4,200 feet long with a 1,200-foot dirt extension on the south end which was constructed 12 years ago for the safety of the airtanker operations.

Today Tanker 76 and Tanker 100 call Columbia home along with Air Attack 440 and Copter 404.

### 1987 STATISTICS

Tanker 76 flew 177 hours and dropped 197,000 gallons of retardant. Tanker 100 flew 146 hours and dropped 153,000 gallons of retardant. Air Attack 440 flew 198 hours on 174 incidents. Copter 404 flew 350 hours since May 15 with 15 initial at-

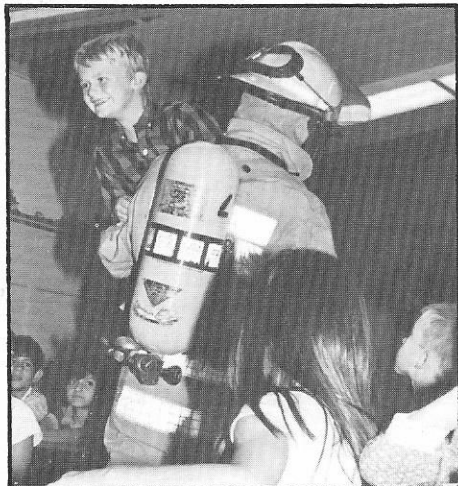
tacks and dropped 470,400 gallons of water.

Columbia shipped out 341,600 gallons of retardant in spite of being closed down due to smoke for over two weeks during the Stanislaus Complex fires.



# VIP news

## FIRE PREVENTION AWARENESS



A first grader from the Romoland Elementary School is carried off by Firefighter Tracey Hobday as he demonstrates how firefighters save those trapped in burning houses during a VIP fire prevention program.

The program was the second year of a joint venture between VIP's and engine company personnel during Fire Prevention Week in October.

(The photo is by Hali Bernstein, The Hemet News)

## SMOKEY HELPS A WISH COME TRUE



A group of 30 children, ages 6 to 13, from New Zealand, received a surprise visit from Smokey, and the San Diego Ranger Unit's Volunteers in Prevention when they visited San Diego as part of the "Make-A-Wish" Foundation. This worldwide program is a non-profit organization that helps make a dying child's "wish" come true.

The children were flown here courtesy of New Zealand Airlines for a week filled

with activities. During one of those activities Smokey made a surprise appearance to shake hands, pose for photos and help the VIPs pass out fire prevention materials. Some of the children were confined to wheelchairs, others were quiet and withdrawn, but all were eager to meet Smokey.

The evening proved to be a great success, and Smokey will now be included in the future plans of San Diego's Make-A-Wish Foundation.

# Forestry features

## RIVERSIDE RANGER UNIT INCIDENTS TOP PREVIOUS YEARS

Riverside Ranger Unit responded to 41,804 emergency incidents in 1987, a figure that tops any in previous years.

Responses ranged from public service assists, to large, complex wildland fires. At an average rate of 114 incidents per day, crews were sent out to a new incident every 13 minutes.

The emergency command center (ECC) at ranger unit headquarters in Perris dispatches for 71 fire stations in Riverside County and several fire districts. To handle the load, four radio con-

soles are used. One initial attack console is used for dispatching in west county, the other for east county. The other two consoles provide support for extended emergency incidents.

Riverside RU previously used a second ECC in Indio to dispatch in the east county. However, in February 1983, extensive radio microwave equipment was installed which made it possible to remotely control the telecommunications equipment from the Perris ECC.

Because of the rapid growth of Riverside County, and the yearly increase in emergency incidents, the ECC staff gets valuable assistance from station personnel who compile information about new street and target hazards. This information is entered into the computer-assisted dispatching system to help determine the closest station to respond to an emergency.

## HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM UNIQUE TO RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Since the Riverside County Hazardous Materials Team went into full operation on June 1, 1986 it has responded to more than 350 calls in Riverside County alone.

The team is made up of CDF/Riverside County Fire Department and Riverside County Health Department personnel. Hazardous material incidents require a large number of personnel. To accomplish this, the Riverside County Hazardous Materials Response Team is comprised of five members and a decontamination team of engine company per-

(Cont. on pg. 11)



◀ No way! Proof of the power of the Douglas-fir to survive and reproduce just 10 years later.

▶ And here we have the same view in 1965. To the untrained eye this area looks like it has never been logged.



When the forest is cleared, a new stand of vigorous trees is planted, providing the best growth and quality timber.

Any forest is part of a natural process of plant succession — if a plant or tree dies, another will take its place, and growth is constantly renewed. A plant community will not remain the same forever. Eventually other species develop and dominate the stand. For example, the composition of a redwood stand will change within several decades if left untouched.

Clearcutting, and other forest management methods, are simply ways to manage the changes that naturally occur, said Bruce.

An alternative management method, used on uneven-aged trees, is selection harvesting. This regeneration method involves the removal of individual trees or small groups which allows the trees that are left to develop as crop trees.

With selection harvesting, however, the best trees (those that are genetically superior) are often removed unintentionally.

The largest trees, appearing to be the oldest, are removed in the belief that the younger trees will develop. If improperly applied, this practice “can downgrade the genetic base of the forest,” said Bruce, as well as encourage the growth of less valuable timber.

Most foresters believe that clearcutting is the best way to manage some forest stands. Although it’s effective in providing the best growth, it’s not very attractive, because it temporarily reduces an area of forest to stumps.

“It’s very ugly to see an area that’s clearcut,” said Bruce, and that’s one of the charges forest managers are facing.

Those opposed to clearcutting also claim it alters wildlife habitat and harms the soil. However, “there isn’t really any evidence to show that careful logging harms the soil,” Bruce said. Clearcutting does alter wildlife habitat, though some species thrive on the change in plant species after a harvest. In time, as the new stand develops, some of the earlier habi-

tat characteristics are restored.

Foresters draw a parallel between forests and agricultural land. Trees are like crops — they are harvested to meet the needs of a timber-demanding society, and then stimulated to regrow. “We’re not abusing the land like they (early timber operators) did 75 years ago,” he added.

Unlike petroleum or mineral resources, trees are renewable, and they also have aesthetic value.

“Many people have emotional ties to trees,” he said. “People have the idea that once they’re gone they will never be back. Foresters can accept the cutting down of trees because they know there will be more there.”

Most forest managers believe, in essence, that clearcutting is not a method of destruction but of rejuvenation.

The enjoyment of untouched forests is preserved in state and national parks. These areas reserved from cutting are the finest specimens of old growth forests.

(Cont. on pg. 13)

(Cont. from pg. 12)



Another disaster on NOYO Land and Cattle Co. land clearcut in 1905 to make room for a "cattle ranch"???? Clearcut from ridge to ridge by old-time loggers and burned and reburned to kill the forest and create pasture, it's an ugly site (note the circled shed).



That same ranch in 1977. Redwoods have taken back the land; but still left a little room for the cattle.

## TREE SPIKING/ECODEFENSE by Laurel Goddard

On a Friday morning last May, a band saw on a headrig at Louisiana-Pacific's Cloverdale sawmill smashed into an 11-inch bridge timber nail, shattering the saw, and shooting a huge blade at a L-P employee.

George Alexander, then 23, had been married only a month before the accident, in which a piece of saw smashed into him — nearly killing him. Despite his protective gear, he received a severe gash in his left cheek, a split jaw bone, loss of several teeth, and two sliced neck veins. Had it not been for the quick thinking of a fellow employee, who held the slashed veins closed until help arrived, he may have bled to death. He survived, but faces extensive reconstructive surgery.

The log that he was sawing had been "spiked" sometime before its harvest, by radical environmentalists opposed to logging.

Alexander is a victim of "tree spiking," a dangerous practice by some violent environmentalists in which metal spikes are driven into trees in areas selected for logging, in hopes the trees won't be cut. What these "saboteurs" don't realize, said Len Theiss, CDF resource management forester, "is that their act will most likely assure that the trees they are attempting to save through spiking will be cut." CDF advises landowners to cut down any and all trees suspected of being spiked. Tree spikes are like "hidden time bombs," Len said. They become harder to detect as the tree grows, which passes the danger on to future landowners.

Tree spiking is not new. According to Audubon magazine, union dissidents spiked trees at the turn-of-the-century and again in 1940. There has been a law against spiking on record since 1876. Tree spiking is one of many sabotage methods, collectively referred to as "environmental terrorism," listed in the

book "Ecodefense: A Field Guide to Monkey Wrenching," published by members of Earth First!, a radical environmentalist group. The authors say there have been tree spiking incidents in National Forests everywhere, including both western and eastern states, Canada and Australia.

Other popular sabotage methods include road spiking and tampering with heavy equipment. On Nov. 28, 1987, environmental terrorists built a roadblock with plywood and railroad ties in an underpass to delay the start of the annual Barstow-to-Las Vegas motorcycle race, claiming the cycles churn up ecologically fragile desert land. According to the Bureau of Land Management, the road hazard could have killed somebody.

But the sabotage doesn't stop there. Radicals also remove road survey spikes, disable mining machinery, topple power lines, jam locks, shoot out lights and windows, clog telephone lines, destroy billboards, foul seismograph lines and cut

(Cont. on pg. 14)

(Cont. from pg. 13)

fences — all in the name of Mother Earth.

The goal of these destructive pranks is to raise operation and insurance costs, and delay or shut down entire operations.

"It's always interesting to me that these felons refuse to acknowledge that without the myriad of products of timber harvest, mining, oil production, and livestock production, their tactics would not be possible," said Robbie Andersen, vice president of communications for the Western Timber Association.

These extremists use such violent methods, according to the "field guide" authors, because "...picketing and sit-ins quickly lose their newsworthiness. Boycotts can't touch primary industries because they lack a consumer market."

In a December interview, Earth Firster Nel Ludd (not her real name) told the San Francisco Chronicle why she likes secret sabotaging. "It's always exciting...for once you feel empowered in a world that tries to take your power away. You're demanding that your voice be heard."

The Earth First! motto is "no compromise in defense of Mother Earth." The group is sending a loud and violent message to a world it claims is "pushing the planet to the brink of ecological disaster" (S.F. Chronicle, 12/7/87).

"When peaceful protest turns to vio-

lent destruction as a way to preserve the wilderness, it is time to differentiate between true environmental concern and outright terrorism," said a Chronicle editorial.

Land management officials, as well as rational environmentalists say environmental issues should be fought in the legislature or in court, where no lives are threatened.

Louisiana-Pacific has reported various tree spikings in Mendocino and Sonoma counties as recent as July 1987. Saboteurs have also threatened to use ceramic spikes, which are harder to detect.

"They have a right to their opinions," said Glenys Simmons, public relations director for L-P in Ukiah. "But they don't have the right to injure or possibly kill somebody."

Not only is it an intrusion of private property, but a total disregard for human life, she added.

To combat tree-spiking, L-P is installing metal detectors in all its sawmills. "We're doing what we can to protect our employees," Simmons said.

She also said the best thing to combat action like tree spiking "is to get the facts out there. Environmentalists words are never based on facts," they are based mainly on emotions.

One specific fact she emphasizes is this: North Coast logging regions are growing far more trees than they are harvesting. In Sonoma County, the growth

rate is three times the cut rate.

Although there are environmentalist groups fighting "terrorism," extreme, violent methods will probably continue, said Simmons, because "there's too much money behind groups, lobbyists" in Washington, D.C. "We have to take a stand individually."

In addition, Earth First! is not an organized group. They hold no meetings and have no bylaws. All communication is done through secrecy, and through the "how-to" ecodefense guides. Consequently, there are no leads to follow to make any arrests.

Tree spiking is now punishable by up to three years in prison, six years if an injury results, and nine years if a serious injury results. It's also a misdemeanor to possess a spike with the intent of spiking a tree.

Rational environmental protection groups use lobbying as their primary tactic. One such group, the National Wildlife Federation, with its 5.1 million members, is the largest conservation group. Its president, John Hair, condemns the radical actions of groups like Earth First! "They're outlaws and criminals and should be treated as such."

Earth Firsters say violent acts such as tree spiking are last resorts, and when done properly, should pose no threat of injury.

Tell that to George Alexander.

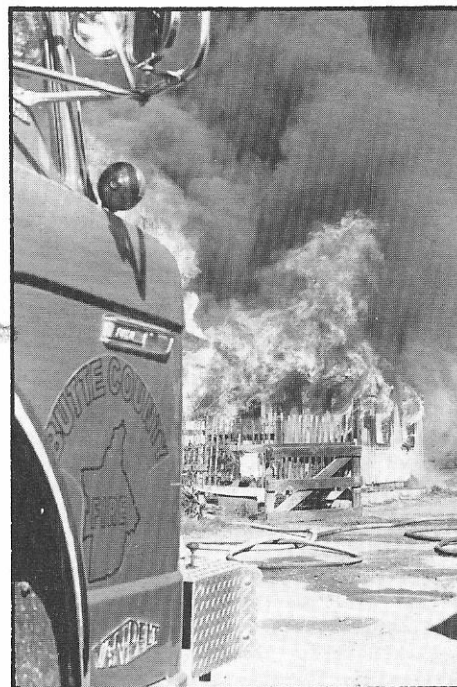
## LIVE FIRE TRAINING IN BUTTE

by FAE Mike Brown

Photo by Darren Read  
Butte Ranger Unit Photographer

**B**utte County Fire Department recently conducted a live fire training exercise to educate new volunteer firefighters in fireground safety and structural firefighting strategies and tactics.

It was quite a cooperative effort with the following participants: Incident Commander, Battalion Chief Dan Dyer; Safety Officer, Fire Captain Roy Sprague; Engine Companies # 63, 64 and 55; volunteer fire companies from Thermalito, Kelly Ridge, Gangor and Palermo.



*This structure is going up in flames for a good reason; firefighter training.*

## Personnel Transactions

### SACRAMENTO HEADQUARTERS

*Promotion* - Paul Knott to MST.

*Appointments* - Donald Falloon to Ofc. Tech. (G); Sara Sanchez to Acctg. Tech.; Jim Hope to Assoc. Gov. Progm. Anal.; Francis Taylor to Training Ofcr. II, and George Mattos to HEM, both to Fire Academy; Pat Fuller to Staff Anal. (Communications); Kathy Stillman to Acctnt. I (Spec.); Elaine Wolff to Acct. Clk. II; Barbara Laveroni to Of. Tech. (T); and Judy Guerrero to Labor Relations Spec. I.

(Cont. on pg. 15)

### SOUTHERN REGION

**Transfers** - FC's Referred C. Hill to Rainbow CC, and William G. Britton to Riverside; Ofc. Tech. (T) Dorothy I. Donnel to Hqs.

**Promotion** - Edward A. Green to FC, Youth Training Schl., Chino; Rob. A. Daugherty to FAE, San Diego, and Jerry P. Loya to FAE, San Bernardino; Douglas R. Witham to FC, Bautista, and James Huntsman to FC, Norco; Randolph W. Wilson to SFR I, Bautista; James M. Wright and Michael Brown to SFR I, Riverside.

**Appointments** - Jess C. Wilson to HFEO, Morena CC; William A. Renner to HEM, McCain Valley CC; Lynne M. Hisserich to FF II, Riverside, and Verne P. Elmore to FF II, San Bernardino; Ardyce J. Cunningham to Sec., San Luis Obispo; and Sue M. Reed to OA II (T), Riverside; Robert T. Wolf to FF II, Riverside.

**Separations** - Steno. (B) Marie F. Lee, San Diego, and FC Stephanie Regis, Riverside; FC's Robert G. Cox and Mark T. Baker, both from Riverside; Ofc. Tech. (T) Jeanine Dowling, San Luis Obispo; Dispatch Clk, Martha Pfrommer, San Bernardino; and FC Richard J. Maxcy, Puerta La Cruz CC.

**Reinstatements** - Alan P. Mason and Charles W. Pruet to FF II, both San Bernardino; Katherine Dargan to FAE, San Luis Obispo; Dolores Chacon to MST, Hqs.; Kevin Gaines and Danny R. Ulvevadet to FF II, both to San Bernardino.

### SIERRA CASCADE REGION

**Transfers** - FC (B)'s James L. Gilman and George R. Poe to Deadwood CC; OA II (T) Linda M. Nehr to Hqs.; FAE's Michael R. Chuchel to Butte, and Edward L. Almeda to Lassen-Modoc.

**Promotions** - James E. Gunderson to SFR I, Sugar Pine CC; Patrick L. Carpenter to SFR I, Shasta-Trinity, and James P. Thomas Jr. to SFR I, Trinity River CC; Peter E. Gonzales to FC (A), Tehama-Glenn; Dennis L. McCarty to FAE, Nevada-Yuba-Placer; and Donald H. Uhl to SFR I, Devil's Garden CC.

**Appointments** - Leona R. Oden to OA II (T), Hqs.; and Kathleen R. Steyskal to OA II (T), Shasta-Trinity.

**Reinstatements** - Susan M. Baker to OA II (T), Tehama-Glenn; and Jan L. Gnass to FAE, Tehama-Glenn.

**Retirements** - SFR IV Robert J. Kerstiens, Tehama-Glenn; SFR I Francis A. Cotter, and FC (A) Claude E. Matheson, both Shasta-Trinity; and FC (B) Douglas L. Smethers, Washington Ridge CC.

## EXAMINATION CALENDAR

### Upcoming Examinations

Title	Exam Base	Final Filing Date
Accountant Trainee	Open	March 31
Architectural Assistant	Open	February 18
Associate Electrical Engineer	Open	February 4
Business Service Officer I (Spec/Sup)	Promotional	February 26 (tentative)
Delineator	Open	March 24
Dispatcher Clerk	Open/non promotional	February 11
Forestry and Fire Protection Administrator (formerly Assistant Deputy State Forester)	Promotional	April 7
Programmer II	Promotional	February 5 (tentative)

### Examinations in Progress

Title	Status
Associate Civil Engineer	Interviews anticipated in February
Firefighter II	Interviews anticipated in February
Firefighter II (Paramedic)	Interviews anticipated in February
Fire Prevention Assistant	Interviews anticipated in February
Forester I/II	Interviews anticipated in February/March
Lead Groundskeeper	Interviews anticipated in April
Research Analyst II (Economics)	Interviews anticipated in February
Skilled Laborer	Interviews anticipated in February

Final filing dates are tentative. Do **Not** submit applications for examinations until the Bulletin has been released.

### COAST REGION

**Transfers** - FAE Denis Laughon to San Mateo-Santa Cruz; FC (B) Wiley J. Evans to Delta CC; and For. I Donald MacKenzie to Humboldt-Del Norte.

**Promotions** - Chris Parker to SFR I, Santa Clara; Anthony Almirol to FC (B), Konocti CC; and Barrett McInnis to FC (B), Black Mountain CC; Terri Wilson to FC (A), Santa Clara; James L. Sechrist to SFR I, Delta CC.

**Appointments** - Donald R. Morse to For. Asst. I, DED; Sharon Bull to OA II, Lake-Napa.

**Separations** - HEM Ted Allen, Hqs.; and Sr. Acct. Clk. Carolyn Mackey, Humboldt.

**Reinstatement** - Ofc. Tech. Wendy Ellzey to DED, North

**Retirements** - SFR I Walt Williams, Mendocino; and SFR III Jack McCurnin, Hqs.; Asst. Civ. Eng. Barbara Carlson, Reno Cromer, Hqs.; Ofc. Tech. Barbara Carlson, DED, North; SFR II's Doyle Metheny, Humboldt FC, and Roger Hansen, Mendocino; FC's Lewis Benshoof, Santa Clara, Carl W. King, Mendocino, and Robert Snow, Sonoma; For. III Raymond N. Withrow, Jr. Mendocino.

(Cont. on back cover)

## CENTRAL REGION

**Transfers** - FC Carlos Farre to Fresno-Kings.

**Promotions** - James Smith to For. I, Amador-El Dorado; Dennis M. Boren to SFR I, Madera-Mariposa; Roscoe Rowney to For. II, San Benito-Monterey.

**Appointments** - Keith Cassell, Paul Alvarez, Lewis Jackson, Robert Plascencia, and Andrew Glover all to FAE, Fresno-Kings; Raymond Trygar II, Robert Barron, Richard Hutchinson, John Crivello, Byron Darrington, and Martin Villa, all to FAE, Tulare; John King and Kris Quinones to FAE, Amador-El Dorado; Scott Herrick and Deleta Jones to FAE, San Benito-Monterey; Jeffrey Harter, Gerald Marquez, and Richard Garcia to FF II, all San Benito-Monterey; Andrea Williams to Steno., Fresno-Kings.

**Reinstatement** - Richard Raymond to FAE, Tuolumne-Calaveras.

**Separation** - Ofc. Tech. Nancy Wood, Hqs.

# Mark your calendars

It's CDF Barn Dance time again so mark your calendars for Friday, February 19, 1988. Remember all proceeds go to the Chico Burn Center. Tickets are \$5 per person/\$6 at the door and you're guaranteed a good time with a no host bar, food, dancing and raffle.

It will all take place at Crawford's Barn (at Tiber and Linda Rio) here in Sacramento from 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Dancing will be to the live sounds of the Shady Creek Band.

For more information, tickets or maps contact: Rosalie Turbeville at (916) 445-5571.

**Fire Captain Bob Snow and Heavy Fire Equipment Operator Robert Swearingen and Operations Officer Tony Duckworth** of the Sonoma Ranger Unit are retiring. If you would like to help them celebrate give Maria Lemus a call at (707) 576-2285, Green 202288. More info to come.

All you members of the 25-Year Club get ready for the annual gathering; this year in Fresno on April 9 and 10, 1988 at the Hacienda Inn.

Office of Information & Public Affairs  
1416 Ninth Street, Rm. 1516  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

The CDF Golf Tournament and Wagon Train (RV's) will again be joining the gathering. The golf tourney will be held April 7 and 8 and the Wagon Train will meet on the morning of the 9th.

Notices of these events will be mailed to all current 25-Year Club members and CDF employees who will complete 25-years of state service in 1988.

If you are interested in attending and do not receive a flyer by March 1 contact Secretary Frank Quadro at 1749 Mission Ave., Carmichael, CA 95608, or call (916) 487-4455.

**Runners** - Get in touch with Louis Phillips if you are interested in running a marathon in Los Angeles in March. P.O. Box 1653, Murphy's, CA 95247, (209) 2654 after 7 p.m.

**SKIERS** - Did you participate in the fun last year? If not, why not join us this year.....at the Annual CDF Ski Race/Fun Day (you don't have to be an experienced skier to join in).

The event will take place on March 4 at the Donner Ski Ranch. A flyer is coming but if you'd like more information right now!, contact Karen Harper at CDF Headquarters (916) 445-5620. By the way that's Seasonal Firefighter Jeff Harper (Karen's son) making his way down the slope in last year's race.



## Communique

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

George Deukmejian, Governor  
Jerry Partain, Director  
Lisa Boyd, Editor  
Dave Rodriguez, Graphics  
Vera Fava, Personnel Transactions

Deadline: 5th of each month  
Phone: (916) 445-9920

## SOFTBALL '88

**H**urry and reserve your vacation days now for the 8th annual co-rec Softball Tournament scheduled for May 14 and 15, 1988, in Elk Grove. We expect about 25 participating teams from all portions of the state from San Diego to Eureka. If you would like to sign up or just want information, please write to the coordinator, Tess Albin-Smith at CDF headquarters in Sacramento (P.O. Box 944246, Zip - 94244-2460), or call her at (916) 322-0165. Remember Riverside is the new team to beat!

## Kudos

To the following Fresno-Kings Ranger Unit personnel for completing 25 years of state service:

Ranger Unit Chief Fred Batchelor

Charles Rothgarn (he's completed 40 years of service)

Fire Captain Donald Cooke

Fire Captain Refred "Art" Hill

Fire Captain Wayne Bender

Fire Apparatus Engineer Ed Green

Fire Apparatus Engineer Roy Branum  
and

Fire Apparatus Engineer Gary Reed

To Battalion Chief Dick Tiller of the Chico Air Attack Base who recently completed 25-years of state service.

To Firefighter II Anthony DiStefano of the San Benito-Monterey Ranger Unit who, in the company of Richard Peterson, a New York City fireman, alertly apprehended a robbery suspect who rushed past their lunch site in San Francisco.

To the San Bernardino Ranger Unit Muster Team Men's Hosecart who took 3rd overall in the California Firemen's Muster Association Sanction Muster for the 1987 season. Another notable 1987 win was a first place for both the men's and women's bucket teams in an out-of-state competition in Phoenix, Arizona

To the Pajaro Dunes Fire Department personnel who responded to a call in October for a man with a burst aneurism in his head. Your quick and competent actions were very much appreciated as he is alive today. From his wife, Claire Allphin.

