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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year from all of us at the Museum and thank you all for your continued support and loyalty. 2013 promises to be another great year for the museum thanks to our members, sponsors, the City of Bellflower and your dedicated Museum board of directors!! We had a very busy and productive 2012 that we capped off with our third annual LA County Fire Department Christmas party. As usual this event was great fun and seeing so many friends both active duty and retired made the evening even better. We had great food and an amazing band that kept the dance floor very busy. I am looking forward to the next Christmas party but before that event gets here we have a great deal of work to do.

There have been a few changes to our Board of Directors and while we have a few new faces I am as confident with our new board as I was with the previous one. The underlying commonality with this board and the last is dedication. It really is a pleasure to work with a group of people that are all passionate about our mission.

We have an interesting article to share this month regarding old Engine 7 submitted by retired LA County FD Firefighter Scott Franklin. As we often state, our collection of antique fire engines are nothing more than backdrops for the stories of those that made those fire engines useful. So thank you Scott for your story!

The greatest reward we realize at the museum is connecting with and learning of the contributions made by so many people. Unfortunately every year brings struggle and loss and 2012 was no different. Our fire family suffered many losses and too many of our family are battling illnesses. So as we bid adieu to 2012 and ring in 2013 let us all take time to reflect and think of those we have lost and send a prayer for those who need it most.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Fire Warden and that you may be encouraged to come pay us a visit and celebrate our great history as firefighters.

Paul Schneider
President

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The County of Los Angeles Fire Museum Association is a public benefit nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, established in 1975 and incorporated in 1989. Acquisitions, restorations and operating funds are supported by monthly and annual membership dues paid by over 3,000 active-duty Los Angeles County fire fighters, retirees, members of other fire departments, and the public.

The museum's collection includes more than 60 examples of historic apparatus, some dating back to the late 1800s, as well as hundreds of artifacts and thousands of photographs. The most popular vehicles in the collection are the original paramedic/rescue Squad 51 and the two Engine 51s from the 1970s television show emergency!

In the 1970s there was a television show that ran for seven seasons on NBC. It was wildly popular and was based on the exploits of two fictitious LA County FD Paramedics. This show was considered a “docudrama” and was instrumental in making the term and concept of Paramedic a household name across the world.

Our Department’s early paramedics served as technical advisors as did other Department members including BC James O. Page and their real life job experiences were the inspiration for most of the scenes filmed for the show. Battalion Chief Page would often stage large multi company “drills” for the benefit of the shows producers and their cameras. My Uncle was Chief Page’s boss at the time and would turn a blind eye to BC Page’s real intentions.

I must confess that having to write an introduction to this article defining “emergency!” really makes me feel old. It is actually hard for me to believe that so many firefighters have never even heard of this show. Maybe that’s because “EMERGENCY!” last aired before so many of our personnel were born and I’m having trouble coming to grips with the fact that more than thirty years have passed since I sat in front our family’s big wood cased Zenith television and watched the show’s main characters relive past exploits before signing off forever. But then again maybe I’m not that old, my wife was born that year!! But I digress.

Last month at our open house three very young future Firefighters paid us a visit and drove home the fact that “EMERGENCY!” truly is “The little show that just won’t die” to paraphrase from a quote made by one of the show’s stars, Mr. Randy Mantooth. We have known this fact for years. With so many digital outlets airing old television shows, many new generations are growing up with the old shows and “EMERGENCY!” is among the most popular.

The photograph that inspired me to write this article tells the story far better than I can. This is a scene often repeated at our open houses and is encouraging that these young kids may someday follow their hearts and realize a lifelong dream to be a Firefighter and or Paramedic all because of a little show that just won’t die.

BUY Museum photos: www.LACoFireMuseum.com
I like picking pictures from our archive for this section of our newsletter that lend themselves to the interjection of some humor. This image fits that criteria quite well and also drives home an important fact that all current firefighters should take note of. Our as of yet unidentified firefighter from days gone by, decided to capture this moment in his career on film. What better backdrop than this rootbeer colored 1940s vintage “Woody”. I know of no other such vehicles used by our Department, but if there were others, I would sure like to hear about them. What a classic.

The “10-R-1” designates this vehicle as a “Rescue”. Rescues in this period of time were more akin to today’s USAR missions than to medical. The equipment carried was geared toward physical rescue needs. The most advanced medical equipment carried would have been an “inhalator” which was basically a positive pressure respiration device. This vehicle was housed at Fire Station 10, which at that time was located in the City of Downey, before that city formed its own department in 1957. Our firefighter has his pose all set but his “gig” line is a mess. The “gig” line is a line formed by the buttons of your shirt, your belt buckle and the front centerline or zipper of your pants. In the training tower we were rather harshly reminded to check our “gig” lines, so to this day I still do!

Another interesting detail is the man’s white crew neck undershirt. For the last fifty plus years L.A. County Firefighters have worn white V-neck undershirts. Currently our uniform committee is looking into allowing navy blue crew neck undershirts to be worn. Personally I do not care for the new proposed policy as I would rather not look like other departments including many we took over. The current uniform committee may want to ask why our Department went to V-necks in the first place. It seems that the Department grew weary of having to demand that some among the ranks replace their grungy looking white crew neck undershirts resplendent with serious “ring around the collar” so they decided to eliminate the problem by changing our uniform policy and eliminating crew neck undershirts all together. Gone were the nasty looking crew necks and in were the V-necks that were not visible under the uniform shirt or jacket. History! Know it or be prepared to learn it the hard way!

Now when I started to write this article the whole uniform policy thing was not on my mind but developed along the way. What I want current firefighters to take note of is how Firefighters are Firefighters regardless of the time in history they serve. As proof I offer the knucklehead who has weaseled his way into the image. Look through the window of the vehicle over our subject firefighter’s right shoulder. There he is. You know him, you may be him! I know I do and I have been. Getting your picture taken in front of the firehouse by your engine, truck, squad or rescue has always been risky. The more things change the more they stay the same.
From the Shop

By Paul Schneider

We are finally getting back to our restoration projects. I wish we had more time to devote to restoration work as we really enjoy the hands on work and returning old fire engines and equipment to their former glory. Our two biggest priorities are our 1930 Moreland and our 1903 American “Metropolitan” Steam engine. You have read about our work on these vehicles in past issues of the Fire Warden.

Each year we state that “this will be the year we will complete these restorations” and here we are once again making the same statement. Hopefully we won’t have to make the same claim again next year.

Here is an update and some more information on the two vehicles and our restoration efforts.

“Pumper J,” our 1930 Moreland, has actually progressed significantly over the past year. We had a new water tank fabricated and then reassembled the rig to check the fit of the tank, hose bed, fenders and all other body panels before we send all those parts to the paint shop. Last week our sheet metal guy, Bob Key, finished the metal skinning of the wooden transverse mounted toolbox, which will also be heading to the paint shop. The chassis and drivetrain are basically complete including the 4 wheel hydraulic drum brakes. We were pleasantly surprised to find that this fire engine had such brakes as most fire engines from that era in our collection have 2 wheel mechanic brakes.

We have decided to paint Pumper J in the paint scheme it carried in 1936 which is a two tone green. As originally painted it was one solid dark green color. Since we have another LA County FD green fire engine from 1925 that we will paint in the earlier scheme we

Photos by: St. Amant
thought it a good idea to showcase the later green scheme which was used when our Department changed names from the Los Angeles County Forestry Department to the County of Los Angeles Department of Forester and Fire Warden. This change occurred in 1936. It is important to remember that our Department had both green and red fire engines prior to the end of World War II. The green fire engines were assigned to the Forestry Division of our Department. The red fire engines were assigned to the Fire Protection Districts. The Fire Protection Districts provided urban fire protection. The Forestry Division was concerned with protection of the great LA County watershed. A more detailed explanation of the “Districts” and “Forestry” will be included in a future newsletter.

The effort to complete the restoration of our 1903 American “Metropolitan” Steam engine is achieving success as well. Our gold leaf expert a.k.a. “Bruce the Brush” is steadily adding amazing detail to all the painted surfaces of the old fire engine. Bruce carefully documented all the remaining decoration prior to our repainting work and is now reapplying all of the decoration. It is really coming out great and when completed will make our steam engine one of the nicest in the country. Joe Woyjeck is fabricating new brackets for the front of the coal box, Bobby Watanabe is handling the wood work and I am assembling. I can not wait to see this amazing machine in operation again and am looking forward to learning how to operate a steam powered fire engine. The last major job to complete is still the 700 GPM piston water pump. We have been holding off on its restoration until the rest of the old rig was complete but are now rethinking that strategy and may go ahead and get started on it. Once complete we will need to find or fabricate a hose wagon to go along with the steam engine. But that is for another day!
Re: OLD ENGINE 7

Thank you for preserving this relic. I have some Historical data that would be of interest.

The “Liberty Canyon Fire” occurred in October 1958 in the area of what is now Agoura Hills just north of Fire Station 125. There was a Santa Ana wind event beginning, it was blowing about 20 MPH at the time. We responded to a third alarm from Fire Station 73 (Newhall) to a fire in Malibu Canyon at the Century Ranch (Where MASH was filmed). I was a fireman at 73’s and assigned to Patrol 273 that day. When we hit Las Virgines Road, Malibu reported the Century Ranch fire was contained. (We had dispatch centers: L.A., Valley, Soledad (73’s) and Malibu (65’s).

I observed smoke north on Ventura Blvd. (No 101 Fwy) and arrived on scene of a grass fire moving southerly across a hay field with the Santa Ana Winds increasing to above 30 mph (trees were bending over). On arrival, an off duty LACoFD engineer, “Moon Blakely” grabbed a hose line from the patrol and we almost had the grass fire curtailed when the rear axle snapped; we were then fighting to save the patrol. Chief Paul Clark, Battalion 6, later said “You should have let the ‘SOB’ burn”. The fire progressed across the field to a barn, and there were two 50 gallon containers of gasoline that ignited. The fire moved into Liberty Canyon onto a ranch owned by actor Buddy Ebson.

MyCaptain, “Shorty” Widenfelter arrived and said we were to go over to Mulholland and Cornel Road. Chief Harvey Anderson ordered us to set a backfire starting at Mulholland and Cornel Road. I was given a dozen fuzzee’s by Shorty and told to run into the drainage about 300’ and ignite everything in site. The main head of the fire was still a quarter of a mile away to the north. There were several engines assisting; 73, 373, 82, and 7.

The Santa Ana had increased to...
gale strength (above 50 mph) and when the back fire collided with the flaming front, it took on catastrophic proportions, blowing over us and Mulholland and spotting into Malibu Lake. The flame front was massive not unlike a BLEVE (Boiling Liquid Evaporating Vapor Explosion). In the path was a ranch called Yearling Row owned by then “B” actor, Ronald Reagan.

Engine 7 moved in and saved Reagan’s barn and Engine 82 (Captain Clyde Bragdon) saved his house. I believe Paul Desautels was the Captain on Engine 7.

I have vivid memories of Engine 7 because the whole area was ignited with the flashover and they did a great job. Reagan came over and thanked them. He was in riding boots and looked great!

This was the fire that caught Engines 14 and 58 in Corral Canyon. This was later termed a “Historical Wildfire Corridor”. So, Old Engine 7 has some significant History.

Scott E. Franklin
USAF 50-53 GUINNER B-29’S
LACoFD 55-91, Urban Wildland Fire Consultant

SAVE THE DATE 5-18-2013
Your Los Angeles County Fire Museum will be hosting a
FIRE MEMORABILIA SWAP MEET at our Bellflower location
May 18th 2013 from 8AM to 2PM
This event is in the development stages and more information will be forthcoming. This event will be your opportunity to buy quality fire department antiques from seasoned collectors and traders, parts and equipment for your vintage fire engine and fire department related clothing. Come see the Museum’s collection, pick up some treasures, have a bite to eat and swap some stories! Keep an eye on our website, Facebook page, and newsletters for more information which will be coming soon!! See you there.
Quite often people call us and offer to donate their antique fire engine or inquire as to whether or not we'd be interested in buying one that they own. Most of the time we respectfully decline siting the simple fact that we already have more than we ever dreamed we'd have and space is a precious and dwindling commodity. We are however receptive to accepting old LA County fire apparatus, horse and hand drawn equipment, early motorized and unique equipment that may have local history. Recently one such vehicle was offered and we gladly accepted it into our collection.

An Apple Valley Firefighter recently gave us a call and spoke to Museum Vice President Joe Woyjeck. He wanted to know if we would be interested in a “Fire Jeep”. A 1956 CJ5 modified by the Crown Firecoach Company of Los Angeles to serve as a light and quick fire engine for the Firestone Tire Company of Southgate California to be more precise. He explained that this was one of four such Jeeps thus modified by the famous fire apparatus manufacturer and that he wanted it to go to a good home. Joe asked the prospective donor to send us an email further describing the Jeep:
The uniqueness, local history, condition, cool factor and the fact that Firestone has been a sponsor and friend of the Museum, made accepting the Jeep into our collection an easy decision. Museum volunteer Jim Woyjeck travelled to Apple Valley to pick the Jeep up and bring it “home” to Bellflower. Joe Woyjeck along with his crew from FS23 have already begun the process of getting everything checked out, serviced and prepped to put a battery to the motor to fire it up. The Jeep is very complete and original including the paint and hand painted “Firestone” on the hood.

Joe and his crew are planning on pulling the body off to give everything a good cleaning and complete the above mentioned work to ensure the Jeep is a good solid runner with minimal leaks. They even plan on getting the Waterous pump back in service. Once that is done we will re-outfit it with period equipment and enjoy it. Someday (year) we may perform a frame off restoration. Joe has already told me that I will NOT be allowed to paint it green and mount a machine gun on it. So much for being the President!!!

We are sure this addition to our collection will be very well received and popular. In fact the editor of “Jeep Magazine” is coming to see it this month and we are hoping that he will decide to run a story on our Jeep in a future edition, thus giving the Museum great exposure.

Thank you Rob for thinking of us!! We will take good care of the Jeep and hope you come visit us often.

“LA County firefighter Keith Close (Station 85 “B” shift) and I were at a garage sale one day here in Apple Valley and asked the lady of the property if we could look at some of the older vehicles on the property. We were looking around and beneath this old homemade carport we found this older “fire jeep” with all these Crown markings. Growing up in the fire service and being a professional firefighter, I immediately recognized the significance of the factory placed Crown badges. After Keith and I got done checking the rig out, we proceeded to try to find out how this older lady scored this engine. She began to tell us that her father was one of the plant managers for the Firestone Tire Company plant in South Gate and when the plant closed he had purchased the jeep and brought it home. She said for years that her father would water the trees and alfalfa field with it. I asked if it would be something that she would be interested in selling. She said she would have to check with the rest of her family, and about 8 months later I was lucky enough to purchase it. In the meantime, I had done my homework on this apparatus and found that it indeed had been built directly for the Firestone Tire Company in South Gate in 1957. The factory serial # is F1078 and the Job # is 5958. This Jeep was the first of a total of four Crown Firecoaches made on Jeep chassis. The other three were made for Douglas Aircraft in Long Beach. I felt that the LA County Fire Museum would be the best place for it to be appreciated by all and that you had the resources available to put it back to its original condition”

Thanks Again,
Rob Qualls
Fire Engineer / Paramedic
Apple Valley Fire District
YOUR NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

By Paul Schneider

As I stated in the President’s message there have been a few changes made to the board of directors. Returning to the Board is Gil Garcia who has been with us for about 18 years! Gil is a talented a dedicated member of our organization and a true asset. Gil has been instrumental in our efforts to modernize our expense tracking. We are now putting his efforts to work for 2013 having used 2012 as the test year. Some fine tuning is still needed but Gil is on top of it. Gil also handles our merchandise “sales” taking orders and shipping items. Our 40th anniversary “Emergency” T-Shirts have been immensely popular and keeping up with the demand is very challenging. Thanks for all you do Gil. We’re glad to have you back on the board. I should note that even though Gil was not officially on the Board the last few years he was just as involved as ever.

A new face to our Board is LA County FD Engineer Matt Winters. I call him our “Sky Pilot” since he is also a fire department Chaplain. Well officially not a Chaplain since that term is not PC and at least one guy on the Department took offense but that is another story. Matt is an avid student of our Department’s history and is being trained by our Department Historian, Dave Boucher, to become our Department’s new official historian. Matt brings with him a can do spirit and has no problem diving into the work. I am already trying to dump as much work on him as I can get away with. I have no doubt that Matt will prove to be a very valuable asset to the museum. Welcome aboard Matt!

The two former board members whose vacancies were filled by Gil and Matt are Nancy McFarland and my brother Howard Schneider. Nancy has been a very dedicated and tireless member of our Museum since the late 1990s and brought so much to our organization. I would say her two greatest accomplishments were giving our organization and National footprint and the Pioneers of Paramedicine program that brought the four doctors who were so instrumental in creating the Paramedic program together at our museum in May 2010 followed by a gala dinner event at the Biltmore Hotel where the doctors received long overdue lifetime achievement awards. Nancy always thought big! I hope she will be able to find the time to stay involved as she truly brings great vision and devotion. Stay in touch Nancy!!

My brother Howard is getting close to retiring from the Torrance FD and will be going home to Montana. Howard is the one responsible for my great interest in history and fire department history in particular so I am not sure if I should thank him or smack him. He and I have been restoring fire engines together since 1995 and the times we spent together turning wrenches and busting knuckles have been some of the greatest times of my life. Together we have restored the Museum’s 1954 Mack, 1955 Crown, rebuilt a 1922 REO he and I own, have been restoring a 1923 Stutz ladder truck, rebuilt the engine on the 1928 Seagrave, worked together on the Museum’s 1903 American Steam engine and 1930 Moreland. He has helped maintain the museum’s large collection and has taken part in more events than I can list. Howard has helped me move most of the fire engines in our Southgate facility and just about every other item in that building at least a dozen times! No wonder he’s leaving for Montana!! Actually he vows to stay involved with the museum and come down here for a couple of weeks every three months so I will be looking forward to those few weeks. In the near future he hopes to have a nice shop at his home so we can restore old stuff there too. I am looking forward to that. Turn wrenches, bust Knuckles then go play on the Missouri river or shoot gophers. Good times. What can I say? Get that shop built big (and older) brother!
A few months ago, I had the pleasure of meeting Art Millette. Although he was obviously very weak from the cancer he had been diagnosed with, we had a great chat about the vintage fire engines at the Los Angeles County Fire Museum and those rigs he worked on during his 30-year career with the Los Angeles County Fire Department. He told me that he was happy that he finally made it to the Museum. Art said that he wanted to make a donation to the museum and handed me a cool old Los Angeles County “Deputy Fire Warden” badge. This badge was given to him by his best friend, Chuck “Bud” Debo. Bud gave Art the badge with the following note:

“Art, this badge was given to me by my uncle Joe Carlin a year before his death in 2004. He told me this was his first badge working for the Los Angeles County Fire Department. He worked for LACo Fire from 9/15/1946 until 1/4/1973. He died on 7/29/2004. He retired as a captain and he enjoyed a long retirement. His brother Pat was also a LACo Fire Captain and enjoyed a long career also. He passed away on 2/6/1981. I was always proud that my uncles and my best friend (Art Milliette) were LACo Firemen. Thanks for being my great friend for all these years! It’s my pleasure to leave this badge to you. Do what you like with it.

Your friend, Bud (Chuck Debo)”

I humbly accepted this cool, old badge and the note that came with it from Art on the behalf of the Los Angeles County Fire Museum. This badge will have a special place in the museum, where all can see it and remember those who came before us.

Unfortunately, Art Millette lost his fight with cancer on Nov. 23, 2012. I have attached a copy of his obituary. I am glad that I was lucky enough to have had the pleasure to meet Art. I am also glad that he took the time to visit the Los Angeles County Fire Museum.

Arthur Roy Millette Jr. was taken on 11/23/2012 by the angels with his family by his side, at his home he loved in Jacksonville, Oregon. Born 6/29/1944 in Los Angeles, CA. His father Art (Chief) was with the merchant marines and at Pearl Harbor during the attack, and his mother Lila Robertson, was a hard working “Rosie the Riveter.” Art grew up in Baldwin Park, CA. He was drafted on his 21st birthday and served 2 years in Vietnam in the 95th Advisory Team, Army Intelligence Recon Patrol, Jungle Warfare.

He returned home to start his career with the LACoFD for 30 years (what he considered the best FD in the world). He talked very much about the brotherhood and lifelong friendships he was privileged to be a part of. He particularly loved extrication and being the tillerman. He worked his last 20 years in Baldwin Park Station 29, his hometown.

Art retired in 1999 to Jacksonville, Oregon to enjoy his passions, snow skiing, biking, camping, river rafting, drag racing and cooking his beloved dishes for his family and friends. He was a beloved husband to Susan, father to Bryan Hawkins and Desiree Furnish (John), his little boogie boo. Art and his family wish to thank his many cherished family and friends for their support through his courageous battle of the Big C.
Low-cal options.
No-cal options.
However-you-and-your-family-roll options.

There are people’s tastes. And then there are people’s taste buds. Satisfying both is why we offer such a wide range of low- and no-calorie options (150 in the U.S. alone), as well as portion-control packages, that can fit into a balanced diet and active lifestyle. Variety — it’s just another thing we’re doing to help make the world we all live in a little bit better. To learn more about what we’re doing and why we’re doing it, join us at livepositively.com
 Seems like every day I hear the term bugles to describe the items that are on the Captain’s badge, collar insignia and hat piece. Phrases like “you’re the one with the bugles” are often spoken. Well, I am not here expecting that I will ever change anything but at the very least it might be nice if more firefighters actually knew what the insignia really is. A bugle is a musical instrument, and for the life of me I cannot find any connection with being a fire officer and thus being musically inclined. Now we may be accused of blowing smoke or tooting our own horns; but musical? No my friends, the insignia has nothing to do with a bugle or any other musical instrument. The item depicted on fire officer’s badges, collar insignia, and hat pieces is actually a trumpet. A speaking trumpet to be exact. The number of these trumpets denotes your level of officer rank. One silver trumpet is a Lieutenant, we actually had Lieutenants on LACoFD at one time way back when. Two silver trumpets for Captain. Battalion Chiefs have two gold trumpets. Assistant Chiefs have three gold trumpets and so on. Ok so what were speaking trumpets and why do they denote fire officers? Speaking trumpets were used on the fireground to amplify the fire officer’s voice so that he may adequately direct the forces under his command. The guy running around with a trumpet yelling at everyone well, he was the one in charge.
It is beautiful, isn’t it? It would not have lasted much longer if it had been left to the elements and an owner who did not want it any more. Now, LACoFD Old Engine 7 is in a safe place. The Museum just saved it from being scrapped. This piece is one of many important pieces that the Los Angeles County Fire Museum is preserving and restoring, along with thousands of artifacts and photographs of fire fighting history.

Your estate planning today can play a huge part in the preservation of your Los Angeles County Fire Department’s firefighting history.

TO MAKE YOUR BEQUEST to the County of Los Angeles Fire Museum Association, please use the following language:

“To the County of Los Angeles Fire Museum Association in Bellflower, CA, I give ___________ % of my estate.” Or you can name a fixed dollar amount.

Recently we received a call from one of our many loyal and dedicated supporters. He wanted to know if he could write the Museum into his will, as he wanted to bequest $25,000 to our efforts. We were really impressed and humbled that this individual who is not an LA County Firefighter thinks so highly of the Museum that he would do such a thing. A few years ago Chief James (Jim) Turner left us $5000 in his will and he had also, before his passing, donated the 1915 Model T Chief’s buggy he had lovingly restored. We have also received verbal commitments from a couple of other LACoFD retirees that they would remember the Museum in their wills.

Now we really hope all of these generous folks are around for a very long time, but it sure is quite a compliment to us that they feel we have created an organization worthy of such support. So to those of you who have already done so, THANK YOU!! To those of you who have not yet considered the Museum for such giving, please do so. There are even tax benefits that you can enjoy right now for supporting non-profits, like the Museum, in such a fashion. Help us keep our LACOFD story alive for future generations!

YES! Please send me information on how to include the County of Los Angeles Fire Museum Association in my will!

I have already included the County of Los Angeles Fire Museum Association in my will.

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
City ___________________________ Zip _____________
State _______________ Country ______
Email ____________________________

Mail to: County of Los Angeles Fire Museum  
Office of Estate Planning  
9834 Flora Vista Street  
Bellflower, CA 90706  

The County of Los Angeles Fire Museum Association is a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt organization.
Attention all retirees!! We need your help. Most of you were financial supporters of the fire museum before you retired. What you may not realize is that your monthly contributions to your Fire Museum cease upon your retirement. Most retirees do not realize this. We are currently carrying 800 hundred retirees on our membership list that are NOT paying dues any longer. Sending you our quarterly newsletter costs us $4000/year and we do so because of your years of support. Active duty LA County Firefighters are asked to contribute $20/month now and many are. These contributions are the lifeblood of our organization and are the reason we are able to preserve so much of our history. If all 800 non-dues paying retirees would contribute $20/month we’d be able to achieve so much more.

When you were active duty members your dues were automatically deducted from your checks. Now that you are retired there are a few ways you can contribute automatically every month. One is if you are F&A Federal Credit Union member. The credit union will set up a monthly transfer into our account. Contact the Credit Union, Olivia Ortiz: 800-222-1226 Ext: 5212, or: ORTIZO@fafcu.org to get this set up. If you are already a member of the union, go to our website at www.lacountyfiremuseum.com/Documents/FandA.pdf to download the form directly.

Another way is to set up automatic payment through your bank of choice. Email Paul “OP” Oyler for our account information at membership@lacountyfiremuseum.com.

You can also go to our website and make monthly donations there but that will require you to do so every month. You can also make an annual donation via our website www.lacountyfiremuseum.com/Donate.html or by sending a check to:

LA County Fire Museum
9834 Flora Vista St
Bellflower, Ca. 90706

Whichever method is easiest for you please consider renewing your financial support for your Fire Museum and also consider us in your estate planning. Remember we are a 501(C)(3), tax exempt organization so your contributions are tax deductible. And one last thing, take a look around your garage or attics and see if you have any of your old Fire Department items such as helmets, turn-outs, tools, photographs, etc. We hate seeing these items end up on eBay after a firefighter passes away. Be sure those items go where they belong. Somewhere where the user of the items will be remembered. And don’t forget to write down some your stories of your career and send them to us as well!! (see Page 9) Thank you!!!
EMERGENCY! FANS...

Are you an avid collector of the EMERGENCY! television show artifacts?

As an EMERGENCY! television show fan, we realize your passion for collecting the artifacts from the 1970’s show. We also understand that there are a select number of fans who enjoy sharing their collections. There are only so many original artifacts remaining, and many fans who want to see them and enjoy the history like you do.

One way that you can share your collection is to remember that the Los Angeles County Fire Museum is where fans come to celebrate the show. Our collection of EMERGENCY! artifacts is growing because of fans like YOU. It is well known that the museum will safely archive the artifacts and provide a venue that will put them on display for all of the show’s fans to see. It will make you feel good to know that they will be exhibited very near the famous Squad and Engine 51!

You can bet, that if the show’s number one fan, Randolph Mantooth, appreciates the artifact donation, many other fans will too!

If you are not quite ready to part with your collection in the near future, we would like to ask you to remember to bequeath your collection to the Los Angeles County Fire Museum in your will.

All you need to do is add the following to your will:
“TO THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES FIRE MUSEUM ASSOCIATION IN BELLFLOWER, CA, I GIVE MY EMERGENCY! ARTIFACT COLLECTION.”

If you are a collector of other firefighting artifacts, we would appreciate your donation equally as well. Oh, and cash bequeaths to help preserve these collections are very welcome! Don’t forget to let us know that you have included us in your will.

Thank You Valvoline for your generous Museum sponsorship! We cannot get it done without our sponsors.
One BEAUTIFUL paint job!
The Los Angeles County Fire Museum trusts Kenny’s to handle their precious collection, don’t you think you should too?

Museum’s 1941 Ford fire engine right after it was painted by Kenny’s!
When you think of our Museum, you probably think of the apparatus, the restorations, and the other aspects of our collection. Our Museum is so much more than that, as you will see by this list representing some of our activities during 2012:

- Attended the return of Army Ranger Sgt Thomas Macpherson remains at Los Al Joint forces base
- Open house at the museum the first Saturday of each month
- Countless private tours to people from across the country
- Opened the museum for the Earl family church group
- Provided apparatus for the release of “BURN” in support of the Detroit firefighters
- Received delivery of a donated 1970 Ambulance
- Received delivery of a “cut away” pump transmission from our friends at Waterous
- Hosted the Diamond “T” club meeting
- Attended Fire conference in Denver
- Attended Fred Earl’s funeral and reception
- Hosted a “Make a Wish” foundation event for an ill child
- Hosted a firefighter car show
- Hosted a job fair for the 1st of the 140 helicopter assault battalion
- Attended fire service day at fire station 129’s
- Assisted with numerous Firefighter funeral services
- Provided equipment to Cal Fed of Fire chiefs event in Palm Springs
- Provided equipment for the FF Cancer support network golf tournament
- Attended the La Canada Memorial day parade (we do not usually do parades)
- Hosted the Bellflower Rotary for lunch
- Hosted “Good Day LA” for a 6am segment on TV
- Participated in the filming of a documentary covering the history of the Fresno fire department, provided our 1877 Silsby steam engine
- Hosted the Los Angeles County Fire widows for lunch
- Hosted the Los Angeles County Fire Museum Christmas party
- Hosted Bellflowers sister city for dinner
- Hired a new lawyer
- Attended fire conference in San Diego
- Provided apparatus for the Lakewood car show
- Provided helmets for honorary LACo Fire Chief’s Mantooth and Tighe
- Provided apparatus for the LA Galaxy “Hero’s” night
- The museum received “Bravo” recognition in the city of Bellflower
- Hosted Long Beach Memorial for Paramedic CE
- Hosted a movie night at the museum
- Hosted John Price’s 70th Birthday
- Hosted Thom Dutton’s retirement get together
- Hosted retirement event for 40 year teacher from Bellflower