



Interim Fire Chief Steve Earley  
3085 St. Lawrence Ave  
Riverside CA 92504

951-826-5321  
www.riversideca.gov/fire



## American Legion Award

Retired Chief Tedd Laycock and Captain Bill Schellhous were selected by the American Legion to receive an award honoring law enforcement and fire services personnel who have distinguished themselves, either through valor or meritorious service. They received their awards at a presentation at La Sierra Fire Station on March 4. Interim Fire Chief Steve Earley, Operations Deputy Chief Oran Pentz, Interim Administrative Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal Mike Esparza, and Battalion Chief Mike Koury attended the ceremony along with both the A and B shift crews at La Sierra Fire Station.

The photo includes (from L to R); Vice Commander Lu Rodriguez, Interim Fire Chief Steve Earley, Retired Fire Chief Tedd Laycock, District 21 Commander Jim Thompson, Captain Bill Schellhous, Post 289 Commander John Ayala



## Upcoming Events...

-**RFD Family Day** on **May 3** at EOC/Training Facility from 1000-1400. Contact Renee Griffin or Dave Campos for fire related activities. Contact Rand Brinkman to join classic car and motorcycle display at 951-351-6102

-RFD Family Night BBQ at the **Quakes** game on **July 11**. Contact Kim Sabatello

-On **May 10**, FF Kristen Johnson will represent our City when running in the **half marathon** in Riverside's sister city, Sendai, Japan. Good luck, Kristen.

-Open invitation to the **Birthday Bash** to celebrate March and April Birthdays. Friday, **April 17** at the YardHouse at the Galleria.

- **Softball** tournaments: **April 18-19** in Palm Springs at Demuth Park. **May 4-7** in Las Vegas to support LOST FIREFIGHTERS FOUNDATION. Contact Chris Adams at 951-553-3415. Lodging at the Monte Carlo. Need players and spectators.



## Work Project Wednesday

RCFA Local 1067 participated in another WPM (Work Project Wednesday) on 3/18 and 3/25 at Eric Botkin's house in Temecula. On 3/18, over 20 RCFA members showed up to help dig up and prepare the yard. They also replaced and repaired the sprinkler system. The following week, sod was laid. Special thanks go out to: Franco Alawi at Excel Equipment Rental for the great price in renting the equipment and trailer. Steve McKinster was able to convince the local Home Depot to donate the sod, and retired Deputy Chief Dave Austin donated the money to pay for the cost of mow curbing. The project truly was a group effort by Local 1067 and the community. Thanks to all who helped out. Participants included:

Steve Mckinster, Nick Barrios, Bret Bauer, Chris Adams and son Nicholas Adams, Scott Hutching, Jeff Lewis, Matt Galik, Dennis Hunt, Eric Wilmer, Bob Markin, Todd Gooch, Tim Vanderhorst, Steve Hallgren, Keith Anderson, Frank Smith, Paul Young, Tony Giovannetti, Steve Loner, Tim Odebralski, Brian Davis, Romney Ellsworth, Jim Reynolds, Jim Ryan, Jeremy Roberts, Steve Scotti, Tim Heying, Craig Kodat, Greg White, Matt Stibal. Thanks to all who helped out. If your name was not included, apologies from the newsletter staff.



### Congratulations

**12 month probation:** Scott Semer

**Truck Certification:** Shawn Haney



### Charity Golf Tournament

Darril Carlson Memorial Foundation Golf Tournament: May 8 at Oak Quarry Golf Club. This tournament helps to fund the annual Darril Carlson Memorial Scholarship that is awarded to a student from Redlands East Valley High School. Cost of the tournament is \$150 per player. There are also sponsorship and banquet options available. For more information call Inspector Roni Forst at ext 5324 or 909-746-0188

### Growing Families



Congratulations to Bob and Shannon Ward on the birth of their second son, Noah Thomas. He weighed 6 lbs 5 oz and was born on March 18 at 1044. Both Shannon and Noah are home and doing well.

# Birthdays



## March Birthdays:

Shawn Bauer	3/23
Brian Clark	3/22
Marciano Duran	3/29
Brad Fike	3/17
LaWayne Hearn	3/4
Robert Herrick	3/20
Wayne Hess	3/9
Steve Hill	3/27
Trey Janeway	3/21
David Juarez	3/28
Bart Kennedy	3/26
Tom Kleveno	3/25
Ray Mendoza	3/3
Pat Mullen	3/5
Rod Nash	3/23
Dru Odil	3/4
Rob Rappaport	3/23
Joe Reed	3/13
Scott Richmond	3/16
Joe A. Rosales	3/3
Jeff Rowe	3/12
Mike Weatherbie	3/23
Mitch Wesche	3/25

## April Birthdays:

Mike Allen	4/9
Daniel Balboa	4/6
Roger Cutshall	4/17
Steven Edwards	4/5
Gary Giovannetti	4/4
Scott Huchting	4/14
Dennis Hunt	4/28
Bryan Klinke	4/28
Bob Linden	4/9
Stephen Loner	4/1
Steve McKinster	4/22
Christopher Naron	4/19
Steven Payne	4/29
Bill Schellhous	4/18
Sean Smith	4/29
Bill Stamper	4/11
Mark Thompson	4/8
Jonathan Turley	4/19
Tim Vanderhorst	4/12

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# Letters

## March 29 Interim Fire Chief Steve Earley:

All Personnel,

It was with great honor that on Saturday March 21, 2009, I accepted on behalf of the City of Riverside Fire Department a United States Flag and Challenge Coins display, which was presented to us by Firefighter Joseph Reed, United States Navy. This flag was flown for our Department at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq on September 11, 2008, and again on February 15, 2009 at Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

These are proudly displayed in the lobby of the Emergency Operation Center. Please stop by to view this when you have an opportunity.



# Letters (cont)

## Mar 20 from Eric Botkin:

Hey to everyone. I know it has been a little while since everybody has heard from me, but I wanted to take a very small moment of your time. First I just have to sit down and say thank you. To all of you who had the ability to come over to my house and work like an unknown machine is just incredible. To be totally honest I had no idea how many people were going to show up. To see almost thirty guys is just unbelievable. You guys have made it look awesome, and I just want to say thank you to everybody that was able to come over and help. Secondly, I just want all of you who are going to come to the Retirement party to know, one thing. I WILL PROBABLY CRY. OK, there, I said it. But I just wanted to be honest in advance. Being able to speak and chat with so many of my department family while I keep having a few issues will most likely cause my eyes to develop a little water. I just wanted you all to know that will happen, although I am really hoping it won't. I am very much looking forward to seeing so many of my friends and fire department family that again, should it happen to cry, please do not worry. It means I am just being me. Anyway, I look forward to seeing everyone on Saturday. God Bless. Eric



## Mar 11 from Kim Sabatello:

This year, my family and I will be participating in the American Cancer Society's Relay for life. The Relay for Life is an annual event that is held to raise money for cancer research. My team this year is in honor of my grandmother who passed away in April due to stomach cancer. Cancer affects all of us in one way or another. Whether it is a family member, friend or co-worker, we all know someone who currently has cancer or has had cancer. That's why I have chosen to fight back right here in my own community by participating in the American Cancer Society Relay For Life®.



## Mar 23 from Retired Fire Buff Jim Weaver:

Donna is doing great although she still has the balance problem. We changed primary care doctor Jan 1 and the new guy says it's possible, just by observing the way she walks, that there may be some Parkinson's involved. He set us up with a neurologist for right after tax season so maybe we'll get some answers on this problem. I still think it may be medication as about half of what she is taking has a side effect of dizziness. Anyway, her blood sugar is under control and her strength and stamina are coming back. She's doing some gardening now and some of the house keeping chores.

Keep thinking about us and let us know of any big changes in the FD.

Jim

(Sabatello cont)

I know that times are tough right now, but I want to invite you to join me in the fight against cancer by making a donation in support of my efforts. Further down in this message is a link to my personal Relay For Life® web page where you can make an online contribution or to order luminarias. These are only \$10 and can be dedicated "in honor" or "in memory" of someone you know or have lost. These luminarias will be lit during the walk in a very special and touching event. Every amount, no matter how small, makes a difference and provides hope. You can also sign up to join my team and learn more about Relay and how it's changing lives.

Relay For Life® brings more than 3.5 million people from across the country together each year to celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against a disease that takes too much. This fun-filled, overnight event empowers everyone to help fight cancer by raising money and awareness to support the American Cancer Society's lifesaving mission.

Thank you in advance for your support. Together, we will celebrate, remember, and fight back.

# Letters (cont)

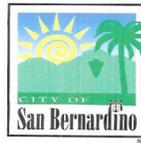


## Mar 20 from Darlene Campbell:

Ms. Campbell sent a handwritten note to the department complimenting Squad 1A (Cory Bruce and Josh Fudge) for their professional and caring service when they responded to 3380 14<sup>th</sup> Street on March 18. She said that she “knew everything was under control once they arrived.”

## Mar 18 from Marian Smith, Leanna Diaz, and Nan Marcotte:

On Mar 16, Squad 2A responded to a medical aid where the patient was a 90 + year old woman with her two daughters. They were here visiting from Palm Springs and had the patient’s special canine, Tipper, with them. In order to enable the family to accompany the patient to Parkview, Jonathan Turley and Bruce Harter offered to bring Tipper back to the station until family could make other arrangements. Tipper is a cancer survivor and seemed quite content in Nikko’s outdoor kennel. One of the daughters came by about 10pm that night to pick up Tipper and couldn’t thank the squad enough for relieving the stress of caring for Tipper while her mom was hospitalized. The following shift the daughter stopped by again with cheesecakes and thank you cards for Jonathan, Bruce and the station. Some of the words in the thank you’s included: “awed by your kindness”, “no words to express our appreciation”, “grateful hearts”, “amazing”, “beyond the call of duty”, “helping in a significant way”. Now that is customer service.



March 24, 2009

Fire Department  
City of Riverside  
3085 St. Lawrence St.  
Riverside CA 92504

FIRE DEPARTMENT  
Michael J. Conrad Fire Chief  
200 East Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92410-4889  
www.sbcity.org

RECEIVED

MAR 27 2009

CITY OF RIVERSIDE  
FIRE DEPARTMENT

I want to express our sincerest thanks for your assistance to our department as we laid one of our finest, Captain Creig Nece, to rest on March 10, 2009. The sudden passing of Captain Nece was a harsh blow to our department, and one that will take time to heal. By covering our city during his memorial and graveside service, you made a great contribution to that healing process as it allowed all of our members to pay their final respects to a fallen brother. We are certainly indebted to you for your support.

I would also like to pass on the gratitude expressed by Creig’s family, as they were overwhelmed by the attendance of so many fire service members contributing to a fitting ceremony for their loved one. It was the truest illustration of the deep commitment and care that firefighters extend to each other’s families.

On behalf of the entire San Bernardino City Fire Department, please extend our heart-felt appreciation to those in your organization that supported us through this difficult time. Although we hope that no organization ever has to experience such an unfortunate event, please know that the San Bernardino City Fire Department will be honored to stand by your side, as you were so willing to stand by ours.

Sincerely,

*Mike*

Michael J. Conrad  
Fire Chief

•Emergency Operations•Fire Prevention•Disaster Preparedness•Training



## SNAPSHOTS

L TO R: 215 Rollover, Dispatchers practice CPR skills, B shift haz matters



## Every 15 Minutes

By EMD Captain John Peurifoy

A worried grandfather watches RFD B-Shift cut his granddaughter out of her vehicle during the Every 15 minutes program at Poly High on March 11. Three students were killed and one arrested and sent to jail. Thanks to Captains Bauer and Delaurie, Engineers Dennis Hunt and Steve Scotti, Firefighter/Paramedic Eric Peniata and Firefighter Clinton Breads. Special thanks to BC Stamper for doing an awesome job at the IC.

Division Chief John Martinez spoke to 500 students about the choices they make when the drive after drinking for the 15 minutes program on March 12.



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## New Rescue 3

The new Rescue 3 in service at Station 3 as of March 4. The finished product is a result of efforts from many people including Chief Earley, Chief Laycock, the City Manager, and City Council. In addition, Chief Bock, Joe Perry, Bob Linden, Wayne Hess, Eric Peniata and all Station 3 crews invested hundreds of hours over a two-year period. This custom, state-of-the art Type 1 heavy rescue unit could be deployed anywhere in the state of California if called upon (currently the only Type 1 heavy rescue unit in Riverside County).

The technical rescue capabilities include, but are not limited to, trench rescue, high/low angle rope rescue, confined space rescue, auto/machinery extrication, and building collapse. Rescue 3 also has a 9,000 watt extendable lighting boom capable of illuminating any incident scene, a 300 cfm air compressor, a 40 kw generator, state-of-the art communications, GPS navigation, and an electric winch.

In summary, this unit is ready to respond on any incident where needed. We are very fortunate to have such state-of-the-art equipment as part of our response capability.



# Retirement Party

Over 200 RFD employees, retirees, and guests attended the annual retirement party on March 21 at the Riverside Convention Center. This year's event honored retirees Deputy Chief Dave Austin, Division Chief Mike Fisher, Fire Marshal Perry Halterman, Captain Tony Braun, and Firefighter/Paramedic Eric Botkin. Joe Reed also presented a framed flag to the department from his military duty.



# Photo Album



L to R (top to bottom): Tim and Ron say Station 13 makes them this happy; Retired Chief Tedd Laycock at his retirement party; MCI mandatory drill; the Garcias at the Riverside Air Show; RS2 class (work and fun); training division reunion

For more department photos, check Daniel Balboa's website at <http://rivfiredepartment.blogspot.com>