

Preserving the history of the Los Angeles County Fire Department



Fire Warden

Los Angeles County Fire Museum

Vol 19, Issue 4

Winter 2010

join us for the
LACoFD
CHRISTMAS
PARTY
December 11

70 years on
This 1941 Ford
has never looked
better!



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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

General membership is available for active and retired fire and EMS personnel; associate membership is available for other supporters. For details, visit lacountyfiremuseum.com or contact Dave Boucher.

POSTMASTER

Send address changes to the Los Angeles County Fire Museum, PO Box 3325, Alhambra CA 91803-3325.

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Sacramento Fire Department Engine 5 takes a spill at 2nd and N streets circa early 1920s.

December is here, and once again I am planning to get my Christmas shopping done early. And once again I will be doing my shopping December 24th. It has become my Christmas tradition to wait until the last minute. Oh, well. At least things are moving along well at the museum.

LA County Fire Department Christmas party – join us December 11
Speaking of Christmas, on December 11, Bn13 and your fire museum will be hosting a Los Angeles County Fire Department Christmas party. Take a look at the promo on p. 3 for details, then sign up on the website. We will have great food, an awesome band, refreshments, plus a few hundred of your closest friends! Active and retired LACoFD members and their families are welcome, so don't miss out!

Restorations: 1903 American steam engine, '41 Ford, Engine 51
As noted in the previous issue, our 1903 American steam fire engine is about 80 percent complete. On a recent trip to Sacramento, Randy Wooten kindly shared details about the American's lineage, including the wreck pictured above. We'll expand on that history in a future issue.

Joe Woyjeck's in-depth restoration of our '41 Ford is close enough to display the results at old FS30, which itself has been restored by the Artesia Historical Society. See pages 4-5 for remarkable before, during and after shots of this 70-year-old rig brought back to its former glory.

We are in the planning stages for the restoration of Engine 51. Made famous by its role in the 1970s hit television show "Emergency!", Engine 51 is now on display at our Bellflower facility. We will restore this engine in time for the incredible "In Service" event we are planning for July 9, 2011. See our website for more information, but mark your calendars now!

Open houses first Sunday of each month

Our monthly open houses continue to attract a steady crowd and give us an opportunity to show off the collection. We've met some wonderful people at our open houses. I have met many retirees, some who were hired in the late 30s and into the 40s! I cannot describe just how fun it is to talk to retirees who worked with my Grandfather or Uncle. My Grandfatherg

retired in 1955 after 31 years on the County and 12 years on the City. Meeting someone who worked with him is always a treat. One such retiree was Chet Kingsland. It is just awesome talking to our retirees and hearing their stories that give us a picture into our collective history. I heard he recently passed away. He was a real nice man and had some great stories. RIP Chet and thanks for being our friend. You will be missed.

– President Paul Schneider

About your fire museum:

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 3,000 active-duty Los Angeles County firefighters, 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 Engine 51 from the 1970s television show *Emergency!* The collection is currently housed in warehouse locations in South Gate and Bellflower, California.

The Museum Association is governed by a seven-member board of directors, nominated and elected by the membership every two years. All board members are non-compensated volunteers who provide the organization longevity in leadership and forward-thinking vision for the future. James O. Page was the sitting president at the time of his passing in 2004. Randolph Mantooh has served as honorary chairman and spokesperson since 2005.

Our Bellflower facility is open the first Sunday of each month, excluding holidays. The address is 9834 Flora Vista St., Bellflower, CA 90706. We encourage visitors to check our website at www.LACountyFireMuseum.com for the latest schedule and updates.



9/11/10 open house







1941 Ford restored to former glory

On October 30, 2010, your LA County Fire Museum brought this beautifully restored engine to the Artesia Old Fire Station 30 Museum for a long-term loan. The FS30 museum is located on the corner of Corby Avenue and 187th Street, Artesia, CA. We acquired our 1941 Ford in the 1980s either from Arco or the Shell Oil Refinery. Museum teams used it as a hose wagon for musters all across California. It was also used as a tow vehicle. It had been sitting behind 54s, and it had deteriorated badly. See Joe Woyjeck's restoration efforts for yourself!



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Fire Museum Association
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FIRE MUSEUM



IN QUARTERS

July 9th, 2011
Carson, California