# ANNUAL REPORT

# **OF THE**

# RESCUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

# 2013



# RESCUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

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# Rescue Fire Protection District

• P.O. Box 201 Rescue CA, 95672 • Phone: (530) 677-1868 • Fax: (530) 677-9609 www.rescuefiredepartment.org

March 31, 2014

Board of Directors Rescue Fire Protection District 5221 Deer Valley Road Rescue, CA 95672

**Board Members:** 

On behalf of the members of the Rescue Fire Protection District, I am pleased to bring you our Annual Report for 2013.

The District continued to deal with dynamic changes in 2013. We have had several personnel changes, including the retirement of long-time employee Captain Mark Bartlett. Rescue, like all Fire Agencies across the County, face the challenge of recruiting and retaining Volunteer Firefighters.

In October the Board of Directors agreed to enter in to a "Shared Services" agreement with El Dorado Hills Fire Department. The agreement has provided Rescue with valuable training opportunities and 24/7/365 Chief Officer coverage. This agreement, along with several other steps the Board and employees have taken, has been recognized by the Board of Supervisors and other local Fire Agencies as a model.

I am always available to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Keating, Fire Chief Rescue Fire Protection District

# RESCUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

# **2013 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART**

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Francis Carpenter, Ken Humphreys, Matt Koht, C.J. Smith, Anne Walker

# **FIRE CHIEF**

Thomas M. Keating

# **CAPTAINS**

Mark Bartlett Guy Delaney Joel Warman\*

# **ENGINEERS**

Chris Paper\*

## **FIREFIGHTERS**

Brett Jones\*
Ryan Adams\*
Tom Balak\*
Kendall Fudim
Isaac English

# **2013 VOLUNTEERS and INTERNS**

## **ENGINEERS**

Don Wylie

# **FIREFIGHTERS**

Patrick Lyons RussThorne Scott Thorne Cheryl Yee Tim Yee

## **INTERN FIREFIGHTERS**

Aaron Darling Kane Gardiner

Tim Kerwood

Tim King

Bill Ladley

Vincent Perez

Tyler Richmond

Jason Schrader

R.J. Tapia

# **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

Jodi Martin

\* Paramedic

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

2013 saw several changes in staffing. With the retirement in December of Captain Mark Bartlett after 26 years of service, the District's paid staff was reduced to four. While still retaining all four Apprentice Firefighters through 2013, in January 2014 one Apprentice left the District. This leaves the District with seven firefighters going into 2014. Firefighter/Paramedic Balak has increased intern recruitment to supplement our day to day staffing. We have been able to continue to provide Advanced Life Support (paramedics) on our engine.

Beginning with the 2013-2014 fiscal year, the County discontinued its Aid-to-Fire funding for all districts. While working to implement a financial "patch" the timing of the funding is uncertain. The District continues to look for ways to save money, reduce costs, and look for other sources of funding. One example of this is the "shared services" agreement with El Dorado Hills. Also, the District received no reimbursement for the third year employment of the Apprentices hired under the SAFER grant for fiscal year 2013-2014.

The District responded to many requests for strike teams, both within El Dorado County as well as areas as far away as the Rim Fire in Tuolumne and Mariposa counties. The Rim Fire was the third largest wildfire in California's history as well as the biggest wildfire on record in the Sierra Nevada. We were fortunate enough to have the staffing, both paid and interns/volunteer, to allow us to provide aid across the state.

The MOU with the Rescue Professional Firefighters Association was renewed for an additional two years. Several cost savings measures were agreed upon.

Other happenings during 2013 include the reelection of Directors Walker and Humphreys and the election of a new director, Jason Butler. Cheryl Yee was honored as she retired after serving as a volunteer for 20 years. Director Walker was appointed by Governor Davis to the California State Board of Fire Services which is an advisory group to the California State Fire Marshal. The District also completed its ISO review.

Our community outreach this year included:

- facilitating the green waste dumpster program
- continuing to provide car seat checks/installation by a National Highway Transportation and Safety certified technician
- teaching CPR and first aid classes to fire district personnel, child care providers, and community members
- raising over \$5,000 for the Firefighters Burn Institute through the Fill the Boot fundraiser
- taking the Fire Safety House to the elementary schools in our District
- collecting toys for the Toys for Tots program

#### **TRAINING**

This year has been another challenging year for training. Budgetary constraints have made it nearly impossible to allow department personnel to take classes. At the end of 2013 we were able to begin training with El Dorado Hills which has been a great benefit to our department. This has allowed us to get more hands-on training while on shift with no additional costs. The goal for 2014 is to complete 20 hours per month per person of primarily hands on training.

- The Training Division continues to use Target Solutions track all trainings and certifications. This is an online training program that covers mandatory training items, such as sexual
  - harassment, HIPAA guidelines and others. In addition, we have the continuing education benefit in this program, so that personnel can receive the required training hours to maintain their EMT and Paramedic certifications. EMTs are required to complete 24 CE hours every two years and Paramedics are required to complete 48 CE hours every two years. Going forward, Captains are required to enter their shift trainings in Target Solutions for themselves and their crew.
- The intern program continues to be of great benefit to the Department. It allows extra personnel to be added on the engines. There was no county-wide academy this year.
   The few interns that we have taken on have already been through an accredited academy, usually through Sierra College or American River College.
- The El Dorado Country Training Officers hosted a wildland refresher class at Bacchi Ranch. The Training Officers have been moving towards getting their 501(c)(3) tax status so that they can receive donations. The money that they receive will go towards sponsoring classes in the county.
- As in previous years, Department personnel completed the training requirement of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). In order to receive Government funding the Department is required to adapt, to use, and to complete the yearly training requirements set by NIMS.

Firefighter/Paramedic Brett Jones Training Officer

# **HIGHLIGHTS**

# Completed District Training





Preplan

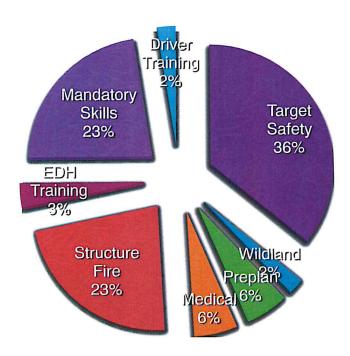
Medical

■ Structure Fire

**■** EDH Training

■ Mandatory Skills

■ Driver Training



# Training Events Where Rescue Personnel Participated

- Ventilation training at the old Station 84.
- Countywide RT-130 Wildland Refresher training at Bacchi Ranch.
- Countywide live fire at Georgetown burn tower.

### **Fire Classes Attended**

- Driver/Operator 1A
  - o 1 member certified
- Driver/Operator 1B
  - o 1 member certified
- Fire Command 1C
  - o 1 member certified
- Fire Instructor 1B
  - o 1 member certified
- Fire Prevention Officer I
  - o 1 member certified
- FI-210 Wildland Fire Origin & Cause Determination
  - 1 member certified
- S-130
  - o 1 member certified
- S-190
  - o 1 member certified
- S-270
  - o 1 member certified
- Volunteer Firefighter
  - o 1 member certified

### **Medical Classes Attended**

- Advanced Cardiac Life Support
  - o 1 member re-certified
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support Instructor
  - o 1 member re-certified
- Advanced Medical Life Support
  - o 1 member certified
- CPR Healthcare Provider
  - o 2 members certified
  - o 10 members re-certified
- CPR Instructor
  - o 4 members certified
  - o 2 members re-certified
- El Dorado County Paramedic Accredited
  - o 3 members re-certified
- EMT
  - o 12 members re-certified
- Pediatric Life Support
  - o 1 member re-certified
- Pediatric Life Support Instructor
  - o 1 member re-certified
- Paramedic
  - o 1 member certified
  - o 4 members re-certified

### **PREVENTION**

#### INSPECTIONS AND PLAN CHECKS

In 2013, Captain Delaney, on B Shift, continued to be responsible for inspections, re-inspections, and plan checks. All of the schools and many of the business in the District were inspected in 2013. 2013 also saw an increase in building permits, both in new construction and remodels. Captain Delaney is responsible for reviewing, making recommendations, and approving plans before a project is begun, in accordance with the newly adopted 2012 California Fire and Building Codes. This includes code explanation to homeowners, architects, and developers prior to plan submittal. When needed we make use of neighboring departments' fire prevention specialists and outside plan check engineers. The number one priority of the District is to protect life and this is done by helping to prevent incidents before they start.

The number of businesses in the District changes very little but there have been some changes to existing facilities this year. The Eden Vale Inn Bed & Breakfast continues to add rooms, the remodel of the Rescue "store" has halted due to permit issues, and the building on Green Valley that previously housed the Montessori school was purchased, remodeled, and is now Growing Health Children Therapy Services.

## Inspections:

- ► ADD Growers
- ► Church of Christ
- ► Gold Trail School District Office
- ► Green Valley Mortuary
- ► Pleasant Grove Middle School
- ► Rescue Baptist Church
- ► Rescue Maintenance/Bus Facilities
- ► Cielo Winery
- ► Eden Vale Bed & Breakfast

- ▶ Bass Lake Golf Course
- Growing Health Children
- ► Gomez Mountain Enterprise
- ► Green Valley Elementary School
- ► Rescue Community Center
- ► Rescue Elementary School
- ► Rescue School District Office
- ► Sutter's Mill Elementary School



### **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

Public education continues to be a part of every employee's responsibility. "Fire" Drills were conducted at all the schools in the District and A-Shift coordinated the Fire Safety Trailer at Rescue, Green Valley, and Sutter's Mill Elementary schools. There were many scheduled and impromptu station visits by community groups and individuals.

The District is fortunate to have seven CPR instructors, one PALS and ACLS instructor, and one Child Passenger Safety Technician who is certified to perform car seat checks. They provide classes not only for District personnel but also other agencies, businesses, and community members.

Public education and outreach occur not only during scheduled events but with every interaction with the community. Each time we interact with the public, whether it be to write a burn permit or give information on road signs, is an opportunity to connect with and teach our community.

#### FIRE INVESTIGATION

In 2008, Engineer Paper was assigned as a Fire Investigator, this same year a county wide Arson Task Force was created. In 2013 Firefighter Adams joined Engineer Paper on the Arson Task Force. Both Engineer Paper and Firefighter Adams completed their Complex Arson Investigation certifications in 2013 along with many other fire investigation classes.

Approximately 33 fires were investigated last year including car, chimney, structure, and wildland fires. At the end of each investigation the property was either released back to the owner or referred to the Sheriff or District Attorney.

We look forward to continuing our involvement with surrounding agencies to investigate the cause and origin of fires, not only in the Rescue Fire Protection District but in all of El Dorado County.



#### **MAINTENANCE**

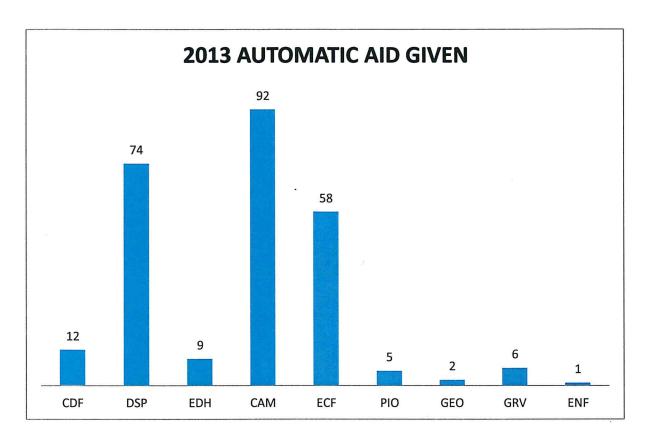
Our chief mechanic, Captain Mark Bartlett, retired at the end of 2013 after more than 26 years with the District first as a volunteer and then as a career firefighter. The amount of money he has saved the District over the years by keeping our fleet in excellent condition has not gone unappreciated.



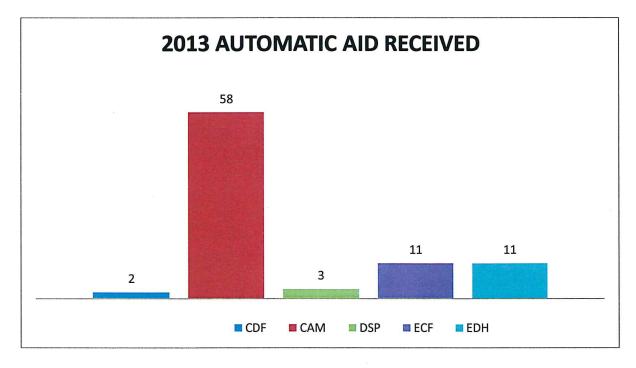
We continue to send our apparatus to Veerkamp's for annual maintenance and specialized repairs. All of the apparatus had their mandated testing as well. The utility vehicles are serviced by District personnel. The entire staff takes responsibility for day-to-day apparatus checks and minor maintenance and repairs. This has enabled the District to keep everything on the road and in good running order.

There were a few notable expenses in 2013. New tires were put on Engines 83 and 283 and the motor in Engine 281 was rebuilt. The Rescue Volunteer Fire Association contributed \$3,000 to the cost of the new motor.

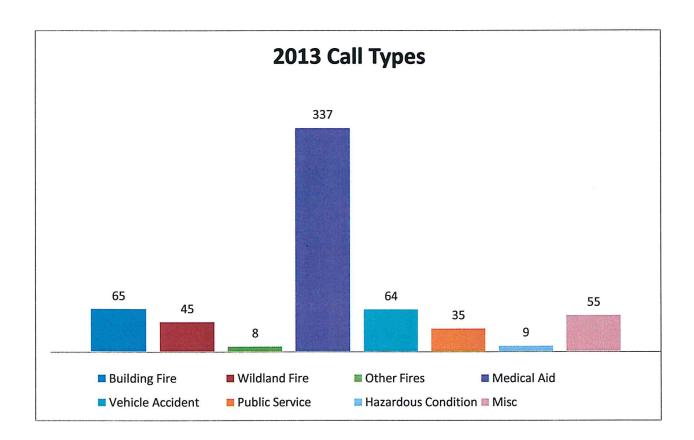
While our fleet is aging it is currently looking and running very well we need to make sure it stays that way by taking care of the small things before they become major issues.



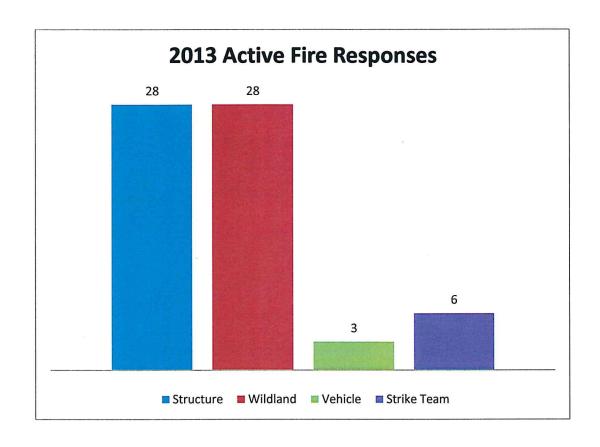
**Total Aid Given -259** 

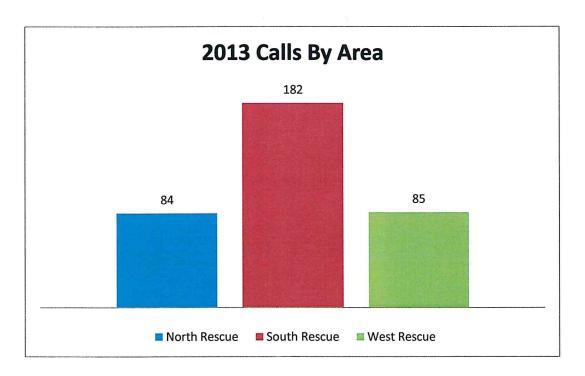


**Total Aid Received-85** 

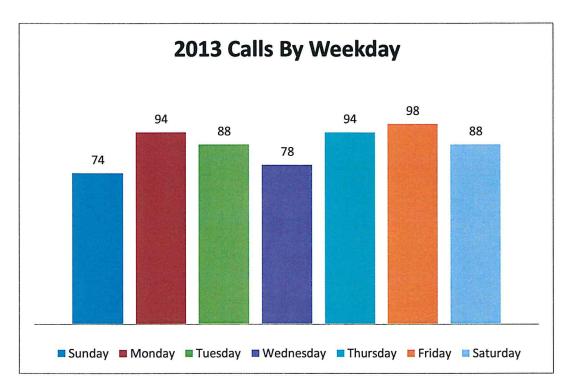


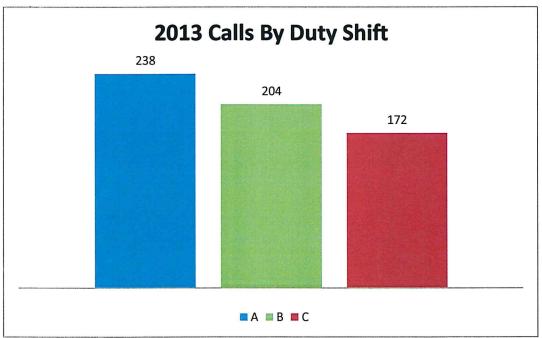
**Total Calls-614** 

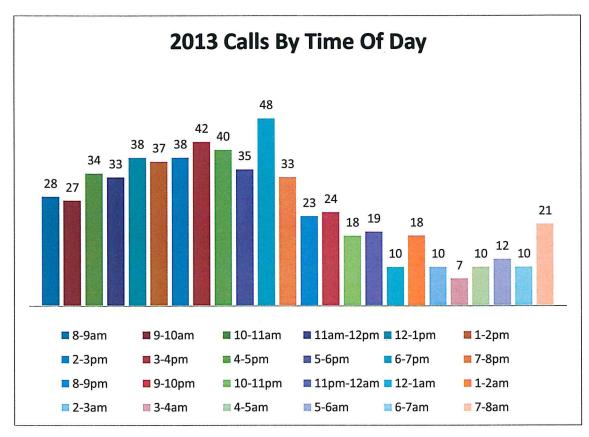


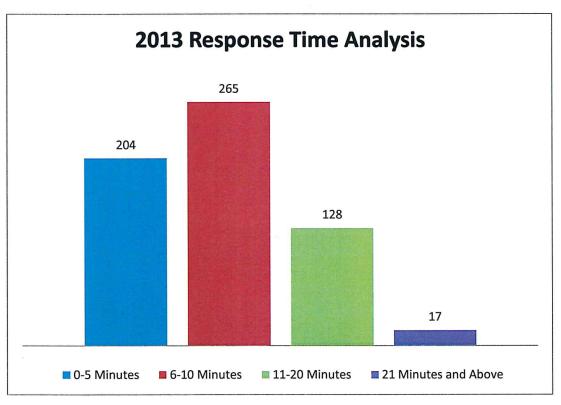


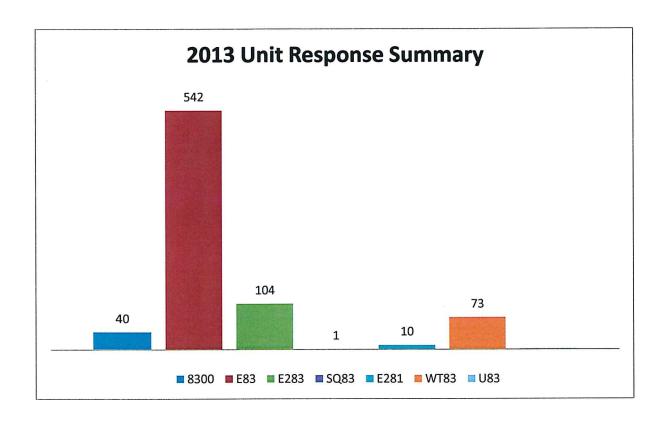
**Total Calls-351** 

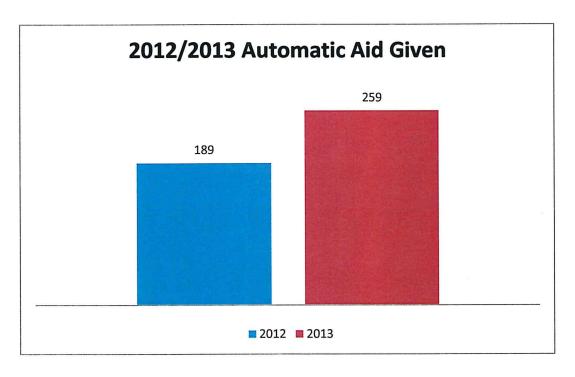




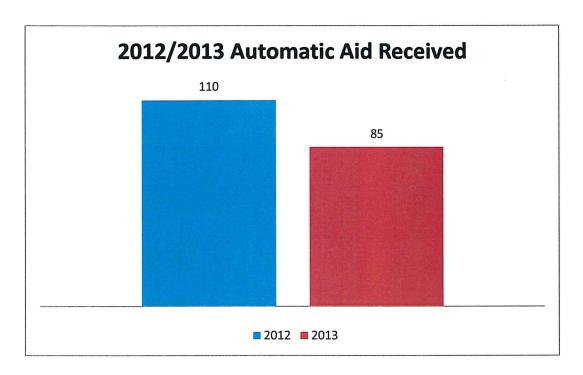








Increase- 35%



Decrease- 20%

