

THE ROTATOR

The Newsletter for LAPD Reserve Officers



Volume 3

Spring 2009

“TO PROTECT AND TO SERVE” – FOR OVER 60 YEARS THE HISTORY OF THE LAPD RESERVE CORPS

By Reserve Officer Michael Sellars

LAPD Reserve Officers have been in the news a lot lately. Last year, the press profiled the Corps as Reserve Crime Suppression task forces were launched in Hollywood and Pacific, during deployment on Halloween, and KNBC-TV recently ran a feature on Reserve Motors. Each story “discovers” that the City of Los Angeles has reserve police officers, and that they are held to the same standards and responsibilities as full-time officers.

This year, 2009, marks the 62nd anniversary of the LAPD’s reserve program. The concept actually started a few years earlier, during World War

II, when the war depleted the pool of qualified police officer candidates. To help make up for the personnel shortage, the LAPD looked to citizens, who began to serve as auxiliary police and air-raid wardens. LAPD Reserve Police Officer Merv Asa-Dorian’s father, Manoog Asadorian, was in the auxiliary in 1943. The family still has his ID card, signed by then Chief of Police C.B. Horrall. “My brother was in school, in shop class, and they would make the mahogany batons for the auxiliaries.”

It was in 1947 that the official Police Reserve Corps was established, as per a Los Angeles City

Council ordinance. The Corps has evolved over the years, and the standards for Reserve Police Officer of the Los Angeles Police Department have been progressively upgraded to match that of regular, full-time officers.

Several families have had a couple of generations in the Corps. Paul V. Martinez joined the Corps in 1951. His son, Reserve Officer Paul M. Martinez, remembers his father going downtown to sign up for shifts. In those days, reserves worked primarily special events and details. One time, Officer Martinez recalls, his dad was assigned to work an event at the Greek Theater — and it turned out he was the *only* officer assigned to work that event. “He had taken me with him,” Officer Martinez recalls. “He conducted traffic control and put me to work because it was a two-man operation back then. He taught me how to manually operate the traffic signal.” The uniform for reserve officers was different then. There was the diamond-shaped “reserve officer” badge, and officers wore white caps and white shoulder patches.

In 1983, Paul M. Martinez joined his father in the Corps. “We worked together a few times. We used to do these “Care and Share” projects at the downtown mission, where we would provide donated clothes to needy families.” In a reminder that there is no such thing as a low-risk shift, a man pulled a knife at the event. Father and son apprehended the suspect and took him into custody. His father retired from the Department in 1993, and Officer Martinez is still on the job today. “There is so much history with

The LAPD Reserve Corps Today



LAPD Reserve Police Officers: In-Service Mobile Field Force (MFF) Training. Story on Pg. 7

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See “Reserve Corps History”



COMMANDER'S CORNER

By Commander Jim Cansler

Since the publication of the fall edition, we have had several notable events and positive changes for the Reserve Corps. I would like to start by recognizing Melvin Kennedy's dedication and leadership as president of the Reserve Foundation. The Reserve Foundation is responsible for generously supporting the Reserve Corps in many areas, including training, equipment, the Twice a Citizen Banquet and the cost of publishing the *Rotator*. In mentioning the *Rotator*, I would be remiss if I didn't also thank Michael Sellars for his outstanding contribution as editor of the last three issues.

In the area of training, several goals were accomplished. Our first Level I course in several years graduated in October 2008, with two Los Angeles Sheriff's deputies attending, due to the rarity of these courses statewide. A Level III

course concluded and graduated with a full-time Academy class at Elysian Park in November, and a Level III course was begun in March. Each of these Academy classes was "helped" through the process by last year's Reserve Officer of the Year, Drill Instructor Gary Kennedy. In January, over 100 reserve officers attended the Mobil Field Force Training at Elysian Park and Dodger Stadium. While this training was being conducted, a protest in the Wilshire Area almost necessitated the redeployment of the trainees to the protest site, and buses to transport the officers were standing by. Fortunately, the protest was handled by resources deployed for the event, but the availability of over 100 men and women who were ready for the challenge should be a point of pride.

Recruitment is another area that we have met with success. We have doubled the number

of reserve candidates who took the written test and are now in the system as potential reserves. Meetings with the management of the Personnel Department have yielded a more streamlined reserve testing process that should also add to our successes in recruitment.

We have seen two additional task forces that were coordinated with the Office of Operations. On Halloween night, a task force on Hollywood Boulevard was documented by *Inside the LAPD*. Public Information Director Mary Grady put together an outstanding video of the task force with many interviews of reserve officers and members of the public, which will be shown on the LA City View, Channel 35. The second task force was to reduce crime in the area

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Message From the President of the Reserve Foundation

By Reserve Officer Melvin B. Kennedy

Dear Friends,

This last year, hundreds of Los Angeles Police Reserve Officers answered the call. Responding to fire after fire, rail disasters, civil protests and countless calls for police services, you gave more than 200,000 hours standing alongside your full-time partners to protect and serve this community. When we needed your help, you were there. I believe your commitment and dedication are reflected in these verses from "The Los Angeles Police Reserve Corps March":

We will answer the call and come running one and all, we're Reserves of the LAPD

We will train day and night to be ready for the fight, to protect our liberty

With compassion and care we will always be prepared, in service to meet every need

"To Protect and To Serve" you can call out the Reserves, the Reserves of the LAPD

From all races we come for the job that must be done, we're Reserves of the LAPD

then with honor and pride we will line up side by side, to unite and keep the peace

be courageous be bold like the minutemen of old, join us be part of the team

in a cause tried and true "Twice a Citizen" in blue, a Reserve of the LAPD

So let's answer the call and come running one and all, be Reserves of the LAPD

We will train day and night to be ready for the fight, to protect our liberty

With compassion and care we will always be prepared, in service to meet every need

"To Protect and To Serve" you can call out the Reserves, the Reserves of the LAPD

"To Protect and To Serve" you can call out the Reserves, the Reserves of the LAPD

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming "Twice-A-Citizen" Banquet. We are planning a great evening in your honor. On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation, thank you for your service and dedication.

Best regards and be safe,
Mel Kennedy ©

MESSAGE FROM JIM LOMBARDI

Reserve OIC (R9)

Each year the California Legislature produces approximately 4,000 bills for consideration. Within these 4,000 different bills, there are about 400 that affect law enforcement. I have the privilege of being a member of the Law and Legislative Committee in Sacramento. Along with having to report on my assigned bills to the committee, I review the 400 bills that impact law enforcement to make sure that reserve officers are not adversely affected if these bills become law. If you have any legislative concerns, please feel free to e-mail me at lombardi@avradionet.com.

As you know, the state has established different levels of reserve officers that are authorized to perform police duties that are tied to their level of training. LAPD deployment policies use Levels I, II and III with enhancement as allowed by these state requirements. They are:

1. Level I (certified, CDL-I, and designated).
2. Level I (designated).
3. Level II.
4. Level III (armed).
5. Level III (not armed).

Officers listed in 1, 2 and 3 above are authorized to perform general law enforcement duties under certain levels of supervision. Officers listed in 4 and 5 have limited authority.

It is extremely important that reserve officers familiarize themselves with the department policies regarding allowable deployment practices. If a reserve is deployed to an assignment that is beyond his or her training level, it is

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See "Lombardi"

RESERVE CORPS HISTORY - CONTINUED FROM PG 1

these guys, a lot of which has been lost." He remembers a reserve officer who worked with his father, "Officer Flores — at the time, he was considered one of, if not *the*, best marksmen on the LAPD."

The modern Reserve Corps developed in the 1960s: A mounted unit was established at Van Nuys, which was subsequently transferred to Foothill. As Reserve Officer Dan Henderson describes, "The unit consisted of five regulars and two reserves, Neil Stringer and Dudley Winstead. Soon the Foothill Reserve Unit had a total of 12 officers, and it had its own oral review board. By then, a couple of officers were working black and whites." Neil Stringer, a general contractor, would later lead the Foothill Reserves in the building of the Chapel, above the rock garden at the LAPD Academy.

In 1968, the LAPD began a line reserve class. It was the year *Adam 12* debuted. Chief William H. Parker had died two years before. Jack Webb was producing the second version of the *Dragnet* television series, playing Sergeant Joe Friday, this time in living color. Gary Hazel entered this new Academy. Line Reserves were to be trained as regular field officers, and assigned patrol duties when they graduated. "We started the class at Parker Center and then moved to the Academy. We didn't take our physicals until about a third of the way through the training because the funding



Old-style reserve badges. Today, LAPD's Reserve Police Officers wear the familiar badge and uniform of the Los Angeles Police Department.

wasn't fully in place yet. We wore civilian clothes and didn't receive our equipment until shortly before graduating." This new line reserve class was six months long (two weeknights and every other weekend). It started with about 80–90 recruits and graduated about 35 officers. After he graduated, Hazel was assigned to 77th Division. On his first day, he reported to the watch commander as a new reserve police officer. The W/C looked up and said, "What the hell is a reserve officer?" Reserve Officer Hazel found himself working the desk the first day; later, he was assigned to a report-writing unit; as a third officer in a patrol unit; and finally he was working a regular two-officer "Adam-unit" patrol car. Officer Hazel continued patrol — at 77th, Hollywood, and Hollenbeck — for over 35 years until he retired in 2002.

Reserve Officer Jim Lombardi, the Corps R9, says that these changes, and the growth of the Corps, necessitated legislation in Sacramento. The



"Nolan Bill," was passed, which officially established reserve officer levels in California. "It provided for Designated and Non-Designated line reserve officers to be deployed the same as full-time officers. The LAPD was the first large police department to designate their new reserve Academy graduates to this position (24-hour status)."

Reserve Officer Henry Baez recalls that in the mid-1980s, a pilot program at Newton was rolled out, whereby two line reserve officers would work together, first as Z-units, chase units, and shortly thereafter, A-units. Another accomplishment during this period was the promotion of qualified reserve officers to a Certified Designated Level-1 (CDL-1)

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OFFICER PROFILE

RESERVE OFFICER GERALD AKINS

DEVONSHIRE AREA



By Reserve Officer Michael Sellars

On March 6, the Los Angeles City Council recognized CDLI Reserve Police Officer Gerald Akins, retiring after nearly 35 years of service with the Los Angeles Police Department.

"As a young man, I was always interested in police work, but never thought much of trying to join," Reserve Officer Akins said. One day, he was at a sportsman show in downtown L.A. There was a recruitment booth for reserve police officers and he signed up, not quite sure what his duties would be. "As I went through the process, I found out that I would be working as a regular officer in a patrol car."

Reserve Officer Akins entered the Academy in 1974 and was elected Class President. He was assigned to Devonshire Division and has stayed there for his entire career. "In those days, the primary function of a reserve officer was to augment patrol and to work when a full-time officer needed a day off. We would get calls every week, requesting that we fill in for the regulars." During the first half of his LAPD career, Reserve Officer Akins worked primarily patrol. After that, he worked a variety of assignments, including Vice chase units, gang sweeps with Metro, and plainclothes J-units. In the second half of his career, he started working with the youth of the area, dedicating thousands of hours to the Devonshire Explorer program.

Gerald was born and raised in St. Paul, Minnesota. He married his high school sweetheart, Carla. They came to California,



Reserve Officer Gerald Akins (center left), being honored by the Los Angeles City Council. With him, from left to right: Councilmember and Reserve Officer Greig Smith, Assistant Chief Earl Paysinger and Captain Sean K. Kane, commanding officer of Devonshire Area

where he found work in the aerospace industry. He retired from aerospace in 1994, but six months later Rockwell International asked him to return and assist the U.S. Air Force in an investigation regarding a ground-to-ground missile that would not stay on course. He was instrumental in resolving the matter. Afterwards, he worked at the Reagan Presidential Library. "The Library honored me for my service by inviting me into the president's office and providing a photo shoot of me and the president. I have the signed picture of the two of us in my office."

Gerald and Carla raised four children, three boys and one girl. "My family has been very supportive and proud of my involvement with the Department. My wife always said it made her feel like we were giving something back to the community."

"It has been a rewarding and honorable experience that I will never forget. I wish to thank all of my fellow officers for the kindness and respect that they have given me over the years." 🗣️

COMMANDER'S CORNER - CONTINUED FROM PG 2

surrounding the Coliseum for the USC versus Notre Dame Football game in November. The presence of the reserve officers helped to keep the event free from any major disturbances.

At the Department's Women's Leadership Conference in October, Reserve Officer Teresa Lincoln gave a moving account of her career as a Department pilot. Teresa continues to serve and is

credited with the formation of the Speakers Bureau Cadre and her help with recruitment events.

In February, a meeting with the reserve management structure, Jim Lombardi, Randi Tahara, Bureau R-7's, Lieutenant Herron and myself resulted in a new set of initiatives for 2009. As we proceed with the new initiatives, we will continue to send them to you via e-mail every month.

In the last 18 months, we have seen many changes in the Reserve Corps and ROVS that will lead to an even greater future. It has been a pleasure to be part of the changes, and I look forward to working with the members of the Reserve Corps in the future. Thank you. 🗣️

RESERVE CORPS HISTORY - CONTINUED FROM PG 3

status, providing expanded opportunities to work specialized details (i.e. CRASH/SPU, COBRA, Detectives, Metro, Air Support, Narcotics, Vice, Anti-Terrorism, IA) and as reserve T/Os. The LAPD also implemented a Technical Reserve program. "Technical Reserve Officers ..." the recruitment brochure at the time said, "provide support services to field personnel such as desk, community relations, detective follow-up, and related assignments." The value of the Corps was also increased by the addition of "Specialist" Officer, a position for community members who possessed special skills and were called to duty on an as-needed basis.

There have been two LAPD Reserve Police Officers killed in the line of duty: Stuart Taira, Air Support Division, died in a helicopter accident on March 1, 1983, and — in a story that has been nearly lost — G.B. Mogle, from 77th Division, shot by a prowler suspect on July 31, 1946. Reserve Officer Mogle succumbed to his wounds a week later on August 7, 1946. The suspect was captured five days later.

The badge has evolved over the years, from a diamond-shaped "Reserve" badge, to the famous oval LAPD badge (which the Department had originally adopted back in 1940), that read "Reserve Policeman" or

"Reserve Policewoman," until finally the badge just read "Police Officer." In 2007, the R on the badge number was removed.

The Reserve Corps was eventually modified to conform to the state standards we have today, as per the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). The designations of sworn line and technical officers evolved into the Levels 1, 2, and 3. Reserve Officer Jim Lombardi spent a lot of time in Sacramento working on this legislation.

There are currently over 700 active LAPD reserve officers today. They work a variety of assignments — from Patrol to specialized details (Detectives, Vice, Air Support, Motors, and Mounted units.). The hours and duties worked by these 700 officers are equivalent to a force of 100 full-time peace officers.

(We would like to thank the following for their invaluable contributions to this article: Sergeant Eric Windham, Reserve Officers Merv Asa-Dorian, Henry Baez, Gary Hazel (retired), Dan Henderson (Foothill history), Gary Kennedy (the story of G.B. Mogle), James Lombardi and Paul Martinez. The Rotator received many great responses to our request for historical information; we regret we could not include all of them in this article.) 🍷



Left, Reserve Officer Dudley Winstead on the cover of the book, "Police Horses" by Judith Campbell, originally published in 1967. Right, Reserve Officer J.T. Alpaugh, currently assigned to Metro's E-Platoon/Mounted Unit.



LAPD RESERVE OFFICER OPPORTUNITIES

RESERVE SPEAKERS CADRE UPDATE

The Cadre is now up and running. We have LAPD Reserve Officer speakers available for community and business group requests. If you or anyone you know is looking for an inspiring, educational and entertaining keynote speaker, please call (213) 485-4097 and place your request. It's that simple. One of our graduated keynote speakers will reply. Call today! Thank you in advance for your interest and participation.

Reserve Officer Terri Lincoln
Lieutenant Vic Dennis
Lieutenant Craig Herron

TOPANGA AREA

Here is a chance to be part of a new station: Topanga is looking for motivated Reserve Officers — all levels — to join the team at this state of the art facility. The 21st station covers 32 square miles in the West San Fernando Valley, including Canoga Park, West Hills, Winnetka and Woodland Hills. There are a variety of opportunities, from patrol to administration. "This is a good opportunity to do some proactive police work, i.e., working with SLOs, to make a difference in the community," says Officer Jaron, the reserve coordinator. Call Officer Jaron at (818) 756-3187. 🍷

**IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA
FOR AN ARTICLE FOR
THE ROTATOR, OR WOULD
LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE,
SEND US AN E-MAIL AT
MichaelSellars@sbcglobal.net**

COMMUNITY-RELATED EVENTS

By Reserve Officer David Bush

Each year Tip-A-Cop events are held to help raise donations and the awareness of the Special Olympics. On April 16, 35 members of the Los Angeles Police Department, mostly reserve officers, worked as “celebrity” waiters and greeters throughout the evening at the Claim Jumper restaurant, in Northridge, raising \$8,500. There were several Special Olympics athletes working with our officers. One of those working again was Cara Morales, the daughter of Sergeant Ralph Morales. Cara, proudly displaying the six gold medals she won, worked with Specialist Reserve Officer Jeanette Capaldi most of the evening.

In addition to the officers working the inside of the restaurant, there were several reserve officers working outside, greeting diners as they arrived. Deputy Chief Michel Moore stopped by with his family to support the event. Lieutenant Craig Herron, the Officer in Charge from ROVS also attended and supported the reserve officers.

Each year, 23 Claim Jumper locations throughout Southern California participate in this great event, and for the third year in a row the Northridge location raised the largest amount of donations! This happened because of your hard work and also several reserve officers donated \$500 each!

While the Tip-A-Cop was going on the same night, 35 Sunshine Kids were being treated to



Tip-A-Cop: For the third year in a row, the Northridge location raised the largest amount of donations.

dinner at the Café at Elysian Park. Officers from Community Relations Section acted as hosts while the kids, being treated to burgers, fries and sodas, sat at the counter. After the dinner, they were all taken on a tour of the Academy. These are kids that we all know from our annual Sheraton Universal Hotel transportation event. After leaving Elysian Park, they attended a Dodgers game, with tickets donated by the Dodgers Organization.

All the officers did a great job at both events and demonstrated their belief in community-related activities. Thank you all for a job well done!

Future Events:

Special Olympics Opening Ceremony, Long Beach, Saturday, June 13, 2009.

Sunshine Kids, Sheraton Universal Hotel, Thursday, September 10, 2009. ☺

LOMBARDI - CONTINUED FROM PG 3

incumbent on the reserve officer to bring it to the attention of a supervisor or watch commander. Special Order No. 13, dated March 27, 2008, will clarify this issue.

Also, as a reminder, if you are injured on duty as a reserve officer, you are afforded 100 percent workers' compensation benefits. Report your injuries to your supervisor in a timely manner and log them on your DFAR. This includes any exposures to toxic substances.

Off-duty contacts that require you to exert your peace officer authority are extremely dangerous. Always try to avoid becoming physically involved

in these incidents. However, sometimes they are impossible to ignore. State laws protect full-time and designated Level I officers. If these officers have to take action with a use of force, it must be within the course and scope of their police duties. They are afforded protections and benefits as if they were on duty. But non-designated Level I's, Levels II and III reserve officers generally will not have these protections, as they do not have peace officer authority while off duty. No matter what your officer status is, if you become involved in or out of your jurisdiction, you must immediately notify the LAPD of the event. Keep in mind that

the City of Los Angeles may refuse to defend you in a civil lawsuit that may arise from off-duty contacts. As a precaution, be sure that you are covered for false arrest and injuries on your home owner's policy. The reserve management members, Commander James Cansler and Lieutenant Craig Herron, are working on policy changes and enhancements that we will discuss in the next issue of the *Rotator*.

Maintain your proficiency by working more than the required 32 hours every two deployment periods and be extremely vigilant of your surroundings. ☺

ROLL-CALL REFRESHER: INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS

The Department's Investigative Report (IR, formerly the PIR) should include the following narrative headlines for crime reports: Source of Activity, Investigation, Injury/Medical Treatment, Photographs, Evidence and Court Information (officer availability). The most effective method for interviewing subjects is the Three-Phrase Interview Method:

1. SUBJECT TELLS THE STORY: You listen, keep the subject on track, no notes, establish rapport with subject.
2. SUBJECT AGAIN TELLS STORY WITH YOU TAKING NOTES: Having related an initial account, the subject is now at ease and you can gather the necessary information. Clarify points, as necessary.
3. OFFICER REPEATS THE STORY BACK TO SUBJECT: To correct any mistakes or misinterpretations, as well as add any additional or forgotten information. By doing this, you can also address any changes in the subject's story.

Under "Photographs," the narrative should include your (as the officer taking the photographs) information (name, rank and serial number), the subject of the photograph (i.e., footprints in doorway, recovered property, injuries), the number of photographs and how the photographs were taken (digital, Polaroid). The photographs should be attached to the report or you should specify at which division the photographs were booked. If the photos are on disc, attach the disc to the report and print out copies of the photos as well.

Narrative Reminders:

1. Use capital letters.
2. Use a number 2 pencil.
3. Do not indent paragraphs.
4. Skip a line to indicate a new paragraph.
5. Use a new paragraph to show changes in subject, time, thought, point of view.
6. Write in first person, past tense, except when writing direct quotes.
7. Use 24-hour clock and round off to the nearest five-minute increment.
8. When identifying officers, include serial number. ☺

MOBILE FIELD FORCE TRAINING DAY



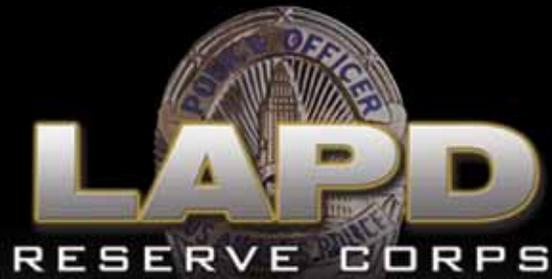
On January 10, LAPD Reserve Officers attended in-service Mobile Field Force (MFF) training, conducted at Dodger Stadium. A presentation was given by Captain John N. Incontro, the Commanding Officer of Training Division. The training then moved to Dodger Stadium, where officers were trained by Metropolitan Division on MFF crowd control, baton techniques and vehicle operations. ☺



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Los Angeles Police
Reserve Foundation**



Please join us in supporting your Reserve Police Officers.

The **Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation** provides training and equipment support, purchases supplies and stands ready to meet the welfare needs of our Reserves.

Some of the activities supported by the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation are:

- * The Reserve Motor Unit, Mounted Unit and Bicycle Units
- * Annual Reserve Peace Officer Conference Registration Costs
- * Financial support for the Twice A Citizen and Reserve Officer of the Year Banquet
- * Bereavement Recognition and Assistance
- * Special Olympics Summer Games and Sunshine Kids

Please send your donations to:

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