

2011 NATIONAL PARADE CONFERENCE REGIONAL REPORTS



Each Region had the opportunity to provide a summary of fire prevention activities that had taken place over the past year. In addition, the regional reports serve as a vehicle to provide specific recommendations for improvement of the Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange (PARADE) concept, as well as a way to share common concerns/observations regarding the programs of the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA).

REGION ONE

Connecticut
Maine
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
Rhode Island
Vermont

Current Chairs:

State: Vincent G. Quintero
Providence, Rhode Island

Metro: Roger Martin
Hartford, Connecticut

IFMA: Michael Young
Plymouth, Massachusetts

Attendees:

Scott Caron
Bob Patterson
Richard Taylor
Michael Young
Steven Sawyer
Matthew Cetin
Ron Anstey
Dave Beaudin
Vinny Quintero
Roger Martin

Meeting called to order at approximately 2:30 p.m. by State Co-Chair Vinny Quintero and Metro Co-Chair Roger Martin. All of Region I States were represented.

Vinny Quintero discussed possible election of new officers, as well as how the Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange (PARADE) can help you in your community.

Vinny Quintero discussed the mission of PARADE to all new members and acknowledged the challenges we all face with diminishing funds and personnel.

Co-Chair Roger Martin discussed how to filter the information down to the locals. He also discussed the value of EPARADE for passing information on to all members online.

Each year, PARADE allocates about \$3,000 per Region to use for specific programs (speakers, programs, etc.) mainly dealing with fire prevention topics. All applications for money now need to be submitted to a national "banker." Application deadline will be verified by Co-Chair Quintero and the membership will be informed.

We welcomed one guest member, Matthew Cetin, from Barre, VT.

Emails: Many emails sent out to the group from Co-Chair Quinterno, suggesting the possibility of a Web page for the Region to keep all members informed of activities, etc. This topic sparked a lot of conversation and ideas; discussion about trying to combine with other PARADE sites to cut down on proliferation on additional Web sites to check. Also suggested was setting up a "Region I" list in each personal email address list. This would negate the need of a Web site for Region I. With everyone agreeing on this method, a motion was made, a vote was taken, and it was agreed on by the group to just send out a group email to notify everyone.

Co-Chair Quinterno stated to the members that they need to be more proactive in signing up for future conferences. A lot of applications were last minute and this created an issue for PARADE as a whole.

Suggesting that Region I take over the New England Association of Fire Marshals' (NEAFM) annual seminar in Auburn, MA, Steve Sawyer stated we could possibly use PARADE grant money to pay for any expenses incurred. Mike Young suggested combining resources with NEAFM to improve the seminar. Co-Chair Quinterno also mentioned that grant monies may also be available to help support the Northeast Juvenile Firesetters Coalition for a regionalized training. Adding to the topic of training, Roger Martin suggested advertising a 1-day Region I seminar and measured the response from the group. Roger suggested Region I members send some topics for possible training sessions. Some members had discussed possible topics such as; a Crowd Managers program, Juvenile Firesetters, conducting annual school inspections, Region-wide fireworks protocol, and Special Amusement buildings (e.g., haunted houses) were also suggested as possible topics. Further discussed were the problems of getting information out to the different departments. It was recommended that these programs get accredited by State Fire Academies so that continuing education units (CEUs) could be issued with each certificate. Co-Chair Quinterno said that he will review the requirements for the different States. Matt Cetin expressed concern that many of the existing classes are held far away from northern Vermont and Maine. He suggested the possibility of satellite classes of the same topics. Roger Martin suggested that these trainings could be split between lower New England classes and the upper New England States by holding two classes. Finally, we identified some difficulties in completing the paperwork once receiving various grants for equipment, etc., as well as problems with submitting the paperwork for matching grants, etc. were also identified as key stumbling blocks to the grant process.

Business plan: Co-Chair Quinterno will send out a completed 2011 business plan to Region I members within 24 hours.

Election of officers: reelected to office were Vinny Quinterno as State Co-Chair and Roger Martin as Metro Co-Chair.

Having no further business to conduct, a motion to adjourn was made at 3:51 p.m. and then seconded.

Current Chairs:

State: Paul Martin
Albany, New York

Metro: Robert Drexler
Rochester, New York

IFMA: Arthur Londensky
South River, New Jersey

Attendees:

Robert Drexler
Arthur Londensky
Guy Swartwout

The primary focus of discussion was how to increase participation by those eligible to take part in Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange (PARADE). Ideas of contact were offered including a known new contact at the Fire Department of New York (FDNY) and a commitment to attempt others of the nine possible not represented.

The particulars of the grant were discussed. This year's was not applied for. Thoughts about possible uses if the opportunity arises in a subsequent year were discussed. The possibility of some combined activity and allowing more interaction between PARADE entities until participation in Region II can be increased.

REGION THREE

Delaware
Maryland
Pennsylvania
Virginia
West Virginia
District of Columbia

Current Chairs:

State: Charles E. Altizer
Glenn Allen, Virginia

Metro: James "Robbie" Dawson, Jr.
Chesterfield, Virginia

IFMA: Robert W. Ryan
College Park, Maryland

Reviewed overview of Co-Chair activity including Co-Chair meeting held at Congressional Fire Service Institute (CFSI) in April.

For the benefit of the new members, the Co-Chairs provided an overview of the Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange (PARADE) grant process and purpose. This included the concept of the Regional Banker compared to the National Banker concept discussed at the Co-Chair's meeting last year. Beck Ryan informed the group the National Banker was a possibility, however, there were some logistical issues that remain to be worked out.

The Region III members agreed to continue to fund the Mid-Atlantic Fire and Life Safety Conference and the Virginia Fire Prevention Association Conference. Members will identify any other regional programs that this funding may be used for and notify the Co-Chairs in the next 2 weeks of those potential grant possibilities.

One issue identified was effective communications between Co-Chairs and members. Many of the members didn't receive the communications the Co-Chairs were sending out. We identified the "PARADE List" may not be the best email distribution list to use considering office turnover and new staff. We explored the possibility of an EPARADE like listserv exclusively for Region III communications.

The floor was opened for formal introductions of members and discussion of local and State issues members were dealing with. Several items were discussed including

- Discussion of the reliable G-3 sprinkler-head issue identified in Virginia and the State Fire Marshal Office (SFMO) testing of those models of sprinkler heads and their failure rates.

- The "tundra" fire-extinguishing device currently marketed as a better alternative to a "fire extinguisher." This product is not listed by Underwriters Laboratories (UL) and uses marginally deceptive terminology giving the consumer the impression these are as good as a standard fire extinguisher.
- College town challenges including off-campus housing and "rave" parties being held at off-campus rental houses. These are advertised on Facebook and other social media sites.

The floor was open for election of new Region III Co-Chairs. After discussion and proper motions, the following members were elected as Regional Co-Chairs from Region III:

Metro: Tony Hudgins, Philadelphia Fire Department

State: Bill Barnard, Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office (represented by Bruce Bouch)

IFMA: Bob Ryan, College Park, MD

Following the roundtable discussion and election of Co-Chairs, the meeting was adjourned.

REGION FOUR

Alabama
Florida
Georgia
Kentucky
Mississippi
North Carolina
South Carolina
Tennessee

Current Chairs:

State: James E. Goodloe
Tallahassee, Florida

Metro: Jonathan Leonard
Charlotte, North Carolina

IFMA: Steven W. Peavey
Altamonte Springs, Florida

Attendees:

Ed Paulk
Cordell Mardis
Chuck Akers
Wendy Niles (Guest Delegate)
Lois "Puddin" Race
Robert Bassett
Lori Ann Roberts
Jeff Collins
Kerry Barnett (Guest Delegate)
Dick Brock (Guest Delegate)
James Schaffer
Jay Westbrook
Jerry Wainwright
Gregory Favors
William Bowman
Robert Krebs (Guest Delegate)
Michael Sterling
James Smith
Jan Parker

Region IV is missing 17 representatives, the States of South Carolina and Tennessee were not represented at this year's conference.

PARADE Overview

Regional Chairs provided an overview of the Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange (PARADE) program for the first-time attendees.

PARADE Grant Overview

Regional members and Guest Delegates were updated on the changes to the PARADE Grant Program. There will now be one National Banker who will submit for one \$30,000.00 grant and distribute the money to the Regions as requested. Each Region will still have access to the \$3,000 as before, however, Regions that do not request money could forfeit that money which will allow it to be distributed to other Regions requesting additional funds.

Regional Communications

PARADE Co-Chairs discussed reoccurring issues surrounding lack of participation and methods to increase communications within Region IV. The consensus of the members was to continue to work together to increase the awareness of the PARADE concept throughout the Region.

In an effort to increase the communications, State representatives were selected for each State in attendance. Those representatives are as follows:

Alabama	Edward Paulk
Florida	Steven Peavey and Jim Goodloe
Georgia	James Schaffer
Kentucky	William Bowan
Mississippi	James Smith
North Carolina	Jonathan Leonard and Jan Parker
South Carolina	Not Represented
Tennessee	Not Represented

PARADE Region IV has started a regional discussion group similar to EPARADE, however, to date, we have only 14 members that have joined. We discussed the importance of joining the group to help improve communications within the Region.

Chuck Akers is the moderator for the group and will be sending out invites to those members who have not joined and to the Guest Delegates present.

PARADE Marketing/Communications

All PARADE members in attendance were urged to make an effort to present the PARADE program overview at regional meetings, such as Statewide conferences for Fire Prevention and Public Education Associations to help inform the fire service about PARADE. The PARADE PowerPoint® presentation will be sent to all members who have requested a copy.

Below are several strategies that can be implemented to improve the marketing of PARADE program.

- Increase the membership and use of the PARADE Region IV discussion group.
- Provide PARADE members with a copy of the PARADE PowerPoint® program.
- Encourage the use of the Guest Delegate program to every State in the Region.

Regional PARADE Conference

The plans for a Regional PARADE Conference have been put on hold pending efforts to better market PARADE throughout the Region.

Open Discussion

Alabama--State established a code enforcement section (fire inspection) within the State Fire Marshal Office (SFMO).

Birmingham has been busy working on recovery after the recent tornadoes that hit the State.

Florida--Florida SFMO has taken the lead in the implementation of an accreditation model for stand-alone fire prevention departments. This program will be beneficial by adding credibility to the fire prevention industry. The model is being presented at this year's PARADE conference.

Legislative issues related to school inspections.

Altamonte Springs--Small departments in Florida have been hit hard by economic issues. There is a trend starting where fire prevention divisions are being moved away from the fire departments and being placed under the building departments.

St. Lucie County--Florida's juvenile firesetter database program has been completed Statewide and the participation and results have been positive. Looking into the possibility of make it a model nationwide implementation.

Lake Mary--There have been side-by-side burns conducted throughout the State with more being planned in the future.

Georgia--DeKalb County has upgraded the computer system to improve the efficiency of their inspection staff.

Gwinnett County is working to better define the role of fire prevention within their county. They also developed a program for inspection of apartment complexes in the county and are now looking to extend it to hotel complexes.

Atlanta has initiated a fire inspection cost-recovery program. They recently had a recall of smoke alarms they have been installing as part of their smoke detector program.

Mississippi--Jackson recently discovered that they do not have access to the alarm panel to downtown highrise building in their city. They are soliciting input from other jurisdictions that have experienced the same problem.

State has been working diligently on a Statewide smoke detector program. They have partnered with several other State agencies to assist with the program.

They have expanded their Statewide public education programs.

Kentucky--Louisville--They are struggling with the false-alarm issue. State passed a bill permitting fireworks, however, local jurisdiction may adopt more stringent requirements.

They have also seen an increase in arson fires due to the current state of the economic. As a result, they have a started a program called Combat Arson which has been very successful.

SFMO--They have increased the involvement with the Statewide fire service association to develop partnerships.

North Carolina--The city of Charlotte is in the infant stages of creating a program that will provide a residential fire sprinkler system (at no charge) for any family who have experienced a residential fire death. Under this new program, when the home is rebuilt, a residential fire sprinkler system would be installed in the dwelling as part of the remodeling. A local sprinkler company has agreed to the new systems free of charge and a local home builder would make the necessary repairs to the home at cost. This new program is already under way with the first free fire sprinkler system for a family who experienced a fire death this past January. It is sad that tragic loss must occur for something good to happen. Their goal is to develop this program for implementation Statewide in North Carolina.

SFMO--Looking to improve their juvenile firesetter program, looking at the State of Florida as a possible model. They are also working to improve their Statewide smoke detector program.

South Carolina--No report, State not represented.

Tennessee--No report, State not represented.

REGION FIVE

Illinois
Indiana
Michigan
Minnesota
Ohio
Wisconsin

Current Chairs:

State: Ronald R. Farr
Lansing, Michigan

Metro: Osrick Wilson
Detroit, Michigan

IFMA: George K. Michehl
Buffalo Grove, Illinois

Attendees:

Ronald Farr
Osrick Wilson
Meredith Hawes
Ted Jensen
Rich Palmer
Mike Long
Tom Fahrney
John McKenna
Angie Wiese
Jon Nisja
Gordon Gates
Jeremy McMullen
Richard Doebler
Dena Schumaker
George Michehl
Robert Morris

The group did self-introductions, identifying their agency, position, and listed some of the critical issues they are facing.

Issues that were identified:

- budget issues and doing more with less;
- training of new inspectors and what other areas were using for a curriculum;
- public education challenges;
- challenges associated with residential sprinklers; and
- accuracy of fire reporting and the important in gathering proposed date.

Discussion centered on the delivery of public education and if it was a part of the fire prevention program, is it being provided by a specific individual, who is only responsible for public education, or is it part of the total job responsibility of the fire marshal/fire inspector?

Discussion also followed regarding training conferences associated with public education. Again, we discussed separate conference or is it part of the general fire prevention/code enforcement conference for a State?

Discussion about working with the local and/or State building officials and if there were any conflicts.

Discussion about the need to develop succession programs.

Fireworks were discussed. What States certify display operators and how the certification is conducted?

Discussed the Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange (PARADE) grant. It was felt the best direction was to have one person act as the Banker for receipt and distribution of funds to requesting PARADE Regions. Discussion about what Region V would use the money for if requested. Felt we would like to see support in facilitating a meeting, possibly a Web cast.

Discussed holding a conference call to stay in touch.

Discussed fees that were charged by various agencies for various services such as:

- operational permits;
- permits in general;
- plan review;
- hazmat; and
- inspections.

Discussed issues with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 72, *National Fire Alarm Code*[®] and Central Fire Alarm protocol.

Discussed issues with false alarms and how agencies were handling them.

Discussion about "Live Fire Performers" (theatrical) and how agencies were regulating them. Also discussed Proximate and Flame Effect before an audience.

State Fire Prevention Conferences:

Michigan: September 13 to 17, 2011 East Lansing, MI.

Illinois: April 25 to 27, 2012 Galena, IL.

Wisconsin: November 3 to 5, 2011 Green Bay, WI.

Ohio: June/July in connection with the State Chief's Conference.

Minnesota: None, however, the Association does various training programs throughout the year.

Indiana: Unknown.

REGION SIX

Arkansas
Louisiana
New Mexico
Oklahoma
Texas

Current Chairs:

State: Robert Doke
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Metro: J. David Kerr
Plano, Texas

IFMA: Michael L. Barnes
Edmond, Oklahoma

Region VI has been busy supporting its membership with education programs. The programs supporting local fire marshals have been delivered at the local level through State-sponsored conferences. The Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange (PARADE) grant was used this year to support State conferences with assistance in bring nationally recognized speakers to their conferences.

Oklahoma--August 31 to September 1, attendance was approximately 108 members out of approximately 130. I talked about maybe getting a PARADE sponsored public service message we could take to our movie theaters or local media on fire safety and or fire sprinklers.

Louisiana--The event was held on Friday, October 23, 2009. There were approximately 125 attendees including fire prevention officials, building officials, suppression, plan examiners, small- and large-paid departments throughout the State, as well as State Fire Marshal Office (SFMO) representatives. The Louisiana Association of Fire Prevention Chiefs (LAFPC) has approximately 30 members representing the Fire Prevention Bureaus throughout Louisiana.

Texas--Texas held its 12th annual conference October 18 to 22 in Austin. This year's conference had over 225 in attendance. The keynote speaker was Chief Michael Chiaramonte. He spoke on the Super Sofa fire and the prevention lessons learned. The conference included forums for local, county, and university fire marshals, and public educators; classes on National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 25, *Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems*, wildfire, fire alarm systems. Several general session opportunities were also available.

REGION SEVEN

Iowa
Kansas
Missouri
Nebraska

Current Chairs:

State: Neal Brockmiller
Chesterfield, Missouri

Metro: Charles E. Coyle
St. Louis, Missouri

IFMA: Craig Fraser
Ankeny, Iowa

Attendees:

Randy Novak
Craig Fraser
Mark Dooley
Bob Lovell
Ray Nance
Jeff Hatcher
David Mann
Ray Daniels
Neal Brockmiller

Election

An election was **not** held since, but all three members present were Guest Delegates.

Items discussed

- Keeping the Region VII communications open and active between Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange (PARADE) conferences via email, conference calls, video conferencing, etc.
- Cuts in fire prevention staff/budgets.
 - Grants: need training and support to write better grant applications, share successful grant applications within the Region so others can see what was successful.
 - Other funding sources, such as corporate gifts and discounts (Wal-Mart, McDonalds, Home Depot, Lowes, major insurance companies, etc.).

- Using fire suppression personnel/volunteers (Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Explorers, Fire Corp., etc.) to leverage our existing resources.
- Difficulty in getting continuing education credits is creating problems with maintaining current fire service certifications or starting new certification programs, such as Fire and Life Safety Educators (FLSE).
- New ways to get fire prevention message out--Sports team displays; printed schedules; parent/teacher meetings; Web sites; tricked-out vehicles similar to police Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) vehicles.

REGION EIGHT

Colorado
Montana
North Dakota
South Dakota
Wyoming

Current Chairs:

State: Monica Colby
Murray, Utah

Metro: Justin Smith
Casper, Wyoming

IFMA: Steve Cox
Bountiful, Utah

Attendees:

Mike Spini
Monica Colby
Stephen Cox
Paul Paulson
Joseph Tjaden
Richard Broderick
Damon Hartmann
Dean Lanier
James Stevens
Kristopher Kolstad
Justin Smith
Steven Beumer
Robert Geislinger
Steven Stokes
Anthony Wilkins

Election of Co-Chairs

Steve Cox will remain as International Fire Marshals Association (IFMA) representative.

Justin Smith will remain as Metro Co-Chair.

Monica Colby has agreed to be the State Co-Chair while a new Co-Chair trains. Steven Beumer has agreed to learn to be the State Co-Chair. Monica will continue to be Banker and will turn the reigns over to Steve before the June Co-Chair meeting.

Grant 2012

We discussed our grant for 2012 that will be written this summer. We will continue to support regional attendance of fire and life safety education conferences. In 2013, we are looking to support attending the International Code Council (ICC) meeting in addition to our Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange (PARADE) conference if that is a possibility. This year, we had many more people access our PARADE grant support and we are interested in continuing to provide increased support for our members to attend.

Regional Networking

We discussed means to increase our networking ability and we will be starting a regional email talk group. The Co-Chairs will send out a reminder to share information or to ask specific questions every couple of months. Our users can access this for other questions and concerns.

Before the next planning meeting, we will survey our members on not only what they want for training, but who they want to train on those subjects. We've asked them to keep an eye on what training they had that was of high quality.

Ideas, Concerns, and Discussion

There is a series of books for about \$35 concerning ICC code changes. Significant changes to 2012 International Building Code (IBC) guide that covers all of what has changed and what to notice about the new code book. The IBC should be out in a week or two.

South Dakota and Wyoming discussed joining IFMA before their next training.

- **Sprinklers**

Rapid City, SD has created a mobile side-by-side. They found that they were spending a lot of money in rebuilding fire demonstration burn cells because they were taking it to many open houses, schools, colleges, and to the State capitol. They have used a metal trailer and cut it and built two rooms. This creates a natural lip so they do not need plexiglass. They only need new furniture and drywall. They also prepaint the drywall and tape it up, often with white duct tape. They are also using the Texas Have and Exit Strategy, materials from the Home Sprinkler Coalition, and Campus Fire Safety materials. They received assistance from their local Home Builders Association. The Home Builders assisted in a fire safety education project to build a fire and life safety house, a smoke house for training families. They have them bring it to every demonstration to train the entire family. They have found success with their city officials. Some that were against mandates and against sprinklers in general have attended the live burns and have learned that they had received poor information. Now, some are simply not against sprinklers though they do not want all mandates in the code.

They have also created videos to go with the burn demonstrations. It shows real-time 9-1-1 calls and the fire department response. The burn is about 4 minutes until flashover and they show how it takes about 2.5 minutes until dispatch and then a 3- to 4-minute response. Of course, this shows that when the burn cell, the demonstration, is suppressed by the fire department, the fire department on the video is still responding, in order to drive home the point that fire in their own home will still be active and growing.

Colorado-- was able to bring Home Builders on a little bit because they sat down to see what their objections were to the code adoption, by delaying the implementation time until January 1, 2013 to give them time to retool. When individuals approach the State lobbyist for the Home Builders, he corrects them and explains that they have agreed to sprinklers and are onboard. They still have some regulatory issues to be resolved but this gave them time.

Wyoming--They have been using the side-by-side to be proactive in education to decisionmakers. Rural communities are getting residential and even commercial sprinklers with no training for suppression response, let alone fire marshal duties. When Wyoming Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) staff inspect such a building, they invite and train the rural building inspector, fire department, and business owners at rough-in, flow testing, final, and when the installer trains the building owner on maintenance and use. They also teach the firefighters how to use fire department connections.

In Billings, MT, the chief ordered the fire prevention people to stop talking to representatives about sprinklers while the issue was in legislation because the chief was getting so much pressure from other agencies. The Governor vetoed a no-sprinkler legislation so that they now have the ability of individual jurisdictions to choose sprinklers or not. It now goes back to a Building Code advisory committee. They also had a regional characterization school program that was cut. The chief changed to program from overtime to days with 10 percent increase and the participants stopped working.

How to handle the sprinkler antifreeze issue? There was some discussion on what has been done in other States and reiterating concerns. Rapid City looked at 25 years of weather service research on temperatures and compared this to freeze and flow points. They have found that it might be of benefit to tent with insulation over certain points of the sprinkler system.

The biggest concern to our fire marshals is the design of sprinkler systems. Manufacturers' specifications are all different.

The group liked the idea of a fire safety rating for new construction, especially if there was benefit to the occupant in insurance rates. They also would like to have something like that that includes behavior modification for existing building so they can get a discount just like taking a defensive driving class gets a discount.

There is also need for adjusters to understand the value of a sprinkler system. One individual found that he had put in granite countertops, the value would have increased \$2,500, but no increase for the sprinklers.

- **Training and Culture**

How to get more people to this kind of training? How can we share this information? How can we train the newer fire marshal/firefighter in these types of trainings so they are trained well from their beginnings and get them on track from the beginning?

We need to educate our own people on fire prevention concerns. Casper forwards all fire prevention emails and when a firefighter comes to him about concerns, he takes the time to talk with them and educate them. Mostly, he's found that they really do agree but there is a culture to complain about sprinklers and such tools. He then gets a commitment of support when this issue is brought up in the future.

We want to get more people to this and other conferences.

We need to lead by example and take what we have learned back to our local areas and demonstrate what we have learned. The Co-Chairs will ask the group what they have implemented from the conference.

There are very few full-time prevention in each State and often no full-time fire and life safety educators in our States.

Many are working with Juvenile Firesetter (JFS) Coalitions, Safe Kids, hospitals, other life safety partnerships to get Automated External Defibrillation (AED) in schools, etc. Some have found that hosting an annual drunk driving around high school prom time has led to greater partnerships with law enforcement, emergency managers, search and rescue, and emergency medical services (EMS).

South Dakota--They train firefighters to respond to sprinkler activation as part of their cadet training. They do it once without smoke, once with smoke, and sometimes with heat/steam.

Many new cadets are excited about saving lives and believe in fire prevention. How do we keep that excitement before it gets beat out of them on the floor?--generally 3 years.

Utah: Fire Inspector I is required for officer advancement. Also found that trained Battalion Chief feels more responsibility for proper inspections because they recognize this provides safety for the firefighters they are responsible for. They pass on the importance of inspections and preplanning to create a more cultural level.

- **Fire Problem**

The question was asked if they know their greatest fire problem. Most did not. We questioned how to decide this; impact, quantity, loss of property, loss of life? Which determines the greatest problem? Some have low fatality rates but are concerned for transient population, residential fires in general, under the age of 5, over the age of 65, and low-income rentals.

Rapid City, SD, had a fire problem in manufactured homes, but by bringing in inspections and working with a developer, they have significantly decreased their fire problem in manufactured homes. The developer mentioned purchasing and fixing up manufactured-home neighborhoods. These were 1,950 homes for the most part. New homes don't fit on the lot and allow for proper separation and setbacks. He eventually found someone to make new Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approved homes that are two-story with sprinklers. The other option was to allow him to just fix up the old and less safe homes in existence. This encouraged the city officials to allow the two-story homes.

- **Suppression for Residential Appliance in Commercial Occupancy**

There was a concern and discussion about how to handle requests for residential cooking appliances in commercial occupancies. Specifically, what suppression is required? Some suggestions from the group that have worked are to allow two with Safe T element and if there are three, then all are commercial, if there is a 13 sprinkler system. Otherwise, it's a Type 1 hood for all cooking appliance. If using George Forman Grill, they suggested to work it out with the Mechanical Code Engineer. Again, it changed based on existence of sprinklers and the number of grills expected. They also wanted residential hoods to exhaust outside and use a listed appliance and a residential range-hood suppression system.

There is a concern that we might overregulate and require too much, so they go back to hiding what they are doing and not follow any code.

REGION NINE

Arizona
California
Hawaii
Nevada

Current Chairs:

State: Vacant

Metro: Jim Ford
Scottsdale, Arizona

IFMA: Eric Kriwer
Prescott, Arizona

This overview will attempt to recap some of the activities and overall issues associated with Region IX of Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange (PARADE). This continues to be a very turbulent time for the Region IX PARADE organizations. The current Region IX Co-Chairs as identified at the prior PARADE Conference (2009) are Jim Ford, Metro Co-Chair (Scottsdale, AZ), Eric Krewier, International Fire Marshals Association (IFMA) Co-Chair (Prescott, AZ) and Phil Mele, State Fire Marshal Co-Chair (Arizona State Fire Marshal Office (SOFM)). Additionally, Cina Sunderhaus (Arizona Fire Marshal's Association (AFMA)/Mesa) was identified as the Treasurer. Due to the retirement of Phil Mele and other departmental changes at the Arizona SFMO, this position has been represented on a rotational basis at Region IX events.

At the 2011 Region IX meeting, a new slate of Officers was discussed and appointed by the representatives present at this event. The State Fire Marshal Co-Chair position will be filled by Tonya Hoover (Acting California State Fire Marshal), Jim Ford will remain as the Metro Co-Chair and Eric Kriwer will remain as the Region IX IFMA Co-Chair. Even with the challenges that many in our Region have experienced, there was still a tremendous commitment from the various departments to supporting many of the national fire prevention initiatives that have been ongoing. These include, but are not limited to, Vision 20/20, the various Code Development processes (International Code Council (ICC)/National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)), Fire Team USA, along with the Firewise and Ready-Set-Go wildland initiatives.

The departments in Region IX are continuing to experience a significant amount of personnel turnover, dramatic departmental changes, and numerous other challenges. We have established and are working to keep a current, updated list of contact information for all known Region IX PARADE members. It has been difficult keeping up with the communication process and the changes in contact personnel. In Arizona alone, we have experienced the loss of three very active PARADE members with the recent retirements of Greg Victor (Glendale), Barbara Koffren (Phoenix), and Dan Uthe (Tucson).

Grant Funding--The previous \$3,000 regional grants for Region IX have not been used or requested for the last few years. Numerous attempts have been made to update the Federal guidelines for contact and Banker information (to the AFMA) without much success. Initial plans for the grant funding were to have mid-process regional meetings, possibly in Las Vegas or Laughlin. Due to the tremendous impacts related to the national economic conditions, and new local restrictions on travel and training, there were challenges encountered by regional representatives as it relates to having these events. (See issues.)

Arizona

The biggest challenges in Arizona have come from the ongoing economic issues and the associated impacts on fire departments throughout the State, as a direct result of new legislative initiatives. In December 2010, new legislation went into effect that essentially took Arizona from a State that did not allow any type of consumer fireworks, to one that now encouraged the sale of these devices throughout the State. This particular legislation (HB 2246) will **not** allow local jurisdictions to restrict the sale of consumer fireworks, but it did still allow for local communities to restrict the use within their jurisdictional boundaries.

At the most recent session of our legislature, they set a new record for submitted bills that would impact local jurisdictions. The ones most concerning to the fire service were related to the Public Safety Retirement (no comments in this report), fireworks (again), and residential sprinklers. The new fireworks legislation (SB 1379) was submitted by industry and easily passed the House and Senate with an emergency implementation clause. It amended the recent December 2010 law to completely take away a local jurisdiction's ability to regulate the **use and sale** of consumer fireworks in their community. This action was taken without any prior input from the fire professionals in the State and before we even experienced the impact of one summer's fire season to gauge the impact of the previous legislation. The Governor surprisingly vetoed this bill. It will be important for the Arizona fire service representatives to accurately identify and report the impact during the upcoming July holiday season of 2011. Also, a new HB 2153 was submitted by the Arizona Homebuilders and effectively banned any Arizona community from adopting a new ordinance that required automatic sprinklers in residential structures. In effect, this also restricted Arizona communities from adopting the 2009 (or later) edition of the International Residential Code (IRC). While technically this does not impact those communities with existing residential sprinkler ordinances, these communities cannot adopt new ordinances/codes without being very careful not to repeal their existing codes. This legislation will have an impact on local communities and their ability to allow or continue with the concept of allowing design freedoms for development projects. Even with tremendous opposition from all of Arizona's fire service and burn foundations, the Governor signed this legislation and commented that it is an individual choice that should not be a requirement.

The majority of ongoing training opportunities have been sponsored and delivered locally, primarily because of the efforts from the AFMA, the Arizona Chapter of International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI), the Arizona Fire Chiefs Association (AFCA), and now the Arizona Fire Service Institute (AFSI).

In addition, Phoenix worked with Underwriters Laboratories (UL) to host and present a national workshop on residential sprinkler development and effectiveness.

California

The State of California has also worked through a tremendous amount of challenging issues associated with the economy and with their budgets. Like other States in Region IX, the California Fire Service is closely monitoring and working with the State Legislature when it comes to addressing regulatory and dramatic financial issues. However, even though many departments have had to make major adjustments to programs, positions, and reprioritize needs, an incredible amount of recognition and credit must be given to Acting State Fire Marshal, Tonya Hoover, and her team for their efforts and support during these trying times for major fire prevention initiatives.

A major accomplishment was associated with California's ability to develop a task force initiative that was designed to address residential fire sprinklers on a Statewide basis. The *California State Fire Marshal Residential Sprinkler Task Forces* engaged a wide variety of private and public stakeholders to address the numerous questions associated with residential fire sprinklers. The outcome of these efforts culminated at the January 12, 2010 California Building Standards and Codes hearing, where the adoption of a landmark requirement for residential sprinklers in all new one- and two-family dwellings, was approved with an effective date of January 1, 2011. In addition, the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and the California Building Industry Association introduced initiatives that would help to collect information, clarify the State's requirement, and assist in the resolution of misunderstandings or misrepresentations of issues associated with the implementation of this code requirement. These efforts clearly place California at the lead of those working to get in place a Statewide requirement for residential sprinklers, in all new single-family home construction.

CAL FIRE--OSFM continues to work closely with alternate energy and State Fire Training released a training package aimed at educating the fire service on the challenges with roof-mounted photovoltaic devices (solar panels). This fire service safety training package is an important piece in the CAL FIRE--OSFM "Red and Green Initiative" that includes all aspects of the fire service into green construction practices (prevention, training, and operations).

This year also brought completion of the California Fire Plan. This plan is a cooperative effort between the State Board of Forestry and CAL FIRE and provides a roadmap for the fire services throughout the State when addressing and reducing the risk of wildfires. The plan uses many methods to address the long-term needs as it relates to reducing fire starts, increasing firefighter safety, controlling firefighting costs, reducing property loss, and contributing to a healthy ecosystem.

Hawaii

In short, along with many States throughout the nation, we are also experiencing economic challenges and budget crunches. Also, to make the normal economic issues worse, several islands sustained damage as a result of the recent March 11, 2011 tsunami

that was generated by a 9.1 earthquake just off the coast of Japan. The economic impacts of this tragedy will have long-lasting effects concerning our economy in regards to our visitor and tourism industry. So, we vote for a Region IX meeting in Hawaii soon (this will be a slam dunk with everyone in Region IX).

We are closely monitoring several legislative bills that were introduced by our State Fire Council. Our State Fire Council acts as our SFMO for Hawaii. The Council consists of the four county fire chief's (Oahu/Honolulu, Big Island, Maui, Kauai). A few of the bills are addressing residential fire sprinklers for one- and two-family dwellings, a ban on novelty lighters, and a ban on novelty fireworks. Other issues concerning our Hawaiian firefighters were a retirement and benefits reduction for current employees, which thankfully did not pass. However, the amended legislation will affect new hires in 2012. We will have the first State fire code with individual county amendments to work off of soon. A big thank you needs to go out to the NFPA's Ray Bizal for his continued support with these efforts.

Nevada

As with other areas of Region IX, some of the biggest challenges in Nevada have come from the ongoing economic issues and the impacts on fire departments throughout the State, as a direct result of new legislative initiatives. During the boom years, Nevada experienced unprecedented growth. However, the State failed to identify and implement any long-range plan in anticipation of an economic slowdown in their housing and tourist industries. Economic recovery seems to be happening slower than many other parts of the country.

Numerous impacts have been experienced by many departments in Nevada. The Nevada SFMO has experienced several position cuts and is working hard to keep its ability to provide some inspection, training, and investigative services to mostly the smaller counties. As another example, the City of Reno has already lost 50 firefighters and two inspector positions with more possible. In fact, almost all of the cities throughout Nevada have already lost positions and fear future reductions in State revenue, unless the Nevada Legislature can somehow address its budget issues. On the legislative front, as mentioned, the State is still facing huge financial deficits. Large cuts are still expected for governmental services and education. The fire service was successful in getting two scary Legislative Bills defeated. The first would have prevented local jurisdictions from adopting a residential fire sprinkler ordinance. The second bill would have lowered the age at which a performer could get a license for live fire performances from 18 to 12 years old. The NFPA recommends 21 years old. Another bill that would have allowed for regionalization of fire departments, also died.

Throughout the State, there are several public education initiatives underway. Programs like this year's "Wildfire Survival: It takes a Community," the "Living with Fire Program," (which also coordinates with the University of Nevada, Reno and Ready-Set-Go) along with various youth firesetting programs, have been able to deliver a common message throughout the State.

Regional Issues

- Further discussion needs to occur on attempts to host regional PARADE events, or, because of our incredible geographical diversity, work to develop a method to conduct Web conferences and Region IX updates.
- Grant issues. Region IX supports the concept of a single PARADE Banker. Locally, we need to reestablish DUNS and Federal Contractor status for the AFMA (Region IX Banker). Use of possible grant money--suggestions included a regional event, establish ability for departments to participate in Web conferences; or support for additional fire department members to attend the next national event. Examples are possible invitations for some mid-sized departments and even possible assistance for our most remote members from Hawaii.
- Continue to develop a Guest Delegate program, with the goal to have all available Region IX spots for the next national PARADE conference filled.
- Update and progress reports needed to stay current with Vision 20/20 initiatives. Many of the Region IX Departments are still active with the Vision 20/20 projects along with numerous other community fire safety initiatives like Firewise and Ready-Set-Go.
- Commitment to try and reconnect PARADE issues with the various State and regional fire and life safety organizations throughout Region IX.
- Identification of a growing problem associated with Fire Prevention/Protection fraud. Private companies imitating local fire service inspectors and collecting fees for unprofessional and incomplete occupancy inspections. Wide range of victims in California and will need to be checking with other States. Difficult to just address with legislative or educational methods. Subclassification of the issue would be the desire by some political leaders to contract out fire prevention services to private, third-party organizations. However, in most cases, the local community still retains overall liability.

REGION TEN

Alaska
Idaho
Oregon
Washington

Current Chairs:

State: David L. Tyler
Anchorage, Alaska

Metro: Lisa Jones
Spokane, Washington

IFMA: Jeff Donahue
Independence, Oregon

Attendees:

Erin Janssens
Jim Crawford
Dave Lynam
Greg Rogers
Cleo Hill
Karen Jones
Claire McGrew
Jeff Donahue
Gordon Goldsmith
Mahlon Greene
David Gutierrez
Knute Sandahl
Lisa Jones

Background

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region X welcomed many new participants to the National Fire Prevention Advocates group. As a result, the meeting began with introductions and a brief discussion about where we've been and where we're going. Also included in the background discussion of Prevention Advocacy Resources and Data Exchange (PARADE) and its beginnings was a brief description of Vision 20/20 and its connection to PARADE--the differences and comparisons. In all, 13 members were present for the Region X meeting, the best turnout ever with much enthusiastic discussion.

Grant Funding for PARADE efforts in 2010 resulted in a contribution to the Annual Washington Fire Marshals Roundtable held in Cle Elum, WA, which highlighted a regional PARADE grounds event with vendors, local fire jurisdiction displays, and programs. Grant funds also went to the Alaska Fire Chiefs Association to help with expenses for a regional

meeting, and also to the Oregon Fire Marshals Association for their Annual Roundtable event, held in Salem, OR. Although Region X members present did not discuss 2011 event funding at this meeting, the topic will be discussed via email within the next 60 days.

Surviving Budget Cuts has been a challenge for all jurisdictions. Several, if not all, departments have sustained budget cuts and staffing reductions. If fire prevention efforts are difficult on a good day, we know how difficult it is to survive and be supported during times of economic hardship. Since the country's economic state is not likely to significantly change anytime soon, other resources will have to be "tapped" to continue prevention efforts in light of budget cuts (more line-staff (station-based) and volunteer fire prevention involvement, public service announcements (PSAs), and **social media**).

Performance Measures: Having adequate performance measures are important in conserving and maximizing limited resources and achieving goals/objectives. Vision 20/20 is currently working on performance measures to assist jurisdictions in selecting a methodology of coming up with metrics to use in determining or measuring success. "Many count how many things we do, but we don't talk as much about the outcomes of our efforts. We really have to change our thinking about what and how we do."

PARADE Membership: participation, mentorship, retention, and succession planning was another area of discussion for our group. Since Region X has had such a turnover, it was fitting to discuss new member orientation, continued participation, and communications in general. An important factor identified in achieving fire prevention-related goals and keeping a viable membership group was connecting/linking with State associations. There has been an observed disconnect between State/Regional Fire Marshal Associations and PARADE efforts, which is easily remedied with better communications.

It was recommended that more work be done at the Co-Chair level to develop a set of Best Practices for attracting and retaining PARADE membership. Information provided should include transition of leadership priorities, guidelines, guest delegate information, best routes of communicating PARADE information, grant management/funding, appropriate regional PARADE events, and "how to" put them together, etc. Moving up the PARADE notification date was also mentioned as an opportunity to allow for planning and recruiting membership attendance.

It was also suggested, if possible, to create/allow/provide for/expand membership to include State association members, a guest delegate per State, a position for previous members who want to remain involved, and self-pay options for multiple jurisdictional attendance or for State associations. There is **clearly** a **strong** interest throughout the Region (and country) in attending PARADE conferences if only given the opportunity.

Succession planning and better **networking/connecting with others** was stressed as very important aspects of continuing fire prevention efforts. How do we connect with young people or people for whom English is a second language, multigenerational, and multidemographic populations, remote rural areas where retention and high turnover is a problem? Various models, modes, and methods of communication are available and should be used in communicating fire

prevention information. Facebook has been a tremendous resource for one of the Region's jurisdictions. A relatively low cost item (\$20) has yielded a huge response. Use of social media is affordable and very useful, especially in outreach efforts for rural areas and situations with limited budgets and resources. **Social media** was stressed again as an effective tool in reaching even the remote and diverse populations of rural Alaska for teaching fire safety.

As in the Vision 20/20 project, it is recognized as being **vitaly** important to collaborate among our different resources to build upon them rather than reinventing. The Vision 20/20 project offers an excellent collaborative model in establishing work/task groups from different disciplines (e.g., public health, private and public sector entities, consumer safety product professionals, researchers, and others with a different perspective). Working "in concert" rather than "in isolation" was recognized as key in maximizing resources and reducing redundancy. Building good, strong working relationships and emphasizing community partners has helped many achieve a higher rate of success.

Sharing resources was another important topic of discussion. How can we share resources (e.g., information, videos, live presentations) gained at PARADE to bring back home to share with our own Regions and/or departments? Video banks, ESC1, Speaker's Bureau, free samples of information presented at PARADE, presenters' biographies, contact information for future speaking engagements or other project work, a catalogue of related You Tube vignettes, etc., were all mentioned as good resources to have available as needed. This information is important, especially when a fire-related event occurs in a local jurisdiction, presenting that all important "**teachable moment.**" With these aids, we can better document institutional knowledge and connect with the current and future generations. There is a "Fountainhead of information out there. Let's make the most of it!"

The Washington Sprinkler Coalition was another important topic of discussion (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/WA-Sprinkler-Coalition/107479149293308#!/pages/WA-Sprinkler-Coalition/107479149293308#!/photo.php?fbid=184617288246160&set=pu.107479149293308&type=1&theater>). Stressing the importance of fire sprinklers in homes, the Coalition has continued to work hard on removing barriers to local jurisdictional adoption of the home fire sprinkler requirement.

Accreditation also came up as some departments in Region X are working through the process. **Home inspection programs** are being looked at by some departments as a way to address the problem of fires in private residences.

The Region closed the meeting with a commitment to keep in contact, continue to share resources, support one another as much as possible, spread the word about what we've experienced at PARADE, and meet at the National Fire Academy (NFA) again in 2 years for another excellent session!