

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION
OF
FORESTERS AND FIRE WARDENS

THE FIRST FIFTY YEARS

BY RICHARD G. HANNUM

FOREWORD

Southern California has historically experienced the most unique wildland fire protection problem of any place in the world. There is not one wildland fire protection agency in Southern California that is capable of handling its own fire problem 100% of the time.

It is almost a certainty that at least once a year Southern California will experience a rash of multiple large fires requiring all fire agencies to band together to control these conflagrations. This requires a close working relationship between the various fire protection agencies on a day-to-day basis.

The Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens each year brings together three to four hundred persons from the different fire protection agencies for a two-day training and safety conference. Time and again this has proven to be of significant value in that it helps to strengthen the bond among all wildland fire fighters, regardless of jurisdiction. There have been countless stories about fire suppression personnel from different departments working together on a fire more effectively because they knew each other from a Foresters and Fire Wardens gathering.

The year 1980 will mark the golden anniversary of the Association, as it celebrates its fiftieth year.

This brief historical sketch is dedicated to the founding fathers and all the others who have been instrumental in the success of the Association. It is also dedicated to all wildland fire fighters who do so much to protect the citizens and property in Southern California from the ravages of fire.

THE BEGINNING

The Southern California Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens was born on a train somewhere between Seattle and Los Angeles in March of 1929.

Frank Dunne, Santa Barbara County Forester, and Spence D. Turner, Los Angeles County Forester, were returning from a convention of the Western Forestry Association. During the long train ride they discussed the need for an organization which would be of benefit to the rank and file person who is engaged in wildland fire control. They also saw a need for improved inter-agency relationships.

Their discussions were not just passing conversation. This spark of an idea kindled into a flame of reality, and in just one month the Association was off to its beginning.

The initial meeting was held on April 16, 1929, in the Santa Barbara County Courthouse, which was attended by 28 persons. The minutes of that inaugural meeting can be found on page 12.

At first, the organization was known as the Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens, however, it was soon changed to its present name.

The first meeting was reported in the Pasadena Post and described the objectives of the new association; "... to bring about a better and more efficient means of fire prevention, fire protection and watershed conservation and, as the association will be composed of men actually charged with responsibility of this work, it is felt that by getting together, a great deal can be accomplished by means of standardization of equipment, publicity, educational programs and fire laws."

The next meeting was held on May 16, 1929, at the Deauville Club in Santa Monica, where the initial constitution and bylaws were adopted.

Subsequent quarterly meetings were held on August 19, 1929, at the Los Angeles City Hall of Records, and on November 22, 1929, at the San Bernardino County Court House.

ASSOCIATION OBJECTIVES

In the fifty years of its existence the Association has continually strived to achieve its objectives - with great success. The objectives over the years have been to:

- Increase mutual understanding of fire control problems among those agencies which participate in Association activities and programs.
- Serve as a forum for the discussion of fire control related problems.
- Educate Association members in improved equipment, techniques, and methods for the control of wildland fires.
- Keep informed of all laws relating to wildland fire protection and to obtain standardization of these laws.
- Encourage members to achieve a higher level of efficiency in the operation of the fire services.
- Promote fire safety by presenting timely topics and programs to the members attending the annual conference.

This success can be attributed to the hundreds of dedicated persons responsible for steering the course of the Association over the past half century, as well as those loyal members who have taken part in the activities.

OVER THE YEARS

The Association generally revolves around the Training and Safety Conferences which are currently held in May of each year.

The first such gathering was on February 21-22, 1930, in San Diego. The meetings were at the Elks Club, and the Friday evening banquet was at the Hotel San Diego.

Proof that the members were able to mix pleasure with business was described in this account of the meeting by one of the participants —

"An extremely interesting program was held on both days with many interesting papers being read and discussed. The banquet was enjoyed by all, particularly by one member of the Los Angeles County contingent, who was finally forced to retire to a far corner, behind a barricade of tables, chairs and large serving trays, to escape the many missiles thrown at him in the form of olives, biscuits, french rolls and an occasional butter chip. The party broke up into small groups after the banquet and just what some of these small groups did is their own damn business."

In 1931, the conference was at Avalon on Catalina Island on February 21 thru 24. The meetings were in the Riveria Theater and the banquet on Monday was at the St. Catherine Hotel. Some of the topics presented were:

- Analysis of Southern California's 1930 Fire Season
- State Division of Forestry: Its Obligations and Future Policy in Southern California
- Reminiscences by Some Old Timers
- Conscription of Fire Fighters - Its Advantages and Disadvantages
- California Forest Officers' Mutual Relief Association - What It Means

Entertainment featured at the conference was a golf tournament, special steamer trip, free motion pictures, a goat hunt, and a night-time cruise to the submarine gardens on a glass bottom boat.

At the 1934 meeting in San Bernardino, single rooms without bath were available at the California Hotel for \$2.00 a day, or you could stay at the Antlers Hotel for fifty cents less.

There were special events scheduled for the wives: a trip to Lake Arrowhead and lunch at Arrowhead Springs, followed by their choice of an afternoon of bridge or a theater matinee.

The banquet was featured on the program as "Eats 'N Entertainment, Dancing" and the cost was \$1.50.

Another event featured at the 1934 conference was Civilian Conservation Corps championship boxing at the Orange Show grounds. Seven bouts were held between the March Field District Champions and the Fort McArthur District Champions. It is not known who won.

Boxing was also featured at several other conferences prior to World War II.

In 1940, some thought was given to organizing the Association into regional groups. The intent was to have one-day meetings in several areas every few months. It was believed by some that the frequent group meetings would be more beneficial than the regular annual meeting for all members.

The first such group meeting was held on May 24, 1940, at Steckal Park in Santa Paula. This meeting was attended by 106 members, most of whom were from the Ventura County and West Los Angeles County areas. They indulged in a feed of chili beans, onions, radishes, French bread, and coffee for the grand sum of a quarter for each person.

A subsequent group meeting was held at the Lebec Hotel on November 13, 1940, which was attended by 88 members. They enjoyed a roast beef dinner for fifty cents, along with some evening entertainment.

From all apparent indications this concept of group meetings was soon abandoned as there is no record of any others having taken place.

When World War II broke out, the Association, like so many others, took time out. In 1949, the conferences were resumed, with the first one being in Bakersfield.

In 1951, the conference was held in Pasadena. This was the last time the meeting was held where hotel facilities were utilized. The next year, and in every year since, the concept of using organizational camps, camp grounds or fairgrounds has been practiced. This type of arrangement has proven to be the most satisfactory, as it has provided for the most economical cost. There is also a tendency for the entire group to remain at the facility where the meeting is being held, for the duration of the conference.

The thrust of the Association is the same as in the beginning - to provide a forum where the rank and file wildland fire fighter can meet with other fire fighters from his or her sister agencies at a reasonable cost.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors has been the backbone of the Association since its inception. They constitute the governing body and handle Association matters between the annual general meeting of all members. It is their responsibility to plan, organize, and conduct each annual conference. As a result, they play a tremendous part in the success of the organization. In order to plan the annual meeting, the board normally meets five or six times each year.

The first governing board consisted of five officers and ten directors. These fifteen persons represented the United States Forest Service and the California Division of Forestry (CDF) along with the various county forestry and fire departments, all of which had jurisdiction in nine Southern California counties. These counties were Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura. The area covered by the Association has remained the same all these years.

There has been very little change in the makeup of the Board of Directors, although in 1966 the Constitution and Bylaws were revised to provide the Los Angeles City Fire Department representation on the board.

At first the board members were elected by a vote of the members attending the annual business meeting. This was changed in the 1960's. Board members are now appointed directly by their respective chief.

Each year the board elects or selects the officers, which consist of the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Junior Past President.

The author is aware of at least one father and son who have both served as an officer of the Association. S.A. Nash-Boulden, Forest Supervisor of the Santa Barbara National Forest, was a vice president in the early 1930's. His son, Steve Nash-Boulden, who was an Associate State Forest Ranger with the CDF in San Luis Obispo County, was president thirty years later.

THE CAMP RADFORD ERA

For seven consecutive years, beginning in 1957, the annual conference was held at Camp Radford near Seven Oaks in the San Bernardino National Forest. The camp at that time was operated by the Los Angeles City Department of Recreation and Parks and they were always a most congenial host.

This site was very popular with most of the members, as it was situated among the pines at an elevation of 5800 feet near the headwaters of the Santa Ana River.

The 1964 conference was planned for this same site, which would have been number eight. On Wednesday, May 5, the day before the conference was to begin, there was a heavy storm at the camp, which resulted in eighteen inches of snow on the ground. Because of this the conference was cancelled.

This was the only time the Association has cancelled a conference in its fifty years, except during World War II.

As a result of the cancellation, the Association's treasury was at its lowest point in a long time.

Not wanting to be confronted with the same situation again, the Association never returned to Camp Radford. As a matter of fact, they have avoided scheduling conferences where a similar reoccurrence was a possibility.

KNOT HEAD AWARD

The "Brand Major Award," or more commonly known as the "Knot Head Award," was originally conceived during serious meditation beside the campfire in a fire camp, high in the Southern California mountains, in June of 1953. The idea for this award of distinction was that of Gene Bertsch, who was Second Vice President at the time.

The award is conferred on an individual for meritorious service, or, more appropriately, for notorious service. The original intent was to give the award to someone four to twelve times a year. As a rule, it is bestowed on one or two deserving members each year.

A "Knot Head" is a person who views the world through a knot hole. In order to qualify for the award, he or she must meet at least one of the following qualifications:

1. Keeps mouth open too long.
2. Chases smoke when there is none.
3. Hears sirens screaming in his or her head.
4. Is a regular person.
5. Has more guts than brains.
6. Doesn't have a handkerchief, therefore wipes nose on sleeve.
7. Has either two left or two right feet.
8. Pulls a faux pas (screws up).
9. Doesn't know North from South.
10. Thinks he or she is a wheel, but is not.
11. Smells rank.
12. Knows how to write own name.
13. Anything else determined by the committee.

When the necessary qualifications are considered, one can clearly see just how difficult it would be for just anyone to receive this award.

Over the years, twenty-seven persons have been bestowed with this highest of honors. A list of past recipients is on page 23.

Some of the more distinctive acts performed to be worthy of this award were —

- Failure on the part of a board member to show up for a

board meeting after traveling 200 miles and getting to within 300 feet of the meeting room.

- Arrangements Chairman overlooking one of the items essential for a successful conference — more specifically, he forgot to order the beer.
- Inappropriate conduct at a very important golf match.
- Allowing a borrowed State Bear flag to be taken out of the state, resulting in the degradation of the bear's dignity.
- Allowing a conference program to be printed with no less than six errors.
- Falling sound asleep at a board meeting while stretched out on the floor. (The falling asleep was O.K. — it was the loud snoring that earned the award for the recipient.)

BIRD WATCHER'S SOCIETY

Somewhere along the way the "Bird Watcher's Society" was formed. This was a secret society for only a few selected members. In fact, it is so secret it was difficult for the author to learn much about it while researching the available records.

It seems that three devious rascals named Maurie Croson, Buck Hooper, and Ernie Werder had a lot to do with it. There may have been others.

Apparently, they selected some member to join, and performed some sort of ritualistic ceremony using what has been described as "special equipment." This equipment consisted of an old stuffed owl and a bottle of something labeled "Old Underroot."

Because of his part in this endeavor, Werder was named as permanent chairman of the "Wildlife Committee" several years ago.

The society has been inactive for several years. Perhaps some other devious rascals will come along someday and locate the required "special equipment." Then, maybe they can revive that ceremonious tribute to our wildlife.

MINUTES OF INAUGURAL MEETING

APRIL 16, 1929

The first meeting of the Fire Wardens and Foresters of the nine Southern Counties was held in the Court House in Santa Barbara. Frank Dunne gave a short talk outlining the purpose of this organization and what might be accomplished.

The first procedure was to elect a temporary Chairman and similar Secretary which were J.J. Davis and Frank Dunne in order. Mr. Davis then called for the election of President and other officers.

Frank Dunne	was	duly	elected	President
Luther Gordon	"	"	"	1st Vice President
Walter F. Emerick	"	"	"	2nd " "
Walter H. Claberg	"	"	"	Secretary
George Parks	"	"	"	Treasurer

The election completed Frank Dunne and officers took their respective chairs and proceeded with the meeting. It was decided to have a board of directors and these directors were appointed by popular vote with a view of having each district and branch of the service represented. The following were elected:

S.A. Nash-Boulden, Supervisor, Santa Barbara N.F.
W.H. Coupe, State Inspector, State Forester's Office
Wm. Mendenhall, Supervisor, Angeles N.F.
Lew Anderson, Supervisor, Cleveland N.F.
Spence D. Turner, Forester, Los Angeles County
Ed. Nelander, State Ranger, State Forester's Office
R.V. Woods, State Ranger, State Forester's Office
Joe Elliott, Supervisor, San Bernardino N.F.
W.E. Adkinson, Fire Warden, Orange County
F. Hayward, U.S.F.S. San Luis Obispo

President, Frank Dunne, then appointed the various committees:

1. A committee to form the Constitution and Bylaws of the organization.

J.J. Davis, Chairman
W.H. Coupe
Wm. Mendenhall

2. Eligible committee:

Luther Gordon, Chairman
H. Valentine
G.R. Taylor

During this time it was stressed by the present members that this organization be only composed of those who actually have to do with the suppression and fire work and not the outside co-operative agencies.

3. Publicity committee:

Spence Turner, Chairman
Frank Robinson
Lew Anderson
W.H. Coupe
W.F. Emerick

It was recommended that this group make a careful study of the methods for getting contact and putting across to the Normal Schools the importance of fire prevention and the teaching of the same.

A sub committee was appointed to take care of the putting across the pamphlet pertaining to our fire laws, to the general public by the guards, service stations or any way seen advisable by them. Also to prepare said form for pamphlet. Those appointed were:

E.R. Stanford

L. Gordon

W.F. Emerick

4. Ordinance Committee:

Kenneth Carter

W.H. Coupe

Wm. Mendenhall

This Committee was appointed by a motion put forth by Spence D. Turner and seconded by Luther Gordon to have the President name a group of men to try and construct a uniform and standard fire ordinance to cover Southern California.

5. Fire Sign Committee:

Luther Gordon moved that a committee be appointed to adopt a standard fire sign which was seconded by J.J. Davis.

The following men were chosen:

R.V. Woods

J.A. Graves

Hap Miller

After the various appointments the meeting continued with ten minute talks and discussions of topics as outlined on the program of the day.

A motion was put before the meeting by Spence D. Turner, to have the Southern California organization endeavor to get the Weather Bureau car down south after the 15th of September as their fire season would be over and it would give us an idea of the practicability of such equipment, which if successful, would warrant us purchasing such apparatus. Seconded by L. Gordon.

A letter is going forward today, April 17th, to the United States Weather Bureau, United States Forest Service and State Forester to see if our request may be granted.

J.J. Davis made a motion to adopt the name of Association of Foresters and Fire Wardens as the title of our organization. J.A. Graves made a second to Mr. Davis' motion. Carried.

Spence D. Turner made a motion to have the publicity committee stress the point of forest protection and fire prevention to the

officers of the State Fish and Game Commission in an effort to get complete co-operation. This motion seconded by R.V. Woods.

A motion was put before the meeting by J.J. Davis and seconded by W.H. Coupe for the Counties where possible, to spend the co-operative money inside the National Forests on mutually agreed projects in an effort to give us a year around force with an idea of increasing the efficiency of our organizations by allowing us to keep a trained force.

A motion made by J.J. Davis and seconded by Leslie Percey to have the publicity committee get in touch with some oil companies with the idea of having them put on some fire prevention programs over the National Broadcast System.


The Publicity Committee was requested also to go into the matter of book covers for the public schools and libraries with the idea of putting on a wide prevention program thru this channel.

Walter F. Emerick, stated that he was trying to get the State Fish and Game Commission to put on an added force during deer season with the intention of patrolling to keep down fires as well as protecting the game.

We had twenty-eight Wardens and Rangers at this meeting.

President Frank Dunne set the 16th of May, as our next meeting day to ratify rules and by-laws. This will be held in Santa Monica according to the invitation of Spence D. Turner.

Being no further business before the meeting, President Frank Dunne ordered same adjourned.


Walter H. Claberg, Sec.

PAST PRESIDENTS

YEAR	NAME	ORGANIZATION
1930	Frank E. Dunne	Santa Barbara County Fire Dept.
1931	Frank E. Dunne	Santa Barbara County Fire Dept.
1932	William V. Mendenhall	Angeles National Forest
1933	Walter Coupe	CDF - So. California Dist. H.Q.
1934	Spence D. Turner	Los Angeles County Fire Dept.
1935	Walter Emerick	Ventura County Fire Dept.
1936	Guerdon Ellis	Angeles National Forest
1937	Joseph A. Scherman	CDF - Orange County
1938	Frank E. Dunne	Santa Barbara County Fire Dept.
1939	Norman Farrel	Cleveland National Forest
1940	Roger C. Bodine	Los Angeles County Fire Dept.
1941	Luce Orton	Ventura County Fire Dept.
1949	Cecil Gehr	Los Angeles County Fire Dept.
1950	W.W. "Butch" Skinner	CDF - San Bernardino County
1951	Jack J. McNutt	Angeles National Forest
1952	Roland W. Percey	Los Angeles County Fire Dept.
1953	Elmer F. Osterman	CDF - Orange County
1954	Cecil D. "Pete" Little	Ventura County Fire Dept.
1955	Nolan O'Neal	Los Padres National Forest
1956	Eugene N. Bertsch	CDF - District VI H.Q.
1957	D.F. "Buck" Hooper	Los Angeles County Fire Dept.
1958	Verdie White	Angeles National Forest
1959	Jack D. Burke	CDF - District VI H.Q.
1960	Harry Van Horne	Kern County Fire Dept.
1961	Richard Johnson	San Bernardino National Forest
1962	Steve Nash-Boulden	CDF - San Luis Obispo County
1963	Vic Mohr	Santa Barbara County Fire Dept.
1964	Howard Mansfield	Los Padres National Forest
1965	Leroy Rockwell	CDF - San Diego County
1966	George Brunton	Los Angeles County Fire Dept.
1967	Fred Tyler	Angeles National Forest
1968	Elmer Benson	CDF - Orange County
1969	Thomas Dickinson	Kern County Fire Dept.
1970	Richard Bolster	CDF - District VI H.Q.
1971	Robert Alvord	Angeles National Forest
1972	Anthony Caezza	Ventura County Fire Dept.
1973	Richard G. Hannum	CDF - San Bernardino County
1974	Herb McElwee	Santa Barbara County Fire Dept.
1975	Dennis Ensign	Los Padres National Forest
1976	Richard Pilkington	CDF - Orange County
1977	Howard Hooper	Cleveland National Forest
1978	Gene Fairrington	Los Angeles City Fire Dept.
1979	Earl Young	CDF - Region VI H.Q.
1980	Jim Stumpf	Angeles National Forest

ANNUAL CONFERENCE SITES

YEAR	LOCATION	FACILITIES
1930	San Diego	Hotel San Diego - Elks Club
1931	Avalon	St. Catherine Hotel - Riveria Theater
1932	Santa Barbara	Barbara Hotel - Chamber of Commerce
1933	Bakersfield	Unknown
1934	San Bernardino	California Hotel - American Legion Hall
1935	Ventura	Hotel Ventura - Athene Club
1936	San Luis Obispo	Unknown
1937	Avalon	Unknown
1938	Pomona	Los Angeles County Fairgrounds
1939	Lebec	Hotel Lebec
1940	Riverside	Unknown
1941	Ventura & Santa Paula	Elks Club - Steckal Park
1942-48	NO CONFERENCE — WAR YEARS	
1949	Bakersfield	Unknown
1950	San Bernardino	California Hotel
1951	Pasadena	Green Hotel - Civic Auditorium
1952	Big Pines	Jackson Lake
1953	Simi Valley	Douglas Recreation Center
1954	Big Pines	Jackson Lake
1955	Laguna Recreation Area	Shrine Camp
1956	Big Pines	Jackson Lake
1957	Seven Oaks	Camp Radford
1958	Seven Oaks	Camp Radford
1959	Seven Oaks	Camp Radford
1960	Seven Oaks	Camp Radford
1961	Seven Oaks	Camp Radford
1962	Seven Oaks	Camp Radford
1963	Seven Oaks	Camp Radford
1964	CANCELLED DUE TO WEATHER	
1965	Del Mar	San Diego County Fairgrounds
1966	Los Prietos	4-H Camp

1967	San Dimas	Tanbark Flats
1968	Lake Hemet	Camp Roosevelt
1969	Lake Hemet	Camp Roosevelt
1970	Malibu	Mt. Craggs Camp
1971	Frazier Park	El Camino Pines & St. Nicholas Camps
1972	Malibu	Mt. Craggs Camp
1973	Malibu	Mt. Craggs Camp
1974	Oak Glen	Camp Pilgrim Pines
1975	Malibu	Mt. Craggs Camp
1976	Oak Glen	Camp Pilgrim Pines
1977	Malibu	Mt. Craggs Camp
1978	Oak Glen	Camp Pilgrim Pines
1979	Malibu	Mt. Craggs Camp
1980	Oak Glen	Camp Pilgrim Pines

LIFE MEMBERSHIP RECIPIENTS

Over the years the following have been awarded lifetime memberships in the Association. Some of these life members are now deceased.

Don Adams	— USFS
Harvey T. Anderson	— Los Angeles County Fire Department
James Achilles	— Ventura County Fire Department
Charles Balsom	— CDF
Donald Bauer	— USFS
Jerry Berry	— USFS
Thelmas Biddison	— USFS
Harold K. Bordner	— Los Angeles City Fire Department
George Brunton	— Los Angeles County Fire Department
Don Biedebach	— USFS
Roger C. Bodine	— Los Angeles County Fire Department
Jack Burke	— CDF
J. Elmer Chambers	— CDF
Fletcher Common	— Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Walter H. Coupe	— CDF
Everett Courter	— Los Angeles City Fire Department
Maurice Croson	— Southern California Edison Company
John Davis	— USFS
Thomas Dickinson	— Kern County Fire Department
Jim Dulitz	— CDF
Frank Dunne	— Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Carl Downs	— CDF
James Fenlon	— CDF
Elmo Freear	— Kern County Fire Department
Harvey French	— CDF
Richard Friend	— Los Angeles County Fire Department
Luther C. Gordon	— CDF
Alan O. Gossett	— CDF
William Haggard	— Ventura County Fire Department
Thomas J. Harrison	— Los Angeles City Department of Recreation and Parks

Raymond Hill	— Los Angeles City Fire Department
D.F. "Buck" Hooper	— Los Angeles County Fire Department
Howard Hooper	— USFS
Richard Houts	— Los Angeles County Fire Department
George Hull	— Los Angeles County Fire Department
Richard Johnson	— USFS
Jack King	— CDF
Keith Klinger	— Los Angeles County Fire Department
Robert Lancaster	— USFS
Robert Lechtreck	— Kern County Fire Department
Cecil D. Little	— Ventura County Fire Department
Les Lopez	— CDF
James K. Mace	— CDF
Howard W. Mansfield	— USFS
Bob McBride	— USFS
Walter Meagher	— Los Angeles County Fire Department
William V. Mendenhall	— USFS
Woodbridge Metcalf	— University of California
Dick Montague	— USFS
Lewis Moran	— CDF
Jack McCleery	— Southern California Edison Company
Steve Nash-Boulden	— CDF
DeWitt Nelson	— California Department of Conservation
Herb Nemeyer	— CDF
Junior Parker	— Los Angeles City Fire Department
Robert Parsons	— Los Angeles County Fire Department
Roland W. Percey	— Los Angeles County Fire Department
Robert Radke	— Los Angeles City Fire Department
John Risdon	— Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Paul Robb	— Ventura County Fire Department
DeForrest Roberts	— Los Angeles City Fire Department
Leroy Rockwell	— CDF
Donal Russell	— CDF
Joe Scherman	— CDF
Mike Schori	— CDF

Leo Sergius	— U.S. Weather Service
Jack Skeels	— CDF
W.W. "Butch" Skinner	— CDF
Patrick Smith	— Los Angeles City Fire Department
Bob Swinford	— USFS
Spence D. Turner	— Los Angeles County Fire Department
Fred Tyler	— USFS
Harry Van Horne	— Kern County Fire Department
Varian A. Wadleigh	— Santa Barbara County Fire Department
Frank Watson	— USFS
Ernie Werder	— CDF
Verdie White	— USFS

KNOT HEAD AWARD RECIPIENTS

NAME	AGENCY	YEAR
Sim Jarvi	U.S. Forest Service	1953
Tom Bryan	CDF - San Bernardino County	1953
Frank Watson	U.S. Forest Service	1954
Roland Percey	Los Angeles County Fire Dept.	1955
Harry Grace	U.S. Forest Service	1956
Elmo Freear	Kern County Fire Department	1956
Dick Droege	U.S. Forest Service	1957
James Achilles	Ventura County Fire Dept.	1958
Gene Bertsch	CDF - District VI H.Q.	1959
Buck Hooper	Los Angeles County Fire Dept.	1960
Maury Croson	Southern California Edison Co.	1961
Elmer Osterman	CDF - District VI H.Q.	1962
Art Balsom	CDF - San Bernardino County	1963
Howard Mansfield	U.S. Forest Service	1967
Howard Evans	U.S. Forest Service	1968
Elmer Benson	CDF - Orange County	1969
Gene Kemble	U.S. Forest Service	1970
Joe Springer	CDF - District VI H.Q.	1972
Walt Bolster	CDF - Region VI H.Q.	1973
Dick Friend	Western Fire Journal Magazine	1975
Jack McCleery	Southern California Edison Co.	1975
Anthony Caezza	Ventura County Fire Dept.	1976
Howard Hooper	U.S. Forest Service	1976
Herb Nemeyer	CDF - Riverside County	1977
Richard Pilkington	CDF - Orange County	1978
Earl Young	CDF - Region VI H.Q.	1979
Bob Sarno	Los Angeles County Fire Dept.	1979