

RESCUE 1

FOUNDATION

1998

PHOTO ALBUM





Police put heart into new training

By **Emilie Karrick**

STAFF WRITER

Local police officers are bringing new meaning to the age-old adage "to protect and serve."

As of this week, officers in the Moraga and Orinda police departments have the tools and training that will enable them to revive heart attack victims.

Joining forces with paramedics from the Moraga-Orinda Fire District, the two police departments are the first law enforcement agencies in the county to carry automatic external defibrillators (AED). When police officers respond first to a heart attack, they will be able to sustain the patient during critical life-saving minutes.

"Every minute that goes by when somebody's not breathing and has no pulse, you're looking at 10 percent less chance of survival," said paramedic-engineer Darrell Lee. "They have the tools to use and it will help us make a difference in the patient's survival."

Lee and Moraga resident Ben Ho — recently appointed as the new Moraga-Orinda fire board member — conducted training for all members of both police departments. Officers learned that if they are able to sustain the "chain of survival," they may be able to resuscitate a victim who minutes before was a nonbreather.

This chain of survival starts the moment a call for help is made. Upon arrival to a scene where the patient has no pulse and is not breathing, CPR will help temperate a heart that is in fibrillation — chaotic rhythm caused by extensive damage to the heart muscle.

If defibrillation — electric shock that sends the heart back into its normal rhythm — is started within seven minutes or less, chance of survival is 20 percent and greater. However, that shock must be administered within 10 minutes if it is to be effective at all.

"Electricity shocks (the heart), wakes it up and starts it beating again," Ho explained. "We try to get electricity to the heart sooner

and sooner."

Ho, a Moraga reserve police officer, first raised the possibility of such a program. After a year's worth of conversations between the two police chiefs, the fire chief, both city councils, the fire board, the police association, county Emergency Medical Services and Rescue One foundation — it was launched.

Four of the AEDs are on loan from the fire district, while Rescue One donated the \$3,000 cost of the fifth. The machines to be used by police officers (three in Orinda and two in Moraga) have been deemed "idiot-proof," with play by play instructions once the electrodes are attached to the patient's chest. Everything from when to do CPR and whether or not a shock is advised is dictated by the machine.

"At first we were a little leery because we're not paramedics or anything, but it seems like it's really easy," said Moraga Officer Randy Dickey. "We're excited to get a call, so that we can actually get out there

See AEDs, Page 2



KRISTOPHER SKINNER/SUN

Orinda Detective Craig Cooper attaches contacts to an automatic external defibrillator during training last Thursday with firefighter-paramedic Felipe Barretto, right, and Moraga Officer Julie Valdez.

AEDs

FROM PAGE 1

and help someone."

Both Lee and Ho emphasized that while having AEDs on board gives the officers one more tool, it should in no way compromise their role as public safety officers. A police officer's first priority is to make sure a scene is safe and secure — before administering to an injured party.

"It doesn't change what our responsibility is," said Orinda Sgt. Chris Wenzel. "The bottom line is we're emergency personnel and our main purpose is to secure a situation."

Orinda Police Chief Dan Lawrence added that the program will be implemented no differently than the current protocol an officer follows when performing CPR or other types of first aid. If an officer is able to arrive on scene faster than fire personnel, they will respond. However, if forced to choose between a bank robbery and a medical emergency, for example, officers will go to the former because they know that fire personnel will eventually respond to the latter.

"It's not that we're taking the place of anybody," said Moraga Officer Mark Ruppenthal. "If those golden minutes can be attained and somebody can be saved, isn't that what police and fire, public safety is all about?"

- MFD-RIF OPEN HOUSE 10/10/88 -



SMOKEY THE BEAR
Waves them in . . .



Fire Marshall Les Wandel





RIF Directors Ellen Long &
Gordon Nathan with President
Ellie Kositch



President Ellie Kositch
- Directors Gordon Nathan &
Jeanne Kirsch



Director Dr. Ben Ho
President Ellie Kositch



Sr. FF Steve Mazurka



Fire Capt. Bob Lunardini
Fire Marshall Les Wandel
Pava/Fire Capt. Chris Klein



Jr. Firefighters Mazurka, Lee,
Klein, Lunardini & Wandel



OPEN HOUSE 10/10/88
 — Dr. Ben Ho & Gordon Mathew —
 & small FFs





MFD Chief Ed Lucas Paramedics
 Darrell Lee & Chris Klein receive the
 LIFEPAK 5 from RIF Pres. Ellie Kositch





JULY 4th CELEBRATION 1988
 — wheelbarrow race at The Commons —
 with MFD Rescue Ambulance



RIF Directors Carol Porterfield &
 — Julie Fisher with new Town Councilman
 Jim Sweeney & Reserve Paramedics



JULY 4th CELEBRATION 1988
Director Allen Miller in logo vest





JULY 4th Celebration 1989
 — Fire Marshall Les Wandel, Paramedic/SrFF
 Darrell Lee, Gordon Nathan, Jeanne Kirsch



The high point of the Oct 14, 1989
 — MORAGA FIRE DISTRICT
 OPEN HOUSE —



WHAT IS MORE EXCITING
THAN SHINY RED FIRE
ENGINES AND RESCUE ONE?



SMOKEY THE BEAR
WITH ADMIRERS
OF ALL AGES





Les Wandell, John Cooper &
Julie Fisher



RESCUE ONE Refreshments
and
Jeanne Kirsch & Jerry Meyer



RIF Directors Gordon Nathan,
Julie Fisher, Jerry Meyer, Dr. Ben Ho-
with 1,000 balloons



Fire Marshal Les Wandel &
 - Ass't. Chief John Cooper with
 the 1,000,000 balloons given away



Paramedic/Sr FF Bob Cox &
 - RIF President Jerry Meyer



Chief Ed Lucas
 OPEN HOUSE OCT 14, 1989



New RIF Director Greg Reams
and
Secretary Stacy Freeman



Bob Cox training children in
"Stop, Drop & Roll" Lifesaving
Techniques



Greg Reams in RIF vest
with son



- MFD OPEN HOUSE OCT 14 '89 -





- JULY 4th 1990 -

MFD OCT 14 '89 OPEN HOUSE
RESCUE ONE Display Table with
brochures and photo albums



RIF DIRECTORS + FRIEND
J. KIRSCH + DR. BEN HO



RIF PRES. CAROL PORTERFIELD
* 7-4-90
FIRE COMM. LINDA BORRELLI



HATS ARE IN!



July 4, 1990









RIF DIRECTORS
 C. PORTERFIELD J. REIF
 J. KIRSCH



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

SATURDAY OCT. 12 7:30 - 11

⓪ DINE WITH SMOKY BEAR

⓪ ALL YOU CAN EAT

⓪ MEET THE FIREFIGHTERS

⓪ PANCAKES, SAUSAGE

⓪ SEE THE NEW FIRE TRUCK

⓪ ORANGE JUICE

⓪ SUPPORT THE BURN CTR.

⓪ FRESH FRUIT, COFFEE

\$4.00
Adults

\$2.00
Kids



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Open House October 1996



Battalion Chief Rob Godyear







Moraga Fire Protection District, Moraga, CA • Medium Duty, Navistar, Supermedic
Dealer: Leader Industries, Inc.
Photographer: Darrell Lee

MORAGA/GRINDA FIRE
DISTRICT

OPEN HOUSE

OCTOBER 1997

MORAGA - STATION 41









HATS ARE
STILL THE
'IN THING!'



R I F
DISPLAY
AT
MORAGA
LIBRARY

MORAGA FIRE STATION OPEN HOUSE + PANCAKE BREAKFAST, OCTOBER 10, 1998









































