



LAFD ACS



Los Angeles City Fire Department Auxiliary Communications Service

Fall/Winter 2004

LISTEN TO THE ACS

On your fire radio scanner or HAM radio, you can listen to the LAFD-ACS net on Monday evenings at 19:30 (7:30 p.m. PST). The 2-meter frequency is 147.300 MHz. The 220 band frequency is 224.680 MHz. Any licensed amateur is invited to check-in as a visitor.

HAM OPERATORS WANTED:

- 1 Are you interested in radio communications and looking to take a more active volunteer role with the LAFD?
- 2 Are you 18 years of age or older?
- 3 Do you have reliable transportation available?
- 4 Are you able to volunteer between five and fifteen hours per month?
- 5 Are you willing to get your amateur radio license? *It's very easy to get your license through our ACS Mentoring Program (no Morse code required!).*
- 6 Are you willing to eventually purchase a 2-meter amateur radio (or raise funds to do the same)?

If so, the LAFD ACS is the place for you!

The LAFD Fire Chief has authorized the Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) to enroll up to 500 licensed HAMS to back up the Department's 800 MHz radio system. If you would like more information on the ACS and its mentoring and training programs, please contact our Membership Coordinator via email to:

membership@lafdacs.org

The LAFD invites you to volunteer for the Auxiliary Communications Service

Los Angeles Fire Department ACS volunteers¹ provide essential communications support during emergencies and LAFD-supported public service events. The ACS Radio Club has a mentoring program designed to assist CERT and community members who wish to become FCC licensed Amateur Radio Operators. Contact your CERT or Neighborhood Group Leader, or log onto www.lafdacs.org for more information.

Our organizational structure is modeled after that of the LA City Fire Department and we follow the SIMS Incident Command System. The ACS has a General Staff, Division Leaders and Battalion Leaders and a general membership, and our communication volunteers. All ACS drills and activities aim to incorporate CERT and community groups so we may work well together during an actual catastrophic event. ACS Participants volunteer at:

- ***Quarterly ACS Drills*** simulate disaster response to earthquake, terrorist attack, brushfires, floods, and other possible calamities.
- ***City Wide Drills*** test Ham Radio Simplex and Family Radio Service (FRS) communications abilities, among other things.
- ***LAFD-supported Community Activities*** such as the March of Dimes Walk, Hollywood Christmas Parade, and Municipal Elections.
- ***ACS Mentoring Program & Radio Club Meetings***, which includes guest speakers, radio education, and *free* mentoring for beginners.

¹ The Emergency Operations Organization of the City of Los Angeles has designated the Los Angeles Fire Department to manage its amateur radio program under the Auxiliary Communication Service agreement with the State Office of Emergency Services. Further, ACS members are subject to a background check and must meet the qualifications as a Los Angeles City Volunteer under the Mayor's Office Volunteer Bureau's requirements. They also must meet the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) Disaster Worker requirements.

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT WWW.LAFDACS.ORG