



# LAFD ACS

## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

We would like to thank our volunteer members for their hard work and accomplishments this past year. In 2018, we welcomed 9 new members to our 111 member Los Angeles Fire Department Auxiliary Communication Service roster.

**In 2018, our 111 dedicated volunteers contributed 9,126 hours in support of the ACS mission.**

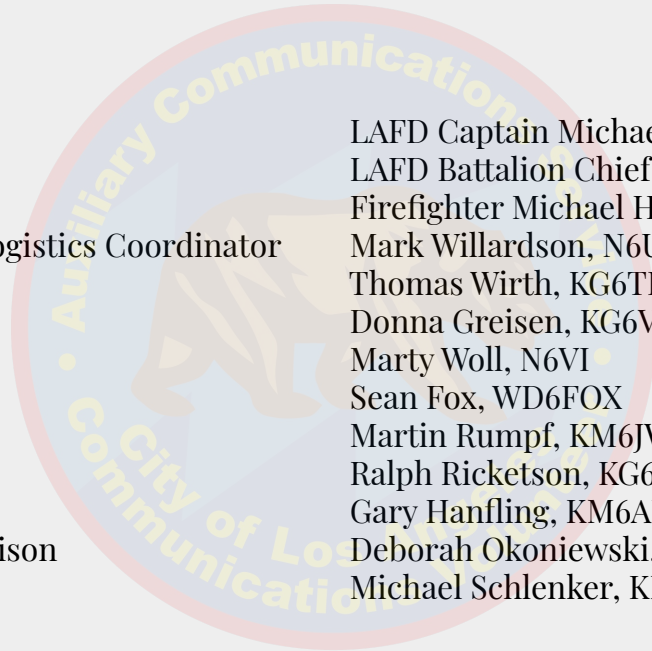
Throughout 2018, our members continued to train and prepare "To provide the City and the Citizens of Los Angeles with professional communications services using volunteers and volunteer provided equipment under the direction and authority of the Los Angeles Fire Department."

On behalf of the entire LAFD ACS program, we have enjoyed serving the City of Los Angeles in 2018 and look forward to 2019 and beyond.

## 2018 LAFD ACS COMMAND STAFF

City Radio Officer  
ACS Volunteer Coordinator  
Operation Officer  
Assistant City Radio Officer/Logistics Coordinator  
Planning Section Officer  
ACS Records Administrator  
Training Officer  
LAPD Liaison  
CERT Liaison  
EMD Liaison  
EmComm Group Liaison  
Assistant EmComm Group Liaison  
LAFD Foundation Liaison

LAFD Captain Michael Fisher  
LAFD Battalion Chief (Ret.), Kevin Nida, WD6AIS  
Firefighter Michael Horst, K6LFD  
Mark Willardson, N6UOZ  
Thomas Wirth, KG6TRS  
Donna Greisen, KG6VGB  
Marty Woll, N6VI  
Sean Fox, WD6FOX  
Martin Rumpf, KM6JWV  
Ralph Ricketson, KG6WXY  
Gary Hanfling, KM6AEQ  
Deborah Okoniewski, KM6AEP  
Michael Schlenker, KD6BAC



## 2018 LAFD ACS Bureau Communication Leaders

Bureau Communication Leader OWB  
Bureau Communication Leader OVB  
Bureau Communication Leader OCB  
Bureau Communication Leader OSB

Michael Schlenker, KD6BAC  
William Coss, WA6SW  
Ted Fukushima, N6ZZK  
Fernanda Alves, KK6BMZ

## 2018 LAFD ACS Battalion Communication Leaders

Battalion 1 Communication Leader  
Battalion 2 Communication Leader  
Battalion 4 Communication Leader  
Battalion 5 Communication Leader  
Battalion 6 Communication Leader  
Battalion 9 Communication Leader  
Battalion 10 & 17 Communication Leader  
Battalion 11 Communication Leader  
Battalion 12 & 15 Communication Leader  
Battalion 13 Communication Leader  
Battalion 14 Communication Leader  
Battalion 18 Communication Leader

Ted Fukushima, N6ZZK  
John Minger, AC6VV  
Michael Schlenker, KD6BAC  
Lynn O'Connell, KG6DNY  
Jason Ho, KJ6VSV  
Nigel Taylor, KJ6MDB  
Dan Tomlinson, NR6V  
Douglas Leffert, KC6WZU  
Marty Woll, N6VI  
Fernanda Alves, KK6BMZ  
Jonathan Zimmerman, K6JGZ  
Teri Cohan Link, KK6KXR



Los Angeles  
Fire Department  
Auxiliary  
Communications Service

The operational goal of the Auxiliary Communications Service is to provide clear, concise, and accurate communications in support of the City of Los Angeles during emergency and non-emergency incidents.

BOOK 73

ACS  
OPERATIONS

## LAFD ACS BOOK 73

After several years of work and dedicated effort, the LAFD ACS Book 73 (Field Operations Guide) was completed in 2018.

Book 73 provides guidance to members of the Los Angeles Fire Department and members of the LAFD Auxiliary Communications Service to respond effectively to any planned or unplanned event that creates a need for auxiliary communications within the City of Los Angeles.

This comprehensive document defines the LAFD Auxiliary Communications Service operations in the LAFD Administrative Library.

An aerial photograph showing a coastline with a blue ocean on the left, a sandy beach, and a road with cars. The land rises into brown, hilly mountains. In the sky, a large, billowing plume of white and grey smoke or ash rises from the mountains, partially obscuring the blue sky. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

## LAFD ACS COMMUNITY SERVICE

In early November of 2018, the Woolsey Fire ignited and swept through the western portion of Los Angeles County. The ACS group was called upon when the fire began to threaten the West Hills area of the city. ACS provided a situational net during the fire and members assisted CERT teams in delivering water and food to LAFD firefighters and performing fire patrols.

LAFD ACS COMMUNITY SERVICE

# LAFD ACS COMMUNITY OUTREACH

ACS members provide hundred of service hours at community outreach events including:

- LAFD Fire Service Day
- LA Neighborhood Council Congress of Neighborhoods
- Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness Fair
- San Fernando Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair
- DTLA Library Maker Faire
- American Heroes Air Show



# LAFD ACS COMMUNITY TRAINING

Our ACS members provide basic Emergency Communication training to both LAFD Community Emergency Response Teams & Neighborhood Communities.

Students learn how to use inexpensive FRS and GMRS two-way radios to communicate during times of disaster, when traditional forms of communication are likely to fail.

Classes consist of a short emergency communications lecture followed by a hands-on sessions in which attendees learn to transmit and receive basic emergency messages. To date, LAFD ACS members have trained several hundred community members in emergency communications.







ARRL FIELD DAY



ARRL FIELD DAY SETUP AT FS109

## LAFD ACS COMMUNICATION SUPPORT

LAFD ACS provides communications support for many city, state and national sponsored events. This provides a service to these events, and allows members to test our equipment and to practice the communication skills needed in an emergency.

In 2018, these events included:

The Los Angeles Marathon  
ARRL Field Day  
March of Dimes March for Babies  
California Statewide Medical Exercise  
EMD/EOC Annual Exercise  
Hollywood Christmas Parade



## LAFD ACS TECHNICAL SUPPORT

LAFD ACS members volunteer their technical services to test and assemble portable radios and repeaters for use by City agencies for use in a communications emergency.

Additionally, these radios and repeaters are used for medical and logistical communications during the annual Baker to Vegas Relay race.



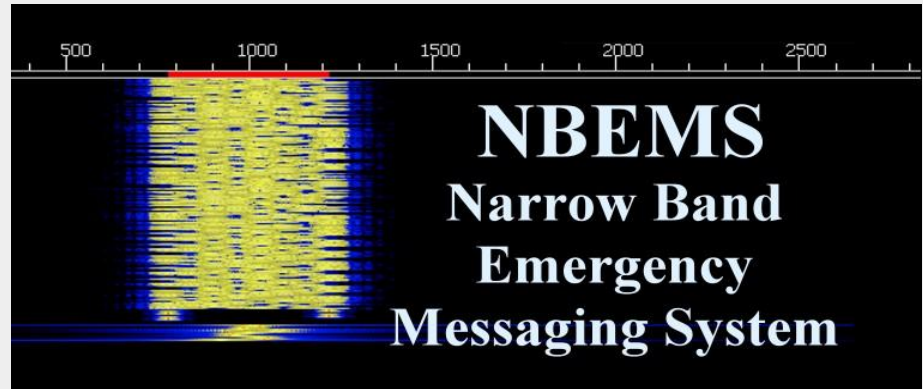


## LAFD ACS TRAINING

LAFD ACS Members conducted their first workshop using the FLDigi / NBEMS software suite of programs.

FLDigi / NBEMS software digitally sends completed forms via amateur radio. This will be critical to passing incident information from the LAFD Department Operations Center to Command Officers throughout the City.

ACS conducts routine drills sending infrastructure status reports from all parts of the City to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in downtown Los Angeles.



# LAFD ACS FACILITIES

The LAFD ACS operates & maintains fixed radio stations at several key locations within the city. Old Fire Station 77 was decommissioned in 2006 and reassigned as North Valley Station to the LAFD ACS Program upon the opening of new fire station 77.

This station operates international, national, state and local radio equipment.

In 2018, many dedicated ACS members spent hours repairing, cleaning and maintaining this iconic LAFD station.



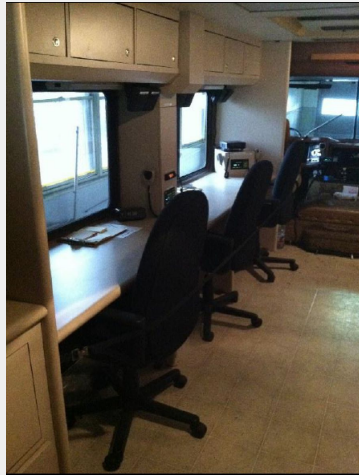


## LAFD ACS EQUIPMENT

In 2018, ACS Members said goodbye to CP-88, our mobile communications center that served as the ACS Command Post and Communications hub for events like the Hollywood Christmas Parade.

The years took their toll on this motorhome that started life as one of the departments first Hazmat Response Units.

Efforts by ACS members continue to identify a replacement mobile communications vehicle.



# LAFD 800MHz EQUIPMENT

LAFD ACS members were tasked with inspecting and evaluating the Department's 800 MHz radio installations in all battalion offices. These radios were originally installed in the 90's and have received little to no maintenance. As a result of our efforts, several battalion house radios were returned to operational readiness.



## LAFD ACS GOALS FOR 2019

The new year will bring many exciting opportunities for the LAFD ACS program. Achieving our goals for 2019 will help us to continue to provide the City with professional communications services and help to contribute to the safety and security of the citizens of the City of Los Angeles.

Update the Los Angeles City Emergency OES Operations Service Plan

Continue to provide communications support for EMD & DOC activations

Upgrade radio equipment at LA City Emergency Operations Center & LAFD Department Operations Center

Establish new fixed stations at Fire Station 82 Annex and Fire Station 59

Inspect and evaluate the performance of the Department 800 MHz radio installations in all Battalion offices.