



California Surf Lifesaving Association

Southwest Region-United States Lifesaving Association

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TRAINING

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It is an honor to report to the Executive Board and general membership on the 40th anniversary of the CSLSA. The purpose of this report is to update the activities of the California Lifeguard Training Officers Association since the fall meeting, give a history of the training officer's association, and discuss support as our group moves forward to review and approve curriculum in an effort to further training standards for recurrent and permanent lifeguards.

Since the fall meeting, the Training Officer's Association has met on an almost monthly basis, which has also been accomplished during the off-season over the past three years. We have seen involvement grow as a result of CSLSA recognition and multi-agency involvement. The California Lifeguard Training Officer's Association now represents a majority of the California coastline. We would like to thank the following agencies for their continued involvement- State of California, Los Angeles County, L.A. City, Long Beach, Seal Beach, United States Ocean Safety, Huntington Beach, Newport Beach, Laguna Beach, Lake Mission Viejo, San Clemente, Camp Pendleton, San Diego, and Imperial Beach. I would also like to thank Greg Crow, Reenie Boyer, Scott Diedrich, Vince Lombardi, and Terry Murphy for their effort, their knowledge, experience, and opinion are assets to our group. It is our goal to increase agency participation, and once again thank you. I have been attending the Orange County Marine Safety Chief's Association meetings acting as liaison between the two groups and can attest that this newly formed community is talking the same language.

The evolution of our association begins in 1998 as several agencies met to discuss opportunities for training funds reimbursement through local community college partnerships. Our intent was to share information as well as develop and standardize curriculum. At this time, the City of Newport Beach was already working with Santa Ana College with guidance from Randy Scherer, a driving force in public safety training. The City of Newport Beach was also responsible for beginning the daunting task of putting together a thorough Occupational Analysis for the job of ocean lifeguard. The City of San Diego's Miramar program also aided our efforts to develop a rookie and recurrent curriculum that was eventually approved and accredited by Santa Ana College. As a result, lifeguard training officers completed the Instructor IA and I B courses as required by the college. Newport Beach, the State of California, and Laguna Beach led the way, and LA County and Long Beach were also sending lifeguards through the courses as an introduction to Fire Department training standardization.

The first two years of our association saw progress on occupational analysis and rookie as well as recurrent curriculum development. With curriculum approval by Santa Ana College, contracts were put in place for many agencies with the help of Terry Murphy and Dr. Joel Gormick. This is when the money started rolling in. About this time, Dennis Yune of USOS

created a website for tracking training hours, and the City of Long Beach utilized grant money to complete an occupational analysis. From the inception of the training officers association, it was always our intent to share information with each other.

Over this past year, we have completed a training questionnaire and survey compliments of Terry Murphy. Although we also saw the termination of college partnership funds reimbursement, we continued to coordinate training on a regional level including dive exercises, E.M.T. certifications, cliff rescue, and personal watercraft rescue courses. And fortunately, the college partnership has been re-established...hopefully to stay. Additionally, we now have a logo for our association created by Jason Young of USOS. Thanks to Jason on a job well done.



Accomplishments of the training officers association include the development of rookie lifeguard, recurrent lifeguard, permanent lifeguard, scuba, and lifeguard management curriculum. Goals of our association include the development of instructor curriculum, development of a regional and state training standard, establish an AA degree program just as San Diego has done, and to develop a course certification program. We as training officers realize that this is a multi-step process, and as one of our first steps, we have reviewed five basic course curriculums most agencies already use to meet a minimum standard. These include: American Heart Association Basic Life Support for the Healthcare Provider, California State Fire Marshal Emergency Medical Technician, NAUI Open Water Diver, NAUI Advanced Diver, and NAUI Rescue Diver.

In subcommittee today, we plan on discussing and reviewing the above curriculum, so please join us. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Ross Pounds, Co-Chair
CLTOA