

Mid-Valley Community Police Council Newsletter



December 2005

EOW (End of Watch)

I sadly attended the funeral of Van Nuys Area Police Officer III Vu Bui. Vu's two year fight with cancer ended with his passing, December 6, 2005, he was 35 years old. I knew Vu and without hesitation I can say he was an extraordinary police officer. His dedication to the Van Nuys community and the police officers he worked with was second to none.

In late November his fellow officers brought him to the police station to receive his 10 year service pin. The officers had his uniformed tailored to fit his weakened body. Before entering the roll call room to receive his pin he insisted that he be helped from his wheelchair so he could walk into the room. As he entered the room was filled and that brought a huge smile onto Vu's face. Chief of Police William Bratton presented Vu with his 10 year service pin.

Vu left his wife, 3 year old son, mother, family and friends, including his LAPD family. Vu is gone, but not forgotten. Thank you for the time you gave us and God bless you.

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**On December 6, 2005** we held our regular monthly meeting at Van Nuys Community Police Station. Approximately 30 members and police officers were in attendance. Each December we have our meeting at the police station. This gives us an opportunity to tour the station. This year was especially interesting because of the station's renovation that was in full swing. Sergeant Cueto took us around the station and pointed out where the major changes were taking place.

**Barbara Mack**, Treasurer reported we have earmarked approximately \$80,000 for furnishings for the police station when the remodeling is completed, and \$20,000 for license plate readers for the patrol officers.

**Don Fetherolf**, Immediate Past President announced the newly elected 2006 MVCPC Officers and Board of Directors and Captain Jim Miller conducted the swearing in ceremonies.

**Officers:** Peter Satuloff, President; Jason Kent, Vice President Community Outreach; Ken Gerston, Vice President Acquisitions; Paul Anderson, Vice President Membership; Barbara Mack, Treasurer; Sondra Frohlich, Secretary; Don Fetherolf, Immediate Past President.

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**Board of Directors:** Paul Anderson, Robert Boardman, Dan Cirlin, Joe Di-Fatta, Ron Feinstein, Don Fetherolf, Sandra Frohlich, Rickey Gelb, Judith Hirschberg, Nancy Hoffman-Vanyak, Jason Kent, Harry Lincoln, Gordon Mace, Barbara Mack, Thom Montgomery, Marcelo "Mike" Quiroga, Peter Satuloff, Don Schultz, Bert J. Seneca, Flip Smith and Elise Wolff.

**Captain Jim Miller** gave us a crime update and said that Van Nuys is leading the City of Los Angeles with a 30% **reduction** in violent crime. That is an astounding percentage. Thanks and congratulations to all the employees of the Van Nuys Community Police Station for making Van Nuys a safer place to live!

Captain Miller put together a list of items and schools that MVCPC purchased in 2005. **Brother Intelifax and Nikon digital camera** for the Community Relations Office; **Two Dell laptop computers and 2 digital cameras, Quick Step** (ladder), **Monoshock Ram, Holigan Tool** (pry tool) **Filing cabinet**, and **State Gang training** for the Gang Intervention Team; **Ten Police Vehicle Command Boards** for police supervisors; Refrigerator for the station; **Two Olympus digital cameras** for the Bike Unit; **Cell phone bill** for the Homicide Unit.

The purchase of these items by MVCPC will provide the officers with the tools to continue in making our streets safe.

Deputy Chief Michel Moore, Commanding Officer, Operations Valley Bureau was our guest speaker. Chief Moore praised the MVCPC for all it has done to help the officers do their job better. He said because of budget restraints, if it were not for MVCPC, Van Nuys employees would not have been able to receive many of the crime fighting tools purchased over the past year. Additionally, he talked about Comstat and the hiring and retiring of police officers. Here is the layman's explanation of how Comstat works. Comstat is the way the Department's command staff manages and accounts for crime. In Comstat meetings it's all about accountability on specifics and what's being done to solve the issue. Each Area Commanding Officer is accountable for what they are doing to solve crime and quality of life issues in their areas. They are challenged by the Department managers and in turn challenge the officers of their police stations.

Chief Moore said that approximately 450 officers will retire by December 31, 2005. Between July 1, 2005 and June 30, 2006 the Department goal is to hire and train 700 new officers. Our gain is 250 officers.

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***Note:** The current strength of the Department is approximately 9,250 officers. Those 9,250 officers patrol approximately 470 square miles in a city of 3,700,000 people. Compare that to Chicago with approximately 12,500 officers and New York with approximately 40,000 officers. **There is little doubt that your police department does more with far less!!!***

On November 18<sup>th</sup>, the **Van Nuys Community Police Advisory Board (C-PAB)** and the **Mid-Valley Community Police Council** sponsored **Officer's Appreciation Day**. Members of C-PAB and MVCPC provided over 350 Van Nuys Community Police Station employees with a barbecue that consisted of Carne Asada, chicken and all the fixings. Many community members brought homemade food and desserts. Thanks to all that helped make this an enjoyable time for our officers.

**Holiday Tips:** Although the holiday season is a time for joy and happiness, it's a time when crooks look for easy targets. Here are some things you can do to make your holiday shopping safer:

- Don't look like a victim. Be aware of your surroundings. Look at the peo-

ple around you. Carry your wallet in your front pocket.

Carry your purse firmly under your arm (Better yet, don't carry your purse, just take your ID, ATM or credit card)

- Pay by ATM or credit card (**never** sign the back of your credit card, instead sign it "Ask For ID").
- Place gifts in the trunk of your car, not in the passenger compartment. (Out of sight, out of mind)
- Don't place all your wrapped gifts under the tree that's located in front of your beautiful picture window. They may not be there the next time you look.
- Watch for cars that may be following you home. If you suspect something, **do not go home**. Go to a police station, or call the police from your cell phone. If the suspect sees you on the phone he will probably leave to find a not so attentive person.

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**Cop Talk:** Nice to know stuff. Many people have asked what specific police codes and terms (jargon) mean. In the coming months we will explain the codes and jargon.

|                        |                                                      |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>EOW</b>             | End of Watch. The time that officers go off duty.    |
| <b>Code 7</b>          | Code used when officers are eating.                  |
| <b>Code 3</b>          | Code used when driving red lights and siren.         |
| <b>“A” or “X” Car</b>  | Police car containing 2 officers.                    |
| <b>“L” or “XL” Car</b> | Police car containing 1 officer. (almost never used) |

If you have any codes, jargon or any police “stuff” that you want to know about, email me at: [mvcpc@aol.com](mailto:mvcpc@aol.com).

## Coming Events:

**January 3, 2006**      **MVCPC Meeting**  
Our regular monthly meeting will be, at 7:45 a.m., at Valley Presbyterian Hospital

## Informative Web Sites

|                                     |                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mid-Valley Community Police Council | <a href="http://www.midvalleypolicecouncil.org">www.midvalleypolicecouncil.org</a> |
| The Los Angeles Police Department   | <a href="http://www.lapdonline.org">www.lapdonline.org</a>                         |
| City of Los Angeles                 | <a href="http://www.lacity.org">www.lacity.org</a>                                 |
| Mid-Valley Chamber of Commerce      | <a href="http://www.midvalleychamber.com">www.midvalleychamber.com</a>             |
| Sherman Oaks Chamber of Commerce    | <a href="http://www.shermanoakschamber.org">www.shermanoakschamber.org</a>         |

*On behalf of your Mid-Valley Community Police Council I want to wish you and your loved ones a safe and happy holiday.*

If you have anything that might be of interest to our members, or any questions you would like answered, please email me, [mvcpc@aol.com](mailto:mvcpc@aol.com).

*Paul L. Anderson  
Los Angeles Police Department, Retired  
Vice President, Community Outreach*