Forty-one reserve officers, from all over the city, came to the Hollywood Area on April 5 — Saturday night — as the LAPD launched its Reserve Officer Crime Suppression Unit, a new task force set up by the Office of Operations, to help address crime and quality-of-life issues for city residents. KABC-TV News, filing a live report at the scene, called it “a major move by the LAPD.”

The focus of the task force on this Saturday night was the Hollywood “Box” — the area between La Brea Boulevard to Vine Street and Franklin Avenue to Sunset Boulevard — which has been responsible for approximately 25 percent of the Area’s Part 1 crimes. In the several weeks preceding the task force, the “Box” had experienced increased robberies, burglaries and grand thefts from motor vehicles.

The idea for a Department-wide crime suppression unit manned by reserve officers occurred when Lieutenant Craig Herron ran into Assistant Chief Earl Paysinger, Director and Commanding Officer of the Office of Operations, at a recruitment event. Lieutenant Herron proposed how the reserves could help put a meaningful dent in crime numbers if they could be deployed as a task force on a specific crime problem. Within hours, Lieutenant Herron was contacted by Captain Eric Davis and the project was on.

Roll call in Hollywood was at 1700 hours. Officers were briefed on the “Box” as well as on other locations considered for extra patrol. Hollywood is home to a large number of bars and clubs, all very busy on weekends. Intelligence had reported possible gang activity at several of the clubs. A supervisor advised officers to watch for unsavory characters on Hollywood Boulevard that, as experience has shown, might be targeting tourists. Hollywood Operations Captain Bea Girmala reminded everyone that officer safety is always first and foremost.

All levels of reserves were involved. A total of 20 units were deployed. A few officers hit the street using the Department’s brand-new T3 “three-wheel.” Back at the station, officers monitored a wall of video screens, each receiving live feed from cameras stationed throughout the Area. If criminal activity is spotted, a call can be immediately placed to the field so officers can respond.

The L.A. Times ran an article on the task force, placed on the front of its local news section. Officers conducted multiple traffic stops, not unlike the summer-time boulevard task forces. Among the stops noted was on a Chrysler 300 for running a red light. “The car’s interior was bedecked with multiple television screens and other expensive custom toys.” The driver had a suspended license and there was $60,000 in warrants. Officers arrested him and impounded the car. Readers could see a slide show on the Times’ website.

The task force provided a great opportunity for the community to see reserve officers in action. The press marveled that reserve officers for the Los Angeles Police Department are held to the same standards and must graduate from the same academy as regular, full-time officers.

continued on pg 3
See “Crime Suppression Unit”
At the time of this writing, I will have been the Department’s Reserve Coordinator for nine months, and a lot has happened in that time. As my education about the Reserve Corps continues to grow, I have seen all the great work the Reserve Corps does for not only the Department, but for this great city.

In October 2007, Lieutenant Craig Herron came on board as the new Officer in Charge (OIC) of the Reserve Officer and Volunteer Section (ROVS). By the way, ROVS is the new name of the Section, as it more accurately describes the duties and responsibilities of the old Volunteer Services Section. Lieutenant Herron jumped right into his new assignment with a tremendous amount of enthusiasm and willingness to get things done. One of the reasons he was selected for the OIC was his background at Training Division. The reserve officers need to be properly trained, and Lieutenant Herron will ensure training becomes a mainstay for the reserve program.

On April 26-27, 2008, there were two days of training for all Level I, II and III armed reserve officers at the Academy. The training consisted of live fire, shooting silhouette, tactical paintball scenarios involving building searches and the Force Options Simulator (FOS). This was the first of a number of future training days Lieutenant Herron will coordinate.

With respect to other personnel moves, Level I Randi Tahara is our new R8, replacing Dave Bush, who is working out of the Chief’s Office, Community Relations Section. I look forward to working with Randi and Jim Lombardi, R9, the leadership for the reserve officer program. I also want to personally thank Dave for all of his dedicated work and helping me get up to speed on reserve officer issues. Luckily for me, he is only a couple of floors away so I can still readily ask him questions. Thanks again, Dave, for all your help. Also, I want to welcome Police Officer Charles Rodriguez, who joined the ROVS team in April. I look forward to working with Officer Rodriguez, and I know you will too.

On November 3, 2007, we had our Twice a Citizen Banquet and as in years past, it was another great example of the Reserve Foundation and the Department thanking all the reserve officers for all that they do to protect and serve the city. This year’s Twice a Citizen Banquet is coming up on August 16 at the Petersen Auto Museum. Please join us that evening as we honor you, our “Reserves of the Year for 2007” and a few of our fellow “Twice-a” citizens. I look forward to seeing you there.

2008 is turning out to be a great year for our Reserve Corps. Opportunities for the foundation to support our reserve officers abound. We are actively exploring new ways to provide training assistance, equipment and support. Increased Department utilization of the reserve resources — reserve task forces, strengthening of the reserve management structure, “Sunshine Kids” and “Special Olympics” — are just some of the exciting things going on. We now have our very own fight song. “The Los Angeles Police Reserve Corps March” will be played for the first time in public by the Los Angeles Police Band, at the opening ceremonies of the Special Olympics on June 13. I hope to see you there.

Most importantly, the 2008 Twice a Citizen Awards Banquet is coming up on August 16 at the Petersen Auto Museum. Please join us that evening as we honor you, our “Reserves of the Year for 2007” and a few of our fellow “Twice-a” citizens. I look forward to seeing you there. Have a great year and may God bless you and keep you safe. ☺
The revitalization of the LAPD reserve program is gathering momentum. Thanks to the leadership of Commander Jim Cansler and Lieutenant Craig Herron, the Reserve Corps is beginning to show much-needed growth.

Communication throughout the reserve program is extremely important, and I would like to inform you of a few policy changes that have been placed in motion.

First, the Department is elevating the importance of the reserve management structure. The divisional R5's and the bureau R7's are the backbone of this structure. Emphasis is being placed on this system as a major part of the reserve officers' chain of command. Most problems or questions will be handled at the coordinator and/or R5 level. If further clarification or action is required, the bureau R7 should be advised before the ROVS is contacted for adjudication of the matter. I believe that the R5 through R9 system can properly clarify and answer most of your inquiries in a very expeditious manner. The R7's have contacted the bureau deputy chiefs for establishment of protocols. These bureau chiefs have expressed the importance of a strong Reserve Corps and are very supportive. [Editor's note: See article on the Reserve Management Structure on page 5 for additional information.]

Clarification is also needed regarding insurance matters for reserve officers. If you're injured while on duty, you are fully covered under workers' compensation laws. No matter your personal income level, reserve officers are granted 100 percent coverage set at the time of the occurrence. In other words, if you were injured today, your workers' comp benefit will be approximately $810 per week. If you're a member of the state reserve officers' association (CRPOA), you will receive an additional $400 per week for up to 26 weeks. The workers' comp benefit of $810 per week applies to all sworn reserve officers. Specialist reserves are excluded from this benefit — reference Section 50920 of the Government Code and Sections 4458.2 and 3362.5 of the Labor Code. Also, always check the language of your homeowner's and health insurance programs for additional considerations.

Another area of concern is peace officer liability for off-duty actions. Designated Level I reserve officers have the same protections for off-duty involvement as full-time officers. If the off-duty occurrence leads to an injury or death of the officer, it will be treated the same as if the officer was on duty. But remember that the activity must be within the "course and scope" of lawful police activity.

Level II and Level III officers generally do not have any off-duty protections, as they do not have peace officer authority while off duty. Gray areas may exist if these officers are forced into taking action that fall under the "course and scope" rule but do not count on it. Always make sure that your homeowner's policy covers you under its false arrest provisions, as the city usually does not have an obligation to defend the Level II and Level III officers in criminal or civil litigation that may arise from off-duty contacts.

We have to remember that the main purpose of the reserve program is to supplement field forces (patrol duties). We seem to drift away from patrol assignments to other type of duties over the years. We should always maintain our field proficiencies. Keep informed of new arrest and booking procedures. In reality, our reserve forces may be activated at any time for unexpected events. Be safe and extremely vigilant on and off duty.

CRIME SUPPRESSION UNIT - CONTINUED FROM PG 1

"There's only one way you get an LAPD badge," Reserve Officer Eric Rose told them, "And that's if you go through the academy."

Reserve Officer Paul Martinez, a 25-year veteran of the LAPD, found his T3 "three-wheel," equipped with lights and siren, particularly useful. It was like a modified foot-beat: "It was very effective for OBS — we spotted a lot of missing front license plates." His partner WTD Reserve Officer Joe Gomez wrote about 10 tickets for the night.

In the end, the tally was 10 moving violations, 13 non-moving violations, 24 parking citations, eight FIs, three vehicle impounds and one RFC — all within about a four- to five-hour period. The Area's Part I crimes were reduced by approximately 50 percent in the box area compared to both prior Saturdays during that particular time. Reserve officers participating came from ASD, Devonshire, DSVD, Foothill, Harbor, Hollenbeck, Hollywood, Newton, North Hollywood, OCB, Rampart, Southwest, Training, Van Nuys, WTD, West Valley and Wilshire.

Captain Girmala, who has worked with reserve officers in Hollywood and elsewhere for many years, both as a partner and then as a watch commander, said: "When we say reserve officers are 'twice the citizen,' operations like this task force underscore the Reserve Corps' selflessness, commitment and contribution. Hollywood was indeed fortunate to be the recipient of each reserve officer's dedication to protect and serve."

Assistant Chief Paysinger said: "The outstanding work of our reserve officers during the recent Hollywood Task Force shows their remarkable dedication to service. The men and women of the LAPD are truly blessed to have the greatest Reserve Corps of any police agency in the country. I have every expectation of inviting them to join us again, and I have no doubt that they will."

The Rotator • Spring 2008
Each year, Tip-A-Cop events are held to help raise the awareness of the Special Olympics. On April 24, 2008, 46 members of the Los Angeles Police Department, 39 of them reserve officers, worked as “celebrity” waiters and greeters throughout the evening at the Claim Jumper restaurant in Northridge, raising $9,581. Working with our officers that evening were several Special Olympic athletes. Cara Morales, the daughter of Sergeant Ralph Morales, worked with Specialist Reserve Officer Jeanette Capaldi most of the evening, proudly displaying the six gold medals she won.

In addition to the officers working the inside of the restaurant, there were reserve patrol and motor officers working outside the restaurant greeting diners as they arrived for dinner. They had their bikes, three black-and-white police vehicles, as well as Bobby Sherman’s Medic vehicle on display.

Each year, 22 Claim Jumper locations throughout Southern California participate in this great event. For the second year in a row, the Northridge location raised the largest amount of donations.

Our officers did a great job and demonstrated their belief in community-related activities. Thank you all for a job well done!

Special Olympics Tip-A-Cop

By Reserve Officer David Bush

Banquet will be held Saturday, August 16, at the Petersen Automotive Museum. I hope to see all the reserve officers at this great event.

On November 13, 2007, I convened a focus group, consisting of reserve officers, including former Department Reserve Coordinator Bob Hansohn and members of ROVS, to review the reserve officer initiatives that were identified in 2004. The purpose of the meeting was to determine what had been accomplished and what still needs to be accomplished, along with other issues that need to be addressed for the reserve program. As a result of the focus group meeting, you should be receiving via e-mail, the 2008 monthly update matrix reflecting the progress of the initiatives identified at the November 13 meeting. If you haven’t been receiving the monthly progress updates matrix, please contact Lieutenant Herron at (213) 485-4097 and give him your e-mail address.

In December 2007, I moved ROVS to the Personnel Department Building to work closely with Recruitment and Employment Division, under the command of Captain III Joe Mariani, who oversees the Department’s recruiting process for full-time officers. As a result of this move, our recruitment efforts for reserve officers have increased more than expected. For example, in January and February 2007, we had 10 test-takers become reserve officers; for the same period in 2008, we had 120. Lieutenant Herron, Sergeant Windham, Officers Cooper, Marshall and Ward, and Reserve Officers Crusat, Greenwald and Wong are doing an outstanding job increasing our reserve officer recruitment numbers. And speaking of revitalizing the reserve program, in January 2008, we had 11 Level III officers start the Academy; in March 2008, we had our first Level I Academy in years; and in September 2008, we’ll have another Level III Academy.

As you can see, a lot is going on as we constantly work together to make the Los Angeles Police Department Reserve Corps the best.
**Question:** What Is the Reserve Management Structure?

While the LAPD does not have service ranks for reserve officers, the Reserve Corps does have a management structure, which was established by the Department in 1988. The purpose was to help manage and govern the Corps administratively, and to facilitate communication on issues concerning the reserve officers and the reserve program. The original order established eight levels — some to be activated as needed — from R1 to R8 (R9 was added later). The implementation and use of this structure has varied throughout the years, and there have been some recent initiatives to more effectively utilize this structure.

The first level in the management structure with which a reserve officer will most likely interact is the R5, who works with the Area Commander and the Area Reserve Coordinator. The R7 handles the responsibility at the Bureau level. In 1988, Reserve Officer Jim Lombardi was appointed as the R8. Today he is the R9 of the Reserve Corps, the Reserve OIC. The new R8 (Assistant Reserve OIC) is Reserve Officer Randi Tahara. This leadership team of reserve officers meets on a regular basis, along with reserve coordinators and ROVS, to help manage the Reserve Corps operations. In fact, these are the leaders you can go to when you have questions, concerns, or issues with the Corps.

The responsibilities of this team were reiterated in a meeting with Commander James Cansler at Parker Center on April 17. Lieutenant Craig Herron explained that the Reserve Management Structure "is expected to be strengthened and relied upon in the future, to assist in the dissemination of information, both up and down within the Corps, and in our interaction with the rest of the Department.” The selection of these positions is done by the Reserve Management and the Department Reserve Coordinator (Commander Cansler and his staff).

It should be noted that this management structure is separate from, and unrelated to, the POST-certified levels for reserve peace officers (Level I, II, III).

LAPD reserve officers should get to know their R5s and R7s, and consider them a resource in their career with the Corps.

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**LAPD Reserve Corps Reserve Management Structure**

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<th>Rank (R9-R1)</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<td><strong>R9 Jim Lombardi</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Lombardi@avradionet.com">Lombardi@avradionet.com</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>R8 Randi Tahara</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:rthara@bos.lacounty.gov">rthara@bos.lacounty.gov</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>R7s</strong></td>
<td>OVB, Howard Ekerling: <a href="mailto:ekerling@pacbell.net">ekerling@pacbell.net</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OCB, Mel Kennedy:</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:melvin@hushaiddc.com">melvin@hushaiddc.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>OSB, Sharon Abbott:</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:abbott.sharon@aaa-calif.com">abbott.sharon@aaa-calif.com</a></td>
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<td><strong>OWB, Sandy Jones:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Communications, Eric Rose:</strong></td>
<td><a href="mailto:eric@englanderpr.com">eric@englanderpr.com</a></td>
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By Reserve Officer Rudy Crusat

R7 ROVS

As everyone knows, recruitment is one of the basic fundamentals in increasing the number of reserve officers in the Department. ROVS has been actively recruiting weekly at different locations throughout the city of Los Angeles, signing up prospective candidates. Some of the different venues of recruiting locations include Universal City Walk, Union Station, Cal State L.A. and numerous expos. Recruitment has also reached out to surrounding counties. Sergeant Windham, Officer Ward, Officer Cooper, Officer Marshall, Officer Rodriguez and Reserve Officer Rudy Crusat attend these recruiting events. Our recruitment flyers are currently being updated to conform to the changes within the Department and City Personnel.

Once we have obtained the information from the perspective candidates, Reserve Officers Rudy Crusat, Mike Greenwald and Ken Wong call the candidates and request that they attend the orientation. These officers then conduct the orientation. Candidates are informed in detail of the reserve program and the extensive processing steps involved. The candidates are given the contact numbers for ROVS as well as our own contact numbers. We are mentors for the candidates throughout the processing phase and answer any questions they may have. We also encourage the candidates to call us at anytime and will personally meet with the candidate to take part in the CAPS program. We will also meet the candidate, if they so choose, at a division for a tour of the station.

Through the aggressive recruiting efforts of ROVS and the reserve officers involved, we had outstanding results. There are approximately 120 candidates currently in processing. (The year prior, we had less than 10 candidates that were in processing.) We want to thank the OIC of ROVS, Lieutenant Herron, Sergeant Windham and all the officers who aggressively and diligently made the turnaround in favor of the Reserve Corps.

Recruiting is a great way to meet people and talk about the reserve program. If you are interested in recruiting or speaking at the orientation, please call ROVS at (213) 473-3413 or Reserve Officer Crusat at (818) 359-0304.
OFFICER PROFILE
RESERVE OFFICER J.T. ALPAUGH
E Platoon – Metropolitan Division & Air Support Division

By Reserve Officer Michael Sellars

If you’ve ever called for an air unit or otherwise had one help you out on a radio call, there’s a good chance you’ve spoken with J.T. Alpaugh. As a reserve officer, he has worked Hollywood Patrol, a reserve mounted unit at Harbor, Air Support Division, and now he’s become the first reserve to be officially assigned to E Platoon, the LAPD’s elite Metro Division Mounted Unit.

It has required a lot of work and a lot of dedication. J.T. joined the Department as a line reserve officer in May 1990. As he remembers growing up, he never had an overwhelming desire to be a police officer. “In the late ’80s,” J.T. explains, “I worked for a freelance news company that gathered breaking news overnight for TV stations. I would respond to all sorts of major LAPD incidents, and had a firsthand look at field law enforcement and became very intrigued. After an overnight shift one morning, I found myself filling out application paperwork. Next thing I knew, I was in the Academy class 5-90R.”

From 1991 to 1994, Reserve Officer J.T. Alpaugh was regularly assigned to Hollywood Division, where he worked patrol, SPU and Vice. On Labor Day 1994, he was involved in an OIS. The suspect was a three-striker and was convicted.

Becoming a Tactical Flight Officer was a dream of J.T.’s when he joined the Department in 1990. He spent his days in Hollywood honing his tactical skills. After several requests, J.T. says, “I was finally granted my shot.” Just like any officer, he was granted a one DP loan to Air Support for evaluation. Afterwards, he was accepted for the training course. After three months of double shifts between the LAPD and his regular job, J.T. got his “Wings” in August 1995. He was an LAPD Tactical Flight Officer, and it was one of the proudest moments in his life.

J.T. has been riding horses since he was a child. A few years ago, some officers at Harbor Division started a reserve mounted unit. It was started with one sergeant, one full-time officer and three reserve officers. In the unit, they used their own horses and trained with Metropolitan Division Mounted instructors. The horses also had to be field-certified. J.T.’s horse is named Huckleberry. He is a 10-year-old chestnut-colored quarter horse that stands 15.3 hands.

In 2007, J.T. was approached by Metropolitan personnel and asked if he’d be interested in joining Metro’s E Platoon, the Mounted Unit. “I immediately jumped at the chance,” said J.T. Then it was back to training — this time, four months attending the unit’s Equine Training days and then it was off to the official Metro Mounted Unit’s School, which all Metro officers must complete to receive their Cross Saber Pin. J.T. is now the only reserve officer assigned to E Platoon, Metropolitan Division. As part of the unit, J.T. has worked crime suppression details at Central, Rampart and Venice Beach, and crowd control at parades and demonstrations throughout the city. He had the honor of participating with the Riderless Horse Honor Detail at Officer Randy Simmons’ funeral.

J.T. is vice president of technical operations at Helinet Aviation Services, a Van Nuys-based helicopter company. The company provides helicopter charter services, including the Children’s Hospital helicopter. The company does a lot of motion picture work, and J.T. had a small role in the film Transformers as a Sector Seven helicopter agent, chasing robots through
Training Division is proud to announce that Level III Class 1-08R successfully completed a four-month reserve training program that began on January 9 and concluded on April 17.

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the L.A. River. In August 2005, J.T. and Helinet owner Alan Purwin flew in behind Hurricane Katrina. For the next month, they provided live pool-feed aerial images of the ravaged Gulf Coast area, for the media and command posts. J.T. spent 12-hour days narrating events of the disaster to national and international news networks.

On April 27, 2008, J.T. married his fiancée, Heather. The pastor, Dave Cox, is a good friend and LAPD academy classmate of J.T.’s, and is currently assigned to Devonshire Division.

Today, J.T. works both E Platoon and Air Support. He has now worked ASD for 13 years.

CDL1 Reserve Officer J.T. Alpaugh sums it up: “I have been extremely fortunate to be able to work with some great people through many assignments and divisions. I believe sincerely that we all have an obligation to give back to our communities. To me, this is a win-win. I get to serve while receiving an extreme sense of accomplishment and pride. I love being a reserve police officer and feel very fortunate to be assigned to what I believe to be the best divisions within the Department.”

FORUM - CONTINUED FROM PG 5

Comment: How the Reserves Make an Impact

By Police Officer III Ed Pandolfo

I have had the pleasure of being an area Reserve Coordinator for almost two years now. It has truly been an incredible experience, working with the very best of citizens. Almost every day of the week, there are reserve officers working, making arrests — even rescuing people out of a burning building, as Reserve Officer John Engles did with his partner (in addition to arresting the suspect involved for attempted murder).

You can’t wear the uniform of a Los Angeles Police Officer and have the pride most Reserves have. Whether you want to call it your job, hobby or joy, there is the reward and satisfaction that all of you make for yourselves when you contribute to making our society a better place to live in — it is what takes you further than many others. I personally believe that many of you could do more than you think when it comes to talking about LAPD Reserves. We should all be tooting our horns when talking about the Corps; just maybe we can get the interest of friends, and friends of friends. It is part of our mission to bring in new blood. What better way to do that than to implore others to seek us out and to start a rewarding second career. So let’s all elevate our mission a little higher and tell everyone how great the LAPD Reserves Corps truly is.

Officer Pandolfo is Reserve Coordinator for HWD Area and was named Reserve Coordinator of the Year for 2006.

Training Division is proud to announce that Level III Class 1-08R successfully completed a four-month reserve training program that began on January 9 and concluded on April 17.

(Back Row L-R): Remon Tadrous, Eric Anderson, Captain Michelle Veenstra, DI Gary Kennedy, Sergeant Kathryn Weigel, Class Leader Aureilo Navarro, Gilbert Cohen, Jim Flores and Reserve Officer James Lee (law instructor).

(Front Row L-R): Class Admin Benedict Pak, Class Historian Gerardo Bautista, Drew Terenzini, Carter Magnin, Class President Steven Hong and Jose Martinez.

IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR AN ARTICLE FOR THE ROTATOR, OR WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE, SEND US AN E-MAIL AT MichaelSellars@sbcglobal.net
SAVE THE DATE

Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation

The “Twice a Citizen” dinner recognizes the Reserve Officers of the Los Angeles Police Department and celebrates the 2007 Award Winners.

Saturday, August 16, 2008
6:00 p.m.

2008 Dinner Chair, Dennis Hathaway
Join us for an enjoyable evening at the Petersen Automotive Museum

www.petersen.org
www.joinlapdreserves.com