



**Bakersfield Composite Squadron #121**

**60-Second Safety Advisor #23**

### **Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters**

Have you ever wondered why the outlets in your bathroom and kitchen have little black and red buttons on them (test and reset)? These outlets are called Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI's). Potentially fatal shocks can be caused by a ground fault in your electrical appliances and tools. A GFCI provides split-second electrical protection for you and your family – that's why they are required by law in certain parts of your home. All outdoor and bathroom electrical outlets in new and renovated homes must be supplied from circuits equipped with GFCIs. This included circuits serving swimming pools and hot tubs. They should also be considered for damp locations such as laundry rooms, basements and kitchens. Specially designed portable GFCIs can be taken from place to place to protect you anywhere. If you have an older home that is not equipped with GFCI's you should consider making the small investment to have them installed. It's a small price for the protection that they provide.

