

# ROCKLIN PD NEWS



## Rocklin Police Department

### Message from the Chief by Mark Siemens

#### Gun Safety

As police officers, part of our job on and off-duty is the protection of those around us. The last thing we would ever want is to cause harm because of our job. Just recently, a Sutter County Sergeant experienced an unthinkable tragedy when his three-year-old son picked up his father's duty weapon and fatally shot himself in the head. The sergeant and his wife were standing only feet away when this happened. The gun was only left unattended for seconds, but there is absolutely nothing that can fix the consequences of those few seconds.

Police organizations are gun

cultures. We handle and carry firearms every day. Sometimes we forget the real weight of being constantly armed. In every situation, we must think about the security of our weapons, especially in our own homes when we have children or visitors.

Here at Rocklin Police Department we issue gun safes with our duty weapons to provide a safe storage option for our handguns. Please use them. I cannot imagine the pain that is and will be felt by Sergeant Whiteaker and his family. The stakes are very high and sobering. A few second lapse of gun control cost a child's life and forever changed many others.



#### Special Points of Interest

- Message from the Chief
- Department Photos
- Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- New Alarm Ordinance



### Captains Corner, By Ron Lawrence and Dan Ruden

Thanks to all personnel who attended the department meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup>. The meeting proved to be informative, productive and appreciated. We recognize that juggling our member's schedules around to meet the time restraints was a challenge and want to express our

gratitude for all who willingly adjusted their hours to make this meeting a success. As you may recall, just prior to the department photo we held an informal Class A uniform inspection. There were no obvious deficiencies noted during the inspection. In fact, you all looked great as a group

and your uniforms were squared away. We appreciate all of you for taking such pride in your appearance and in our uniform. You all looked very impressive (except for the motor officers who experienced a wardrobe malfunction with their helmets).



## The Chrome Dome Troop, by Cpl. Bart Paduveris

Just in case you missed it, several members of the Rocklin Police and Fire Associations participated in the annual St. Baldrick's Day Foundation charity event. The local event which was held at the Roseville Galleria March 29<sup>th</sup> raised over \$130,000 (unofficially). The

event raises money for victims of Childhood Cancer and Cancer research. The Rocklin team consisted of members from our department and the Rocklin Fire Department. The Police portion of the team consisted of me, Officer Adrian

Passadore, Officer Casey Finney, Captain Dan Ruden, Officer Gil Farrulla, Officer Randy Law, Corporal Rich Cabana, Sergeant Scott Horrillo, and Officer Zack Lewis. The team raised a total of \$3680 for the cause.

The event itself was carried out in the middle (Santa's meeting place) of the Galleria on top of a raised stage. Several fierce razor wielding hairstylists attacked members of our team without hesitation. The results were pretty scary in some cases (my own), but I'm sure all of us would agree that the cause was well worth while.



BEFORE



AFTER



Rocklin Police and Fire Team

## Honoring 9-1-1 Professionals, by Jennifer Collins

The week of April 13<sup>th</sup> marks National Telecommunicator's Week, or as it is more commonly known "Dispatch Appreciation Week." Throughout the country Communication Center Personnel are celebrated for the hard work and professionalism they display on a daily basis. All Placer, Yolo,

Sacramento, and El Dorado communications centers, with support from the Organization of Public

Safety Telecommunicators (OPST), celebrate this week with an awards banquet occurring

April 19<sup>th</sup> at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento. Dispatchers and call takers are the silent heroes that are the first line of communication during an individual's time of emergency. Please join me in thanking and celebrating dispatchers and the dispatch profession!



## Hoops for Youth, by Steve Ortmann

On April 14, officers from Rocklin, Roseville and Placer County Probation represented Placer County in a basketball tournament at Arco Arena. The tournament was between Sacramento County, Sacramento PD, Elk Grove PD and Placer

County. After entry fees and ticket costs for family supporters to attend the event, we were able to raise over \$2,500 for California Police Youth Charities. After the tournament we were treated to a buffet dinner in a private lounge and had our own section at the Kings vs. Spurs game. Even though the buffet dinner was tator tots and chicken strips and our seats were along the rooftops of Arco, we had a great time. It was a great day to get together with other law enforcement agen-

cies and just hang out. Our first game was against Elk Grove PD which came down to the final seconds. We were up by three with 2.5 seconds left and a questionable foul gave Elk Grove three points to tie it up. Another foul gave them one more point to take the lead 31-30 and the game. Our next match up was against Sac PD which doesn't need to be talked about. I guess to sum up that game it was a lot of running back and forth watching their baskets being made

and us not getting our rebounds after our misses. The only complaint of pain after the game was Sgt. Martin who was overheard looking for the Kings trainer for some personal treatment. Apparently, the pregame dunk wasn't a good idea as he jammed his wrist on the rim.



## Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, By Jennifer Collins

The fifth annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Sunset Center. This year's event honored the department's 101 police volunteers for their hours of service during the past year. In 2007 volunteers logged 10,542 hours saving the city approximately \$196,800. We are well on our way of exceeding that number for 2008. Volunteers received pins noting their individual hours of service and a Presidential service award certificate from President George W. Bush. Rich Vallone and Frank Yoschak were among the volunteers that logged the highest

total hours with approximately 1500-1800 hours of total service to the community.

The volunteer program began in 2002 with only four volunteers. We currently have 101 volunteers with a new Academy of 25 starting in September 2008. Volunteers provide a service to our community and the police department that is far more valuable than just dollars and cents. They are trained and work tirelessly in specialized fields of interest providing services to the community that may not be offered without such a robust and successful program.



## Honor Guard at Arco Arena, By Lt. Lon Milka

On Monday evening, April 14<sup>th</sup>, members from the Rocklin Police



Department Honor Guard joined with other local area agency Honor Guards at Arco Arena. Officers Dan Groff and Gil Farrulla, Sergeant Trent Jewell, and Lieutenant Lon Milka were joined by representatives from the Placer County Sheriff's Department, Sacramento County Sheriff's Department,

Sacramento Police Department, Elk Grove Police Department, and the Roseville Police Department. The combined Honor Guard Unit presented the colors right before the final home game for the Kings.

The day started with the Kings organization hosting a law enforcement basketball tournament and included a display of police cars and motorcycles.

The Rocklin Police Department Honor Guard participates in different events each year including the California Police Memorial events, the Placer County Law Enforcement Awards Banquet, and funerals for peace officers.

## New Alarm Ordinance goes into Effect, by Sgt. Terry Roide

As of April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008, our new Alarm Ordinance became law. In 2006 and 2007, we responded to over 2,700 false alarms each year. These false alarms accounted for over 10% of all of our calls for service in 2007 and we spent over 1,500 hours of Officer's time. The Alarm Ordinance requires that any person or business which activates, operates, or maintains an alarm system upon any premises in the City of Rocklin needs to obtain an Alarm Permit. The permits are \$25 for the first 2 years and

\$15 for each two year renewal. The Ordinance allows a grace period to September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008, for residents and businesses with existing alarms to obtain a permit. Alarms are classified as either General/Burglar or Holdup/Duress. Residents and businesses that experience a second alarm in a rolling 12 month period, based on the date they obtained their permit, will be charged \$50 for a General/Burglar alarm and \$100 for a Holdup/Duress alarm. On their third and subsequent alarms in the 12 month period, they will

be charged \$100 for each General/Burglar alarm and \$150 for each holdup/Duress alarm. One of the goals of our new Alarm Ordinance is to lower the amount of False Alarm calls and free Officers to respond to other calls for service or proactive activity. The permit process will also ensure that we have accurate information for each alarmed residence and business regarding responsible information. If you receive any questions regarding the Alarm Ordinance, please refer them to the Alarm Program link on the City of

Rocklin website under Virtual Rocklin. Also, feel free to refer them to a dedicated toll free number for information (866) 541-7626.

