

# ROCKLIN PD NEWS



## Rocklin Police Department

### Message from the Chief by Mark Siemens

Wow, the holidays are upon us and 2007 is just around the corner. Amidst the holiday cheer, it is a good time to look back on all that has happened in 2006. While thinking back on this year, it was hard to get past the release of the Pirates of the Caribbean sequel and Britney Spears break-up, but I did come up with a few significant things that happened locally.

In the City, several good things happened. First, Lucille's Restaurant opened and of course, I gained five pounds. R.C. Willey's came to town and we now have a place in Rocklin to buy a big-screen TV. Most importantly to many of our members, Sportsman's Warehouse opened. For the outdoorsman the Sportsman's Warehouse rivals Disneyland.

In our department, 2006 held many changes and accomplishments. Our membership grew and changed. We hired one captain, ten police officers, three dispatchers, two clerks, and three reserve police officers. Additionally, 23 volunteers joined our program bringing the total to number of volunteers to 103.

Many of you worked hard on new programs in 2006. We deployed a new neighborhood officer, launched

this newsletter, installed a red light photo enforcement system, created a new mission and vision, lead the region in cellular 911 transition to local answering point, established a Professional Standards Unit and process, established a regional team for critical incident negotiations, connected our dispatch center to the Sacramento County warrant database, installed the photovoltaic (solar panel) carports, applied and received grants for a fourth traffic officer, traffic clerk and auto theft bait car systems, a 360 degree feedback process for supervisors and managers and completed the second neighborhood survey which reported that 97% of the respondents were very or somewhat satisfied with police services in Rocklin.

These new programs were launched or completed while we carried out our mission of service, protection and promoting a safe community. Our dispatchers answered over 115,000 phone calls, we wrote nearly 5500 reports, handled about 40,000 incidents, made almost 1,800 arrests, increased our solve rate on thefts from vehicles, increased traffic

stops by more than 20% and decreased accidents by 7%.

Some of our members were even recognized for outstanding accomplishments. RPD Volunteer John Adams was selected as the Crime Prevention Volunteer of the Year by the California Attorney General. The Roseville-Rocklin Regional SWAT team won the Team Unity award at the Grass Valley SWAT competition, while Rocklin SWAT Operator, Steve Ortmann won the coveted Mike Sergi Award for his overall character and aptitude as a team member, just to mention a few.

After looking back on all that we accomplished, I think I need a nap. Seriously though, I can honestly say I am proud to be a member of this fine organization. Working with such dedicated and capable people is truly rewarding. Thank you all for your hard work this year and may God bless you this holiday season.



### Special Points of Interest

- Message from the Chief
- Rocklin Officers Honored
- Carjacker Nabbed
- Bad Cops in the Eyes of Children

### Captains' Corner by Dan Ruden and Ron Lawrence

Recently I traveled by Amtrak Train to San Jose. Due to the holidays it was a packed train with over 375 on board. If you've never commuted by train, I highly recommend it. Leaving the Rocklin Station, I set out on the journey relaxed and reading a good book. The train ride was uneventful until we made an unusually long stop at the Santa Clara station. The Conductor announced over the P.A. that an unruly passenger was refusing to get off the train, and there would be a delay in proceeding. I watched as two conductors frantically ran past my

seat and down to the lower-level of the café car. Knowing there are only two conductors on the train and recognizing they had a hurried and concerned look, something inside of me sprang into action. Now don't get me wrong, I am a huge proponent of not getting involved in incidents while off-duty and rather being a good witness, but at the same time, being on public transportation in this post-911 era, I felt a feeling of responsibility to assist.

Continued on page 3



Captain Ruden, on vacation in Hawaii sent this picture home of him with Maui PD searching for Santa. No luck yet, but keep searching, Captain Dan!

## Rocklin Officers Honored by Senior Dispatcher Anisha Harper

This year's Placer County Law Enforcement Honors and Awards Ceremony were held at the Heritage Theatre in Lincoln on November 16<sup>th</sup>. This awards ceremony is held every year and honors area officers for extraordinary feats, acts above and beyond the call of duty and their dedicated service. Officer Bart Paduveris and Officer Dan Groff were each presented with the Silver Medal of Valor for acts of bravery. These two heroic officers entered a smoke filled apartment and rescued two toddlers and their father. Lieutenant David Johnstone received the well deserved Distinguished Service Award and the Chaplains Award for his dedication and loyal

support to the Redding family. Officer Matthew Redding received the Mark A. White award for his dedicated Service to the Community. John and Marilyn Redding attended the ceremony and accepted the award for their son Matt. Congratulations to all of you and thank you for a job well done!



Lt. Dave Johnstone, Officer Bart Paduveris, and Officer Dan Groff

## Crime Analysts Luncheon by CSO Wendy Smith

Rocklin Police Department's Wendy Smith recently attended this year's Crime Analyst luncheon for the Northern Valley Crime and Intelligence Analysts.

The primary focus of this luncheon was collaboration between law enforcement agencies from the local level and the federal level. In the aftermath of September 11, 2001, Federal and State officials recognized the need to improve data sharing and collaboration. California Joint Regional Information Exchange System (CAL-JRIES) is a new statewide homeland security counter terrorism, and all crimes information sharing initiative allowing public safety agencies

access to alerts, reports, analysis and daily reporting. Crime Analysts were encouraged to go back to their own departments and push this type of information-sharing idea.

Good news, Rocklin Police Department is, as always, on the cutting edge of technology. Several months ago the Crime Analysis Unit and the Terrorism Liaison Officer went on line with GROOVE" through Cal-DOJ via a similar portal such as LIVESCAN, Cal Photo and AFIS. Using GROOVE allows us to network with other GROOVE users, at no cost to our department, on a secure portal (behind a firewall) about cases via a "workspace"

which is much like a chat room. Information can be sent via instant message and can contain attachments, etc. It is much more effective and faster than e-mail and can be used to network with other California agencies as well as agencies outside of California.



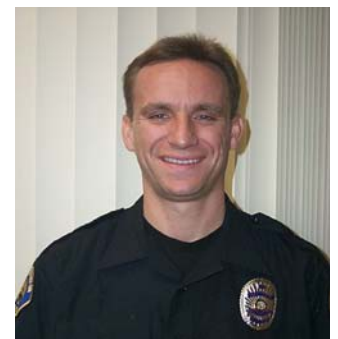
## Training That Pays Off by Lt. Stuart Davis

Corporal Trent Jewell recently attended a training session on laws regarding Registered Sex Offenders. Corporal Jewell said the class was interesting, gave him useable information on compliance checks of offenders that he had previously been unaware of, and helped as an investigative tool. Shortly after returning from the training Trent got a call from Marysville PD about a subject in our city who was a registered sex offender, but who had not registered.

Using the information from the class, Trent knew how to quickly determine the offender's status, and where to get the information necessary to nail the case down. Trent arrested the offender for four different counts of not registering properly, and credits the training with making the investigation faster and smoother on a subject that he was previously much less informed on. Nice job, Trent.

## Welcome Our Newest Officer by Lt. Stuart Davis

Jay Newton started his first day with the Police Department on Monday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. Jay comes to us as a lateral transfer from the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office where he has worked for the past eight years. His latest assignment at the Sheriff's Office was in the Problem Oriented Policing Unit in Carmichael. Jay and his wife, Jessica, live in Roseville with their four children, ages eleven, nine, seven, and two.



Officer Jay Newton

## Carjacker Nabbed by Sgt. Scott Horrillo and Cpl. Chad Butler

On November 28, Rocklin dispatchers and officers worked quickly to solve a carjacking. At 4:25 p.m. dispatch received a 911 call reporting an armed carjacking by two unknown males in the Redwood and Lonetree area. Dispatch, immediately sounded the alert tone and broadcast the incident.

Numerous Officers responded toward Hwys 80 and 65, taking up positions where they could view vehicles as they left our city. Sgt. Horrillo and Acting Sgt Butler responded to the scene and made initial contact with the victim who was uninjured but extremely shaken from the incident.

Within minutes, Officer Westgate who was positioned on Hwy 80, just prior to Atlantic, observed the

stolen vehicle traveling westbound. He notified Dispatch that he was behind the vehicle and stuck in heavy traffic. Officers Cruz and Cabana responded to assist and arrived within seconds. Officers turned on their emergency equipment and the vehicle immediately yielded on the left shoulder. The sole occupant of the vehicle exited at gunpoint and officers secured him in a patrol vehicle.

Officers Wilks and Passadore transported the victim to the location of the stop where he positively identified the driver as the male who had pointed a gun at him and stole his vehicle. The remaining Officers checked the surrounding areas for the missing suspect but were unable to locate him.

The quick work by dispatchers and

police officers took a dangerous robber off the streets of Rocklin and he is now awaiting his day in court at the Placer County Jail.

Great job! Officer Westgate, Officer Cruz, Officer Cabana, Officer Wilks, Officer Passadore, Officer Finney, Officer Hurrianko, Officer Torres, Officer Ortmann, and Senior Dispatchers Jennifer Stroble and Anisha Harper.

## Feds Give Us A Closer Look at Terrorism Volunteer Program Wins Chamber Award

by Lt. Stuart Davis

FBI Agent Michael Gimble came to Rocklin on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> and taught a class on things to watch out for in terrorism, from a law enforcement perspective. Agent Gimble went over the culture, training, and signs of terrorism to assist our officers in spotting any local activity, and to create awareness of potential hazards it may bring. Agent Gimble works out of the San Jose Office of the FBI in the International Terrorism Unit, and based on the feedback from

several of the class attendees, his lecture was quite interesting, informative, and brought up a lot of detail that was found by officers to be helpful. Agent Gimble will be returning to the department in January to teach a second group on the same subject.

## Volunteer Program Wins Chamber Award

by Community Programs Coordinator Mike Nottoli

The Rocklin Police Department Volunteer Program won the Rocklin Area Chamber of Commerce "Non-Profit Achievement Award," during the annual Chamber Business Awards Reception, held at the Whitney Oaks Golf Club. The two other finalists for this award were the Keaton Raphael Memorial, and the Rocklin Historical Society. Chief Siemens was on-hand

along with members from the Police Department Volunteer Program to accept the award. Congratulations to all of our Volunteers!



## Captains' Corner continued from page 1

I quickly went to the lower level of the café car and arrived just in time to do absolutely nothing, except watch the conductors throw the unruly passenger from the stopped train. They immediately thanked me for coming to their aid, even though I hadn't done anything. They were simply happy to see that someone cared enough to help. I returned to my seat on the crowded train and we proceeded on.

While I didn't do anything special at all, I reflected on what caused

me to run and assist rather than sit there reading my book. I concluded that it was the same innate sense of responsibility that each one of us has to do the right thing, even when not convenient for us as individuals. The Oath-of-Office we each took didn't differentiate between on or off-duty. It simply stated a solemn obligation to defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. As corny as one might think this story is, my reflection on the train made me proud to serve our society in this noble profession,

and it makes me proud to serve among brave and honorable men and women of the Rocklin Police Department. I hope you never forget what brought you to this courageous calling and if you have, I sincerely wish for you to find it again. Keep doing the great work you do!

### This month's "Captain's Corner Challenge" is:

*How many train riders used the Rocklin train station in Fiscal Year 2005? (This may also include tak-*

*ing a bus from Rocklin to the Sacramento train station). Please submit your entries via email to Captain Ron Lawrence by December 31st.*

*The answers to last month's challenge can be found on page 4.*

## Bad Cops in the Eyes of Children by Captain Ron Lawrence

Whether we like it or not, each one of us represents each other, and we owe an obligation to conduct ourselves accordingly. The image we create as police officers is shared by us all, and occasionally we may need to drop a friendly reminder.

A few months back I was visiting my girlfriend in Los Gatos. After eating dinner she left in one car, while I drove her two children, ages 7 and 8. On our way home, we stopped at a red light next to two San Jose police cars. I didn't pay much attention, but my two young and very observant passengers immediately noticed and made comment that neither of the two officers we're wearing their seatbelts. Suddenly, I was bombarded with questions about why the po-

lice officers weren't wearing their seatbelts, and isn't it the law? They asked me if the officers were allowed to do this, and could they get into trouble? I was even asked if they were "bad" police officers. I felt like I was on the hot seat, and for those of you who are around young kids, I'm certain you can relate to the circumstance. Needless to say, it was an unexplainable and uncomfortable conversation. To some this may seem a trivial issue, but to the public we serve (and write seatbelt tickets to) this is not trivial at all. They expect and demand (rightfully so) that we hold ourselves to a higher standard, and certainly that we abide by the law. I'm confident you all wear your seatbelts and I'm sure you understand the importance. As

we push through to the end of 2006, please consider this a friendly request to buckle up. Most importantly for your safety, but secondarily we have an image to uphold and in the public's eyes we are all painted with the same brush. Rocklin has a lot of parents who I'm sure would rather not be placed in a situation to explain what I tried to explain. Please, remember to Buckle Up!

Answer Key to last month's Captains' Corner challenge.

