



# Rocklin Police Department Newsletter

December 2009



*Rocklin Police Department*

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## Message from the Chief - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

**by Mark Siemens** *Disclaimer: If the headline does not apply to you please insert the appropriate holiday for Christmas. If you would not like a Happy New Year, you may insert the adjective that most describes your desire for the coming year.*

December brings the hustle of holiday shopping and parties that seem to fill our schedules to the point that we cannot take the time to reflect upon the past year and peer into the next. If you have found time to read this article, maybe we can do a little of both together.

This year has gone by very quickly in a way, but maybe not. As I write this article, it seems I just finished the December article for last year. But, as I think about all of what has happened, like the officer involved shooting last New Years morning, it seems long ago.

We have had an eventful and busy year. We had some major cases this year and an uptick in

property crimes. We have had the largest number of member retirements in history, and several others members have left for other jobs. We have started a new contract relationship with Sierra College and all of that while in a constant state of budget turmoil. Just a year ago, we were on a two-year budget cycle and now we are on about a three month budget cycle. Whoa Nelly!

As I look into next year, it is with hope that we can soon find some certainty in the economy and direction to find our way through the trials of organizational contraction. I know we can if we can all pull together to make it through these times.

Most of all, I hope your Holidays are Happy and the New Year brings you health, success and joy. Let's stay safe out there.



*"It is the Mission of the  
Rocklin Police Department  
to Serve, Protect  
and Promote a  
Safe Community."*



## Captains Corner, by Ron Lawrence and Dan Ruden

Cold weather, Christmas trees and holiday parties. Shopping, mistletoe and even snow. These things can only mean one thing: it's time for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual RPD Goatee Contest! Beginning today (December 15<sup>th</sup>) and continuing through Valentine's Day 2010, the grooming standards for police personnel are amended to allow Goatees that do not interfere with personal protective equipment. As in years past, a panel of non-goatee bearing judges will be selected by lottery to decide who has the best goatee in each of the following categories:

- MOST sophisticated
- Best trimmed
- Best looking (overall)

Prizes will be awarded to all judges and to the winner of each category, including 30 days exclusive use of the Chief or Captains' parking spaces.

To participate in the selection process to be a goatee judge, please send an email to Lisa N. by January 3, 2010. To participate as contestant, you know what to do!

## Goatee Contest



## Paxton Stops Vandals In Their Tracks, by Sergeant Chad Butler

On the evening on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Officer Jeff Paxton was on patrol in the area of South Whitney and Five Star when he drove through the Willow Rock Plaza shopping center parking lot. While checking the back of the businesses he came across two individuals leaving their "tag" on a blank canvas, the old Food for Less building. Upon seeing Officer Paxton, both subjects fled on

foot with Paxton in pursuit. One subject fled over a fence and into the neighborhood while the other tried to hide behind a dumpster before being taken into custody. Weekday Graveyard Officers set up a perimeter but were unable to locate the second suspect.

Paxton Mirandized the subject he had in custody and got a

possible name of the second subject. Officer Krempin began a computer search for a similar named subject in Rocklin. In a short time, Krempin had a phone number and contacted with a family member, of the 2<sup>nd</sup> subject, who agreed to have him call the Police Department. True to his word, the subject called Krempin a short time later and confessed to the graffiti.

Located at the scene and on the first arrestee were numerous cans of spray paint, large marking pens and a "headlamp," to help them see what they were vandalizing. Had Officer Paxton not been diligently patrolling, these two subjects would have completed their murals and left the scene, likely to **'tag'** our City again.

## Collaborative Effort Pays Off, by Sergeant Forrest Richardson

As part of our recent inclusion of patrolling Sierra College, Officer Chellew took a theft report of a bicycle. The bicycle had been stolen from the back of a truck parked in the Sierra College parking lot.

The stolen bicycle was located on Craigslist. Two dayshift patrol officers and Detective Alford posed as potential buyers and set up an appoint-

ment to see the bicycle in Lincoln. The bicycle was confirmed as the same one that had been recently stolen.

The bicycle was recovered so it could be returned to its thankful owner. "Thank you" to RPD Detectives for their assistance in the recovery of the bicycle and their help with the investigation.

There are many other stories of collaborative work by the employees at the Rocklin PD. This is just one example of the good work that is being done by all. It would take much more space than I have been allocated to adequately list all that you do.

I want to thank all of you that have assisted our patrol staff throughout the year. All employees and volunteers at the RPD

either directly or indirectly assist patrol in providing an outstanding level of service to the community of Rocklin..



## Volunteer Reunion, by Jennifer Collins

Can you remember when you met your oldest friend? I vividly remember meeting my best friend Lori on the first day of school at the front steps of my Kindergarten class in Sacramento. (No, I am not going to tell you how long ago that was!) Well, Police Volunteer Kathy Smith received an award from

the Placer County Law Enforcement group last month in recognition for her outstanding Volunteer Service. This award happened to be mentioned in last month's newsletter. Auburn resident Judy Schredl read this article and recognized Kathy Smith whom she had not seen for almost *fifty years*. Ms. Schredl and Volunteer Kathy Smith were best friends in high

school at San Francisco Presentation Catholic High School and had not seen each other since their graduation. Ms. Schredl came to the police department for a surprise reunion with careful coordination from Senior Records Clerk Kathy Adelman. Both ladies were reunited and spent the good part of an afternoon catching up.



## SWAT Team Trains for Any Clime and Place, by Scott Horrillo

On December 7, 2009, residents and visitors of south Placer County received something that has not been seen in the area for many years. That something was 1-2 feet of snow. The Tri-City SWAT Team like any other integral part of law enforcement must carry out their duties regardless of the weather conditions. So team members from Rocklin, Lincoln and Roseville Police Departments braved the 25

degree weather and 1-2 feet of snow and went to the Grizzly Range for a day of training. Although this weather is uncharacteristic to the area, it gave team members the opportunity to test various equipment and systems in this unusual extreme weather condition.



## Congratulation New Rocklin PD Volunteer Class of 2009, by Mike Nottoli

I would like to welcome 16 new Rocklin Police Department Volunteers to our agency. They just graduated from a 14-week Volunteer Police Academy on November 17, 2009, received their uniforms, and will soon be working in and around the Police Department and community. The new graduates are Juanita Boutte, Marie Collette, Cathy Cruz, Martin Cruz, Violet Daraitis, Marilyn DeCillis, Tony Farrulla, Norm Fish, Ed Knappe, Pam Milliron, Braden Shaw, Sherry Sims, Greg Thorsen, John Wilhelm, Mary Wire, and Gaye Womack. Please say hello and welcome them to our Department.

The Rocklin Police Department now has 118 Volunteers, and continues to expand in its size, scope, and the amount of service it generates. In 2008, RPD Volunteers donated 11,139 hours of service. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, one volunteer work hour is valued at \$20.25 per hour. That equates to \$225,565 worth of labor! In 2009, RPD Volunteers will most likely break the 13,000 hour barrier!

I congratulate our new Volunteer graduates, and would like to thank them and all of the Rocklin Police Volunteers for their continued dedication and service.



## Commendations, by Sergeant Jamie Knox

Officer Joyce Metzger received a commendation for going above and beyond the call of duty to assist a homeless Sierra College Student. As a result of her efforts, the student was provided temporary shelter and sponsored by a local company. The company is covering the student's dorm fees for an entire semester. Way to go Joyce!

Corporal Eric Dollar was commended by a citizen for his promptness to a car accident. She commended his professionalism and his kindness. Great job Eric!

We have received several comment cards about the kind, prompt, and professional service our front counter staff provides. Our Records Staff and Volunteers continue to set a great example for exceptional customer service. Great job all of you!

## Too Good To Be True, by Sergeant Scott Horrillo

Most of us know someone who has had their identification stolen, been a victim of internet fraud or swindled out of money through a financial fraud scheme. There is help for those who have not yet been a victim or do not want to be a victim again by one of these crimes. The FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) serves as a clearinghouse for cyber crime complaints from the public and private industry. IC3 also provides education and prevention training to the public through their web site, [LooksTooGoodToBeTrue.com](http://LooksTooGoodToBeTrue.com). This web site provides information on the latest internet/financial schemes and an interactive test to measure user's online safety habits.

So, the next time you get that e-mail from the other side of the world informing you that the Director of Finance wants to give you \$50 million and all you need to do is send them \$7,500 for a processing fee.....It Might Be Too Good To Be True!

