

ROCKLIN PD NEWS



Rocklin Police Department

Message from the Chief by Mark Siemens

Special Points of Interest

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- Graduates Sworn In
- Annual Employee Awards

Team Building

As this issue goes to print, police supervisory staff members are attending a workshop to develop skills in creating stronger teams and more functional workplace relationships. In organizations we achieve things in spite of the individual frustrations and conflicts that build. In time, through trial and error, or by chance, some of us develop communication strategies that overcome the relational difficulties to varying degrees, but some do not.

Workplace relational issues have an impact on our capacity to perform individually and collectively. Workplace relationship quality is the most important factor to individual job satisfaction, especially when conflicts, whether real or perceived, are with your direct

supervisor. We can systematically improve our relationships so why should we leave it to chance.

As an organization we are taking steps to employ a strategy in clearly defining and communicating expectations of each other. This process includes defining and clarifying the supervisor's expectations of direct reports, employee expectations of a supervisor and expectations of peer team members.

The second part of the strategy is to talk about how we will approach each other in the event a member does not meet an expectation. Having the discussion about these matters before the conflict arises is key to easing the stress and misperceptions that can surround such a conversation.

Understanding each others expectations and improving communication will reduce conflict and improve the strength of each team. We can improve our relationships at work with a little effort. Your supervisors will be bringing the process to a briefing or team meeting near you, so tune in and expect results.



Captains Corner, by Ron Lawrence and Dan Ruden

Congratulations, goes to our four Goatee contest judges selected randomly by the "Magic Squirrel Cage". Amy Lind, Janice Westmoreland, Anisha Harper and runner-up, Tracy Hedrick, who will be officiating for our Pre-Valentines Day Goatee contest. These Judges are free to use, assign, auction, sell-off, barter, trade or otherwise giveaway their specified administrative parking stall during the temporary ownership (January 14, 2008 through February 13, 2008). They have sole

ownership/tenant rights to the spots 24-hours a day, 7-days a week until close of business on February 13th. The long-term administrative parking space tenants were already served temporary Eviction Notices and Stay-Away Orders. Two other judges originally selected, Pam Henley and Ericka Depue forfeited temporary ownership as they were unable to perform their judging duties due to scheduling conflicts. Good luck on Valentines Day to the contestants!



**PARKING
EVICTION
NOTICE**

WE REGRET TO INFORM YOU THAT YOUR PARKING SPOT PRIVILEGES HAVE BEEN TEMPORARILY REVOKED. PLEASE VACATE THE PREMISES IMMEDIATELY AND FIND AN ALTERNATE LOCATION AMONGST THE COMMON FOLKS.

Directions to COMMON FOLKS AREA will be provided upon request. Shuttle services available.



First Introduction for the Range, by Officer Casey Finney, Reserve Coordinator

For anyone who has tried to park a standard family-issue SUV into the only available, and coincidentally "compact" parking spot left at the mall may know what it is like to try



to get a patrol car into or out of the range. This task, like the first mentioned, requires great skill and determination. Range Master Steve Ortmann said this was his first try for the range and reports that driving the patrol car into the range was not too difficult as long as the side view mirrors were "tucked in", this he discovered after his first attempt. Fortunately, no animals or patrol vehicles were injured during this process. Then, to exit the range, it was discov-

ered that, similar to the mall situation, backing-out was the only option, and those great "skills and determination" would have to be called upon again.

After the above harrowing act was performed, the reserve officers did actually get to use the patrol car for training. Each officer was brought in separately to perform a high risk stop. Officers engaged in numerous shoot or no shoot targets. By design, the scenario utilized all the reserve officers'



handgun ammo requiring the transition to another weapon to successfully complete the scenario.

Burglars Go To Jail, by Lt. Lon Milka

During the morning of January 7, an alert Rocklin citizen noticed a vehicle parked near her residence which was unfamiliar to the neighborhood. Inside the Dodge sedan was a suspicious acting female who was behind the wheel. Quite unexpectedly the car pulled into the garage of her neighbor's house and left a few minutes later. Rocklin police arrived at the 5800 block of Ford Road to find that the house had been burglarized. Stolen was over \$11,000 of computers and musical instruments. Fortunately, the alert neighbor was able to obtain the license plate number of the Dodge. The very next day, information provided by the citizen led Rocklin detectives to an active parolee who was located in Elk

Grove. Evidence found with the parolee led to his arrest and led detectives to an apartment in Sacramento. A probation search of the residence located stolen property and the four people inside, including two additional active parolees, who were arrested. Leads produced from the search of the apartment led to a search of a storage locker in Rio Linda. Inside the storage locker was stolen property from the Rocklin burglary as well as property from a Roseville theft that had occurred on January 7th. Jason Blevins, 27 years old, of Elk Grove, was arrested for burglary, possession of stolen property, and a parole violation. He is being held on \$30,000 bail. Sandy Graves,

35 years old, of Sacramento, was arrested for possession of stolen property. She is being held on \$5000 bail. Jeralino Catlin, 28 years, a transient was arrested for possession of stolen property. She is being held on \$5000 bail. Greg Emery 42 years old, from Sacramento, was arrested for burglary and a parole violation. He is being held on \$5000 bail. Charles Jason Lee, 36 years old, of Sacramento, was arrested for burglary and a parole violation. He is being held on \$5000 bail. All are being held at the Placer County Jail. Nice teamwork by Rocklin PD Detectives!



New Officers Sworn-In

By Lt. Mike Freeman

At the January 8th City Council meeting, both Officer Gavin Ray and Zach Lewis were officially sworn-in at Rocklin's newest police officers. Both graduated from the Sacramento Police Academy on December 20th, and have been assigned to the FTO program. Two more openings have been reserved for the July academy, so if you know of good applicants, tell them to keep a close eye on the City website.



Disaster Avoided, By Lt. Lon Milka

Early on January 5, 2008, Rocklin Officers responded to the 3000 block of Twin Creeks Lane to investigate a hit-and-run vehicle accident. The caller said a male driver had collided with two parked cars and then fled. Officers found wrecked parked cars and then found an abandoned vehicle about 1/2 mile away at the intersection of Springview Drive and Sunset Blvd. A search of the

immediate area for the driver proved fruitless. An investigation at the hit-and-run scene led to the name and description of the suspected driver, a 12 year old boy. According to witnesses, the Roseville boy snuck out of the house with his uncle's car keys while visiting relatives in Rocklin and drove away. About 30 minutes later searching officers located the boy just across the city line in

Roseville. He displayed symptoms of alcohol intoxication and was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, hit & run, and driving without a driver's license. He was released to his mother and will face a review of the charges by the Placer County Probation Department and the D.A.'s Office. "Anytime you have a 12 year old behind the wheel of a

car, a disastrous event is more than likely to happen," said Lieutenant Lon Milka. "Anytime you have a 12 year old behind the wheel of a car who is intoxicated, a disastrous event is lucky to be avoided. In this case, we are all extremely lucky that a disaster did not occur and that no one was hurt."

The 2007 annual awards were formally announced and presented by Chief Siemens to those present at the Rocklin POA Ball on January 5th, at the Embassy Suites in Sacramento. Congratulations to the 2007 award recipients:

2007 Officer of the Year – Sergeant Trent Jewell

Trent’s nominations by his peers and staff was for his continued dedication and efforts to the mission of the Police Department and his unselfish dedication to the citizens of Rocklin. His nominations described him as having a positive attitude and strong work-ethic. One nomination expressed that if you ask Trent for assistance, you had better be ready to receive it right then, because he will stop what he is doing and assist you right there and then!



Medal of Merit: Sergeant Chad Butler

Medal of Merit: Lieutenant Mike Freeman

In appreciation of their leadership, dedication and commitment for the Accreditation process during the past two years. Sgt Butler and Lt. Mike Freeman’s contributions and unselfish devotion as the Department Accreditation Mangers made it possible for our organization to achieve the level of professionalism and excellence we strive for.



2007 Professional Staff Member of the Year: Mike Nottoli

Mike’s nominations described him as a hard-working, professional individual who consistently maintains a high-degree of integrity. The nominations expressed that Mike routinely drops whatever he is doing to assist others with their work. Mikes positive attitude and unending dedication to the Police Department are evident by the success of the Volunteer Program.



2007 “Traffic Safety” Award goes to

Gil Farrulla

2007 “Traffic-Unit Traffic Safety” Award goes to Jeff Amado

These two officers are being recognized for their dedication and commitment to traffic safety and traffic enforcement in the City of Rocklin.



Blue-Team Now Accepting Commendations!

As of January 1st, the Blue-Team accepts commendations. Both Internal and External commendations may be routed through the Chain-Of-Command via a supervisor, so make sure to get those

kudos rolling in!



PHOTO BY DANIEL ROZASCH ©BAP