

ROCKLIN PD NEWS



Rocklin Police Department

Farewell Message from the Chief by Mark Siemens



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



This is the last article I will pen for the RPD newsletter. I could certainly fill this entire issue with a recap of the last ten years at RPD, but that is not what I want to convey here.

I have had the fortune to work in one of the best cities in California. That opportunity allowed me to work with many talented people to develop and build what has become the best department in the region. I was proud to be part of designing and building our new facility, but the most impactful part of our success was hiring so many great employees. Nearly 75% of our current employees came to Rocklin during the last 10 years.

As I look back at my entire career,

I am amazed at several things: First, how fast the years have gone by; secondly, how technology has impacted our profession; and third, how the quality of character has improved in our profession. If I can draw any wisdom from these things it might be the "someday" used in describing when you will prepare for the future is actually "today", and change comes fast so instead of resisting it, embrace it, engage it, be it.

For years I have been part of an organization with the common cause of serving our community above our individual interests. Now it is time to pay back time and attention my profession has taken from my family and myself. I will miss the daily camaraderie and being part of the law enforcement team, but I am certain to

find other activities of interest.

So as I pass the torch, I wish you all the best. Be safe, be smart, and take care of your department and city.



Captains Corner by Captain(s) Dan Ruden and Ron Lawrence

Rocklin PD has experienced a lot of change over the course of the past two years. Interestingly, it was only five years ago we had eight police officer vacancies that we had difficulty filling due to the fierce competition of hiring personnel law enforcement. Today, we have frozen eight sworn officer positions, five professional staff, and one Public Safety Dispatcher position. Almost everyone has taken on additional duties to continue providing the highest level of professional service to our community. We eliminated about \$1.5 million from our budget and operational expenditures have been trimmed to bare minimum. We eliminated eleven vehicles and began leasing our unmarked cars to decrease costs. To help get the City through these difficult times the POA extended their contract foregoing raises, while police managers took furlough days, no raises and other concessions. While we continue to identify additional operational cost savings, we

recognize everyone has done a fantastic job working with the limited resources and budget constraints. Thank you for your continued efforts!

More change is looming on the horizon. While the economic situation remains uncertain, the next immediate changes will largely involve personnel, beginning with the retirement of Chief Siemens on March 31st. This Newsletter will be his last one at the helm of our organization. After a decade of service to Rocklin, it is easy to see the tremendous advancements Rocklin PD has experienced under Chief Siemens. We are housed in a state-of-the-art police facility, we are a nationally recognized CALEA accredited agency, and have won several State & national awards, including two for our outstanding Volunteer program. But the most important accomplishment Captain Ruden and I recognize is that of our talented and

dedicated staff who are committed to providing the most efficient, innovative and professional law enforcement services to the Rocklin community. We have achieved our vision of being known far and wide for excellence. We could not be more proud of the men and women who invest themselves in the mission and values of our organization on a daily basis. Yes, we've experienced tremendous change and certainly there is more on the way, but we are fortunate to have a great team to weather the storms and maintain our course.



Report Writing Made Easy by Officer Zack Krempin



For those of you who love writing reports as much as I do, I found a way to make it easy. For a few

months now I have been testing an app I found for the I-phone. It's called Dragon Dictation. I do not know if it is available for other smart phones, but I think there

are apps for those platforms as well. The Dragon app allows me to speak into my I-phone for a short time and the app then transcribes my spoken words into text. It can be a bit quirky, but after some experimentation and familiarization it has become a great asset.

I have been able to dictate a full multiple paragraph report in a few minutes. Now it does need some tweaking afterwards, but that is probably me

being a little too meticulous with the dictation. It works great to make a rough draft or outline and then fill in the other portions for further explanation. It's very handy as it can be used anywhere, maybe while waiting for a medical clearance, waiting through the booking process or even in a parking lot after the incident is finished.

After the transcription is done, I usually just e-mail it to myself and then I copy and paste in

right into a report. Hope this tidbit can make your writing easier for you.



4th Annual Rocklin PD Goatee Contest Judged by Captain Dan Ruden

Esteemed goatee judges **Janice Westmoreland, Lisa McNeely and Sandi Bumpus** convened last Thursday in the briefing room to evaluate participants in the 4th Annual RPD Goatee Contest. This year the categories were: Most Distinguished, Best Groomed, and Best Looking Overall.

After painstaking deliberations, the judges rendered their decisions. Winning "Most Distinguished" was Motor Officer **Jeff Amado**. Jeff accepted the award saying that his only strategy this year was to keep his goatee closely trimmed. Congratulations, Jeff!

The "Best Groomed" trophy went to Reserve Officer **Doug Vance**. Doug showed off a carefully manicured goatee that was a favorite with the judges. Great job, Doug!

And finally, the "Best Looking Overall" award went to Officer **Mike Alway**. Mike described his goatee as having a porcupine-esque texture. He said his wife has been looking forward to the end of the contest. Well done, Mike!

The annual goatee contest runs from the middle of December to Valentine's Day. Previous categories have included "Sparsest Attempt," "Most Sasquatch-like,"

"Most Diabolical" and "Grayest Goatee". Congratulations to all the winners!



Rocklin Officers Find Missing Girl family misunderstanding prompts city-wide search by Captain Dan Ruden



On January 26th Dispatch received a call reporting a missing 9 year old girl at one of our elementary schools. The girl's mother went to pick her up after school but she was gone and nobody could find her. Rocklin Academy staff soon called for police assistance. **Sergeant Dwyer and Corporal Dollar** set up a command post (CP) at the school; they quickly initiated search protocol and began to direct resources to find the missing girl. As darkness was falling, the Day Shift supervision team coordinated a Citywide and semi-regional search effort which included police volunteers, citizens, surrounding agencies and even a satellite CP at the Galleria Mall to look for

a possibly associated vehicle. After nearly two hours **Officer Elizabeth Davis**, who was part of the search team, located that vehicle on Sunset Boulevard and the girl was located. Thankfully, no foul play had occurred and the missing girl was returned to her mother.

The Day Shift supervisors, officers and detectives, plus Rocklin's Police Volunteers, did an excellent job coordinating with the school, community members and allied agencies to bring this incident to a successful conclusion. Although the girl's missing status was only the result of a family miscommunication, the well executed response reminds us how prepared we are for more serious incidents of this nature, many of which start out the very same way.

The principal of Rocklin Academy wrote a letter to the Chief citing our staff's efficient response, professionalism and concern in the handling of this case. Keep up the great work!



RPD Chili Cookoff Ends With Demand for Recount! **by Captain Ron Lawrence**



but possible. Flaming in first place was Lisa McNeely, followed by a steamy second Sergeant Knox and simmering in third was Captain Lawrence. But wait! The contest results were premature after Captain Ruden sizzled in, demanding a recount and questioning the validity of the scoring. After careful consideration it was determined that Captain Ruden had actually achieved second place, watering Sergeant Knox down to third and extinguishing Captain Lawrence completely out of the running. With bragging rights in hand, the winners walk away only to defend their titles in a future rematch, when we'll bring on the heat once more!

Where was the Fire Department when we needed them most? Rocklin PD was on **FIRE** on January 25th during our Chili Cook-Off, orchestrated by Sharon Whitaker who even brought in homemade cornbread for all to enjoy! Competition was fierce, complete with several variations of blistering hot chili, mouth-watering cornbread, painfully burnt mouths and even a dramatic last minute demand for a recount! With eleven contestants entering the hotly anticipated event, every tongue in the building went home scorched. Only the top three contestants were crowned champions by those brave enough to dare taste the scorching variations of chili, causing the heat to rise and to sweat out every last taste-



Getting the Job Done **by Lieutenant Lon Milka**

Talk about chipping in! This photo caught Motor Officer Jeff Amado in the selfless act cleaning a dirty wall in the armory. I have personal knowledge that Jeff actually cleaned several walls during a day in early February and I know that Jeff would blush three shades of red if he knew that this picture, captured by a fellow motor officer, was to be printed in the newsletter. But it shows Jeff's loyalty to the department and that he will do anything to make it better. Besides keeping the citizens of Rocklin safe by enforcing traffic laws, working with the Traffic Safety Committee to improve the traffic flow with the city, and being an all around great guy, he will also help with the maintenance of the



building. Ask Jeff what his secret to success is. His answer will no doubt be, "Mr. Clean and a bit of elbow grease." Keep up the good work, Jeff!



RPD Employees and employee families are cordially invited to attend the

RPD Annual Awards Ceremony

Honoring our 2010 award recipients



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24th, 2011, 6:30 P.M.

In the Police Community Room / EOC