

ROCKLIN PD NEWS

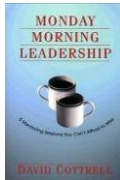


Rocklin Police Department

Message from the Chief by Mark Siemens

Special Points of Interest

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Few people like to change, but most of the time we don't have a choice. If you can anticipate change and embrace it with the new opportunities it

brings, you'll be able to help your team adjust to changes and lower your stress.

The City of Rocklin and our department have experienced our share of change over the last few years and we're certain to see more change in the future. If we are to become known for excellence, we need to develop a disciplined approach to learning and thinking about our profession. We also need to look at how leaders in other professions achieve excellence and manage change.

Over the next few months we will introduce a series of leadership, mentoring, and coaching books designed to offer tools for coping with change. As we introduce new

books, first within our supervisory ranks and then throughout the entire department, we will facilitate a common understanding, stimulate intellectual curiosity and help to develop both informal and formal leaders.

I recently started a book club with our Sergeants to collaboratively learn from each other new methods of coping with change. The first book, **Monday Morning Leadership**, by David Cottrell, offers specific leadership circumstances, challenges and crises faced by managers and leaders and steps to resolve them. This easy-to-read, 110 page book, provides practical examples for all of us to manage our own careers in a world of change.

Among the suggestions in **Monday Morning Leadership** for reaching your potential, is the need to move out of your comfort zone and into the learning

zone. For you to be your very best, you cannot allow yourself to become complacent. Cottrell suggests reading one book on management and leadership a month, 12 books a year, to increase your knowledge and earning power by a minimum of 12 times that of most people.

Today's public safety challenges continually demand flexibility and split second decision-making skills from employees at all levels. Thus, our professional reading program can serve as a mechanism to develop the individual leadership and the capacity for tactical calculations.



Captains' Corner by Dan Ruden and Ron Lawrence

A Placer County jury on Wednesday found Eric Dungan guilty of second degree murder in the October 9, 2005 killing of Officer Matt Redding. The verdict, and next month's sentencing hearing, end yet another chapter in what is a long process of healing for Matt's family, this department and the community. During the trial I sat in court and listened while the experts broke down the details of the incident, from physics & metallurgy to time & distance calculations. But the reality of it all struck home when I watched Sgt. Terry Roide, Corporal Jamie Knox and Officer Rich Cabana on the witness stand

each describing what happened that morning from their perspective. Their testimony guided the jury through the experience, moment by moment, as these officers re-lived what happened. Their testimony attached real life and real people to many of the sterile facts that the jury already heard. While it was difficult testimony to hear, I remember feeling proud of the professionalism and composure our officers showed while testifying. Without a doubt, they came across to the jury as credible, sincere and professional as they told how the events unfolded on the morning of October 9th.

Finally, as I sat with John and Marilyn Redding along with the many members of this department who were in attendance when the verdict was read, I couldn't help thinking about the breadth of people who have been affected by this single act. Even Mr. Dungan's parents who were present in the courtroom; their lives also will never be the same.

Now Eric Dungan faces 15 years to life in prison, and the Reddings face a lifetime without their son. Matt Redding was a champion in the fight against drunk driving, and in the most

horrible of ironies he was killed by a drunk driver. And even though justice has now been served, the loss of Matt will remain. Still, I take solace in the good work that our officers and employees do every day, especially with DUI enforcement. Your dedication to duty reflects the best attributes Matt Redding had to offer this community. In that way, Matt lives on through you.

Police and Fire Working Together by Sergeant Bob Martin

Are Fire Captain Shawn Watkins and Firefighter Will Felkins giving up their comfortable mode of transportation for a two wheeled BMW? Even though Officers Amado and Ortmann might like the idea of riding around in a heated fire truck on those cold mornings, I don't think they are about to give up their motorcycles for a bright yellow fire truck.

Recently, Police and Firefighters teamed up to prevent motorists from interfering with fire trucks responding to emergency calls. Firefighters on C shift, at fire station 24 noticed motorists increasingly failing to yield the right of way to emergency vehicles and remain at least 300 feet behind the emer-

gency responders. As firefighters responded to calls, Officers Amado and Ortmann followed behind to the truck to watch for violators.

The fire department needs our help when responding to calls and is always looking for new ways to partner with the Police Department. If you happen to be in the area when the fire department is responding code 3, look for the violations mentioned above and educate the motorists with the proper actions to take when fire, police, and ambulance are responding with lights and siren.



From L to R: Fire Captain Shawn Watkins, Officer Steve Ortmann, Apprentice Firefighter Denis Ware, Engineer Tony Silva, Officer Jeff Amado, and Firefighter Will Felkins.

Audit Time by Jennifer Collins, Records and Communications Manager

The Department of Justice visits our department with several different kinds of audits from time to time. We were visited on Friday February 23rd by the DOJ auditor that verifies CLETS entries. She specifically audited ten years of missing people, vehicle entries, firearms entries, and restraining order entries. The auditor was very impressed by our work overall.

She specifically commended our missing people entries and follow

up. Communications personnel is doing especially well packing entries full of pertinent data such as scars, marks and tattoos, social security numbers, drivers license numbers, and basic identifying information. Our Investigations unit and Records unit is doing a fantastic job following up on missing people records and documenting the results. The auditor mentioned that our report form and follow up forms are the best in the region.

Overall, the audit was successful. It confirmed that we are doing a great job and gave us some areas to focus our efforts and attention to detail on in the future. Thanks to everyone who has a part to play with CLETS entries. This is a good team effort from the report written by the officer, to the entry by Communications, to the follow up by Records and Investigations. Great job everyone!



Community Service Officers by Lt. Steve Newman

Community Service Officers (CSO) are non-sworn employees authorized to handle non-emergency calls and enforce certain rules and municipal codes, allowing police officers time to respond to higher priority calls for service, criminal investigations, patrol checks and community policing.

Identified by their unique light blue shirts, CSOs work in the patrol and investigations units to relieve sworn personnel. Within the past year, the CSO's handled over 2500 incidents, including 1200 crime reports. CSO Sumer Regalia, Tracy Hedrick and Myra Salazar are assigned to Patrol

and Wendy Smith and Sara Boccoleri are assigned to the Investigations Unit.

The CSO program continues to preserve and enhance the quality of life for our citizens and plays a vital role in maintaining a safe environment in the community we work in.



CSOs Boccoleri, Regalia, Smith, Salazar, and Hedrick.

Live Fire from Motor Training by Lt. Steve Newman



Today's Motor Officers receive extensive training and have improved safety equipment which gives an officer a much greater chance of survival should they become involved in an accident. The increased power, upgraded suspension systems and modern tire development on today's motorcycles makes them more safe and controllable than their predecessors. "Ongoing, real world and challeng-

ing training is the only way to increase survival on the street", said Officer Finney.

Pictured above are Sgt Martin, Officers Finney, Amado and Ortman practicing *live fire from motor* training at the police firing range. The facility provides a variety of specialized environments necessary to satisfy many important instructional needs.

Welcome a New Face by Captain Lawrence

Please join me in welcoming our newest police officer, Jeff Paxton. Jeff comes to us from the State of California State Department of Parks & Recreation, where he worked as a sworn State Park Ranger for the past three years. Jeff earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University, Sacramento. Officer Paxton's former coworkers express that he is an outstanding Ranger, and will be missed. Jeff is currently engaged to be married to Ashley Jackson, of Fair Oaks. Congratulations Jeff and Ashley, and welcome to the Rocklin family!



Officer Jeff Paxton

2006 Dispatcher of the Year by Jennifer Collins, Records and Communications Manager

It is with great pleasure that I announce Pam Henley as the 2006 Dispatcher of the Year! Nominations were received from both the Rocklin Police and Fire Departments. A number of nominations were received from all levels even including some from the volunteer staff.

Pam Henley is known for her fantastic customer service, positive attitude, and teamwork approach. Pam is always willing to improve herself with training and feedback. She is professional

and courteous at all times to peers and citizens both over the telephone and the radio. Pam is an excellent role model and is helping the communications center reach its goal of excellence. Pam was hired with Rocklin Police on October 31, 2005. She has worked for Nevada County Sheriff's Department, Grass Valley Police, Roseville Police, and Morgan Hill Police. She has worked as a Public Safety Dispatcher collectively for over 12 years.

The Dispatcher of the Year Award

will be presented on April 14th at the Regional Dispatcher of the Year banquet hosted by the Organization of Public Safety Telecommunicators, OPST.

I would also like to take this time to thank everyone who nominated other dispatchers who did not receive this year's award. Our staff works very hard and I appreciate the recognition you bestow upon them.



Pamela Henley

A New Cat in Town by Lt. Steve Newman

It's called the Bearcat and it was initially developed as a tactical armored vehicle for special operations units within the law enforcement community. Having proven itself in the field, the Bearcat has repelled multiple attacks from assault weapons, providing SWAT teams unprecedented ballistic protection with its life saving armor. The Bearcat has enabled law enforcement agencies nationwide to perform critical response and rescue operations in a safe,

secure and highly mobile armored vehicle. The Bearcat is now an integral part of Placer County's arsenal and is housed at the Rocklin Police Department due to the City's central location and secure parking facility. It is available to all SWAT teams throughout the county.

