

# ROCKLIN PD NEWS



## Rocklin Police Department

### Message from the Chief by Mark Siemens

#### Shut Up and Drive!

July 1, 2008, is the date that Californians must change the way we use cell phones; a change that will not be easy for any of us. Two new laws take effect that I am certain will not be popular to the many yakkers on the roadway.

For adults, a new law prohibits the use of a handheld cellular phone while driving (hands free is still okay). For those under 18, the law prohibits using a cell phone while driving, period! Of course, the elbow grease for implementing this legislative decree will be provided by law enforcement.

Upon the invention of the mobile cellular phone, we all envisioned increased business productivity by making calls while driving. As cell phones became cheaper, smaller and more prevalent, they also increased social communications. The down side to all this is they

also increased danger on our roadways due to distracted drivers.

The picture below shows three drivers who just recently were caught running a red light while talking on their cell phone; a scene that is far too common.

So how do we change? Most of us have become accustomed to being immediately available through our cell phones. If our phone rings, we stop what we are

doing and answer it. How did we all become such a slave to someone else's whim to give us a jingle? Many habitually jump on their phone the minute their backsides touch the car seat.

Some believe the answer is hands-free technology, but studies have shown that too is just as distracting. I think the real answer is just "Shut-up and Drive!"



#### Special Points of Interest

- Message from the Chief
- BBQ Grill Off
- Ingo Retires



## Captains Corner, by Dan Ruden and Ron Lawrence

The murder Sunday night of Yolo County Deputy Tony Diaz once again reminds us of the inherent dangers and unpredictability of our profession. Ironically, the news of Deputy Diaz's death was still developing while many of us were attending the Matt Redding Memorial Golf Tournament and reflecting on the loss of one of our own officers. As we have seen from all the recent tragedies that

have occurred in this region, geographical borders make no difference. Whether it's a rural country road or a metropolitan freeway, major metropolitan area or small town, criminals pay little attention to city limit signs. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Deputy Diaz's and all the members of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office.



July 1<sup>st</sup> is the first day of California's new hands-free cell phone law. The new law will present new enforcement challenges for us as people learn to break their old habits. The Department is providing all police officers with detailed information about the new laws, as well as handouts for the public that address frequently asked questions. Even with the extreme amount of media informa-

tion out there concerning this change, it will be interesting to see how the motoring public handles this new law. Please be aware that the new cell phone law has also triggered some changes to our internal policy on cell phone use. These changes have already been distributed, so please take a moment to familiarize your self with them.

## BBQ Grill-off a Success, by Tracy Hedrick

On June 14th, RC Willey sponsored a benefit BBQ cook-off, hosted by the Rocklin Fire Department, to raise money and awareness for the burn institute (or “fill the boot” campaign). Rocklin Fire asked Rocklin PD if any members of our department were willing to enter the cook-off. Officer John Constable stepped up to show off his culinary expertise. RC Willey provided three new BBQ grills for the competitors to showcase not only their skills, but their secret BBQ sauce recipes. Officer Constable was

generously given BBQ #1 while Rocklin Fire took control of BBQ #2 and BBQ #3. The sauce was prepared, meat was grilled, and the public

anxiously sampled the results, casting their ballot as to who would become “grill master”. All three contestants were superb in their techniques as

all three different menu items were outstanding. I am pleased to announce that after all votes were tallied, Officer John Constable was the winner of the title “grill master”. RC Willey gave all three contestants the BBQ in which the mouth watering grilling took place, and all three contestants donated their BBQ’s to a local charity. Many thanks to the Rocklin Fire Department for including us in this worth while charity event!



## Gasmask Fitting Almost Complete by Lt. Lon Milka

Federal mandates require that all first responders be supplied with gasmasks and to be trained and tested each year in their use. The process to meet the requirements has been a lengthy one that started years ago with the purchase of MSA products. In March of this year the medical questionnaire was distributed and completed. Then came the medical clearances, the actual fit testing, and the training.

This is an annual testing and training procedure. This year we worked out a lot of bugs in the program and the corporals were a big help. They were responsible

for the actual fit tests. Thank you to Corporals Eric Dollar, Bart Padu-veris, Rich Cabana, and Jason Westgate!

By next year, the program should run much smoother!



### **Be the One!**

**In 500 B.C., General Heraclitus** from the battlefield sent word to Athens about the troops he was receiving:

*“Out of every 100 men, 10 shouldn’t even be here, 80 are just targets, nine are the real fighters, and we are lucky to have them, for they will make the battle. Ah, but the one; one is a warrior and he will bring the others home.”*

## Ingo Retires

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Rich Cabana’s K-9 partner Ingo is retiring. Ingo started work for Rocklin PD in October 2002 and has served as Rich Cabana’s partner for over 5 ½ years. Thank you to Ingo for your loyalty and your enthusiasm as a police dog, and to Corporal Cabana for your years of dedication to the K-9 program.



## Responsible Host Program, by Mike Nottoli

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, representatives from all local Placer County law enforcement agencies conducted a press conference at the Roseville Police Department to officially announce the establishment of the Responsible Host Program. Rocklin Police Chief Mark Siemens kicked off the press conference which was well attended by program supporters and local television, radio, and print media representatives.

The theme of the Responsible Host Program is simple and straight forward: "parents who host lose the most." The Responsible Host Program provides parents with excellent information about the perils of hosting or knowingly allowing alcohol/drug related underage parties to occur in their homes. The information comes in many forms including a tip sheet for hosting safe parties,

guidelines for letting kids attend parties elsewhere, the penalties for furnishing alcohol to minors, and the health consequences of underage drinking.

Most importantly, the program establishes the creation of a county-wide data base where parents can register their dwelling as a "Responsible Host" residence. As a "responsible host", parents sign and agree to abide by the following pledge:

1. I will not allow parties in my home when I am not present.
2. I will be an active chaperone at parties in my home.
3. I will not serve, nor willingly allow, minors to consume alcohol or illicit drugs in my home or on my property.
4. I will welcome parents/guardians of youths attending a party at my home to call and check on party details, times, supervision, and/or any other concerns.
5. I will not hesitate to call a parent/guardian if a problem arises with their youth in my home.
6. I will encourage my son/daughter to only attend parties at addresses listed on the Responsible Host data base.
7. I will monitor and control the number of people who attend parties at my home. I will call the police if the party gets out of hand or if uninvited guests refuse to leave.
8. I will discuss with my son or daughter the ramifications of advertising or posting party information on the Internet or any other medium.

When a parent(s) signs a pledge and submits it to their local law enforcement agency, the information is stored in a data base. Persons wishing to find out whether a particular home is a "Responsible Host" residence can log onto:

[www.pcoparenthost.com](http://www.pcoparenthost.com) and can type in either the address or phone number of a residence. So far, 286 people have submitted pledges and applications and now have their residences listed on the website. It is our sincerest hope that this program helps parents and young people avoid the pitfalls of alcohol-related parties. Please take the time to check out the new website and take advantage of the valuable information.

## Rocklin Adds a New Red Light Camera, by Sgt. Terry Roide

In an effort to reduce collisions and make city streets safer, the Rocklin Police Department added a new intersection to the Red Light Photo Enforcement Program. On June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008, cameras and violation sensors that monitor the intersection of Rocklin Road and Interstate 80 became operational. The cameras will monitor both straight through lanes and the left turn lane for W/B Rocklin Road traffic at the on-ramp and off-ramp

from W/B Interstate 80.

The program is seen as an important step to improve

the safety and flow of local traffic. The Rocklin Police Department is giving driv-

ers a 30-day warning period at this intersection before actual citations are issued, during which time we will issue only Warning Notices. The Notices will explain that beginning July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008, actual citations will be sent to violators, who will then be responsible for paying the fine listed on the citation. If you have any questions regarding the new intersection or the program, feel free to contact me.



# HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!!!

