

ROCKLIN PD NEWS



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



Rocklin Police Department

Message from the Chief by Ron Lawrence

Rocklin PD has seen a lot of changes over the last 2 ½ months. We've restructured our management staff, become more efficient in our operations, moved some office space, appointed new people to specialty positions, promoted a few people to new ranks and hired a new Police Officer and Public Safety Dispatcher! I am excited about all of the changes and know that it marks a new course for our future. I could not be more pleased with the direction we are headed.

I'm most excited about opportunities for people to experience career growth. We are fortunate to have very qualified professionals ready and able to step into leadership roles. I congratulate all who recently promoted or who were appointed to specialty positions, but I also want to commend all who competed for posi-

tions that were not selected. With a limited number of promotions and specialty positions available, one of the more important yet difficult decisions I can make is who to put in positions of leadership. This is not always an easy task, especially with so many talented people in our organization, but I have confidence knowing that our future is bright with those selected this time around, and with those who are ready for future positions. Congratulations to:

- Eric Dollar, Sergeant
- Gil Farrulla, Corporal
- Chris Spurgeon, Corporal
- Rich Cabana, Detective
- Neil Costa, Detective

- Heidi England, new Public Safety Dispatcher
- Louis Bautista, new Police Officer
- Dan Ruden, Deputy Chief
- Chad Butler, Lieutenant
- Jamie Knox, Lieutenant



What's In Your Future? by Deputy Chief Dan Ruden



Have you considered taking your career to the next level? When will you be ready for that special assignment or promotion? When is the right time to prepare yourself for moving up in the organiza-

tion? The answer to all three questions is now!

The Department expects you to constantly improve how you do your job; you're used to operating in that environment and you do it well. But often people become complacent when it comes to their own career. They may think they need more

time, more certifications, more experience and that they're not ready to move to the next level. A wise man once said, *"Don't wait until you're ready to promote. When you finally think you're ready, the department might not be ready for you."*

Create your own future. Find a mentor or just ask those who have been successful. Your supervisor or manager will help you to fill in the gaps in your resume. Be confident and apply for special assignments or promotions that interest you. Take a chance and try something outside your comfort zone. If you don't succeed, try again. Today's disappointment can often open the door to tomorrow's opportunity.

One thing is true. You never know when the next opportunity is going to present itself. You work in a great organization

that is undergoing changes with new opportunities always on the horizon. Seize those opportunities when they arise. Take a chance and get in the game. If not, then look around at your peers and ask yourself, "Who might I be working for next?"



Team Rocklin PD Retains Its MADD Title by **Officer Michael Alway**



Officer Mike Alway

On June 4, 2011, Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) held their signature fundraising event, Walk Like MADD, which was a 5K walk at Southside Park in Sacramento. This type of event has taken place at multiple locations throughout the state and all over the country to raise money for the organization that is dedicated to combating drunk driving. MADD performs a variety of functions throughout the community including "Every 15 Minutes" and providing assistance to victims of drunk driving.

The weeks prior to the Walk Like MADD event was where the real competition took place, as law enforcement agencies from around the region competed to raise money to support the MADD organization. Team Rocklin PD relieved the Elk Grove Police Department of their stronghold of the title in October 2009 and rose up to the challenge of defending its title this year; winning its second consecutive championship. Team Rocklin PD raised \$2,725.00, outlasting the Sacramento Police Department DUI Team, who raised \$1,856.00. Team Rocklin PD's total fundraising effort was 91% of their goal of \$3,000.00. Team Rocklin PD was the third highest fundraising team for the entire event. MADD achieved 67% of their fundraising goal of \$65,000.00 by raising \$43,240.85.

During the competition, the Marysville Police Department took the early lead, but was overcome by the Sacramento PD DUI team, who held onto the lead for most of the competition. It was on the last day that Team Rocklin PD rose up from third place, took the lead, and never looked back.

Team Rocklin PD's success came as the result of some very dedicated individuals from the Rocklin PD and throughout the community. Reserve Officer Ron McCray raised the most money of all the event's participants

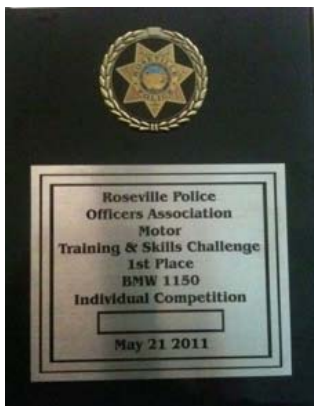
when he raised \$1,270.00. Two other participants from Team Rocklin PD were in the top 16 of the overall top fundraisers. Volunteer Michelle Rowberry-Nogaj raised \$545.00. Reserve Officer Doug Vance donated \$250.00 while Volunteers Jana Mayer and Stu Lehman and Dispatcher Anisha Harper each donated \$25.00. Sergeant Eric Dollar and Volunteer Coordinator Michael Nottoli came through by donating \$20.00 each. The Rocklin Police Officer's Association contributed a \$300.00 donation to the effort. Friends and family members contributed the remaining balance of the fundraising effort.

Rowberry-Nogaj and team members battled the weather elements and walked at the 5K event. Rowberry-Nogaj received the first place trophy on behalf of the Rocklin Police Department.

According to the MADD website, "Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit grass roots organization with over 200 field sites nationwide. MADD is not a crusade against alcohol consumption. MADD's mission is to stop drunk driving, support the victims of this violent crime, and prevent underage drinking...Because far too much work needs to be done to eliminate drunk driving, prevent underage drinking and serve victims...Every step taken will help raise funds and awareness for MADD's programs and services that will serve to keep our children and communities safe."



Motor Officers Compete by **Lieutenant Chad Butler**



On May 21st, 2011, Rocklin PD Motor Officers Amado and Ortmann competed in the first annual City of Roseville Public Safety Day Motor Competition. The competition attracted 50 riders from all over California and a few from the State of Nevada. The competition was broken into three classifications based on size

of the motor each officer rides. Officer Amado competed in the 1150cc class and finished in first place. Officer Ortmann competed in the 1200cc class, the largest class in the competition. Last year the same two officers competed in Elk Grove where they placed 2nd in the team competition. Congratulations to both officers for taking the time to compete in these curling competitions while representing the City of Rocklin.



Officer Jeff Amado



Officer Steve Ortmann

Records, Communication & Technology, Did You Know? by Manager, Sandi Bumpus



Sandi Bumpus, Mgr

Recently, Rocklin PD's managers were asked to review a leadership PowerPoint created by our City Manager. The overarching themes of the presentation involved vision, collaboration, innovation, and positive action. In Communications, Records, and our ever-increasing world of technology, these concepts are routinely embraced. The bar has been raised, with staff working "smarter" to enhance service delivery and streamline efforts. Examples include:

RECORDS:

- Realigning office hours to better address staffing, workflow, and peak service periods (0800 – 1700)
- Taking advantage of free and low-cost training opportunities to enhance skills and knowledge
- Public Records Act training
- Records management system training
- Department of Justice training offerings
- The creation of a Records Training Officer (RTO) program tasked with developing measurable performance standards, a training manual, procedures, and training new recruits and current staff
- The development of subject matter experts to provide consistent innovative in-house training
- Transitioning to "paperless" operations with electronic storage and distribution of records
- Engaging in an ongoing workflow and efficiency review process with the goal of enhanced service delivery

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Taking advantage of POST-reimbursed training to build skills and knowledge (all staff 100% compliant in required POST training)
- The creation of a Communications Steering Committee made up of line staff tasked with reviewing current procedures, as well as making critical recommendations regarding emergency processes, staff deployment, and service delivery
- The creation of a Communications Training Officer (CTO) team tasked with developing and enhancing training manuals, procedures, and training new recruits and current staff
- The development of a Quality Assurance review team to provide protocol compliance review of the critical Emergency Medical Dispatch component of Communications
- Engaging in an ongoing workflow and efficiency review process with the goal of enhanced service delivery

WHAT'S NEW WITH TECHNOLOGY?

RADIO UPGRADE: Several significant technology projects are in progress or nearing completion. Using Public Safety Interoperability Communications (PSIC) grant funding, Rocklin Fire's radio infrastructure has been upgraded to meet federal "narrow-banding" standards which facilitate enhanced regional radio interoperability as well as increased bandwidth and coverage. Beginning in July, RPD's radio infrastructure will follow suit, with a target completion date of early September. Patrol will notice improved radio clarity as well as better coverage in previously-known "dead" zones.

COPLINK: A regional data-sharing repository known as COPLINK is planned to be available in early July. Law enforcement agencies from Placer, El Dorado, Sacramento, and Yolo counties have joined this data-sharing hub. COPLINK captures a variety of regional data related to subjects contacted, arrested, or listed as suspects in criminal cases, and provides an advanced suspect and crime analysis tool that compares vehicles, weapons, physical descriptors, and MOs used during criminal activity. This tool has contributed to numerous successful case closures and arrests for agencies currently using COP-LINK. Training will begin with investigations, patrol, communications, and records, in July.

MNEMONIC POOLING: We are in the process of transitioning to a RIMS-supported CLETS message switch which creates the opportunity for "mnemonic pooling." This will not only provide a CLETS mnemonic at every work station and mobile computer when needed, but will save us over \$6,000 annually in maintenance costs. Currently, our CLETS access is limited to a finite number of PCs and MDCs, reducing our effectiveness. KUDOs to our technical assets coordinator Matt Diridoni. As he has with so many of our technology improvements, Matt proposed and is supporting to fruition this innovative, cost-saving technology enhancement.

WEBEOC: During an upcoming Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activation drill on June 24, we will "test-drive" a regional system known as WEBEOC. This program allows users to identify, deploy, and track local and regional resources during any emergency that would require municipal, county, or state EOC activations.

DID YOU KNOW?: A random sample of 114 inquiries was selected by DOJ for the annual Criminal Offender Record Information System (CORI), and it was determined that our staff is well-trained and properly uses the CORI system with the appropriate documentation for "need to know" criteria met.

RPD Volunteer Appreciation and Awards Dinner by Michael Nottoli

On Friday, May 6, 2011, the Rocklin Police Department paid tribute to 109 men and women who serve the Department and community as Rocklin Police Volunteers. The event was held at the Rocklin Sunset Center and was attended by more than 100 people.

Several dignitaries were on hand to present the awards and to personally congratulate the Volunteers. Dignitaries included Mayor George Magnuson, Councilmember Diana Ruslin, Councilmember Scott Yuill, City Manager Rick Horst, Police Chief Ron Lawrence, and Deputy Police Chief Dan Ruden. Several Police Department employees who work directly with the Volunteers were also in attendance to express their thanks and appreciation.

Thanks to the dedication of its members, the Rocklin Police Volunteer Program has greatly enhanced the quantity and quality of police services. In 2010, Rocklin Police Volunteers donated 14,414 hours of service valued at \$291,883 (based upon a value of \$20.25 per volunteer work hour as quantified by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics). During the past 5 years, Volunteers donated 60,583 hours which equates to more than \$1.2 million of service.

The Volunteer Program is managed by one paid Crime Prevention and Volunteer Coordinator and 11 non-paid Volunteer Functional Coordinators: Manuel Alcalá, Mary Bretting, Marsha Fries, Becky Kanowsky, Dave Kemp, Stu Lehman, Dave Lindsay, Rick Smeaton, Kathy Smith, Rich Vallone, and Frank Yoschak. Each Volunteer Functional Coordinator trains, supervises, and schedules volunteers, runs specific programs and services, and works closely with paid staff to develop and maintain efficient and effective processes.

During Friday's award ceremony, several Volunteers received Presidential Volunteer Service Medals and Certificates signed by the President of the United States based upon their hours of service in 2010.



Gold Presidential Awards (500 or more hours)
Manuel Alcalá
Dave Kemp

Silver Presidential Awards (250 – 499 hours)
Cathy Cruz
Violet Daraitis
Margaret Gallego
Dennis Grayson
Debra Leonard
Jana Mayer

Bronze Presidential Awards (100 – 249 hours)
Juanita Boutte
Marie Collette
Martin Cruz
Marilyn DeCillis
Norm Fish
Pam Milliron
Greg Thorsen
John Wilhelm
Mary Wire
Gaye Womack

The Rocklin Police Department is very proud of its Volunteers and is truly grateful for the services they provide.

Volunteers and Reserve Officers Conduct Successful Drug Collection Event by Michael Nottoli

On April 30, 2011, the Rocklin Police Department conducted a prescription and over-the-counter drug collection and disposal event at Sierra College and Whitney High School.

The collection sites were staffed by Rocklin Police Reserve Officers Mike Phlegar and Doug Vance and Volunteers Dave Fountain, Marilyn DeCillis, Jan McFarland, Marsha Fries, Bob Fierro, Kathy Smith, Sam Tatje, Murial Moore, Kathy Magnuson, Art Woodward, Margaret Cascarelli, and Becky Kanowsky.

The event was very successful resulting in the collection of 360 pounds of drugs in just 4 hours. The drugs were later incinerated.

The event in Rocklin was part of a national campaign by the United States Department of Justice to address a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home medicine cabinets are highly susceptible to theft and abuse. Prescription drug abuse in our community is a serious problem, especially for our teenagers and young adults. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from home medicine cabinets. In addition, proper disposal of drugs protects our environment by reducing the amount of harmful substances that are flushed down the toilet or discarded in

the trash.

The Rocklin Police Department thanks those who participated in this effort and encourages community members to take part in future drug collection events.



Reserve Officer(s) Michael Phlegar and Doug Vance

Department Commendations and New Faces by Lieutenant Lon Milka and Manager Sandi Bumpus



Lynn Young called to express how pleased she was with the level of service that **Stephanie Mahlberg** recently provided regarding a neighbor's habitual barking dog. Young said that Stephanie was helpful, pleasant, and "worked magic". Additionally she said that there have been no problems since Stephanie helped. Way to go Stephanie!



We received a note expressing thanks to ACO **Merae Riley** for the way she handled a dog that had to be euthanized. The dog had bitten someone in December and after consulting with Merae, it was found to be in the best interest of all, to have the dog put down. The note thanked Merae for her understanding and sympathy through a very difficult situation. Thank you,

Merae, for being a fine representative of the Rocklin Police Department.



On January 26, 2011, Rocklin Dispatch received a report of a missing 9 year-old child from Rocklin Academy. The child's mother had gone to school to pick her up but the girl was not there. Led by Lt. Lon Milka, **Sgt. Tom Dwyer**, and **Corporal Eric Dollar** (now Sergeant), a city-wide search was conducted. After an hour and a half, a Rocklin patrol officer who was part of the search team located an associated vehicle on Sunset Blvd and the girl was found. Thankfully, no foul play had occurred. The manner in which Rocklin PD handled this incident prompted the principal of Rocklin Academy to write a letter (attached) to the Chief of Police complimenting Lt. Milka's staff for their efficient response, professionalism and concern in the handling of this call.

Way to go everyone!



Kim Nail wrote an e-mail, acknowledging the superb efforts of our ACO's **Stephanie Mahlberg**, **Merae Riley**, dispatchers, and officers. Corral-Alva Park has been a problem for many, many months but the problem of loose dogs now seems to be under control thanks to the team effort of RPD. Nice job!



Even though the area was approximately a hundred feet off the road it was not visible from any direction and down in a low area away from the public. There was garbage, debris and blood around the scene that added to the already present hazardous situation. ACO **Merae Riley** was compelled to enter the scene to offer what ever aid she could to potentially save a persons life.

Animal Control Officer Merae Riley is to be commended for her quick action and concern that potentially saved a man's life. Great job Merae!



On 02/20/11 at about 0306 hours, **Officer Tony Handley** responded to the report of a missing elderly adult female. The missing female's husband awoke and found that his wife was missing from their home. His wife suffers from a diminished mental capacity and other medical issues, so he was extremely concerned for her safety. In addition, she was last seen wearing pajama shorts and a sweatshirt. The outside temperature was listed as 30 degrees, so Officer Handley knew that female's life could be in jeopardy if she was not found. Despite the area being checked by other officers, Officer Handley continued to search the area. He eventually located a suspicious item on the porch of nearby home. The item turned out to be the missing woman, curled up in the fetal position. She had fallen in the lake at the Sierra Lakes Mobile Park and was soaking wet. She was experiencing symptoms of hypothermia, so she was transported to Sutter Roseville for emergency treatment. If it had not been for Officer Handley's keen sense and observation skills, the individual may have died on that porch. Officer Handley is to be commended for his actions on this case. Excellent work Tony!



On 03/04/11 at about 2002 hours, **Corporal Jason Westgate** was the first officer to arrive at the scene of a single car collision with a tree. Corporal Westgate reacted without hesitation and broadcasted that the car was engulfed in flames. He rushed to the vehicle and tried to extinguish the flames, but the fire extinguisher was not effective. He then put himself in



harm's way when he tried to remove the solo occupant from the driver's seat of the vehicle. The flames were beginning to overtake the passenger compartment as **Corporal Westgate** worked tirelessly to free the driver. **Officer Greg Jensen** arrived on scene and jumped right in to help Corporal Westgate. They both tried to free the driver from the vehicle while putting their own lives in danger. Despite their efforts, they were unable to free the 17 year old driver, and he succumbed to his injuries at the scene. In this incident and by all accounts, Corporal Westgate and Officer Jensen went above and beyond the call of duty. They risked being overtaken by the flames themselves in an attempt to free the young man from his badly damaged car. Corporal Westgate and Officer Jensen should be recognized for their heroic acts on this incident.



On March 24th, **Officer Dan Groff** responded to the residence for a welfare check of a young man who had been drinking excessively. His mother was in fear he was in need of medical attention. Dan arrived on scene and took the time to do an intervention with the son who went immediately into rehab.

Several days later mom came into the PD to express her gratitude to Dan. She said Dan saved her son's life and she was forever grateful. She added that nobody has ever been able to get through to her son before and she was grateful to Dan for his compassion, understanding and patience. Nice job, Dan!



A letter of appreciation to **Officer Natalie Constable** for her assistance in a death notification to a family in Rocklin. Officer Constable's assistance and notification was describe by the family as an, "Answer to the families prayers."



Sergeant Eric Dollar, **Corporal Adrian Passadore**, **Officers John Constable**, **Tina Mueller**, and **Matt Roemmich**, and Dispatchers **Sandra Hopkins** and **Jennifer Gibson** were each commended for a job well done on May 29th for their handling of a burglary call. The call taking, dispatching, locating of the suspect, and subsequent actions were commended by Lt Jamie Knox and the Police Administration. Everyone played an important role and even though this critical incident escalated into a shooting outside our jurisdiction, everyone went above and beyond expectations.



NEW FACES



Please help me welcome our newest Rocklin Police Department dispatch team member, Heidi England. Heidi was a public safety dispatcher for Yolo County Communications prior to being hired by Rocklin as a Public Safety Dispatcher II in early June, 2011. Heidi grew up and attended school in Woodland, and now resides in the Natomas area. Heidi is currently training with Pam Henley on swing-shift. Please stop by communications to say "hi" when you get a moment.



Please also welcome our newest Rocklin Police Officer, Louis Bautista. Officer Bautista has been with us since March 2011, coming to us from California State University Police in Sacramento. He and his wife Jaclyn welcomed their first child in the same month as his offer of employment. 2011 has been a great year for the Bautistas! Officer Bautista is working through his Field Training Program on Team 4. Welcome to Rocklin P.D. Louis!