

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

First and foremost, I thank each of you for your continued dedication and support to our organization and to our community. Due to the hard-work and professionalism of our employees, Rocklin PD has and will continue to pursue our vision of excellence. I also thank you all for the warm support I have received since becoming Chief on April 1st, and I am honored to lead such a group of committed, caring and highly-skilled professionals.

April 11th – 15th marked a special week for our Public Safety Dispatchers and our Animal Control Officers. On Tuesday, April 12th, I attended a City Council meeting where a resolution was signed honoring those who serve us behind the scenes. On April 2nd, I had the pleasure of attending the annual OPST banquet to see PSD Michelle Buckland honored for being our 2010 PSD of the Year! CONGRATS Michelle! My hat is off to each of you for the tremendous job you do.

These are unique times for our City and our Nation. Successful individuals and organizations find

ways to reinvent themselves to keep pace with new demands and changing realities. One of my roles as Chief is to constantly evaluate our circumstances and set the course to achieve our Mission, Vision, Values and Goals, to provide the best public safety to our community possible. I will need to change our Departments course from time to time and I am proud to lead us as we excel into the future.

We will soon see some promotional opportunities for management and supervisory positions, largely to backfill my appointment to Chief. This begins to visibly mark our transition into the future with new faces in leadership positions. Hiring and promoting the right people for leadership jobs is one of the most important aspects of leading any organization. I look forward to the many talents and contributions our new staff will bring. Speaking of talents and contributions, I'm looking forward to leading Rocklin PD along with Dan Ruden, who has been a trusted partner of mine for nearly two decades and one whom I have tremendous respect for. Together we have operated

as a strong team, and Dan and I will continue to work closely together to meet the demands of the Department and our community.

Under the leadership of Chief Mark Siemens, Rocklin PD has emerged over the past decade as a leading and shining star. My job over the next decade is to continue our journey in pursuit of excellence and achieve new heights. We will be faced with many challenges and we will enjoy many successes. I invite you to join me in making ours the absolute best Police Department possible. Together we will thrive.



Captain's Corner by Captain Dan Ruden



We've begun a new era for Rocklin PD. After 10 years of distinguished service here, Chief Mark Siemens has retired. Under Chief Siemens' leadership we've brought this department to new levels of excellence. When I first came here, I did so because I saw the right combination of good people and impending growth, and I saw the right leader

in place who could guide the department to what it is today. With Chief Siemens we fulfilled our shared vision of being "known far and wide for excellence" and for making the City of Rocklin a safer place.

We now move into a new time for this department. Again I see the right leader in place to take us into the future. This month Ron Lawrence took over as police chief of this great organization. I've known Ron for

nearly 20 years; his character and integrity are beyond reproach and he's one of the most brilliant law enforcement professionals I've ever had the honor to work with. Moving forward from the solid foundation left by Chief Siemens, Chief Ron Lawrence will lead this organization to new levels of excellence. And who knows, we might even have some fun along the way. Congratulations to Rocklin's new Police Chief, Ron Lawrence.

Police Unity Tour: We Ride for Those Who Died by Officer Pat O'Brien



Officer Pat O'Brien

The Police Unity Tour is a 300 mile bicycle ride from Florham Park New Jersey to Washington DC. The primary purpose of the Unity Tour is to raise awareness of Officers who have died in the line of duty and to raise money for the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial Fund and Museum. To date the Unity Tour has raised over 8.4 million dollars and in 2010 the Unity Tour paid for the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial restoration project.

This year, the Unity Tour will celebrate its 15th anniversary and it will be my sixth. There will be over 1400 Officers and Survivors participating in 2011 with 71 coming from the Northern California Chapter (www.unitytourncal.com) which represents 18 different NorCal LEO agencies and six survivors.

If you are interested in participating in the 2012 Police Unity Tour or making a tax deductible donation to the tour please feel free to contact me, Officer Pat O'Brien.



Dan Koontz-Elk Grove PD, Michelle Canfield-Survivor, Tom Koontz-Sac County, Pat O'Brien.

The cigars are a tribute to Michelle's husband Larry Canfield.

Run for a Cause by Corporal Eric Dollar



Corporal Eric Dollar

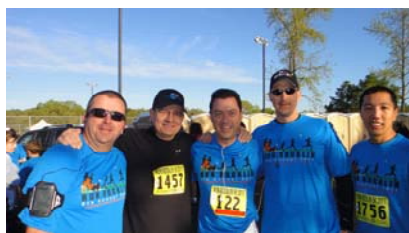
April 3rd was the 8th annual Run Rocklin benefiting the Matt Redding Foundation. I ran the race along with a few other Rocklin PD employees. The event drew nearly 3000 people and was a huge success. These events are typically one of the main fundraisers for charitable organizations.

It is fun and rewarding to run for a good cause. On May 22nd, the Star 6 Foundation is hosting a 5k run/walk and a 10k run.

On July 13, 2005, Sheriff's helicopter STAR VI, crashed on the north side of Lake Natoma, near the Hazel Avenue Bridge. The crew, which was comprised of the Pilot, Joe Kievernagel and Tactical Flight Officer (TFO),

Kevin Blount, lost their lives in the crash and the third passenger TFO prospect, Erik Henrikson, was severely injured. This association was founded to benefit the families of fallen Police Men and Women including those who lost their lives in the helicopter crash in Sacramento County.

I am putting together a team for this race. To sign up go to www.star6run.org. It will ask you if you are part of a team and you just sign up for the "Rocklin PD" team. The race is run on a very scenic route along the American River



Trail very close to the crash site.

If running for a charity or a cause close to your heart is not motivation enough, consider summer is around the corner and what better time to get in bathing suit shape. Running has many health benefits in addition to burning calories. The website www.benefitsofrunning.net lists several reasons to run such as: improving sleep, improving mental health, slows the aging process and improves cardiovascular health, to name a few.

So be it for a great cause or for personal fitness, I encourage everyone to get out there and get into shape. There is plenty of time to get in good condition for the event. Come run a race with us for a good cause on May 22nd.

Make an Arrest Save a Life by Lieutenant Lon Milka

That was the message at this year's Law Enforcement Recognition luncheon sponsored by the California Office of Traffic Safety and Mothers Against Drunk Driving on February 22nd in Rancho Cordova. Each year the regional chapters of each organization host a luncheon to honor this area's officers who lead their agencies in DUI arrests.

The luncheon's Master of Ceremonies Dan Elliot from News 10 introduced several speakers including the Director of the California Office of Traffic Safety. The Regional Director of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration also spoke.

The attendees at the luncheon were responsible for over 6500 DUI arrests last year!

It was my distinct pleasure to honor Rocklin Police Officers Kyle Hollis and Mike Gandy. Even though Mike was unable to make it, Kyle did a great job at representing our department. He received a MADD award plaque to hang on his "hero wall" and will soon receive a 23152 pin to wear on his uniform.



Officer Kyle Hollis



Officer Mike Gandy

Way to go Kyle and Mike. Congratulations! Kyle's mom, Melinda, attended the special event and she told me that she was very proud of her son. Melinda, so are we at the Rocklin Police Department!

Force Options Training That Shoots Back by Sergeant Jamie Knox

The Professional Range Instruction Simulator (PRISim) rolled into the police department's back lot on April 6th, 2011. Greg Block, a firearms instructor with credentials as impressive as the simulator itself, facilitated force options training for our sworn field officers.

A force option is a law enforcement principle that has existed since the inception of policing. We became more cognizant of the use of force several decades ago when we named the concept the "ladder of force" or "force continuum." The continuum concept suggests that during an application of force, the violence level would gradually escalate as if on a linear plane. Thus, the officer's response would have to gradually increase as well. Anyone who has been in a confrontation knows the unpredictability of the next few seconds. One moment you could be talking to a suspect, and the next moment you could be dodging a fist or even a bullet. There is nothing linear about this job. The very word continuum suggests a mathematical theory of gradual change.

Law enforcement visionaries saw the flaw in this fundamental concept and developed a theory that was less linear and more dynamic. The wheel of force, or force option (as we call it today) is a much more sound principle. The force option allows an officer to use the best tool for the resistance encountered. The simulator training is designed to hone a police officer's skills of making split second decisions and using the right tool for the right job. A passive resister could be arrested with a simple pain compliance technique, while a physically aggressive resister may need to be subdued with a Taser. One thing is for sure, if the officer does not choose the right tool, he or she could be seriously injured. To add to this realism, Greg Block's assistant would fire .68 caliber nylon balls at officers to simulate gun fire. The glasses officers wore were not for 3D effect, they were for protection. Although the word

"nylon" sounds non-threatening, they pack quite a sting (so I've been told).

I had the fortune of participating in this training with the weekend graveyard team led by Sergeant Paduveris and Corporal Westgate. Having been to several training sessions involving this simulator, I can tell you that Bart and Jason's team is top notch. All of us, including the instructor, even learned a new officer safety tactic from Officer Hollis. Corporal Westgate had several weapon malfunctions during his shoot scenario. It was not too much of a surprise to see him expertly clear the jam and still get off an extremely accurate shot to active shooter—after all he is a firearms instructor himself.

For those of you who were on vacation or on leave do not worry. The big silver trailer with the .68 caliber cannon will be rolling back into town sometime in the near future. There is no escaping this invaluable training.



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

Rocklin PD's Records Unit continues to move ahead in its plan to function in a more efficient, "paperless" fashion. Records staff are in the process of scanning archived reports, current supplements, and hard-copy forms directly into the department's automated records management system. They currently transmit reports to the Placer County Juvenile Probation Department electronically as a part of the department's Juvenile Diversion Program. This process has enhanced efforts to pass timely information between agencies to assist in monitoring and assessing at-risk youth.

Records staff is also working with the Placer County DA and other regional law enforcement partners to develop a process for electronic transfer of arrest reports. This will ultimately replace daily courier service between departments.

A number of Rocklin's dispatchers recently participated in the 15th annual Organization of Public Safety Telecommunicators (OPST) banquet held in Citrus Heights.



Michelle Buckland

Michelle Buckland, veteran Rocklin dispatcher, was chosen by her peers to be honored as Dispatcher of the Year. Michelle received numerous nominations, but one seems to sum up the sentiments of all. "Michelle is a great dispatcher and she works well with others. She is the go-to person for dispatch in every way." Congratulations to Michelle Buckland!

Several of Rocklin's dispatchers served on the OPST Committee again this year, including Denise Campoy and Jennifer Gibson. Their efforts contributed to the great success of this year's celebration, including a "sold-out" crowd and over \$7,000 in donations to local charities. Many thanks also to the Rocklin Police Association who generously donated tickets to Rocklin's dispatchers.

On the horizon...a regional, automated data sharing repository known as COPLINK will go online in Rocklin and Lincoln in late April, 2011. COPLINK is designed to provide regional law enforcement agencies access to shared data that quickly identifies investigative information leading to enhanced crime-solving capabilities. Officers and investigators will have both desk-top and mobile access to this crime-solving tool.

Animal Control Kudos by Lieutenant Lon Milka

What are the duties of our animal “advocates”, “defenders”, and “champions” known as the Animal Control Officers? Take a very deep breath, because otherwise you will get winded, and read on!

Our Animal Control Officers (aka, ACO’s) are tasked with enforcing city ordinances and state laws governing the care and keeping of animals, answering officer and citizen questions about animals and providing information about animal control services, policies, and procedures, assisting officers on search warrants, investigating reports and complaints of stray, dangerous, unwanted and improperly controlled or maintained animals and taking appropriate action, patrolling city streets and parks watching for stray or abandoned animals and dogs off leash, impounding, collecting, and transporting animals as necessary to the Placer County Animal Shelter, taking injured animals to a veterinarian for proper care, removing dead animals from the city, issuing citations for violations of animal control and licensing, and testifying in court and in city Administrative Hearings. (I know.... that was a run on sentence!) Whew!

Our ACO’s are Stephanie Mahlberg and Merae Riley. We like to think of them as knowing everything there is to know about domestic animals. And we are pretty darned sure that they do. I don’t know of any officer who has asked a question of either one, or summoned their help, and not gotten exactly the information needed.

For a little over a year now, Stephanie and Merae have been instru-

mental in getting the word out about the benefits of dog licensing. Even though a city ordinance exists which requires residents to acquire a dog license, many do not. But with concentrated enforcement in this area, more and more people are licensing their dogs.

Additionally, a new pamphlet was recently designed and approved that will help educate dog owners about problem dog barking. This can be handed out to owners of offending dogs or left on their doorstep. The pamphlet helps the owners understand the possible reasons their dogs bark and possible corrective actions to take.

The City of Rocklin employs two of the hardest working and dedicated ACO’s anywhere. They are great at what they do and in honor of **National Animal Control Officer Appreciation Week**, please let them know that you are grateful for their work effort. Thanks to Stephanie and Merae for doing a fantastic job!



ACO Stephanie Mahlberg



ACO Merae Riley

Animal Control Officers Appreciation Week by Captain Dan Ruden

The National Animal Control Association has designated the second Week of April each year as Animal Control Officer Appreciation Week. Federal, State, and Local governments throughout the country take this time to recognize, thank, and commend all Animal Control Officers for the dedicated service they provide to citizens and public safety agencies.

The Rocklin Police Department would like to express its sincere thanks and appreciation for the outstanding service Animal Control Officers Stephanie Mahlberg and Merae Riley provide on a daily basis to the citizens of Rocklin, both two and four legged, and commends them for the many dedicated and long hours they perform in serving this community, and for fulfilling the Department’s commitment to providing the highest and most efficient level of customer service. Thanks for all you do and keep up the good work!

Telecommunications Week by Manager Sandi Bumpus

In 1991, Congress designated the second week in April as "National Public Safety Telecommunicator’s Week." Our own public safety dispatchers were honored this year with a cowboy (or cowgirl) inspired theme that included a day of “chocolism,” a BBQ, several home-cooked meals, front-row parking, and “dress-down” opportunities where uniforms were exchanged for comfy civilian clothes.

It’s important that the contributions of our public safety dispatchers are celebrated. Thanks to everyone who helped make this a very memorable week.



Pictured from Top Left: Sara Boccoleri, Michelle Buckland, Denise Campoy, Angela Diehl, Jennifer Gibson, Karri Hall
Pictured from Bottom Left: Anisha Harper, Pam Henley, Sandra Hopkins, Desiree Miller, Myra Salazar