



V.I.P. News

The Eugene Police Department's Volunteers in Policing Newsletter

Spring 2008

In This Issue

Carrie's Corner

Crime Prevention Unit Involves Volunteers in Bicycle Registration Program

The Dancing Monroe Street Station VIPs

Chaplain Lupe Phillips Honored as Community Volunteer of the Year

VIP Program Recruits High School Students

Volunteer in Action

Thank you Notes to Shining Stars

"Outstanding leaders go out of the way to boost the self-esteem of their personnel. If people believe in themselves, it's amazing what they can accomplish."

Sam Walton

Carrie's Corner



What's new?

The Squad Car Maintenance Team (SCMT) has been operational since May 2004. Fifteen volunteers operate in teams of two on weekdays. The mission of the SCMT is, "To provide every police officer with a clean, fully serviced, fully equipped and fully prepared vehicle with which to perform his/her patrol duties." Since January 2008, the SCMT has been maintaining statistics on their primary activities. See below for statistics for the first quarter of 2008. To date, SCMT volunteers have donated 14,562 hours of service!! Thank you SCMT volunteers!



Volunteers Fred Zeedyk & Dan Maxwell

Squad Car Maintenance Team 2008 Statistics					
Month	# vehicles shuttled	# vehicles washed	#trunks inventoried & restocked	#minor repairs/maintenance	#tires replaced
January	59	65	45	69	9
February	108	91	45	34	4
March	109	65	38	36	6
TOTALS	276	221	128	139	19

Crime Prevention Unit Involves Volunteers in Bicycle Registration Program

On April 18, volunteers Dave Andersen, Marguerite Halttunen, Carolyn Hansen, Tony LaMarche, Ron Reichenberger and Bill Tabbut were on hand at Kelly Middle School to assist Crime Prevention Specialist Steven Chambers with a bicycle registration event. The volunteers helped locate bicycle serial numbers, filled out bicycle registration forms and issued bicycle registration stickers.

This was the first in a series of bicycle registration events that CPS Chambers is scheduling throughout the year. By involving volunteers in the events, he is able to process more bicycles quicker than he would be able to handle by himself. It is also a great opportunity for volunteers to participate in EPD's crime prevention efforts!



Volunteer Marguerite Halttunen (left) and CPS Steven Chambers (right)

The Dancing Monroe Street Station VIPs

By Volunteer Sandra Rochowansky



"This is the city: Eugene, Oregon. Ducktown. You see Ducks everywhere. They're driving in cars, riding in buses and shopping in malls. You even see Ducks nabbing a few 'Smooth Criminals.' My assignment is the Monroe Street Station. My supervisors are Beavers. They like to keep their Ducks in a row."

Thus began the entertainment awarded to those of us who attended the January 30 Quarterly All-Volunteer Meeting, where the Dancing Monroe Street Station VIPs presented their creative interpretation of *Dragnet* to Michael Jackson's "Smooth Criminals," and I mean it was smooth.

The room was darkened, and we sat in suspense. No one knew what was going on. A light strategically illuminated Olson, who continued with her Sgt. Joe Friday narrative:

"Of the 154,000 inhabitants in Ducktown, many ride bicycles. We have a lot of bicycle thefts here. We have a free bicycle give-a-way program, and we also register bikes. That's part of my job. Sometimes it's a dirty job, but it's my job. I carry a prox card. My name is Kim Olson and I'm a volunteer. Oh and one more thing--I'm a Duck!"

"Next, the place rocked with music, and from stage right grooved in the rest of the costumed Dancing Monroe VIPs: Bob Perna (who just celebrated his 82nd birthday); Marty Dunlap; Station Manager Lupe Thompson; and finger-snappers Terri Wright and Dan Basaraba. Subtle, seductive lighting highlighted the troop as it began to bop and groove to a modern-dance rendition of "Smooth Criminals," when suddenly McGruff (that Crime Prevention Dog of renown) made a dramatic entrance in complete uniform (including a Jackson-inspired sequined paw), and we all went wild!

There were some fine movements that they had worked on since Halloween. They worked, as they always do, as a unit, as a team, and with humor, the steps being choreographed by none other than McGruff. "Just before we went on," Station Manager Lupe Thompson says, "everybody got so nervous, but I told them, hey, you guys know your steps so well, and who can keep their eyes off of a giant, dancing crime dog?"



Lupe went on to say that it was all the volunteers' idea, although perhaps they were induced by Lupe's subtle hints: "I was giving them a bad time about not attending the quarterly VIP meetings, so I guess they showed me up!" And they kept it all a big secret, especially from VIP Program Coordinator Carrie Chouinard, whom they especially wanted to surprise. A tight-knit group anyway, the experience "really brought us all closer together," says Lupe. "We do serious, intense work here, but we have fun every single day."

So they came in twice a week (with the exception of Thanksgiving and Christmas) and practiced after the station closed for about 45 minutes to an hour. Olson sums it up:



"Lupe Thompson graciously joined us, and as her volunteers, we thought her participation was a bonus! McGruff was really our team leader and came up with the moves--quite amazing for a dog. It was a great experience, and one that we all enjoyed. We really feel that we are a 'unit' here and work well as a team."

Will we see more of the Dancing Monroe Street Station VIPs?

"Don't be surprised," hints Olson, "to see us again in the future galloping after Outlaws."

Chaplain Lupe Phillips Honored as Community Volunteer of the Year

Lupe Phillips was one of six community members to be honored at the United Way Volunteer of the Year Luncheon on April 23. Categories for awards included Children & Youth Services, Essentials for Life, Arts & Culture, Education & Schools, Civic & Community, Youth Volunteer and Senior Volunteer. Lupe was recognized in the Senior Volunteer category.

Lupe was appointed as Police Chaplain in 2003. The Chaplain Program was designed as a support resource to provide guidance, counseling and comfort to all department members, their families, and others impacted by incidents. Lupe is a licensed and ordained minister and has a tremendous amount of experience in assisting law enforcement personnel in crisis. He is also a member of EPD's Critical Incident Response Team which serves employees involved in traumatic incidents or persons dealing with difficult situations. To date, Lupe has served nearly 2,000 hours with EPD. Congratulations Lupe!



Captain Steve Swenson, Lupe Phillips, Sergeant Mike Galick, Sergeant Doug Mozan

VIP Program Recruits High School Students

VIP Program Coordinator Carrie Chouinard and Administrative Specialist Rachel Carlson staffed a recruitment and outreach table at the International High School (IHS) Community Service Fair at South Eugene High School on April 24.



The annual fair is held for IHS students, but is open to any high school student interested in learning about volunteer opportunities. IHS students are required to provide 130 hours of community service beginning the summer after their sophomore year of high school.

Dozens of students stopped at the table to learn about volunteer opportunities with Huckleberry Patrol, the Monroe Street Station, Police Activities League, the Prevention Convention and Safety Town.

Volunteers in Action



In addition to the many ongoing volunteer positions available at EPD, staff regularly request volunteer assistance with short-term assignments. The Patrol Division needed help deleting information from cell

phones that were being replaced. Adam Steele (primary assignment in Records) and Marcia Long (primary assignments Seniors on Patrol and Crime Stoppers) stepped up to the plate. Finance Manager Trent Spradling, who put out the request for volunteers said, "Adam and Marcia helped clear the files from the used cell phones. A big thank you needs to go to them. With their help, we will deliver 91 cell phones to Womenspace and Sexual Assault Support Services. The cell phones can be used by their clients for emergencies should they need to call 911."

Five volunteers assisted the School Resource Team at the Skate with Cops event. School Resource Team Sergeant Mike Galick said, "*All of the volunteers did a great job signing kids in, taking their food donations and handing out glow in the dark necklaces. They also handed out EPAL water bottles at the end of the event. It really took a load off me and allowed me to hang out with the kids. They were all fun to be around and in good spirits. Just the type of group you need with an event like this. They projected a positive image for EPD volunteers.*"



Jack Weiser, Nancy Andrukaitis, Tony LaMarche, Sergeant Galick, Terri Wright, Jacquelyn Davis

Thank You Notes to Shining Stars

I honestly don't know what I did before **Maurie Read started volunteering at the Property Control Unit, and I don't want to find out by losing him! There is not a thing I have given him that he can't do, from the smallest to the largest project. Some of the things he does are critical for us to get done and he does it right and does it well. Besides, he is so much fun! Thank you for letting him come and help us. We really do appreciate him.*

From Police Property Specialist Laurie Blomme

We are incredibly fortunate to have a volunteer who is a professional photographer willing to share their time and expertise, such as **Dmitri Von Klein does for Eugene Police's Award Ceremony and special assignments. These photos capture the honoring of outstanding work being done at EPD and are shared with those who received awards. We have been able to use Dmitri's photographs in educational materials, displays and numerous other ways. Dmitri's gift to Eugene Police is much appreciated by all who will treasure his photos.*

From Public Information Director Melinda Kletzok

Thank you to volunteers **Brad Dyke and **Adam Steele** for assisting with the tactical training scenario. They were great. I can't tell you how appreciative we are. They were both very helpful and listened to instruction. Brad and Adam showed up on time and were eager to assist in anyway possible. We could not have pulled off the training without them. Please pass along our thanks.*

From Sergeant Bill Solesbee

I just had to share this. I talked with volunteer **Jim Johnson on the phone the other day and mentioned that our Seniors on Patrol camera had given up. He's been to the website and communicated with Canon and learned of a defect. He's arranged for us to return the camera for free repair! He just quietly took care of this need and I really appreciate it. It would have been days or weeks before I took the time to even look at the camera. We've already replaced it with one from Patrol but that camera is more difficult to use. I know the team will love having their own camera back once its been repaired. What a guy that Jim is!*

From WUPSS Station Manager/Seniors on Patrol Team Supervisor Debbie Janecek

Volunteer **Brad Dunlap put a PowerPoint presentation together for in-service. Lieutenant Scott Fellman said, "Brad did a great job on this. Not only did he come in late in the planning and get information from our meeting into a first draft, but he worked fast and furious to get all our comments included as we reviewed drafts. Due to our assorted work load levels, we could not have completed this presentation in time with anywhere near the same quality without Brad's help. He should absolutely be commended formally, and should know how much his efforts helped us. Brad helps us out a lot in his normal volunteer work at the Comm Center, and his help with this PowerPoint presentation was exceptional." Captain Chuck Tilby chimed in, "I couldn't agree more. Brad compiled a great deal of fragmented information in a very short time, producing a very professional product. If not for his efforts and capabilities, this training production would not have happened and our overall mission of orienting on a totally new radio system would have been severely hampered."*

From Lieutenant Scott Fellman and Captain Chuck Tilby

****Tony LaMarche** is a volunteer superstar. In addition to his extensive schedule commitments with the Senior Patrol, Huckleberry Patrol, and Public Information Office, he is often the first to raise his hand when extra volunteer help is asked for. Among his extra efforts, in September and October he came in on his own initiative to make copies of news stories for department personnel who had made requests; spent an extra day archiving video files; and flexed his schedule, coming in on a different day than usual, rather than taking a day off due to a family vacation. His help in the Public Information Office is what makes the PIO's clipping service possible. He is always a delight to have around, and his work is outstanding. What a guy!*

From Public Information Specialist Kerry Delf



V.I.P. News is a quarterly newsletter for the Eugene Police Department's Volunteers in Policing Program. We welcome your comments and suggestions. If you would like to be removed from or added to our mailing list, please contact Carrie Chouinard, Volunteers in Policing Program Coordinator, at 541-682-5355 or carrie.f.chouinard@ci.eugene.or.us. For more information on the VIP Program, visit www.eugene-or.gov/policevolunteers.