



# V.I.P. News

The Eugene Police Department's Volunteers in Policing Newsletter

Winter 2009

## In This Issue

*Carrie's Corner*

*Seniors on Patrol Volunteers Receive Class One Commendations*

*VIP Program Factoids*

*Forensic Evidence Unit Volunteers Participate Alongside Employees in "Crime Scene Survey, Documentation & Reconstruction" Training*

*Congratulations Citizens' Police Academy Class 22*

*Character Pin Awarded*

*Volunteers Come to the Rescue for Cop Rods*

*Squad Car Maintenance Team Volunteers Take the Initiative for Fall Clean-Up*

*Longtime Volunteer Resigns from Speakers Bureau*

*Thank You Notes to Shining Stars*

*Volunteer Anniversaries*

*Volunteer Opportunities: Public Information Office*

*"We must remember that one determined person can make a significant difference, and that a small group of determined people can change the course of history."*

**Sonia Johnson**



## Carrie's Corner

*What's new?*

Personnel in the 911 Center have requested volunteers for two new assignments:

Lead Communications Specialist Steve Peterson requested a team of volunteers to help with teletypewriter (TTY) training. A TTY is a device that lets people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech-impaired use the telephone to communicate, by allowing them to type messages. Federal law requires that 911 Center personnel receive TTY training no less than two times annually. Volunteers Bruce Brown, Marcia Long, TJ Maness and Bob Walker will make a variety of scenario-based TTY test calls to employees. In order to prepare for their assignments, the volunteers will do "ride alongs" with call-takers and participate in classroom training.

Communications Specialist Misty Schmidt requested volunteers for upcoming 911 Center hiring processes. Volunteers will greet applicants who arrive to participate in testing, help pass out testing materials and provide set-up and clean-up assistance. Volunteers will be scheduled for testing sessions in March and May.

The Crime Prevention Unit and the Volunteers in Policing Program are partnering for two upcoming events:

Volunteers will assist Crime Prevention Specialist Steven Chambers by registering bicycles at a Bicycle Safety Event Saturday, March 7, 9am-4pm at Petersen Barn Community Center, 870 Berntzen Road.

Crime Prevention Specialists along with volunteers will be staffing an EPD booth at the Lane County Home & Garden Show scheduled for March 12-15. Visitors to the booth can expect to learn about EPD's crime prevention efforts, volunteer services and volunteer opportunities.

---

## Seniors on Patrol Volunteers Receive Class One Commendations

By VIP Program Manager Carrie Chouinard

Seniors on Patrol volunteers Ron Reichenberger and Carolyn Hansen were awarded with Class One Commendations on December 1, 2008 for their efforts relating to a special Halloween Patrol.

Several weeks prior to Halloween, Ron floated an idea to team supervisor Debbie Janecek suggesting that a team patrol neighborhoods in the late afternoon and evening on Halloween to have a positive presence in neighborhoods. He agreed to be part of the patrol if the idea was approved, and requested permission to patrol his neighborhood, west of Coburg and the streets surrounding Willakenzie. Seniors on Patrol volunteers generally do not patrol after dark, but for this special activity, the proposal was approved.



Captain Steve Swenson (left) presenting Ron with his commendation

Carolyn agreed to join Ron on the Halloween neighborhood patrol. The patrol was a resounding success. Ron's creativity and initiative in suggesting the special patrol has resulted in what will probably be an annual activity for the Seniors on Patrol. Ron and Carolyn distributed stickers and badges to trick or treaters. Driving the luminescent Crown Vic and wearing bright orange vests, they generated a lot of attention. Adults were pleased to see the positive police presence and children

were excited to receive junior police badges from police volunteers. This patrol generated a remarkable 197 positive citizen contacts!

Acting Captain Rich Stronach commended the team in an e-mail message: "Sorry it has taken so long to send this email, but I thought it was important for me to weigh in with my thanks to the Senior Patrol folks. With all we had going on for Halloween focused on the West University Neighborhood, there were not a lot of extra patrol resources to spread around the rest of our city. If it were not for you folks, there would have been that much less. I know the citizens of the neighborhoods you patrolled on Halloween appreciate your efforts, and I just wanted to make sure you know that I very much appreciate it also."

A Class One Commendation "denotes exemplary performance or noteworthy service within the scope of the recipient's duties which reflects favorably on the department." This successful Halloween neighborhood patrol was suggested and carried out by volunteers who deserve to be recognized for serving as ambassadors and bringing a positive light on the department.



Captain Steve Swenson presenting Carolyn with her commendation

---

## VIP Program Factoids

◆ In 2008, 107 volunteers contributed 25,116 hours of service to the department and community with an added value of \$490,013. (The national average hourly value of volunteer time is developed by the Independent Sector ([www.independentsector.org](http://www.independentsector.org)) and is currently \$19.51.)

◆ 57% of EPD volunteers are age 61+.

◆ Seventeen former VIP Program volunteers are currently EPD employees serving in the Records Section (4), Forensic Evidence Unit (2), the 911 Center (1) and in the Patrol Division (10).



# Forensic Evidence Unit Volunteers Participate Alongside Employees in “Crime Scene Survey, Documentation & Reconstruction” Training

By Forensic Technician Rhiannon Daniel

The Forensic Evidence Unit (FEU) has a monthly lab meeting and training day where we catch up on unit issues and get a refresher course on call-out or processing skills. One of the advantages to being a volunteer in FEU is the opportunity to take part in these trainings and receive training certificates to build a resumé or portfolio for future job opportunities.

The month of January, we recapped “Crime Scene Survey, Documentation and Reconstruction.” We trained on different types of measuring techniques (baseline, triangulation, azimuth, grids) and brushed up on using a “Disto” to take measurements. The real focus of the training was to learn to take measurements and draw by hand to scale the crime scene diagram. Our FIRST team uses a Total Station to do many of the skills we were teaching how to do the good old fashioned way....without modern technology.

FEU volunteers braved the bitter cold and were a huge help in making our training day a success all the way around. Thank you all!



From left, volunteer Nick Brooks, Forensic Analyst Lisa Pope, volunteer Brandy Ritter, Forensic Supervisor Jason Petersen, volunteer Sarah Svejcar-Poole, Forensic Analyst Heidi Eldridge



Volunteer Brandy Ritter



Volunteer Sarah Svejcar-Poole, Forensic Analyst Heidi Eldridge, volunteer Nick Brooks

---

## Congratulations Citizens' Police Academy Class 22

Six EPD volunteers were among the citizens who graduated from the 22nd Eugene Citizens' Police Academy (CPA) on December 9, 2008. The CPA is a series of classes designed to educate the public



about police operations within the City of Eugene. Participants learned about a variety of assignments within the police department such as the K-9 Unit, SWAT Team, Forensics, Violent Crimes, Traffic Enforcement Unit, Vice Narcotics Unit, Explosives Disposal Unit and more, including a visit to the 911 Communication Center. They also

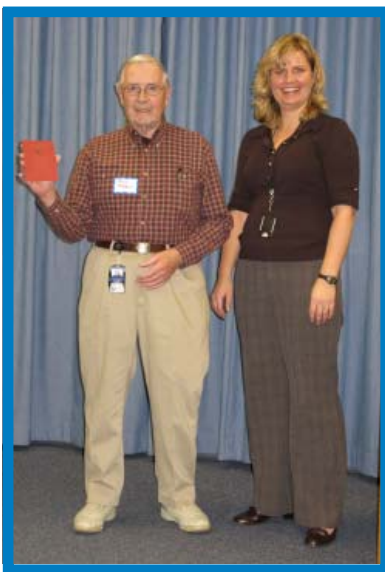
learned some defensive tactics, got to drive a police car on the Emergency Vehicle Operations Course and had the opportunity to shoot police handguns and rifles at the firearms range.

Congratulations to all graduates, with special accolades to EPD volunteers Bruce Brown, Sandy Burr, Therese Lindhout, Bill Evans, Maggie Pugsley and Willard Grabofsky.

---

## Character Pin Awarded

In the last issue of VIP News, we announced the new character pins we are recognizing volunteers with at our quarterly meetings. Last quarter, volunteers Kim Olson and Dan Maxwell received character pins. This quarter, Bill Tabbut was honored.



Bill (shown in the photo at left with VIP Program Manager Carrie Chouinard) was recognized with The Power of One Award. Since April 2004, Bill has been serving as an EPD volunteer. His primary assignment is with the Seniors on Patrol Team. In that capacity, he volunteers about 40 hours each month. Bill has also served as a field trainer for new Seniors on Patrol recruits. In addition to his regular duties, Bill has volunteered for the Olympic Trials, assisted with bicycle registration events, helped out with Safety Town and the Prevention Convention, participated in Toys for Tots and has served as a role player for SWAT, in-service and

Fire & EMS Department trainings. Bill's positive attitude, professional demeanor and dedication make him stand out, and deserving of this recognition. As of January 31, Bill has donated 2,974 hours of service to EPD and the community. Thank you Bill!

### The Power of One

The little things you do each day have the power to affect a great many people. You inspire us with your willingness and ability to help others. You take on the world, one day at a time, continuously searching for a way to make things better, seizing the opportunity to improve everyday life. You make a world of difference!



# Volunteers in Action

## Volunteers Come to the Rescue for Cop Rods

By Public Information Director Melinda Kletzok

When a shipment of Mattel's New Hot Wheels Cop Rod Series, featuring Eugene Police and Eugene Fire, was unloaded, the boxes filled an entire office. What to do about sorting the two types of product and filling more than 200 preorders? Not to worry. Senior Volunteers Terri Wright, Marcia Long, Kim Olson, and Joe Hudzikiewicz to the rescue. They were faster than any North Pole sleigh-filling operation. Within five hours, they had the boxes sorted, packaged and marked with each buyer's name and the purchase price. Thanks to these outstanding volunteers, everyone has their merchandise well before the holidays. We appreciate their wonderful work.

The cars are on sale locally at Target. Volunteers and EPD staff can order cars through Sgt. Mike Galick at 682-8189.



Volunteers Terri Wright, Kim Olson, Marcia Long and Joe Hudzikiewicz

---

## Squad Car Maintenance Team Volunteers Take the Initiative for Fall Clean-Up

Squad Car Maintenance Team (SCMT) volunteers Dan Maxwell, Cliff Flesch and Ted Nelson took the initiative on Friday, December 5, to clean the secure parking area at City Hall. Dan and Cliff brought their personal leaf blowers from home while Ted tackled the sweeping. Captain Steve Swenson noticed the volunteers in action, and sent the following kudos,



*“Friday afternoon I was returning to city hall and saw a team of our SCMT guys with leaf blowers and brooms cleaning the secured parking area. This area is frequently neglected this time of year as the city scrambles to pick up leaves elsewhere in the city. It was a heartwarming surprise to see these guys going well above and beyond the call of duty. Thank you very much. This group never ceases to amaze me with their can-do spirit. Just wanted to mention this observation. We are blessed to have their services.”*

SCMT volunteers Dan Maxwell, Cliff Flesch and Ted Nelson

---

## Longtime Volunteer Resigns from Speakers Bureau

Longtime volunteer Frances Powell resigned from the Speakers Bureau in January after six years of service. Over the years, she delivered 60 presentations to 1,464 community members! The Speakers Bureau was implemented in 2001 at the request of Sergeant Rex Barrong (now a lieutenant) because the Financial Crimes Unit had been inundated with requests from community groups for presentations on fraud and identity theft. Once the Speakers Bureau was created, detectives could refer presentation requests to the volunteer team.

Frances was particularly well suited to give these presentations because she also volunteered for the Financial Crimes Unit, and read the financial crimes police reports as part of her assignment. Frances has a great speaking style and her reputation and extensive knowledge of consumer scams, fraud and identity theft prevention led to many referrals. She was often requested by name when individuals called to schedule a speaker.

Over the years, Frances has received over ten commendations from groups she presented to. She was also recognized with an EPD Partnership Award in 2007 for her outstanding efforts in preventing financial crimes against Eugene residents.

At one point, there were three Speakers Bureau volunteers sharing the requests for presentations. The Speakers Bureau dwindled to one volunteer, Frances, for several years. In June 2008, volunteer Jack Weiser began training with Frances to join the Speakers Bureau. He gave his first presentation in October.

Around the same time Frances resigned from the Speakers Bureau, Crime Prevention Unit Sergeant Lisa Barrong was working with the Financial Crimes Unit Sergeant Mark Montes to schedule Crime Prevention Unit employees for training so that they would be able to deliver fraud prevention trainings.

Because Frances, our most seasoned Speakers Bureau volunteer, resigned and because the Crime Prevention Unit will soon have seven employees trained and available to deliver fraud prevention trainings, we have decided to disband the volunteer Speakers Bureau. Frances remains as an EPD volunteer and has accepted a position in the Operations Analysis Unit, entering stolen unserialized property into AIRS (Area Information Records System). Jack Weiser continues with his primary volunteer assignment, Seniors on Patrol.

Frances, thank you for years of dedication as a Speakers Bureau volunteer. Jack, thank you for taking the time to study the fraud prevention take-home material, attending Frances' presentations and participating on the Speakers Bureau in 2008.



Frances Powell delivering a presentation on Consumer Scams, Fraud and Identity Theft prevention to a group at the Campbell Center.

---

## Thank You Notes to Shining Stars



*\*Thank you volunteers Sandy Burr, Marcia Long, Bill Tabbutt and Pat Vohs for participating in the brochure folding party on Friday, February 2. I don't have an official count, but there had to be several hundred brochures in the stack.*

From VIP Program Manager Carrie Chouinard

*\*Just wanted to pass on that this last weekend I worked with three of your volunteers at the Asian Celebration (Cliff Flesch, Dick Anderson and Vern Delk) All three were really nice people and helped out tremendously. We appreciated their assistance.*

From Special Investigations Unit Technical Specialist II Micki Webber

*\*I wanted to send a quick "thank you" to volunteers Nancy Andrukaitis, Marcia Long, Terri Wright, and Greg Zahar for all their help during Agent Belshee's retirement ceremony. Their help is always appreciated. They are so wonderful in stepping forward when the call for help goes out and it doesn't go unnoticed. I truly appreciate all they do. BIG THANKS.*

From Investigations Division Senior Administrative Specialist Tammy Breach

*\*Thank you volunteers Nick Brooks, Brandy Ritter and Sarah Svejcar-Pool. Today Nick assisted me greatly, making my casework flow more efficiently and effectively. Brandy and Sarah stepped in after Nick left and assisted me with a large project: physically matching together what later became three pieces of paper that were ripped into very small pieces. Physical matching can be a very time-consuming and tedious task; however Brandy and Sarah took that paper and matched it back together so fast, my head was spinning! If it weren't for these three volunteers, my casework for the day would have failed in comparison to the work I accomplished with all of their assistance.*

From Forensic Analyst Lisa Pope

## Volunteer Anniversaries

Congratulations and thank you to the following volunteers who have recent or upcoming anniversaries with the VIP Program:



|                        |                    |             |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Lew Erisman .....      | 5-year anniversary | December 3  |
| Dmitri Von Klein ..... | 5-year anniversary | December 3  |
| Pat Kehoe .....        | 7-year anniversary | December 7  |
| Jack Weiser .....      | 5-year anniversary | December 11 |
| Dan Maxwell .....      | 4-year anniversary | December 21 |
| Maurie Read .....      | 4-year anniversary | December 21 |
| Dave Andersen .....    | 4-year anniversary | January 13  |
| Dale Berg .....        | 6-year anniversary | January 13  |
| Mike Walsh .....       | 6-year anniversary | January 23  |
| Ted Nelson .....       | 3-year anniversary | January 26  |
| Terri Wright .....     | 3-year anniversary | January 26  |
| Randy Ronne .....      | 1-year anniversary | January 31  |
| Sandra Rochowansky ... | 2-year anniversary | February 2  |
| Tess Snook .....       | 2-year anniversary | February 2  |
| Vern Delk .....        | 4-year anniversary | February 11 |
| Tori Lee .....         | 4-year anniversary | February 23 |
| Kim Olson .....        | 3-year anniversary | February 27 |

## Volunteer Opportunities: Public Information Office

Applications are being accepted for two new positions in the Public Information Office. One position is an office-based assignment that will assist with clerical work and prepare news clippings. The other position will focus on internal publicity, including maintaining internal bulletin boards with current department media coverage and selecting, framing and hanging photos throughout police facilities. To view the full volunteer position descriptions, visit [www.eugene-or.gov/policevolunteers](http://www.eugene-or.gov/policevolunteers) or contact Carrie Chouinard at 682-5355 or [carrie.f.chouinard@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:carrie.f.chouinard@ci.eugene.or.us).



*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 Manager, at 541-682-5355 or [carrie.f.chouinard@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:carrie.f.chouinard@ci.eugene.or.us). For more information on the VIP Program, visit [www.eugene-or.gov/policevolunteers](http://www.eugene-or.gov/policevolunteers).*