



# YESO Round-Up

## Thank you

Mike Goodall contacted the Sheriff's Office on Friday, April 25th to thank **Sheriff Ralph Ogden** for the good crew we have at the Foothills. Mr. Goodall said **Renae Bowen** and the **deputies** were checking on his dog and calling him at the hospital to tell him things were OK.

From Julie Lipscomb to **Lt. Darren Simmons, Sgt. Ryland Croutch, Corporal Richard Meraz** and all of the **Yuma County Sheriff's Office**—On behalf of Chris Allen's family and friends, we

would like to thank you for the wonderful compassionate care you gave him during his scary episode on March 26, 2008. You all went above and beyond the call of duty to take care of Chris so we could feel comfortable leaving him in Yuma for one night. Our hearts go out to you all.

From Sgt. Frank Pereda—Special thanks to **Sgt. Joe Brito** and the following Explorers and Advisors for participating in the Harlem Comedy All-star Basketball

game on Saturday, April 26th: **Explorer Advisors Richard Mendez, Gayle Morris, Rolando Molina** and **Eric Frost**; **Explorers Jetzy Alvarez, Angel Ball, Alex Fahle, Aliza Fahle, Rosalinda Garcia, Emerald Green, Tony Lopez, Andy Nolasco, Evelin Piceno, Gabriel Pina, Maria Rosales** and **Diana Tinajero**. Also, special thanks to **Sheriff Ralph Ogden** and his wife **Patty** for attending the game and supporting us.

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### Customer Service Tip of the Month

"People skills are vital when delivering exceptional customer service, but they must also be joined together with the knowledge of your policies and procedures to produce positive results and satisfied customers."

## Congratulations

To **Detention Officer Frank Flores** on his promotion to Detention Sergeant effective April 6, 2008. Sgt. Flores has shown the ability and willingness to continue the traditions of the Sheriff's Office. He will be assigned to the Swing Shift. Congratulations to Sgt. Flores on a job well done!

Congratulations to the following employees on their nominations for employee of the quarter:

- Patrol Bureau  
 Ryland Croutch  
 Guillermo Garcia  
 Tony Garcia  
 Joe Lykins  
 Richard Mendez  
 Rolando Molina  
 Ted Parker  
 Lewis Wilbur

### Detention Bureau- Custody

- Martha Bailey  
 Margarita De Anda  
 Paul Escalante  
 Ian Harrison  
 Fred Rodriguez  
 Corey Russom  
 Salvador Salazar

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# Money & Construction Updates

By Matthew Catron, Chief Administrative Officer

This time of year, the number one question on everyone's mind is...."Are we going to get a pay raise this year?" The answer is simply, we're "not sure". There is no need to go into a very boring "state of the economy" speech—we all know that money is in short supply. Our office believes that the local economy has leveled out and that we're not in "the sky is falling chicken little" mode, but times are tough.

The County Board of Supervisors did authorize a salary study that shows that we (the Sheriff's Office) are about 11% below market. Obviously, with combined salary budgets (Jail and Patrol) of more than nineteen (19) million dollars, the salary adjustment would be substantial. Hopefully if there is any money leftover after the upcoming budget hearings, the County

Board of Supervisors will attempt to address salaries. I would encourage you to watch the budget hearings; the outcome affects you and your family directly.

## Construction

The Jail Annex is scheduled to be completed by late August or early September. It will house up to eighty-one (81) prisoners and staff an additional eighteen (18) officers. There are offices for a supervisor and support staff. In addition, the entire Sheriff's Office ITS staff will move to the second floor to free up space in the current facility's Admitting area.

Construction will start the first week in May in the old EOC area, adjacent to Dispatch. Three new offices will be built for Patrol Administration. This will free up additional office space for future expansion. Please be patient with the noise and the dust, the

construction should only last a few weeks.

A new parking lot will be constructed next to the new Jail Annex. That construction should start in about a month. It will give us approximately sixty-five (65) parking spaces that should help with our current situation.

The Martinez Lake Substation (4-81) will be getting a new pre-fabricated building to house three (3) of the patrol boats. Construction will begin in the middle of May. Hopefully, it will help deter vandalism to the new boats.

## Communication Towers

The City of Yuma ITS department is installing additional radio repeaters in the east county that should greatly enhance communication on the River and in the Wellton and Tacna areas.

## More Thanks

(Continued from page 1)

From Sgt. Joe Brito—a big thank you to **Deputies Jay Aleshire** and **Terra Pietrangelo**, **Detention Officer Maria Sarmiento**, **Anna Lopez** and **Kristina Moorhead** for participating in the 2008 Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics on Wednesday, April 30th. Runners from the Yuma Police Department passed the torch at approximately 1:00 p.m. at Milepost 32. Everyone ran and biked the entire 10-mile stretch to Milepost 42 which was no easy feat in 95 degree weather—we even finished ahead of our allotted time! A special thanks to **Detention**

**Officer Marvin Melton** for driving the truck and keeping everyone hydrated. It was a boring job, but we couldn't have gotten there without you. And



Standing from left to right: Deputy Jay Aleshire, Detention Officer Maria Sarmiento, Kristina Moorhead, Sgt. Joe Brito & Detention Officer Marvin Melton. Kneeling: Anna Lopez & Deputy Terra Pietrangelo

**"It is not only by the questions we have answered that progress will be measured, but also by those we are still asking."**

**Freda Adler**  
Educator and Criminologist

finally, thanks to **Deputy Ken Carver** for assisting with coordinating for the Sheriff's Office. Deputy Carver was unable to participate in the torch run due to a previous engagement, but he made sure that all the details were taken care of for the event and participants. Thanks again everyone for a job well done!

From Airel Lopez to **Deputy Gerardo Juvera** for helping out in the Evidence Department.

# Jobs Well Done

Richard and Rosemarie Anderson commended **Deputy Scott Bjornstad**, **Corporal Raul Garcia** and **Investigator Gabe Bier** for their excellent service and sent the following letter:

Many times the magical words to express sincere appreciation for an excellent job are simply-THANK YOU! I write this letter to thank you and your staff for the excellent service that our family has received in our dealings with Deputy Bjornstad, Detective J. Bier and Detective Supervisor R Garcia. They are dedicated, very competent and importantly caring professional law enforcement officers. A true credit to your organization!

In January, 2008, our family entered into a Consignment contract with Your RV Wizard. In mid- February we tried to use the motor home, we were told that the motor home had been sold. (We did not give them authority to sell without our approval.) Your RV Wizard refused to tell us the selling price; when I told the sales person that we wanted the motor home returned they refused to return it. We retained an attorney to attempt to get our RV returned. Your RV Wizard would not return telephone calls or respond to a written demand letter.

Both Your RV Wizard sales staff in Yuma and Tucson would not accept telephone calls or return our phone calls. At the time, our attorney was preparing a law suit; we were informed that Your RV Wizard had filed a Chapter 11 Bankruptcy. We did not know if our motor home was sold - we did not receive any monies and didn't know what happened to it. Finally, out of desperation, we contacted your Department and immediately things started to happen. Your deputies took my complaint and immediately began

investigating this incident. While our motor home has been recovered and is in your possession at the moment; the investigation has appeared to unveil a rather large fraudulent scheme of bilking elderly RV owners. Working in cooperation with Motor Vehicle Detective Mike Gannon, your staff has uncovered a number of transactions in which Your RV Wizard accepted consignment contracts or trade-ins; did not payoff liens has promised, sold the RV's and never paid the seller. It appears there is an enormous amount of monies involved.

Now there is second reason for you to be proud of the staff of the Yuma County Sheriff's Office, and that is, how they treated us as crime victims. Throughout this entire process, your deputies always treated us with dignity and respect. Even though they are literally buried in cases and complaints, they made us feel like we were their only victims. The Detectives have kept us apprised of the investigation and have contacted us regularly. They gave us the notice of Victims Rights and explained them to us. As a former law enforcement officer and victim advocate, they embodied the very intent and spirit in which we, the pioneers in victim rights envisioned many years ago. It is one of the bright moments for us in a rather bleak set of circumstances.

Again, thank you for your service to the community. Even though the

investigation continues; I have nothing but the absolute best to say about the Yuma County Sheriff's Office. The good citizens of Yuma County don't realize how fortunate they are to have such a professional law enforcement agency serve their community

## Yuma County Fair Security Detail 2008

by Sgt. David Pospisil

The Law Enforcement community came together and made the Yuma County Fair a safe place for the public to come out and enjoy this annual event. The following Agencies worked with the security detail and deserve recognition: **Adult Probation Department, Fort Yuma (Quechan) Police Department, Gang Intelligence Team Enforcement Mission (GIITEM), Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE), Juvenile Probation Department, U.S. Border Patrol, Yuma Police Department, Yuma County Sheriff's Office** and its supporting elements—**Explorers, Posse, Search and Rescue** and **Volunteers**.

I want to thank everyone that participated in the Yuma County Fair Security Detail: **YCSO Deputies** Jay Aleshire, Andres Angulo, Guy Avenetti, Gary Burch, David Callahan, Kenneth Carver, Ryland Crouch, Nathan Dunmire, Bobby Garcia, Guillermo Garcia, Raul Garcia, Tony Garcia, Neil Luchene, Bret McDowell, Richard Mendez, Tom Moats, Rolando Molina, Andrew Orozco, August Parker, Ted Parker, Frank Pereda, Michelle Pilakowski, Russell Russom, Darren Simmons, J.R. Skaggs, Todd Spanton, Ron Voss, James Waddell, Al Whitney, Lewis Wilbur, and James Womack; **Detention Officers** Ricardo Fabian, Matthew Felix, Adrian Montoya, Raul

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# For Your Information

## Footnotes from the Foothills

By Cpl. Richard Meraz

We're back!!! After a few month hiatus, the Footnotes from the Foothills is back. Many of our winter visitors have now left for the summer. The departure of winter visitors does not mean a decline in the number of calls for service. Sgt. Crouch has already started at least five (5) new Neighborhood Watch programs throughout the Foothills to educate the public about being diligent, especially during the summer months. There are several more meetings scheduled in the next few weeks to start a few more Neighborhood Watch programs.

Congratulations to **Deputies Andrew Orozco, Michelle Pilakowski, Christopher McDowell,** and **Rory McDade** on their recent

completion of the Field Training Program.

Welcome aboard to **Deputies Michelle Pilakowski** and **Rory McDade**. Now that they have completed field training, they have been assigned to the Foothills afternoon shift.

With every welcome aboard comes a farewell. Farewell to **Deputy Arturo Oviedo**. Deputy Oviedo has been re-assigned to Sgt. Whitney's afternoon squad on the west side.

Congratulations to **Deputies Kelly Milner** and **Doug Clabaugh** on completing the Arizona Department of Public Safety Motor School. I know that was in late March but better late than never. They are in the process of completing their motor field training.

In other words, the training wheels come off.

A big "atta boy" to **Deputy Ted Parker**. Deputy Parker has been very pro-active in the area of traffic enforcement in the Foothills. He is setting the bar pretty high for the new Motor Officers. Excellent job.

A big thank you to **Lt. David McBride** for coordinating the motor officer training at the Yuma County Public Works yard. The motor officers really enjoyed it and look forward to conducting the training every quarter. I wish I could have been there. I will definitely be at the next one though.

*"Failure is only postponed success as long as courage coaches ambition. The habit of persistence is the habit of victory."*

## More Jobs Well Done

(Continued from page 4)

Perez, Fernando Pichardo, Eduardo Rangel, Edward Soto; **YCSO employees**—Roy Brock, Summer Carr, Jeff Davis, Beatrice Sweeney; **YCSO Volunteers**—Don Bowen, Dealton Clark, John Clark, Thomas Cooke, Rosanne Delgado, David Dillman, Charles Hennings, Denton Johnson, Joseph Leis, Charles Schickle, Ron Vogt, Michael Vournazos, and Bernadita Zeigler; **Posse Members**—Russ Bedinger, Chris Brown, Kenny Brown, Carl Conley, Bill Cox, Steve Didway, Eric Driedger, Mark Ellsworth, Phil Gladney, Dub Kelsey, Al Lara, Dean Morgan, John Rex, Steve Steenhard, and Jack White; **SAR Members**—John Rhoades, Gary

Thayer, Ron Van Why; **YCSO Explorers**—Alex Fahle, Aliza Fahle, Rosalinda Garcia, Emerald Green, Tony Lopez, Gabriel Pina, and Maria Rosales; **and officers from other local law enforcement agencies:** P. Arroyo, N. Blanchette, Beto Borquez, C. Buitrago, James Davis, P. Earle, Frankie Esquivel, Ben Fasavalu, Cesar Figueroa, R. Frabasilio, Victor Garcia, A. Gonzalez, T. Harvey, L. Iloff, Donny Jobe, C. Killian, D. Kohmetscher, Monica Laguna, G. Long, Ruby Lopez, George Luna, Dan Navy, Chuck Ordonez, George Owens, M. Patterson, Grant Rader, M. Raebel, Chris Reese, J. Reyes, Jesus Rodriguez, Juan Rodriguez, Sara Rojas, R. Rosas, Ed Salas, Miguel Saldana, Thomas Sanchez, Mike Sandoval, Ignacio Servin, Dennis

Sevier, Francisco Scharff, Jan Schmitt, R. Small, M. Stachowski, Peter Thompson, H. Valenzuela, Sal Vasquez, Pete Wasson, M. Wilcher, M. Woen, J. Zaragoza, and Tim Zazueta.

It is because of these dedicated individuals who not only worked their regular assigned shifts, but then came out to the Fairgrounds to ensure that a Family Friendly environment was maintained for the public.

Special thanks to the YCSO Command Staff: **Sheriff Ralph Ogden, Major Leon Wilmot, Captain Eben Bratcher, Lt. David McBride, Lt. Darren Simmons, Lt. Jay Carlson, Gretchen Thomas,** and **Anna Lopez** for all your support and assistance.

# YCSO Training News

## AZ POST Training

**REMINDER:** All Arizona Peace Officers must complete 8 hours of Continuing Training per year.

The following classes will be available through Arizona POST in the coming months:

AZ POST Course	Date	Hours	Registration Deadline	Prerequisites
Rifle Instructor	5/12-5/16/08	40	Confirmed: M. Kofta	Must be AZPOST General Instructor Must be AZPOST Firearms Instructor
Domestic Violence - Train the Trainer	5/20/08	8		Must become General Instructor before instructing this course

Course descriptions and prerequisites are in the Arizona POST Training Calendar which is posted at the substations and in the break room area downstairs at the main office. To be considered for one of these classes, Deputies must submit a Training Request to the Training Department via their supervisor. (NOTE: Only one student per class)

**Note from Training:** Training is asking all Deputies who have confirmed for a course, but whom have not returned required travel requests, to please do so at least two weeks prior to travel date to ensure proper processing of paperwork.



### Professional Development

The following employees attended and/or completed training as listed during the month of April 2008:

**Lt. David Reyes** attended a 16 hour 2007 BJA PRI Grantee meeting presented by the BJA National Training and Technical Assistance Project in Arlington, VA.

**Dispatchers Summer Carr, Maritza Villaruel, and Andrea Burrola** attended an 8 hour event "Under the Headset—Surviving Dispatch Stress" during National Telecommunicator's Week. The event was presented by the Yuma Police Department.

**Detention Officer David Castañon** attended a 24 hour G.I.I.T.E.M / MCSO Gang Intel. / AZDOC Intel meeting sponsored by the G.I.I.T.E.M State Gang Task Force in Phoenix, AZ.

**Sgt. Frank Flores, and FTOs Jonathan Murry, Ruben Amaya, Gary Goodwill and Alfredo Caro** attended a 1 day Fred Pryor Seminar titled "Making the Transition from Staff to Supervisor" which took place in Yuma, AZ.

**Human Resources Assistant Misael Martinez and Internal Affairs Investigator Jerry Yeary** attended a 1 day training series "Steroids & Police: 3rd Installment—How to Respond" in Phoenix, AZ.

**Chief Administrative Officer Matthew Catron & Computer Operations Supervisor Brenda Platt** attended a 20 hour 2008 New World Systems Executive Customer Conference as sponsored by New World Systems which took place in Scottsdale, AZ.

**Technical Support Specialist Jerry Quintana and Computer Technician**

**Daniel Dresden** attended a 12 hour "2008 Interop" seminar as sponsored by Interop which took place in Las Vegas, NV.

**Detention Officer David Castañon** attended a 32 hour "Reid Technique of Interviewing & Interrogation" training sponsored by John E. Reid & Associates, Inc. in Phoenix, AZ.

### Proficiency/Continuing Training

**Investigator Nicholas Rice** attended a 24 hour course "Interview & Interrogation" as presented by the Arizona Police Officer Standards & Training Board in Phoenix, AZ.

**Corporal George Pesce** is currently attending an 80 hour course at Driver Instructor School as sponsored by the Arizona Police Officer Standards & Training Board in conjunction with the Northern Arizona Regional Training Center in Taylor, AZ.

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# More Training

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## Training Bits & Pieces

By Sgt. David Pospisil

This month four officers completed the Field Training Program. Congratulations to **Deputy Rory McDade, Christopher McDowell, Andrew Orozco, and Michelle Pilakowski**. You have accomplished a lot in the past year and I am proud of you all!

The following officers completed the classroom portion of Radar Training: **Christopher Ashby, Douglas Clabaugh, Gerardo Juvera, Kelly**

**Milner, and August Parker**. They are required to practice their skills and proficiency for a total of 40 hours, before they will receive their final certification. Keep up the good work.

The following officers completed LIDAR Training this month: **Sgt. Ryland Crouch, Christopher Ashby, Douglas Clabaugh, James Holland, Gerardo Juvera, Kelly Milner, and August Parker**. Good job all!

I'd like to congratulate **Deputy Andres Angulo** for his selection and transfer to the Yuma County Narcotics Task Force. He is a hard charger and a self motivated individual, he'll do us proud.

## TESTING

The Sheriff's Office will be conducting entry level testing for the position of:

Deputy Sheriff / Reserve Deputy Sheriff  
Detention Officer

Date: Saturday, May 3rd  
Time: 7:00 a.m.  
Location: YCSO Foothills Substation  
13190 E. South Frontage Rd

Applications for employment can be picked up at the Yuma County Human Resources Department in the Administration Building, 198 S. Main Street, Yuma, AZ.

# More Congratulations

(Continued from page 1)

Congratulations to the following Sheriff's Office Employees of the Quarter for the months of January-March 2008:



**Guadalupe Espinoza**—Staff Member of the Quarter, Detention Bureau, Support Section.



**Deputy Bobby Garcia**—Officer of the Quarter, Patrol Bureau.



**Steve "Pork Chop" Steenhard**—Volunteer of the Quarter for the Sheriff's Office.



**Detention Officer Alfredo Caro**—Staff Member of the Quarter, Detention Bureau, Custody Section.

**Yuma County Sheriff's Office**

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▶ "Dedicated to Service"



**On The Lighter Side...**

**RIBBONS:** Are your ribbons getting old and frayed? You're in luck because the Years in Service and annual award ribbons (Employee of the Year, Special Merit & Meritorious Service) are now available for sale.

Ribbons 70¢

Ribbon mounts 70¢

See Michele Valdez in the Sheriff's Office for the ribbons.

**YCSO MINI BADGE/TIE TACKS:** \$3.17 each. See Michele Valdez.

**Classifieds**

For all your flooring & countertop needs:

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- Tile                Travertine
- Granite            Marble
- Carpet             Interior & Exterior
- Installation

Call The Tile Place at 941-2506 for a free estimate.

**YCSO Round-Up**

Yuma County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff..... Ralph E. Ogden  
Editor .....Anna Lopez

If you have information or ideas for the monthly newsletter, contact Anna Lopez in the Sheriff's Office. Information may be submitted via e-mail at:

**[Anna.Lopez@co.yuma.az.us](mailto:Anna.Lopez@co.yuma.az.us)**

Memos can be dropped off to Anna. For further information, call 783-4427, Ext. 1001.