



YESO Round-Up

Thank you

From Sheriff Steve Waugh, Yavapai County Sheriff, to **Sheriff Ralph Ogden** for allowing **Lt. Henry Hernandez** to participate as a member of their promotional oral boards. Lt. Hernandez was a great asset to the process and his experience in a comparable jail environment added credibility and expertise to the testing process. Thanks again for the courtesies.

From Fleet Services—On rare few occasions in history can success be claimed as a solo effort. If one takes the

time to truly examine one's successes, it will be found, by and large, there were many whose efforts had remarkable, if not defining, impact on the end result. I choose to believe this is true because success is best celebrated by sharing it with the many. This year's County Auction was a fine example of just such an event. Though the combined efforts of the **Administration staff, Patrol Command staff, Evidence, Criminal Investigations, Narcotics Task Force, Volunteers,**

Posse, Warehouse and Fleet Services as well as staff members from the **Board of Supervisors, General Services, Public Works** and **County Attorney** this year's auction included the sale of some 44 vehicles grossing in excess of \$68,000. Some handled the grimy tasks and others the mind bending tasks while others tolerated the mundane tasks. A few got to experience "the joy of doing back flips through flaming hoops in the eleventh hour" to see this

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Customer Service Tip of the Month

If you want to deliver excellent customer service, there is one simple thing you can do that will aid you in good times and bad—set realistic expectations. That's it.

Bits & Pieces

WELCOME BACK...the entire Foothills crew would like to extend a warm "Welcome Back" to the Volunteers who help at the Substation: **Lloyd Pogue, Carolyn Gordon,** and **Denny Johnson.** Their dedication, service, and loyalty are appreciated, as well as the delicious cookies that **Harriet Pogue** sends! We are so grateful for you all, and for the many hours

that you unselfishly give to help us out. We couldn't do it without you!

WELCOME ABOARD to the following new Sheriff's Office employees:

- Zechariah Prather,** Detention Officer, 12/22
- Alfonso Rodriguez,** Deputy, 12/22
- Todd Sutton,** Deputy, 12/22

BEST OF LUCK...to Lt. David McBride as he enters the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. See you in the Spring!

Our Deepest Sympathies to **Jan Pendleton** and her family on the recent loss of her mother. May Jan and her family find comfort in these times.

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Messages from the Administration...

As we approach the end of the year, I think we all reflect back on things that we have accomplished and things that we still have on our list to get done—both in our personal and professional lives. Having worn this badge and worked for this agency for the last 23 years, I often reflect back on my early years as a reserve and Patrol officer and the dedication, camaraderie and spirit that we all shared in doing our jobs, especially during the holiday seasons. I have always said that you have to have fun in life and love to do your job as well, otherwise it's not a career—it's just a job. I want to thank each and every Sheriff's Office employee for your dedication to serving this community and for choosing this job as your career.

I wish you and your family a Happy New Year.

*Major Leon Wilmot
Chief Deputy*

Seasons Greetings and Best Holiday Wishes to all of the YCSO family.

Another year is coming to an end and now is a perfect time to reflect on our successes over the last year. It is also a good time to analyze any shortcomings and set goals for ourselves and our organization to make next year even more successful. There is always room for improvement and each of us should look back and determine what we could do as individuals to make our personal and professional lives better. During the next year, I challenge all of you to set a goal for yourself both personally and professionally and then strive to achieve that goal. Monitoring your progress and measuring your achievements is important to remain focused and on track to achieve those

goals. With that said, I wish each of you a prosperous and successful New Year and I am looking forward to working with you as we all strive to make the Sheriff's Office a stronger and more efficient operation.

*Captain Eben Bratcher
Patrol Commander*

Here we are at the end of another year. It's hard to believe that Y2K and the 9/11 attacks were 7 and 8 years ago. I can still remember joining the department and receiving my first vehicle. It had 200,000 miles on it. We've come along way as a department from back then. We have heard a lot about change recently with the presidential election that just occurred. Change is inevitable. You can't hide from it or avoid it. A lot of times we look at change as something evil or nasty because we get comfortable in our day to day activities. We need to look at change as progress. We have a lot of new deputies with the department which means a lot of new ideas which brings about change. Don't be afraid to approach your supervisors and voice your ideas. That's how change comes about and in turn improves both yourself and the department. A new year is fast approaching. Look at how you yourself and the department conducts business. Are there ways that you can be better and in turn make the department better?

I hope that you and your family have a safe and happy new year and look forward to working with all of you in the upcoming year. Be Safe.

*Lt. Darren Simmons
East County Supervisor*

Happy New Year!

It's hard to stay away from all the clichés that come with ending an old year and starting a New Year...but some of them are appropriate. Such as, "I sincerely wish you all a Happy New Year!!!" and "I hope this year is better than last year"—and I really do hope all the previous is true.

A friend once told me, "just write like you talk" so here goes...

The year 2009 will bring a lot of exciting changes to the Detention Bureau some of which will be the opening the Jail Annex, staff promotions, training for staff, and new positions within the Bureau. All of which are meant to improve and expand operations.

I'm blessed to be in this position of responsibility but I am truly blessed for the people I am responsible for, you are my priority. I hope the decisions I make this year will affect everyone in a positive way. I hope all of you make positive decisions in both your professional and your personal lives which will affect others in a good way.

As we say farewell to 2008, I thank you all for your support. I hope to have your continued support throughout the new year as I will continue to support all of you. I'll end with a quote from one of my favorite actors and comedians, "I know huh".

*Captain Mark Martinez
Detention Commander*

Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following employees and volunteers who will be celebrating an anniversary with the YCSO in January:

Eben Bratcher	16 yrs
Ron Voss	15 yrs
Gregory Cargos	14 yrs
Richard Meraz	13 yrs
Gretchen Thomas	12 yrs
Roy Brock	9 yrs
Adrian Montoya	9 yrs
Shelley Carrion	7 yrs
Donna Knolle	7 yrs
Tom Moats	7 yrs
Kristina Hayes	6 yrs
Ken Carver	5 yrs
Rolando Molina	5 yrs
Edward Soto	5 yrs
Wendall Walker	5 yrs
Gabriel Bier	4 yrs
Noe Felix-Silva	4 yrs
Juan Guerrero	4 yrs
Kathleen Dipietri	2 yrs
Margarita Garcia	2 yrs
Joe Lykins	2 yrs
George Myers	2 yrs
Kenneth Thomas	2 yrs
James Barnett	1 yr
Rodolfo De Anda	1 yr
Connie Hollins	1 yr
Matthew Jones	1 yr
Jacob Meyer	1 yr
Maricela Meza	1 yr

Willie DeAngelis	11 yrs
Frank Robertson	8 yrs
Dealton Clark	4 yrs
Thomas Cooke	2 yrs
Leonard Glead	2 yrs
William Smith	2 yrs

Happy January Birthday To...

Ryland Croutch	Jan 2
Paul Lerma - SOLVE	Jan 2
Luis Valencia	Jan 3
Craig Gibson	Jan 5
William McPeck	Jan 6
William Cady	Jan 10
Ismael Garcia	Jan 10
Luis Cardenas	Jan 11
Gerardo Rodriguez	Jan 11
Andres Angulo	Jan 13
Juan Guerrero	Jan 15
Melissa Johnston	Jan 18
Philip Spongross	Jan 18
Michael Knox	Jan 19
Jeffrey Ordway	Jan 19
Juan Peralta	Jan 20
Pegg Bowen - SOLVE	Jan 21
Jesse Butler	Jan 23
Rory McDade	Jan 23
Guy Avenetti	Jan 24
Brett McDowell	Jan 24
Betty Mason - SOLVE	Jan 25
Luis De Leon	Jan 26
Thomas Soucy	Jan 26
Gregory Cargos	Jan 28
Hermelinda Lopez	Jan 29
America Bruns	Jan 30
Joe Lykins	Jan 30
Jack Lehr	Jan 31

Congratulations and thank you for your continued hard work and dedication!



Jobs Well Done

On December 19, 2008, Major Leon Wilmot received a call from Tory Bourguigon of Amberly's Place to commend **Investigator Terra Radliff** saying that she did an outstanding job interviewing a 12 year old girl. Apparently this was the first forensic interview Investigator Radliff had done and she did an outstanding job. Investigator Guy Avenetti was also present to assist her with the interview process. A job well done by both investigators!

From Corporal Terry Owens—I would like to take this opportunity to express a job well done by **Deputies August Parker, Christopher Ashby and Brett McDowell**. On December

19, 2008 at approximately 1530 hours, a call came in reporting a horse had fallen through an old septic tank. During this event the deputies involved displayed a high degree of professionalism and a true concern for the safety of the animal. After the horse was removed from the septic

tank the horse was very cold and exhausted and unable to stand. The horse appeared to be possibly going into shock. The deputies pulled blankets from their patrol vehicles and covered the horse in an attempt to keep the horse warm. I have been told by Triple R Horse Rescue and the veterinarian (Dr. Miller) that the horse is doing well and is expected to make a full recovery.



More Bits & Pieces

(Continued from page 1)

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Detention Officer Gary Goodwill and his wife on the birth of their son Michael Lee, born Sunday, November 30th. Baby Michael weighed in at 6 pounds, 5 ounces and measured 18 inches long.



Sergeant Meraz and Sergeant Garcia have proven themselves to be leaders and more than capable of assuming the added responsibility that comes with their new rank.

Richard Meraz and Raul Garcia on their promotions to the rank of Patrol Sergeant effective 12/7/08. Both

For Your Information

Footnotes From the Foothills

By Sgt. Ryland Crouch

This year Foothills Light Parade went off without any problems whatsoever. That is due in large part to all the help we received from the Volunteers, Posse, and SAR members. Sunday, December 21st the Parade took to the streets of the Foothills neighborhoods. Then on the nights of the 22nd and 23rd the parade drove through the R/V Parks on North and South Frontage Roads. Also, thanks to **Lt. Darren Simmons** and **Deputy Doug Clabaugh** for their assistance on the 21st.

I can't thank the **Foothills crew** enough for stepping up and coming in on days off to help cover shifts. Their dedication to the department and each other is priceless. I also would like to thank all the **town supervisors** for their assistance in covering shifts out here. I could not do it without them and their crew's help.

This last month we saw the Hell's Angels hold another motorcycle run in the Yuma area. As in the past we utilized resources from around the county to ensure a safe time for all. Of course with all the extra traffic, quite a few traffic stops were made. No real problems were identified, and one HA member even made the comment on how professional the Sheriff's Office was in conducting business. Thanks to **Lieutenants Darren Simmons** and **Dave McBride**, **Sgt. Al Whitney**, and **Deputies Doug Clabaugh**, **Jim Holland**, **Scott Bjornstad**, **Brett McDowell** and **Michelle Pilakowski**, and of course the CID crew of **Sgt. Raul Garcia** and **Investigators Guy Avenetti**, **Gabe Bier**, **Sal Perez** and **Sonny Hixon** for coming in on their days off to work the detail. Special thanks to **Investigator Guy Avenetti**

for being a valuable resource in putting the detail together.

Congratulations to **Ricky Meraz** for his promotion to Sergeant. The good news—the promotion is well deserved and he will undoubtedly continue to be an excellent supervisor. The bad news—Ricky has been reassigned to a Westside squad and has left the Foothills. I wish him all the best in his new assignment.

Deputy Lewis Wilbur will soon be retiring after 29 plus years of serving Yuma County. I have learned much from Deputy Wilbur over the years. One of the most dangerous situations I have ever been involved in I was fortunate to have Louie at my side. We responded to a call of a suicidal subject with a gun, and shots had been fired. The subject had abandoned his car at the Ligurta Rest Stop and run off into the desert. We drove into the desert and got into a short foot pursuit with the subject. As we caught up to the subject he drew a weapon out of a holster. To say the least, Louie and I were yelling commands fast and loud. As the subject started to raise the weapon he let it go and it fell harmlessly to the ground. He was then taken into custody. Later Louie and I were able to talk about the incident and found that we had both released our safeties and were squeezing the trigger. We both figured we pulled to within a pound of pressure from firing our weapons. The only thing that saved this guy was experience and training. Having Louie there definitely changed the dynamics of the situation. Without a doubt had that gun come up another ½ inch we would have both justifiably fired to protect ourselves and each other. Louie's calm demeanor in stressful situations makes him someone you want to have beside you when things get ugly. Louie, I wish you all the

best in your future endeavors.

The New Year is fast approaching and my hope is everyone and their families have a safe New Year's Eve. And of course best wishes for all during this New Year.

"New Year's Resolution: To tolerate fools more gladly, provided this does not encourage them to take up more of my time."

James Agate

T-Shirts For Sale: The Meth Nucleus Group is selling t-shirts. There are 2 different designs available for \$10 each.



Design 1



Design 2

Contact Gretchen Thomas at (928) 539-7824 or via e-mail at Gretchen.Thomas@co.yuma.az.us for more information or to purchase a shirt.

More Thanks

(Continued from page 1)

event through to completion and many picked up the slack for those pulled from their normal duties to attend to these tasks. The bottom line is we all made this happen; the very definition of teamwork. That is a huge success by anyone's measure. Thank you, one and all.

From Investigator Terra Radliff—I just wanted to send out a huge thank you to **Sandi Garcia**. Without her help I would be lost!

The Records Department would like to give a big thank you to **Sgt. David Pospisil**. Sgt. David Pospisil has been very cooperative with our department when we have questions or concerns. He always has a positive attitude and smile for us. With this open communication we are able to resolve our situations. Thank you again for being such a team player!

From Sergeant/Detective Raul Garcia and Detective Sal Perez of the Criminal Investigations Bureau—thank you to the **Yuma County Sheriff's Posse**, especially Posse members **Don Trusty** and **Dean Morgan**. On December 3, 2008, YCSO Detectives located and recovered a stolen horse in the Somerton area from the state of Washington and requested the assistance from the Posse members. Due to their expertise and years of experience, they were able to properly transport, board and care for the horse until it could be released/returned to its rightful owner. Again, thank you for assisting and making this investigation much easier.

From Cpl. Richard Mendez—I would like to thank everyone that assisted in the County wide warrants detail on December 19, 2008, which includes the U.S. Marshals, Yuma PD, Somerton PD,

San Luis PD, and the YCSO's very own who are **Deputies James Womack** and **Nathan Dunmire**, **Investigators Guy Avenetti, Gabe Bier, Sal Perez,** and **Sonny Hixon, Sgt. Raul Garcia;** and **Detention Officers Matthew Felix** and **Raul Perez**. I also would like to thank the **Warrants Department** along with **Dispatch** for all their hard work and time in getting the warrant information prepared. The detail resulted in 10 arrests that cleared up sixteen warrants. Once again thank you for all your help and hard work.

From Sgt. Russ Candler—I would like to thank **Detention Officer Marvin Melton** for stepping up and handling the basic warehouse operations while I was on vacation. The warehouse has been short staffed recently and Melton has been a tremendous help taking on extra projects and duties. Good Job Mad Dog. Also a big thanks to **Jack Lehr, Randy Beeler, Corene Poster, Ken Shaw** and **Sgt. Kenny Thomas** for all their help during the last few weeks. Everyone came together and helped each other out. Team work at its finest. Thanks again to all of you.

A big thank you to **Deputy Joe Lykins** for taking on the role of Santa for the YCSO Christmas luncheon which was held on Monday, December 22nd. Santa rode in on his Harley and greeted YCSO employees and their families.



Harley Santa, AKA Deputy Joe Lykins

From Anna Lopez—I want to thank everyone who participated in the Salvation Army Angel Tree Program this year: **Carmen Anderson, Jeff Blackwell, Russ Candler, Lisa Cortis, Audrey Giles, Melissa Johnston, Mike Martinez, Marvin Melton, Sheriff Ralph Ogden, Terra Radliff, Philip Spongross, Gretchen Thomas, Maritza Villarruel, Jim Waddell, Major Leon Wilmot** and **Anna York**. Your participation and willingness to give is greatly appreciated. Thank you for making Christmas special for a needy child!

Many Thanks From Corporal Susan Carr...

To **Jack Lehr, Randy Beeler** and **Miguel Covarrubias** for getting the briefing room and break area fixed up for our Christmas Luncheon.

To **Audry Giles, Alfredo DeLaTorre, Corey Poster** and **Guadalupe Espinoza** for decorating the briefing room and making it look so festive.

To **William Ogram** and his staff for all of their hard work throughout the year, these guys are very dedicated to keeping things running and deserve a big pat on the back for everything they do.

To my Staff—**Carmen Anderson, Randy Beeler, Deborah Byrd, Miguel Covarrubias, Alfredo DeLaTorre, Guadalupe Espinoza, Audry Giles, Jack Lehr, Hermelinda Lopez, Corene Poster,** and **Elisa Soto-Alvarez**—I don't know if I tell you enough how much I really do appreciate your continued hard work and the dedication you display on a daily basis. I hope that we have another good year together. And thank you again for everything you do.

YCSO Training News

AZPOST Training Reminder

AZPOST Lottery Drawing will take place on January 5, 2009.

Professional Development

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

Lieutenants Joe Lackie and Henry Hernandez attended a 16 hr Vendors & Contractors seminar as presented by the American Jail Association which took place in Laughlin, NV.

Dispatch Supervisor Miranda Ball attended a 4 hr Oracle Timekeeper Class as presented by Yuma County which took place at the Yuma County Health Department.

Polygrapher Michael McGuire attended a 32 hr Backster School of Lie

Detection 51st Annual 5-Day Polygraph Work Conference as presented by the Backster School of Lie Detection which took place in San Diego, CA.

Proficiency & Continuing Training

Investigator Andres Angulo, and **Deputies Bobby Garcia, Kelly Milner, Eric Frost** and **Samuel Pavlak** attended an 8 hr Mechanical Breaching class as presented by The Yuma Police Department which took place in Las Vegas, NV.

Deputies Bobby Garcia, Rolando Molina and **Andrew Orozco** attended a 40 hr Immediate Action Team Class – Active Shooter Program as presented by the Arizona Division of Emergency Management and took place in Florence, AZ.

TESTING

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

Deputy Sheriff / Reserve Deputy Sheriff
Detention Officer

Date: Saturday, January 10, 2009
Time: 10:00 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. Applications are also available on the Sheriff's Office website at: www.yumacountysheriff.org

Classifieds

FOR SALE

2006 Cadillac Escalade, AWD, leather interior, 3rd row seat. Excellent condition, 37,500 miles. \$29,950



2004 Polaris Predator, included: off road & paddle tires, matching boots & Helmet. \$3,600

Dining table w/6 chairs, like new dark wood finish. \$250

Station for pull-ups, push-ups and dips. \$80

Anyone interested in the above items, contact Noemi Robles at 580-0644.

1963 Chevy Step Side Pick Up with a 1984 crate engine. Runs but needs some work. \$4000 OBO. Call Salinger at 919-2770 or Miranda at 783- 3591.

FOR RENT

2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, 950 sq. ft. All tile flooring, laundry room on site, small private courtyard in

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Yuma County Sheriff's Office

141 S. 3rd Avenue
Yuma, AZ 85364

Phone: (928) 783-4427
Fax: (928) 539-7837

▶ "Dedicated to Service"

We're on the Web!
www.yumacountysheriff.org



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.

More Classifieds

(Continued from page 7)

back of each unit, off-street private parking, water & trash included. Address: 536 S. 2nd Avenue, located on 2nd Avenue between 5th and 6th Street. Rents for \$600/month (some pets are ok with landlord approval for additional \$25/month). Please call Jessica Rodriguez (Clerk II, Civil Department, Sheriff's Office) at 928-210-3940 to view or if you have questions.

HOME FOR SALE

1944 S. 47th Avenue, great family home or investment property, 1,316 sq. ft., split floor plan, 4 bedroom (large master), 2 full baths, 2 car garage, carpeted floors, dishwasher, garbage disposal, stove, washer/dryer hookup, fenced yard, underground sprinklers, front porch, landscaped, large back patio with ceiling fans, storage shed for \$164,900. Contact Noemi Robles at 580-0644.

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

Memos can be dropped off to Anna. For further information, call (928) 783-4427, Ext. 3001.