



YCSO Round-Up

Thank you

From Library Director Susan Evans to **Sheriff Ralph Ogden** and the **Sheriff's Office** for providing the color guard for the Main Library groundbreaking ceremony on February 4th.

From Jim Cherry, Area Manager, Bureau of Reclamation, to **Major Leon Wilmot** and the **YCSO Posse** for their active participation in the County 19th Clean-up. This event saw the safe removal of tires and tons of debris thanks to the Posse providing traffic control on County 19th

Street. The Sheriff's Office support helped start this cleanup effort where over 100 tons of trash and debris were collected on 640 acres of Reclamation withdrawn lands and more than 1,700 tires and 15 gallons of used motor oil recovered for recycling. There were 166 volunteers who helped on December 8, 2007 and performed the real "heavy lifting" that brought in those significant results. It was another great community-based cleanup effort. Thank you on behalf of the Bureau of Reclamation!

From Christopher Maney, U.S. Department of Transportation, to **Captain Eben Bratcher** and the **Sheriff's Office** for supporting the U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Mary Peters, on February 15, 2008. Special thanks to **Lt. David McBride** for his professionalism. He assisted the Secretary's Executive Protection Detail with coordination and escorts through Yuma County. This is an excellent example of teamwork occurring daily among Federal, State and

(Continued on page 2)

Inside this issue:

A Note from the Sheriff	2
Personals	3
Jobs Well Done	4-5
For Your Information	5
Training News	7-8
On the Lighter Side	9
Classifieds	9

Customer Service Tip of the Month

"Slow down to make sense...Count the number of times callers ask you to repeat yourself."

Congratulations

To **Sgt Mark Martinez** on his promotion to Jail Captain effective February 2, 2008. In his announcement Sheriff Ralph Ogden stated, "Captain Martinez began his career working in the Jail and then became a certified peace officer. Between his work experience and his military experience, I know that he will be able to meet the challenges of managing a jail and will be able to

provide the leadership necessary to maintain the high standards of our operation. Captain Martinez will be undergoing a transition over the next several months from his assignment as a Sergeant in the Narcotics Bureau to that of the Jail Captain. I believe you will find that Captain Martinez is up to the challenge and is dedicated to our operation."

To **Corporal Patrick James** and **Corporal Jennifer Jensen** on their recent promotion to Sergeant. Sergeants James and Jensen have shown the ability and willingness to continue the traditions of the Sheriff's Office. Sgt. Jensen will oversee the Admitting area along with the Classification Section. Sgt. James will be assigned to the Swing Shift.

(Continued on page 6)

Pride

By Lt. Henry Hernandez

According to Wikipedia, “pride” is defined as “an emotion which refers to a strong sense of self-respect, a refusal to be humiliated as well as joy in the accomplishment of oneself or a group...”

Working in the law enforcement field, you have earned the right to take “pride” in the fact that you passed the various required testing, both physical and mental, just to be considered for hiring. Upon hiring, you had to complete a vigorous training academy.

Remember the day when you finally completed your academy training and

you were standing at attention while your badge was being pinned on? That strong feeling you had at that time was a feeling of “pride”, knowing you had accomplished a major goal in your life, a feeling of self-respect knowing you could make a difference in your community. Pride also strengthens the bonds you have made with your fellow officers.

Detention is a very stressful career and over the years since graduation, we sometimes forget that wonderful feeling we had the day we became officers and took the pledge to protect and serve. Starting now, take a moment each day when you are putting your uniform together and remember

why we chose this job and how we felt such “pride” the day we received our badge. “Pride” is an emotion that we can re-experience every day, knowing we do our jobs right.

More Thanks

(Continued from page 1)

local law enforcement communities. Lt. McBride’s experience and training directly contributed to the overall mission success.

From Gretchen Thomas and Anna Lopez to **Lt. Darren Simmons, Judy Simmons, Kristina and Ashlee Moorhead, Alicia Thomas, Kristin Brown, Renae Bowen, and Michele Valdez** for their assistance with the YCSO 21st Annual Awards Presentation & BBQ. The event was a big success. Special thanks to **Sheriff Ralph Ogden, Major Leon Wilmot, Lt. Lyle Blaker, the Foothills crew, Sgt. Ryland Croutch** for their

assistance and support; **Captain Roy Brock** and Posse members **Phil Gladney, Kenny Brown** and **“Porkchop”** for cooking up the burgers and hotdogs. And last but not least, a huge thanks to **Captain Mark Martinez** for agreeing to MC the event. I know that I can always count on you!

From Gary Urquhart to **Detention Officer Thomas Kramer**—I would like to take the time to say thank you for your dedication. Whenever I am short on shift I know that I can call on you and you will show up to pick up the slack. Your dedication is much appreciated!

From Lt. David McBride—I would like to thank the firearms instructors for their time and invaluable instruction during the Basic Pistol Course for the Volunteer Academy. The Lead Instructor for this course was **Deputy James Waddell**. Assisting were Firearms Instructors **Lewis Wilbur, Michael Kofta** and **Charlie Schickle**. Range Safety Officers were **Nicholas Rice, Guy Avenetti** and **Gabriel Bier**.

Jobs Well Done

The following commendation for **Deputy Jason Amon** was received from Mr. Richard Wilson regarding an incident that occurred on December 7, 2007.

“Deputy Jason Amon went “Above and Beyond” professionalism and compassion when taking all information regarding this case and during his investigation since the date of the incident. Deputy Amon has personally kept in contact with me (victim) regarding any and all information received, and patiently answered any and all questions I asked. His compassion and respect should be so “noted” as these days it is easy to find “fault” with policing agencies. No one takes the time to “state positive facts” like this. We have the finest Sheriff’s Department in the United States with 100% caring deputies whom protect and serve us.”



YPD Chief Robby Robinson commended **Lt. Jay Carlson** for his professional demeanor and his knowledge of bomb disposal techniques. On February 1, 2008, Lt. Carlson’s responded to a call for assistance from YPD. His timely and professional response helped them resolve a very difficult and potentially dangerous incident. YPD had responded to a call from a neighbor who had discovered a military style hand grenade at an apartment complex in the 500 block of Orange Avenue. Lt. Carlson responded to the scene. He immediately determined that the device was a military hand grenade (baseball frag) in a plastic Gatorade container. He was able to contact the Marine Corps Explosive Ordnance Disposal Office. It was eventually determined that the hand grenade was a practice grenade. Lt. Carlson’s professional demeanor was greatly appreciated.

Lt. David McBride and Sgt. Al Whitney commended **Deputies August Parker** and **Kelly Milner** for their outstanding performance in regards to a burglary that occurred on February 6, 2008 Deputy Parker was dispatched to a report of a delayed residential burglary. When she arrived, she met Victim #1 who told her that she had been burglarized while she was not home. Initial inventory revealed two laptops, cell phones, jewelry and other misc. items were missing. Deputy Parker investigated the scene and discovered that the suspects had entered the residence through an unsecured rear patio door. After exiting the residence, the suspects used something to erase their shoe impressions in the backyard and climbed over the fence.

They did not count on Deputy Parker climbing over the fence and discovering their shoe impressions on the other side. She followed that foot sign to the rear of a residence where they ended. That residence was a few houses west of the victim residence. While Deputy Parker was conducting her investigation, one of the suspects came walking down the street.

Deputy Parker instructed Deputy Milner to intercept that individual (he was not a suspect at that point) and see if he knew anything about the burglary. The subject had a warrant for his arrest so he was taken into custody. It was

noted that his shoes matched some of the impressions found leading away from the residence. Shortly thereafter, Deputies Parker and Milner made contact with the juvenile brother of that suspect. He provided a different story as to his whereabouts as opposed to what his brother had told them. He was detained.

The third suspect (who was lurking in the area being nosy) was contacted after that and said that he did not know anything about the burglary. He was detained while the investigation unfolded since his shoe impressions were also seen leading away from the residence.

Consent to conduct a cursory search of the suspect’s residence was obtained from their mother. None of the evidence was located but it was not a thorough search.

Another interview was conducted on the 18 year old suspect and he finally cracked and told Sgt. Al Whitney where all the property (except some jewelry) was at inside his mother’s residence. The property was recovered and given back to the original victim. There was other property that the original victim did not recognize and it was then learned the suspects had actually committed two burglaries. Contact was made with the second victim who lived two streets north and her property was returned to her.

Deputy August Parker, backed up by Deputy Milner, showed initiative, imagination and tenacity in solving this case. It would have been very simple for her to have just gotten the basic information, conducted a search of the back yard and upon seeing no evidence in the immediate area, went on to the next call. However, she did not do that

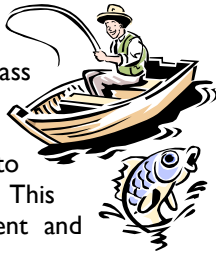
(Continued on page 5)



For Your Information

Spring Bass Tournament:

Attention all fisherman! We will be holding a Spring Bass Tournament on Saturday, March 22nd, from sunrise to approx. 1700 hours. This is a team tournament and you will need a boat.



Date: Saturday, March 22nd
Entry fee: \$25.00 per person
Location: Martinez Lake Substation

The entry fee will be due one week prior to tournament. The money will go toward the 1st place, 2nd place, heaviest fish prizes and the BBQ after the tournament.

The last event was a big success and a lot of fun. A sign up sheet is located on Capt. Bratcher's door. So let's fill up all the slots and go out and have a fun day of fishing.

If you have any questions regarding the tournament, contact Capt Bratcher or Cpl. Richard Mendez.

Good luck and Happy Fishing!

West Side Story

By Lt. David McBride

This month we welcomed **Peter Madriles** (aka Ruben) on board. Mr. Madriles will be attending ALEA in Phoenix starting Monday, March 17th.

The Yuma County Sheriff's Office hosted an Advanced SWAT class this month. **Mr. Mark Fricke** of the American Firearms Training and Tactics was the lead instructor with **Deputy James Waddell** assisting in the instruction. We had participants from five different agencies attend the training—San Luis Police Department, Somerton Police Department, United States Marine Corps Provost Marshals

Office, United States Marshals Service and of course the Yuma County Sheriff's Office. The 13 students worked scenarios varying from tubular assaults to a terrorist take-over of a local school.

While conducting the intensified patrol of P & S Salvage, **Cpl. Richard Mendez** discovered a suspect going through metal containers. With the assistance of Border Patrol and other on duty deputies the suspect was stopped prior to being able to flee the scene. Good job!

Everyone has the obligation to ponder well his own specific traits of character. He must also regulate them adequately and not wonder whether someone else's traits might suit him better. The more definitely his own a man's character is, the better it fits him.

Cicero

*Roman author, orator, & politician
(106 BC - 43 BC)*

More Jobs Well Done

(Continued from page 4)

and as a result she was able to return 99% of the stolen property to the rightful owners. Sgt. Whitney met with several residents who "had suspicions" about the suspects and were extremely happy that she had done such an outstanding investigation. This was outstanding investigative work by Deputy Parker. By going the extra mile she was able to successfully close two burglaries and apprehend three burglars with the assistance of Deputy Milner and other members of her squad.

Cpl. Susan Carr passed on this information about **Detention Officer Thomas Kramer** who is guilty of "getting caught doing something right".

While escorting several prisoners back to their unit from a work detail, Cpl. Susan Carr overheard the prisoners mention Officer Kramer's name. They commented that although he is tough on them when he works the Dorm #1 and Dorm #2 units, they appreciate that he keeps the unit very quiet and they can get some sleep. They also stated that when Officer Kramer works the area, they feel a

little safer because they know that no one is going to try and pull any kind of stunts while he is in there because "The guy is always watching". This is a great compliment to this staff member and his continued dedication to this department it shows by the job he continues to do.

More Congratulations

(Continued from page 1)

Congratulations to the following employees and volunteers who were presented with awards at the YCSO 21st Annual Awards Presentation:

Administration Bureau

Esprit de Corps Award
Hermelinda Ramirez

Special Merit Award
Claudia Garnica

Innovator of the Year Award
Kenny Thomas

Employee of the Year
Cristina Clark

Detention Bureau

Jerry Brass Esprit de Corps Award
Frank Flores

Special Merit Award
Jack Lehr
Heather Sudlow

Innovator of the Year Award
Jennifer Jensen

Professional of the Year - Rookie
Margarita DeAnda

Professional of the Year - Veteran
Raul Perez

Staff Member of the Year Custody
Felipe Tremillo

Staff Member of the Year - Support
Bill Cady

Patrol Bureau

Esprit de Corps Award
Jason Amon

Special Merit Award

Ryland Croutch
Innovator of the Year Award
James Holland

Outstanding Achievement Award
Sonny Hixon
James Waddell

Meritorious Service Award
Gabe Bier

Rookie of the Year
Ted Parker

Officer of the Year
Andres Angulo

Agitator of the Year
Robert Oberosler

Support Organizations

Posse Member of the Year
Kenny Brown, Sr.

Search & Rescue Member of the Year
Charles Cowan

Volunteer of the Year
Patrick Cook



In addition, congratulations to all the annual award nominees:

Administration Bureau

Esprit de Corps: Cristina Clark

Special Merit: Joe Brito

Innovator of the Year: Cristina Clark

Detention Bureau

Esprit de Corps: Roman Aguirre,
Carmen Anderson, Jack Lehr and
Thomas Ruelle

Detention Bureau (Contd.)

Special Merit: Robert Arriola and
Susan Carr

Innovator of the Year: Nicholas
Danner

Professional of the Year—Veteran:
Robert Arriola, Marvin Melton and
Fred Rodriguez

Professional of the Year—Rookie:
Juan Perez

Patrol Bureau

Esprit de Corps: David Callahan, Tony
Garcia, Joe Lykins and James Skaggs

Special Merit: Gabe Bier, Scott
Bjornstad and Richard Meraz

Innovator of the Year: Nick Rice

Outstanding Achievement: Isacc
Almodova and Sal Perez

Meritorious Service: Guy Avenetti,
Samuel Pavlak and Terra Pietrangelo

Rookie of the Year: Guillermo
Garcia, Rolando Molina and Samuel
Pavlak

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
Interview & Interrogation	4/16-4/18/08	24	2/27/2008 Confirmed: N. Rice	1 year law enforcement experience.
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 February 2008:

Deputies Ken Carver and **Jason Hemstreet** attended a 40 hr National Boat Accident Investigation Course sponsored by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators in Boulder City, NV.

Lt. Jay Carlson, Accounting Specialist **Armida Escoto**, and Clerk II **Deborah Wilks** attended a 1 day HIDTA PMP training which took place in Tucson, AZ.

Detention Officers Christopher Burke and **Edward Soto** attended a 16 hr TVOC: High Profile Inmate Transportation which was sponsored

by the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community Police Department in Scottsdale, AZ.

Investigator Guy Avenetti and **Deputy Terra Pietrangelo** attended a 1 day Sex Offender Compliance meeting which took place in Phoenix, AZ and was sponsored by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

Chief Administrative Officer **Matthew Catron** & Computer Operations Supervisor **Brenda Platt** attended a 12 hr. 2008 International Wireless Communication Expo sponsored by IWCE which took place in Las Vegas, NV.

Office Specialist II **Maricela Meza** attended a 1 day Microsoft Office – GroupWise presentation sponsored by Yuma County.

Proficiency/Continuing Training

Deputy David Callahan is currently attending a 336 hr. FBI Hazardous Device School sponsored by the FBI in Huntsville, AL.

Major Leon Wilmot began a 40 hr. course titled Systems Approach to Public Management which took place in Phoenix, AZ and is being sponsored by Arizona State University.

Deputy Terra Pietrangelo and **Detention Cpl. Nicholas Danner** attended a 40 hr. Basic Crisis Negotiations School sponsored by the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy in Phoenix, AZ.

(Continued on page 8)

More Training

(Continued from page 7)

Note to Patrol

Training has almost finished testing all Patrol personnel in getting certified as level C operators for ACJIS. If you have yet to schedule a test date/time, please contact the training office to do so. This test consists of approximately one hour of your time. A study guide is available upon request. This study guide may not be checked out of the training office.

A study guide is available upon request. This study guide may not be checked out of the training office.

If you have any questions, please contact the training office during regular business hours.



Firearms Training News

by Deputy James Waddell

On February 14-17, an Advanced Special Response Team (SRT) course was sponsored by the Sheriff's Office. The training was funded by a grant

from the Department of Homeland Security for Anti-Terrorist Operation Training. During the course of instruction, the Deputies and Officers focused on destroying any threat in homes, schools, buses, planes and trains.

The following Officers attended the training: **Deputies Andres Angulo, Samuel Pavlak, Bobby Garcia and James Waddell;** Military Police MCAS Yuma **SSgt. Shawn M. Ohle, Corporals Brian T. Riley and Jake L. Wheeler;** U.S. Marshals Service **Thomas Smith, Jose Valenzuela, Zack Toro and Paul Gatlin;** San Luis Police Officers **Juan Saenz and Marco Santanas;** and Somerton Police Officer **Omar Villacorte.**

On February 17-22, a 55 hour Basic Pistol Course was conducted by the Sheriff's Office firearms training staff—**Lt. David McBride, Deputies James Waddell, Lewis Wilbur, and Mike Kofta, Detention Officer Richard Sweeny** and Volunteer **Charlie Shickle.** Range Safety Officers were **Nicholas Rice, Guy Avenetti and Gabriel Bier.**

Congratulations to following Volunteers for completing the AZ POST course of instruction: Posse members **Steve Didway and Steve Steenhard;** Search and Rescue members **Jimmy (One Shot) Billesbach, Freddy Gomez and Ron Van Why;** and Volunteers **John Clark, Paul Lerma and Thomas Cooke.**

TESTING

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

Deputy Sheriff / Reserve Deputy Sheriff
Detention Officer

Date: Saturday, March 8th

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.

You can also download an application from the Yuma County Sheriff's Office website at: www.yumacountysheriff.org

Facts about St. Patrick's Day Holiday

- **St. Patrick's Day is observed on March 17** because that is the feast day of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. It is believed that he died on March 17 in the year 461 AD. It is also a worldwide celebration of Irish culture and history. St. Patrick's Day is a national holiday in Ireland, and a provincial holiday in the Canadian province of Newfoundland and Labrador.
- **In Ireland on St. Patrick's Day,** people traditionally wear a small bunch of shamrocks on their jackets or caps. Children wear orange, white and green badges, and women and girls wear green ribbons in their hair.
- **Many cities have a St. Patrick's Day parade.** Dublin, the capital of Ireland, has a huge St. Patrick's Day festival from March 15-19, that features a parade, family carnivals, treasure hunt, dance, theatre and more. In North America, parades are often held on the Sunday before March 17. Some paint the yellow street lines green for the day! In Chicago, the Chicago River is dyed green with a special dye that only lasts a few hours. There has been a St. Patrick's Day parade in Boston, Massachusetts since 1737. Montreal is home to Canada's longest running St. Patrick's Day parade, which began in 1824.

Yuma County Sheriff's Office

141 S. Third Avenue
Yuma, AZ 85364

Phone: 928-783-4427

Fax: 928-539-7837

► "Dedicated to Service"

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



Classifieds

Cookie Baskets/Arrangements:

Need a unique idea for an upcoming occasion or holiday? Try one of our cookie basket / arrangements. Prices start at only \$20.00 and can be made for everything from Christmas to



bachelorette parties. If you can imagine it, we can create it!! Please call Misty at (928) 726-6798 for information or to place an order.



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.

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 783-4427, Ext. 1001.