



# YCSO Round-Up

Volume 12, Issue 1

January 30, 2009

## Yuma County Sheriff's Office

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### Customer Service Tips

*Positive language shouldn't be confused with disillusioning the customer. Don't tell the customer there isn't a problem when there is; focus instead on how you'll fix the problem. Partner with your customer in a positive way to find a solution.*

## Thank You

From Jeff Blackwell to everyone in Dispatch—*Jose Aldaco, Andrea Burrola, Summer Carr, Jeff Davis, Melissa Johnston, Jan Klein, Debbie Morgan, Rita Perales-Delgado, Melissa Schwaderer, Stephanie Schwartz* and *Alfonso Zavala*, and last but certainly not least, *Laurie D'Alessio* and *Veronica Vasquez* in Warrants—for covering for me and for your thoughts. I really appreciate it. Also, thank you to *Miranda Ball* (you know why). It really meant a lot to me and my family.

From Deputy August Parker—I would like to send out a big thank you to my **squad** for assisting me in catching the lovely lady who ran over my foot after throwing her kitten at me. I am happy to announce that she has been charged with all counts including aggravated assault. Also, a huge, huge thank you to **Detention Officer William Rice** and lovely K-9 "**Paris**" for sniffing out and finding the drugs in the vehicle. Since DO Rice has been assigned to the afternoon shift, he and Paris have

both been a great asset to our shift and have since become a part of our squad. And a special thank you to **Sgt. Al Whitney** for his outstanding verbal commands when apprehending the suspect. A job well done guys!

From Kristina Hayes—I just wanted to say thank you to the following people for allowing me to come out and participate in ride-a-longs: **Sergeants**

*(Continued on page 7)*

## Bits & Pieces

Congratulations to the following Sheriff's Office employees on their recent promotions:

**Kristina Hayes** was promoted to Deputy

effective January 18, 2009. Kristina will be attending the SALETC academy in Tucson starting March 30, 2009.

**Jessica Rodriguez** was

promoted to Human Resources Specialist effective January 19, 2009. She is Kristina's replacement in H/R.

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# Optimism

By Gretchen Thomas

With so many changes in our country right now, this is a perfect time to have a positive attitude, to be optimistic about life. Or is this a perfect time to be a realist?

Optimism is having an outlook on life that views the world as a positive place. People who are optimists believe that people are basically good at heart, that most things work out for the best, that you reap what you sow—and good people consequently act accordingly. Optimism or having a positive attitude is best described by seeing the glass as half full -- and not half empty.

With the economy like it is right now, times are hard and it is difficult to maintain an optimistic attitude. More people are out of work now than at any time in the last 40 years, lots of us got caught in the mortgage meltdown and we all have “more month left at the end of the money”. You might say that there is some comfort in the fact that we are not in this alone, that the whole country has the same concerns, but that doesn't help or make you feel any better if your cable is cut off, you need new tires on your truck or you need more disposable income.

Why should we even try to be positive? There are plenty of benefits to having a positive attitude. A positive attitude affects your body and your health. I found the following on a website called [www.Sedona.com](http://www.Sedona.com). (Not sure if it has anything to do with Sedona, AZ, but I liked what it said.) Having a positive attitude causes us to:

1. **Fight diseases better.** Positive people have stronger, more robust, immune systems, which means they can fight off colds, flu, infections and more.
2. **Be more successful at your career.** One study found that a woman's future career success could be predicted by the intensity of her smile.
3. **Live longer.** Optimistic elderly people were 55 percent less likely to die than elderly pessimists, according to a study in the Archives of General Psychiatry. When the results were adjusted for smoking, age, exercise levels and other measures of health, the number increased to 71 percent!
4. **Be healthier in general.** Studies have shown overwhelmingly that a positive outlook keeps people in better health than a negative one.
5. **Age more gracefully.** Attitude goes a long way in affecting how well you age. People who tend to hold on to negative associations of aging are more likely to feel and act elderly than those who keep a positive attitude about their age.
6. **Protect your heart.** Studies have found that people with higher levels of well-being have lower cardiovascular risk.
7. **Reduce stress.** Research shows that feeling happy lowers levels of stress hormones in the body.

For those of you that know me, you know that I think I am a “realist”—that I see it like it is and then I deal with it in a sarcastic manner. When all the bad stuff happens, it is easy to slide from Optimistic to Realistic to Pessimistic in a matter of no time. My goal this year is to be realistic about what is going on, to be aware that life is sometimes pressing down on us, but to be optimistic that things will work out OK. So that's my plan—to keep my eyes open, hope for the best and keep working toward a positive resolution. Just think, if this whole country would try to be more positive, to have an optimistic attitude...wonder what would happen?



# Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following employees and volunteers who will be celebrating an anniversary with YCSO during the month of February:

David Castañon	Feb 22	8 yrs
Andres Angulo	Feb 6	3 yrs
Michele Valdez	Feb 12	3 yrs
Sherry Gonzales	Feb 28	3 yrs
Rhiannon Benson	Feb 5	2 yrs
Ro'Shell Salinger	Feb 6	2 yrs
Paul Escalante	Feb 15	2 yrs
Maritza Villarruel	Feb 4	1 yr

## Volunteers

Carolyn Gordon	Feb 15	13 yrs
Jerry Akin	Feb 19	6 yrs
Karren Akin	Feb 19	6 yrs
Bernadita Ziegler	Feb 3	5 yrs
Merrill Clark	Feb 14	5 yrs

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

# Welcome

Welcome aboard to the following new YCSO employees:

Jan Klein	Dispatch	1/05
Stephanie Schwartz	Dispatch	1/05
Rita Perales-Delgado	Dispatch	1/12
Tiffany Kohmetscher	DO	1/20
Michael Riedel	Mechanic	1/20
Ricardo Albarran Jasso	DO	1/26

# HAPPY FEBRUARY!

# BIRTHDAY TO...

<i>Tom Safranek - SAR</i>	<i>Feb 4</i>
<i>Nathan Dunmire</i>	<i>Feb 5</i>
<i>Robert Oberosler</i>	<i>Feb 5</i>
<i>Renaë Bowen</i>	<i>Feb 8</i>
<i>Frank Roberson - SOLVE</i>	<i>Feb 8</i>
<i>James Waddell</i>	<i>Feb 8</i>
<i>Jeffrey Blackwell</i>	<i>Feb 9</i>
<i>David Callahan</i>	<i>Feb 9</i>
<i>Jeff Davis</i>	<i>Feb 9</i>
<i>Barry Gladwin - SAR</i>	<i>Feb 11</i>
<i>Merrill Clark - SOLVE</i>	<i>Feb 14</i>
<i>Thomas Humphrey</i>	<i>Feb 14</i>
<i>James Osterholt - SOLVE</i>	<i>Feb 14</i>
<i>Michael Riedel</i>	<i>Feb 15</i>
<i>Kenny Thomas</i>	<i>Feb 16</i>
<i>Russ Bedinger - Posse</i>	<i>Feb 17</i>
<i>Christopher Burke</i>	<i>Feb 17</i>
<i>Karisha Mercado</i>	<i>Feb 17</i>
<i>Martin McBee - SAR</i>	<i>Feb 18</i>
<i>Miguel Espinoza</i>	<i>Feb 20</i>
<i>Charlotte McMurdie - SAR</i>	<i>Feb 20</i>
<i>William Smith - SOLVE</i>	<i>Feb 20</i>
<i>Matthew Jones</i>	<i>Feb 20</i>
<i>Wendell Walker</i>	<i>Feb 21</i>
<i>Israel Amadisto</i>	<i>Feb 22</i>
<i>Jason Amon</i>	<i>Feb 22</i>
<i>Ricardo Fabian</i>	<i>Feb 23</i>
<i>Earl Hearne</i>	<i>Feb 24</i>
<i>Lewis Rounds - SOLVE</i>	<i>Feb 25</i>
<i>Greg Nelson - SAR</i>	<i>Feb 26</i>

## Jobs Well Done

Mr. Kevin Nuxoll commended **Sgt. Raul Garcia** for being 110% respectful to him when he reported an incident to the Sheriff's Office. Sgt. Garcia was the first person he spoke to and he was very supportive of the positive changes in his life. And Sgt. Garcia has always been there to field any concerns he had. In his opinion, Sgt. Garcia is the "poster child" of the true meaning of law enforcement.



On January 23rd at 1300 hours, representatives of the Yuma County

Sheriff's Posse, including 2009 Captain Dean Morgan and 2008 Captain Russ Bedinger, presented a refurbished mobile cooking grill to the Crossroads Mission at 941 S. Arizona Avenue.



As part of ongoing community involvement efforts, the Yuma County Sheriff's Posse took the broken down grill belonging to the Crossroads Mission and refurbished it so that it could be returned to use. Great job!



## More Bits & Pieces

*(Continued from page 1)*

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

**Jessica Rodriguez**—Employee of the Quarter, Administration Bureau.

**Deputy August Parker**—Officer of the Quarter, Patrol Bureau.

**Atenas Romo**—Staff Member of the Quarter, Detention Bureau, Support Section.

**Detention Officer Marvin Melton**—Staff Member of the Quarter, Detention Bureau, Custody Section.

**Ron Van Why**—Volunteer of the Quarter for the Sheriff's Office.

Also, congratulations to the following employees/volunteers on their nominations for the employee of the quarter awards:

### Administration Bureau

Laurie D'Alessio

### Detention Bureau - Custody

Jonathan Alvarez

Daniel Andrade

Joshua Bermudez

Frank Flores

Matthew Hipp

Kenneth Jordan

Josephine Martinez

Enrique Montoya

Allen Nelson

Dulce Robles  
Michael Sills  
Thomas Soucy  
Edward Soto

### Detention Bureau - Support

Carmen Anderson  
Kimberly Brooks  
Hermelinda Lopez

### Patrol Bureau

Andres Angulo  
Eric Frost  
Rory McDade  
Samuel Pavlak  
George Pesce  
Michelle Pilakowski  
James Waddell

### Volunteer

Betty Mason

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# For Your Information

## Yuma County Sheriff's Office Annual Awards Presentation

The Annual Awards Presentation has been scheduled for **Saturday, February 28, 2008** at 2:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Yuma County Sheriff's Office Foothills Substation. **NOTE: Please note the date has been changed.**

We will be having an outdoor BBQ followed by the awards presentation. In order to assure that there is enough food to go around, we are asking that employees and volunteers planning to attend the event RSVP and get their FREE tickets.

### BBQ - On the Menu

- Hamburgers & Hot Dogs with all the fixings
- Various side dishes
- Drinks (sodas, water, & tea.)
- Potluck desserts—feel free to bring your favorite dessert to share with your friends & co-workers

### Highlights

- Jumper for the kids
- Door prizes

See Anna Lopez or Gretchen Thomas in Admin or Detention Officers Rhiannon Benson or Dulce Robles in Detention to RSVP and for your **FREE** tickets.

If you have questions regarding the Awards Presentation & BBQ, you can

contact Anna Lopez, Ext. 3001 or Gretchen Thomas, Ext. 3007.

This will be a fun event for all so bring your family and come out to support your friends and co-workers!

## YCSO Blood Drive

The Sheriff's Office and United Blood Services will be holding a blood drive. Find the hero in you and donate to save a life!

Date: February 18

Time: 7:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Place: Bloodmobile in the front parking lot on from

*Please bring photo ID and donor card.*

- Free Cholesterol testing for every donation.
- All donors will be entered automatically to win 1 of 2 shopping sprees for \$1,000 at Schmitt Jewelers
- Have a buddy donate for the first time and receive two free movie tickets. For details, visit: [www.UnitedBloodServicesAZ.org](http://www.UnitedBloodServicesAZ.org)

For questions or information, contact Michele Valdez at 783-4427, Ext. 3016 or visit [www.BloodHero.com](http://www.BloodHero.com) (sponsor code: YumaSheriff)

## T-Shirts For Sale

The Meth Nucleus Group is selling t-shirts. There are two (2) different designs available for \$10 each.

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



Design 1



Design 2

*"The minute you settle for less than you deserve, you get even less than you settle for"*

**Maureen Dowd**

# YCSO Training News

## TESTING

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

Deputy Sheriff  
Reserve Deputy Sheriff  
Detention Officer

Date: Saturday, February 7th  
Time: 10:00 a.m.  
Place: SO 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 Yuma County Sheriff's Office website at: [www.yumacountysheriff.org](http://www.yumacountysheriff.org)

## Professional Development

The following employees attended and/or completed training as listed during the month of January 2009:

**Detention Officers Josephine Martinez; Margarita DeAnda, Carlos Mora, Wesley Collins, Raul Perez, Adam Hildestad** attended a 40 hr. "Mental Health Unit Training" as presented by the Pima County Sheriff's Department which took place in Tucson, Arizona.

**Paralegal Pamela Steen-Kurtz** attended a 24 hr. Workshop on "Jail & Prisoner Legal Issues" as presented by AELE which took place in Las Vegas, NV.

**Deputy Ken Carver** assisted the Southern Arizona Law Enforcement Training Center (SALETC) with the Self Defense Tactics portion of the academy.

**Lt. Joe Lackie** attended a 16 hr. "Communicate with Tact and Professionalism" course as sponsored by Fred Pryor/CareerTrack.

**Sgt. David Pospisil** attended a 1 day "Selection Interviewing" Workshop which took place in Yuma, AZ.

## Proficiency & Continuing Training

**Investigator Andres Angulo** and **USBP Agent Travis McNaughton** attended a 40 hr. "Money Laundering & Asset Forfeiture" Training Program as presented by the Arizona High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area which took place in Tucson, Arizona.

**Captain Eben Bratcher** attended a "Public Safety Volunteer Institute" 3 Day Workshop which took place in Phoenix, Arizona.

**Lt. David McBride** is currently attending the Federal Bureau of Investigations National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

**Lt. Darren Simmons** and **Deputy Alan Herrera** attended a 1 day Colorado River Law Enforcement Agencies Meeting which took place in Laughlin, NV.

**Sgt. Jay Carlson** and **Deputy David Callahan** attended a 5 day Federal Bureau of Investigations "Large Vehicle Post-Blast Crime Scene Investigation" workshop which took place at the Barry M. Goldwater Range in Yuma, AZ.

## Patrol Academy Cadets

We would like to wish **Alfonso Rodriguez** and **Todd Sutton** a safe return from the Central Arizona Regional Law Officer Training Academy located in Coolidge, Arizona. These two gentlemen departed Yuma on January 4, 2009 with the goal to make YCSO proud by proving physical and academic excellence. They will graduate CARLOTA on May 7, 2009.

## REMINDERS

**ATTENTION TO ALL STAFF:** Send all training requests to the "Training" Group Wise address (Training.SO.CO@co.yuma.az.us).

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## More Training News

*(Continued from page 6)*

This assures that someone from the Training Department receives the information requested in a timely manner.

If you have any questions, comments and/or concerns, please contact Lt. David Reyes (Training Coordinator) at Ext. 3362.

**All Personnel:** Please provide the Training Department with a copy of any certificates received so that your training records can be credited accordingly. If Training does not receive documentation reflecting attendance (training roster, certificate, etc.) you will not receive credit.

*Lt. David Reyes*  
*Training & Educational Services*

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## More Bits & Pieces

*(Continued from page 4)*

“Fleet”-ing Thoughts...

Please join me in welcoming aboard **Mike Riedel** to the staff as our new mechanic. He comes to us from Fisher Dodge with over 10 years of experience in the field and seems to be acclimating to Garage

Operations in rapid fashion. I'd also like to extend congratulations to newly promoted **Sgt. Kenny Thomas** and thanks for his diligent service. While in transition to his new position, Sgt. Thomas continued to provide support to the shop in the afternoons until we got Mike on the ground and spooled up to speed. Hats off the **Captain Mark Martinez**,

**Lt. Chuck Bailey** and the **Outer Transport Staff** for making this possible. Again, a fine example of teamwork in action!

*Ken Shaw*

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## More Thanks

*(Continued from page 1)*

**Al Whitney** and **Russell Russom**, **Deputies Christopher Ashby, Ken Carver, Brett McDowell, August Parker** (the “Good One”), **Ted Parker** (the “Bad One”). Also, many thanks to **Major Leon Wilmot, Captain Mark Martinez, Lt. David McBride, Deputy James Waddell**, and all the others who have given me advice and

support throughout this entire process. I have gained a lot of knowledge which will be extremely beneficial when I go to the academy and venture into my new career. Your constant patience with all of my questions is greatly appreciated.

From Sgt. Robert Oberosler—I would like to thank **Gretchen Thomas, Airel Lopez, Adrianna**

**Sweeny, Nidia Alavez, and Noemi Robles** for all their help while the Task Force has been in transition. I would also like to thank **Daniel Dresden, Jerry Quintana** and **Jeremy Jeffcoat** for all their diligent work getting the new office up and running.

# Yuma County Sheriff's Office

141 S. 3rd Avenue  
Yuma, AZ 85364

Phone: 928-783-4427

Fax: 928-539-7837

[www.yumacountysheriff.org](http://www.yumacountysheriff.org)

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We're on the Web!

[www.yumacountysheriff.org](http://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.*

## 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

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

### 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 or interoffice memo.

### Contact Information

Tel: (928) 783-4427, Ext. 3001.

E-mail: [Anna.Lopez@co.yuma.az.us](mailto:Anna.Lopez@co.yuma.az.us)