



Volunteer Services Center Newsletter



September 2012
Volume 8 Issue 1

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Events of Interest:

- COP monthly meetings are held the 4th Tues. from 6-8 p.m.
- Crisis Response Unit monthly meetings are held the 2nd Tues. from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Citizen Police Academy starts in October.
- Silent Witness Anti-Crime Night, Fri. October 5th @ Carr McNatt Park. Beginning at 6 p.m.
- 6th Annual Smoke Detector Installation Program, Sat. October 13th 8 a.m.-noon.
- City Street Clean-up day, Sat. November 17th.



COP Information

The following important information was presented at the June 6th meeting of COP's.

Chain of Command: Lead Assistants are needed. They will rotate every three months. Any physical limitations of members are to be known to the Lead Assistants so assignments can be adjusted (such as not being able to stand for 4 hours). Lead Assistants may not have to go on a Call Out if enough volunteers are there. Any volunteer having a problem on site should call the Lead Assistant to report any physical difficulty. Also inform the officer on site. The goal is to eventually have Dispatch call volunteers already on duty and are near to the Call Out. Volunteer are encouraged to go to briefings and introduce themselves.

Call Outs: Be sure to document the call out on the form after returning from the site.

Volunteer Vehicles: If on duty a volunteer damages a vehicle or damages property, be sure to report it on returning. If in an accident, do not move your vehicle but call dispatch. No pushing vehicles or jump starting cars when on patrol. If a volunteer vehicle is not available, a volunteer needs authorization to use a squad car. Be sure to gas up be-

fore retuning a vehicle. When down to 1/4 of a tank refuel.

Code of Ethics: Volunteers are to be friendly and professional at all times.

Vests: Vests are to be worn when directing traffic or when around traffic when on call.

Radio Code Sheets: All volunteers are to use the radio code sheet. If you do not have one let Wendy know. Dispatch is now using code 20 when volunteers are on duty.

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PD Volunteer Web Sites:
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Transporting: If asked to transport a citizen, advise Dispatch of you of your mileage and location. If uncomfortable with this assignment, such as a man transporting a woman, the volunteer can refuse.

Equipment: We presently have only one radio that is lost. Flash lights are to be brought back and put on chargers. Cars are to be left clean when returned. If any equipment is missing from the car, fill out the form and give it to Wendy.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The Graffiti Abatement Program is looking for someone to supervise a graffiti abatement crew consisting of 2-4 adult probationers. It would be the volunteer's (crew supervisor) choice of how many people they are comfortable with on their crew.

It would be a Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday (their choice) of every week. They would supervise from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The crew supervisor will not be painting or doing any of the work, unless they choose to help.

The crew supervisor will be pulling the graffiti trailer which carries all the paint, supplies, and sandblasting equipment.

The crew supervisor will learn how to use the paint sprayer or sandblaster, or both (preferably, but not mandatory).

This position requires two days of training for supervising a crew and one day of training to learn how to use the paint sprayer and sandblaster.

If interested in supervising a crew, please contact Sheila Chavez at (520) 705-9273. If you are interested in painting over graffiti yourself, this can also be arranged.

Also, Sheila is looking for a volunteer to process graffiti paper work and input data for one hour two or three times a week.

New After-Hours Drop-Off Location at Animal Care & Adoption Center

The Casa Grande Animal Care & Adoption Center now has a new after-hours drop-off location for dogs and cats, all thanks to the Daybreak Rotary Club. The Rotary Club donated construction materials and labor for the new area, which is located on Main Avenue just north of the Animal Care & Adoption Center (202 E. 1st Avenue).

The new area provides pets with shade, water, a misting system and motion sensor lights for night drop-off. It is open Monday through Friday from 4 p.m. to 7 a.m. and all day on weekends.

"This provides a safe environment for pets until our staff is able to place them into the shelter," said Animal Control Supervisor Linda Garcia. "We hope that if a citizen finds a stray animal at night or on the weekends they can bring it to this new drop-off location." The new location has six large cages for dogs and cats, all labeled with instructions in English and Spanish. "Although it is not a requirement, we ask people to leave a note with information about where and when the stray animal was found." Residents can also call the Animal Care & Adoption Center at (520) 426-9300 and leave a message with that information.

The new after-hours drop-off location replaces an old drop-off area that did not have adequate shade and makes good use of a vacant piece of land that has two ramadas and a picnic table. "This new area is also perfect to host future license and rabies clinics and serves as a great play area for the animals in the shelter," said Garcia. "We truly appreciate all that the Rotary Club has done to help keep all pets in Casa Grande safe."

To inquire about adoptions, call the Animal Care & Adoption Center at (520) 426-9300 or visit them at 202 E. 1st Avenue in Casa Grande. Hours are 8 a.m. to Noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Most animals available for adoption can also be seen on Cox Channel 11 and www.casagrandeaz.gov

Police, Fire Investigate Arsons in Casa Grande

A number of structure fires in the last few weeks have prompted the Casa Grande Fire Department to seek assistance from the public. Fire fighters were dispatched to two early morning house fires on Sunday, August 12 at 1331 West Tulip and 319 W. 2nd Avenue. Both of these fires were approximately 20 minutes apart. Fire fighters were also dispatched to a third fire on Tuesday, August 16 at approximately 1 p.m. at 79 North Cameron. All the homes were unoccupied at the time of the fires and police say some of them were used by squatters and drug dealers. The Fire Marshal has determined that all three fires are arson.

Arson is a felony in the state of Arizona, punishable by up to 2 1/2 years in prison if a person knowingly and willingly damages a structure or property by causing a fire or explosion.

The Casa Grande Fire Department has partnered with other public safety agencies in the county to help combat arson in the community. Formed in May of this year, the Pinal County Fire Investigation Task Force includes more than 30 law enforcement and fire personnel from Casa Grande, Gila River, Ak-Chin, Maricopa, Apache Junction, Pinal County Sheriff's Office, Pinal County Attorney's Office, Eloy, Casa Grande Regional, Rural Metro and a Globe K-9 unit trained to detect arson.

"This partnership enables us to pull our resources together to combat arson in the community," said Rice. "Having more than one investigator is critical because of the size of Pinal County."

Last year there were 1,264 arson fires reported in Arizona, with a total property loss of more than \$4 million.

If you have any information about these house fires, please call Silent Witness at (520) 836-2100. Silent Witness is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to an arrest or conviction in the arson cases.

Commander's Message

As Volunteers, you are considered "members" of our Department. With this comes the responsibility of following policies and procedures that must be followed when acting or presenting yourself as a volunteer, or any issues learned while acting as a volunteer.

One of the important characteristic of the Police Department is its Chain of Command. This provides a formal reporting structure and as members, our Volunteers are expected to follow.

For Volunteers, If there are any issues, please provide them to Wendy. If she cannot resolve them, is not present or the issue may be with her, you are to go to Sgt. Grijalva, in turn, if he cannot resolve them, is not present or the issue may be with him, then you may bring the issue to me. This also helps make sure that issues are handled at the appropriate level. If you are actually out in the field and there is an issue after "normal business" hours, the on-duty patrol supervisor is the person to go to.

After reporting any issue to the on-duty supervisor, follow up and report this to Wendy. As always, our doors are open, and anyone wishing to talk or stop by, please feel free to do so.

Wendy's Notes

We have the Electric Light Parade coming up December 1st. Any volunteers that have traffic control training and would like to help with this parade please contact me.

Animal Control, City Court and records continue to need volunteer help. Please see me if you are interested in working in any of these areas.

Welcome

Our volunteer organization can only be effective if we have citizens who are willing to step-up and volunteer their services for the betterment of the Department and the City of Casa Grande. The following volunteers have joined in 2012. We welcome them to the Casa Grande Police Department Volunteer Services Center:

Marilyn Brooks, Unika Chabarría, Randy Cox, Nicole Dallman , Jesse Delfin, Jack Dryden, Uvolha Francis, Dana Howell, Melissa Jenkins, Craig Lewis, David Lloyd, Peg Lloyd, Audrey Lopez, Larry Martin, Veronica Montgomery, Faye Ray, Adriana Schmidlin, Angelita Sotelo, Walter Storrs III, and Louise Zais.

Happy Birthday

The following volunteers celebrate their birthday in September and October. Each one is wished a “Very Happy Birthday” and a heartfelt thanks for their volunteer efforts throughout the year.

September

Don Davis, Craig Lewis, Marcia Dampf, Rita Haefele, Jean DeChristopher, and Verna Sheppard

October

Nicole Dallman, Chris Garcia, John Dampf, Mary Floyd, Kathleen Rikli, Jan Kuykendall, Wayne Sheppard, and Dana Howell

*(If we have missed your birthday,
please let Wendy know so we can update the data base)*