



# Volunteer Services Center Newsletter



Winter 2014-2015  
Volume 10 Issue 1

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### Events of Interest:

- Volunteer monthly meetings are usually held the 4<sup>th</sup> Tues. from 6-8 p.m.
- Wuertz Farm Gourd Festival from February 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the Pinal Co. Fairgrounds
- Cowboy Days and O'odham from February 13<sup>th</sup> through February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Ed Hooper Rodeo Grounds.
- Cactus Fly-In from March 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> at the Municipal Airport.
- AZ State Open Chili Championship March 7<sup>th</sup> at Paul Mason Sportsplex.



## Volunteering

A couple of years ago, my wife, Mary, talked me into volunteering at the Casa Grande Police Department to, as she said, get me out of my easy chair and out of the house. I'm glad she did. Having become a volunteer six months earlier, she would come home all charged up because she had done some meaningful work in the administrative department. I finally gave in. After I was accepted and before completing the Citizen Volunteer Police Academy, I began shadowing a shuttle driver to get an idea of how I could best serve the department. It turned out that shuttling patrol cars and other vehicles was a good fit.

It also turned out that there was a lot more to shuttling than just running cars back and forth between the PD and the North Operations Center for mechanical work. It also meant taking them to a designated vendor for tire repair or replacement, oil changes and lubes, and for work on the two-way radios. It also meant an occasional run up to the Valley for parts or other errands. All of this running around was to insure one thing: patrol cars were on the line and ready for officers to get in and go. It also meant I was learning new things, meeting new people, and traveling streets and roads I'd never been down before.

I also learned there was more to volunteering than shuttling cars. There was finger printing of civilians for teaching and other jobs, assisting at the annual Cactus and Cooper State fly-ins at the airport and there are parades: Veterans, the Electric Light and others.

Recently, I've begun shadowing a member of the Citizens on Patrol. This group takes to the streets in all-white COP cars to check on the unoccupied homes of winter visitors, roam the city looking for problems that might require police attention, and, if requested, provide traffic control at the scene of accidents or other incidents.

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<http://www.casagrandeaz.gov/web/guest/volunteers>

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Long story short: although the salary is lousy, my volunteer experience has been one of personal satisfaction, the satisfaction of doing what some might consider grunt work and doing it well, and doing it better the next day because I've learned something new the day before. The tasks that volunteers perform means that a sworn officer doesn't have to do them and can be on the street doing a more important job.

- Jack Dryden, V-228



Our next Citizens Police Academy starts on February 10<sup>th</sup> and goes through March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Classes are held at the Police Department, located at

373 East Val Vista Boulevard, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 - 9:00 pm throughout the 5 weeks. Each night, there are three instructors from various divisions teaching the ins and outs of police work.

Class space is limited to 35 participants. So if you are interested in attending the Academy, please contact Wendy.

## Wendy's Notes

**W**henever you have a change in your address, phone numbers, or email address please let me know so the data base can be revised.

**P**lease see me if you are interested in working in any of the following areas:

- Animal Control and City Court need volunteer help for clerical work.
- Senior Phone Patrol need volunteer callers.

**V**olunteer mail boxes are now all in one location at the P.D. I need a volunteer to pickup mail for those working at Animal Control and City Court. Call me first to determine if they have any mail.

**V**olunteers are needed for the following events. I have sign-up sheets for each so contact me if you can help:

- Cowboy Days and O'odham Tash Parade - February 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Ride for the Warriors - February 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Chili Cook Off - March 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Public Safety Day - March 21<sup>st</sup>.

**A**lso I have a sign-up sheet for the Volunteer Dinner on April 17<sup>th</sup>.



Animal Care and Adoption Center's low cost clinic - February 7<sup>th</sup>



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 recently joined. We welcome them to the Casa Grande Police Department Volunteer Services Center:

**Carol Galvagnic, Timothy Montes, Courtney Braaten, Charlene Southern, Kenneth Thrower, Elise Dunning, Juan Sillas-Munguia, Nelida Sillas-Munguia, Angel Hernandez, Vollie Ament, Margaret Heth, Rose Kelly, and Michele Mikulic.**



The following volunteers celebrate their birthday in January, February and March. Each one is wished a "Very Happy Birthday" and a heartfelt thanks for their volunteer efforts throughout the year.

**January**

**Donna Johnston, Tammy Foxall, Courtney Braaten, Marvin Erickson, Steve Cantrell, Dan Moreno, and Audrey Lopez.**

**February**

**Russell Liederman.**

**March**

**Angel Hernandez, Gwen Gibson, Helen Parks, Renee Romeo, Pamela Runner, Thomas Eimermann, Lorena Viezcas, Sylvia VanGorp, Mary Dryden, and Robert Michels.**

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

## Important Police Department Numbers & Internet Sites

(Area Code is 520)

- Police (Emergency) 911
- Police (Non-Emergency) 421-8700
- Crime Prevention Unit 421-8711 ext. 6760
- Volunteer Unit 421-8711 ext. 6140
- Traffic/School Resource Unit 421-8711 ext. 6370
- Graffiti/Alarm Unit 421-8711 ext. 6570



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