December 2009
Review

Service to Community

Coconino County Sheriff's Office

Bill Pribil, Sheriff

CCSO high LIGHTS

Christmas Programs Brighten Inmates Holiday

This holiday season brought the sounds of music and good cheer to the inmates of the County Detention Facility.

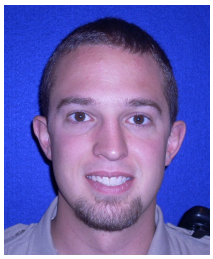
On December 21st and 22nd the staff hosted holiday programs. One night brought beautiful carols from the St. Pius Catholic Church's Joyful Noise Choir.

The next night was filled with live music from the Jailhouse Rocker's band. The band's members are employees and volunteers. The inmates and staff alike were singing along.

We thank the many volunteers that give their service throughout the year on a regular basis, and special thanks go out to the volunteers that take the time out of a busy holiday schedule to bring smiles and happy thoughts during arduous times for the inmates.

The Jail House Rockers

Employee Development



Officer Nicholas Derieux

Congratulations to Nicholas Derieux for being promoted from Detention Officer I to Detention Officer II.

Candidates for promotion go through a testing process and oral boards with higher ranking officers, a representative from Human Resources, and other management personnel.

As a Detention Officer II, he will have the opportunity to take on another level of responsibility in terms of the safety and security of the facility and inmates. Detention Officer II(s) also transport inmates outside of the facility to court, the hospital, or other facilities. In this role, they carry firearms under certain conditions and go through regular firearms training and qualifications.

Officer Harry Riggs

Congratulations to Detention Officer I Harry Riggs. This month he gradutated from the Navajo County Basic Detention Academy.

Students admitted to the academy must be hired or recommended by an approved law enforcement agency. The academy provides entry level training to detention officer staff and cadets endure strenuous physical fitness, intense defensive tactics and weekly classroom tests covering all of the topics regarding duties and responsibilities of a Detention Officer.

The Sheriff's Office is committed to staff development and training. It's very exciting for our agency when employees dedicate themselves to career advancement and the opportunities provided.

Law Enforcement Toy Drive

The annual Northern Arizona Law Enforcement Toy Drive was a great success this year at the Flagstaff Mall. The Law Enforcement Toy Drive started in Phoenix and the surrounding area in 1989 when police officers partnered with radio personality W. Steven Martin to distribute toys to children and at-risk families.

Many of the children were identified by officers who had come to know families in the neighborhoods they patrolled and served. As more officers learned about the program, it spread statewide.

The Northern Arizona Law Enforcement Toy Drive is a partnership among the Arizona Department of Public Safety, the Flagstaff Police Department, the Coconino County Sheriff's Office, the Northern Arizona University Police Department, the Winslow Police Department and the Williams Police Department.

The outreach has become a large part of community policing and helps foster and improve relationships between communities and the police.

Citizen's Police Academy Graduation

On December 23, 2009 twenty six participants graduated from the Citizen's Police Academy (CPA). The Coconino County Sheriff's Office is one of three major sponsors of the academy, along with the Flagstaff Police Department and the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

The Citizen's Police Academy is a ten-week, 14-class program designed to facilitate two-way communication between Northern Arizona Law Enforcement personnel and interested citizens. Topics of instruction cover every facet of law enforcement to include narcotics enforcement, investigation of felony crimes, the corrections system, and a field trip to the local crime lab. Presenters range from leaders of the agencies such as the Sheriff, Chief or Commanders to street officers and deputies. Members of the Coconino County Sheriff's Office teach classes on winter weather survival, DUI awareness, DUI detection and prevention, search and rescue operations and the investigation of serious felonies and crime scenes.

The overall intent of the CPA is to introduce interested community members to a variety of aspects and personnel of Northern Arizona Criminal Justice Agencies. The agenda of each session creates an appropriate balance of information and entertainment. This balance is achieved with a mix of classroom lectures, hands on training sessions and a wide variety of field trips. Some of the classes and field trips that members participate in include:

*Hands on use of firearms and gun safety class

*A presentation on death investigations by detectives

*A presentation on explosive devices

*A field trip to the Coconino County Morgue

*A tour of the Coconino County Jail

*A presentation on Community Policing

*A presentation on accident investigation, traffic law enforcement and D.U.I. apprehension

*A presentation on the Search and Rescue Unit Winter Weather Survival

*An overview of the Flagstaff Police Department Family Crimes Unit and a presentation on the detection and prevention of domestic violence

*A review of the department policy on use of force and a simulated firearms training shoot

*A presentation on drug interdiction and drug abuse prevention by a DEA agent and the supervisor of the Northern Arizona Metro Street Crimes Task Force

CPA is designed to foster a relationship of trust and shared responsibility between law abiding concerned community members and Northern Arizona Law Enforcement Officers. CPA serves as a great recruiting tool. Some of the participants end up pursuing careers in law enforcement and public safety. Students from the CPA also have volunteered for the Sheriff's Office and Flagstaff Police as Volunteer in Policing (VIP), Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), and Neighborhood Watch programs.

Community members who would like to learn more about the Citizen's Police Academy are asked to call the Coconino County Sheriff's Office Community Programs Planner at 928-226-5089.

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

Following a major disaster, first responders who provide fire and medical services may not be able to meet the demand for these services. Factors as number of victims, communication failures, and road blockages can prevent people from accessing emergency services they have come to expect at a moment's notice through 911. In these cases, people will need to rely on each other for help in order to meet their immediate life saving and life sustaining needs.

Under these kinds of conditions, family members, fellow employees, and neighbors spontaneously help each other. Unfortunately, they often do not have appropriate training. Such was the case following the Mexico City earthquake where untrained, spontaneous volunteers saved 800 people. However, 100 people lost their lives while attempting to save others. This is a high price to pay and is preventable through training.

If we can predict that emergency services will be overwhelmed in being able to meet immediate needs following a major disaster, especially if there is no warning as in a wild land fire, and people will spontaneously volunteer, what can the Coconino County Sheriff's Office do to prepare citizens?

First, citizens should be aware of what to expect following a major disaster in terms of immediate services. Second, citizens should be aware of their responsibility for mitigation and preparedness. Third, citizens should be trained in the areas of life saving skills with emphasis on decision making, rescuer safety, and doing the greatest good for the greatest number. Fourth, citizens can be organized into teams so that they are an extension of first responder services offering immediate help to victims until professional services arrive. The Coconino County Sheriff's Office uses the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program to address each of these steps.

Basic CERT Training addresses: DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, DISASTER FIRE SUPPRESSION, DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS, LIGHT SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS, DISASTER PSYCHOLOGY, and TEAM ORGANIZATION. The course includes a DISASTER SIMULATION where participants put their training into practice. During each session participants are required to bring safety equipment (gloves, goggles, mask) and disaster supplies (bandages, flashlight, dressings) which will be used during the session. By doing this for each session, participants build a disaster response kit.

The Coconino County Sheriff's Office has delivered the twenty-four hour Basic CERT class to communities throughout Coconino County including: Forest Lakes, Kaibab Estates, Sherwood Forest Estates, Tuba City, Supai Canyon, Leupp, Page, Tusayan, Williams, Flagstaff, and Tonalea/Red Lake. The most recent class was held in Flagstaff in November with 26 community members successfully completing the program.

We have provided the Basic CERT Training to more than 500 residents of Coconino County. In Flagstaff 60 CERT volunteers continue to meet on a monthly basis for a barbeque and continued education/training. This group of dedicated CERT members has assisted Northern Arizona Public Safety Organizations in a variety of capacities ultimately saving the county valuable dollars. CERT Volunteers assist with neighborhood evacuations during wild land fires, staff road blocks, assist with traffic control, staff phone lines in Joint Information Centers during times of emergencies and disasters, disseminate emergency awareness and preparedness information at public events, and serve Coconino County in a wide variety of other capacities.

This month over 60 CERT volunteers were honored during a recognition banquet that was held at the Elk's Lodge in Flagstaff. Coconino County Sheriff Bill Pribil, Flagstaff Police Chief Brent Cooper, Flagstaff City Council Members, Coconino County Board of Supervisors and a member of the Arizona State Citizen Corps Council recognized the CERT volunteers for their countless hours of community service and their dedication.

Sergeant Aaron Dick and Lieutenant Mark Christian Publish Article Provided by Deputy and Court Officer Magazine

SEARCH AND RESCUE AND INCIDENT MANAGEMENT FREEWARE

By Aaron Dick, Mark Christian, Eric Johnson, and David Lovelock

During the past three years David Lovelock (University of Arizona, AZ), Dan O'Connor (Northeast Wilderness Search and Rescue, MA), Mike Ebersole (Grand Canyon National Park, AZ), Rick Toman (Massachusetts SAR coordinator), together with several western states Sheriff's Search and Rescue Coordinators and others, have been involved in the development of free Windows computer programs to aid search and rescue coordinators and emergency managers in handling emergency incidents. The cornerstone program is WinCASIE (Computer Aided Search Information Exchange), which was followed by SAR T-Cards and Clue Manager.

WinCASIE

In the late 1970's, the concepts of Mattson Consensus, Probability of Area (POA), and Probability of Detection (POD), were introduced to inland search managers, which augmented their intuition with mathematical concepts, and quantified their previous seat-of-the-pants decisions during complex searches. However, while operating in the field, keeping track of the POAs and PODs was a challenge, never mind the tedious and lengthy mathematical calculations involved in updating these values. Enter CASIE. Short for Computer Aided Search Information Exchange, CASIE started out as a program, created by the late John Bownds of the University of Arizona, for programmable Texas Instruments calculators, which then evolved into a freely distributable DOS program, written by David Lovelock. The program was a powerful decision aid for search managers engaged in running extended search operations. CASIE was successfully used in many search and rescue missions both nationally and internationally.

In the late 1990s and early 2000s there were many requests for a Windows update to CASIE. In September of 2006 the long-awaited WinCASIE was revealed during a Search Management workshop at Grand Canyon National Park. Since the unveiling there have been several significant extensions to the program including making it very useful from the small-scale, hasty search to the complex, extended search, and the transition is seamless.

The development of the Initial Note in WinCASIE, and the associated menu items and templates, are very important additions to a search manager's toolkit. The Initial Note is designed to be used during the early stages of a search, generally the hasty or initial actions phase, to record important search information and to keep track of significant decisions and milestones during the search.

There are several templates that guide the search manager to ensure that the proper information is collected and analyzed to develop appropriate strategies and tactics for locating the lost person. With approximately 97% of all searches resolved in the hasty or initial action phase (before a Mattson consensus is taken) the Initial Note is now the most used portion of the WinCASIE program.

If a search becomes part of the 3% that become extended operations (once a consensus is taken) the transition from the Initial Note to a full scale Incident in WinCASIE is easy. The Initial Note is transferred to the Audit Trail of the full incident so that there is a good accounting of what was one prior to the consensus being taken and the initial POAs developed. WinCASIE's Audit Trail then keeps track of the consensus and the Initial POAs determined from the consensus and all decisions and actions taken during the course of the search. Reports are generated from the Audit Trail, which are used as key part of the overall incident documentation. As is often said in the emergency medical services and law enforcement fields "If it isn't documented, it didn't happen." WinCASIE documents everything, but does much more including allowing the search manager to test strategies and tactics by performing "What If?" analyses.

SAR T-Cards

The T-Card system has long been used in incident management to track resources assigned to an incident allowing staff to quickly visualize the status of those resources.

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Traditional T-Cards are paper cardstock that are arranged in a rack to identify whether they are Checked In, Assigned, Available, Out of Service, or Checked Out. While that system is useful it has limitations. Traditional resource T-Cards are not easily saved for future operations and it is difficult to create a "snapshot" of the status of resources on an incident at any given time. SAR T-Cards is an easy-to-use, intuitive, program developed by David Lovelock, with contributions from many members of the search-and-rescue community. It replicates the traditional T-Card system on a Windows computer with individual T-Cards and a "rack" on the screen.

Historically T-Cards are fire-service oriented and, although adopted by the All-Hazard community, there are difficulties when using fire-specific items in a search-and rescue context. SAR T-Cards maintains the traditional T-Card titles, so it can be used for fire incidents, but adds additional search-and-rescue specific titles. SAR T-Cards has many advantages over traditional T-Cards. Using SAR T-Cards an agency can create a Resource File well before any incident occurs and that file can be transported on a USB drive. When an incident occurs the incident staff can open SAR T-Cards, import the resource file, and check-in the personnel that are available for that incident.

If another agency responds to the same and Court Officer 2009 Number 2 Deputy and Court Officer 2009 Number 2 H 73 incident and has its resource file on a USB drive, that file can also be imported and resources checked in. This saves valuable time in that the resource or the Resources Unit does not have to create a new paper T-Card for every incident. Just as individual paper T-Cards can be clipped together with a cover card to create a task force or strike team the SAR T-Cards program allows individual T-Cards to be virtually clipped together with a "team card" to create the same task force or strike team. With traditional T-Cards it is not uncommon for the Resources Unit to photograph the T-Card rack to document the status of resources at a specific time. With SAR T-Cards a click of the mouse allows the operator to capture and save the status of an incident at any time. A log file is also created that allows the operator to view all actions taken from the time the program started. Several different reports can be generated to document the use or status of resources which can be included in the incident documentation.

Clue Manager

Accounting for and documenting the clues located during a search-and-rescue mission are often critical for a successful result. Clue Manager is a Windows program (co-authored by David Lovelock and Chris Young of the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team in California) that logs clues and records the actions taken with regard to the clues.

Each clue is given a clue number and information such as the team/individual that located the clue, the time and date that the clue was located, the description of the clue, the instructions given regarding processing the clue, and the authenticity of the clue are documented. This is extremely beneficial on large searches where numerous clues are discovered and reported. It is easy to lose track of paper clue report forms and potentially miss a critical piece of the puzzle that is a search. Viewing the Clue Log allows an investigator to quickly see which clues have been resolved and which require additional investigation.

WWW.SARAZ.ORG

All of the programs described in this article and others are available for free download by visiting www.saraz.org and opening the Free Software tab. The website saraz.org is a project created by Dick, Johnson, and Lovelock, to promote land search and- rescue professionalism and education by facilitating the exchange of information among land SAR practitioners. In addition to the free software there are papers and presentations that are deemed to be important to the field of search and rescue as well as a calendar of search and rescue events. Training for the programs described is also available and information about arranging training is located on the website under SARAZ.ORG Workshops.

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WinCASIE, SAR T-Cards, and Clue Manager, are all tools for search managers to use in coordinating a response and making decisions about resource allocation and strategy and tactics to resolve the incident. The information documented by these programs can be of great value in the event of litigation and during internal after-action reviews to improve future performance.

About the authors

Sgt. Aaron Dick is the Search and Rescue Coordinator for the Coconino County Sheriff's Office and has completed the NASAR Managing the Lost Person Incident and Planning Section Chief courses, the National Search and Rescue School's Inland SAR Planning Course, and the FEMA All-Hazard Incident Management Team course. He has been involved in teaching SAR workshops on the described software in AZ. Sgt. Dick is currently a member of the ASTM F32 Committee on Search and Rescue and is active in the Arizona Sheriff's Search and Rescue Coordinators Association. Sgt. Dick received the 2008 State of Arizona Search and Rescue Coordinator of the Year award. Lt. Mark Christian is the Administrative Lieutenant for the Coconino County Sheriff's Office and provides oversight for the Search and Rescue Unit. He has completed the NASAR Managing the Lost Person Incident course as well as the National Search and Rescue School's Inland SAR Planning Course. Lt. Christian is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and has received a certificate in Public Administration from Northern Arizona University.

Deputy Eric Johnson is a Search and Rescue Coordinator for the Pima County Sheriff's Department. Deputy Johnson has completed the NASAR Managing the Lost Person Incident course as well as the National Search and Rescue School's Inland SAR Planning Course. He has been involved in coordinating and teaching SAR workshops on the described software in AZ and has assisted in teaching MLPI in Arizona. He is actively involved with the Arizona Sheriff's Search and Rescue Coordinators Association and received the 2009 NASAR State Award for Arizona for his work involving training and implementation of WinCASIE in the Arizona SAR community.

David Lovelock is emeritus professor of mathematics at the University of Arizona and is the principal programmer of WinCASIE, SAR T-Cards, Clue Manager and several other search and rescue related programs

Dr. Lovelock has completed the National Search and Rescue School's Inland SAR Planning Course and is active with the Arizona Sheriff's Search and Rescue Coordinators Association as a technical advisor. He has coordinated and taught SAR workshops on the software in AK, AZ, BC, CO, NM, TN, and WY and has assisted in teaching MLPI in Arizona. He is the recipient of the prestigious NASAR Hal Foss award in 2008 for his work on WinCASIE, the Pima County Sheriff's Department Citizens Medal in 2007, and the National Park Service Search and Rescue Award in 2006.

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Service to Community

We are committed to providing responsive and effective Service to the Community. We earn and maintain the public's trust and confidence through our integrity and professionalism. Toward these goals, we devote our personnel, resources and energy.

Search and Rescue GPS Class

Deputy Shouse, Lieutenant Cornelius, Deputy Walter, Deputy Garrison, SAR Volunteer. Pundt, and Deputy Paxton complete the GPS course near the Woody Mountain Well Field

The Search and Rescue Unit put on three GPS classes for patrol personnel. The GPS class provided basic instruction on the use of GPS for backcountry navigation with special emphasis on how it is used in search and rescue and public safety. Students in the classes received instruction in the basic technical information about how GPS works, how to use it with maps and the various coordinate systems, and how to interpret location information given by other sources and convert it between coordinate formats and map datum.

After approximately four hours of classroom work the students went into the field to complete a field course which lasted approximately three hours. Students used the GPS skills that they had learned to navigate to several different points on the course.

The knowledge and skill gained during this course will help to make those that took the course more proficient in using GPS effectively while on patrol.