

THE EXPLORER POST

"Integrity, duty, honor, pride--Phoenix Explorers have it inside"

Phoenix Police Explorers: The future of law enforcement--building a history of excellence since 1974

FROM THE ADVISOR DESK: OFFICER DOUG BURROW



Academy Class #13-20 at ALEA in June

The end of the academic year does not signal a slow-down in Post activities. If anything, we step up the pace as we go into a very busy June and summer season. For the fifth year, Post 2906 has sponsored the **Law Enforcement Explorer Academy** 13-20 at ALEA. Putting together this 100-hour 2-week academy is an all-year task and could not be accomplished without the assistance of our volunteers and the excellent support of Department command staff. With only one week to pack up and catch our breath, 35 Explorers and Advisors then attended our own **Teambuilding Leadership Conference** near Dolores, Colorado in late June. Combining challenging activities designed to build both physical and mental strength, the Explorers enjoyed the cooler weather and a time to develop friendships and teamwork. This proved such a success that we hope to grow it to include other Law Enforcement Explorer Posts in 2014.

With the class of 2013 graduating, we sent some Explorers off to university or the military, but have a strong group of graduates staying with the Post continuing to serve. Post 2906 starts the 2013-2014 year at our maximum of 50 Explorers and Recruits. The interest in the Post is high, and there continues to be a waiting list. The rigorous vetting process gives us the best possible candidates. During recruit interviews I always consider "Is this individual someone I would want to work with in the Department?" Those of you who have seen the dedication and integrity of our Explorers firsthand know the answer to that question.

October brings our big fundraiser: the **Annual BBQ at PLEA on Wednesday October 9**. Successful fundraising on these occasions leaves us more time for community service events and assisting the Department as requested. We hope you'll pass the word about this special Explorer event and plan to join us. Our Post expert BBQ'ers **Senior Explorers J. Bueno** and **O. Gonzalez** and their crew are again at the grill, so plan to join us at the PLEA garage October 9!

Fall and Winter bring many opportunities for community service; we'll be selecting and training a new Honor Guard and Competition Team and providing intensive training to our new Recruits. Additionally, we continue to work with all Explorers on career goals and career readiness skills throughout the year. We have a strong Command Staff, three dedicated squads of Explorers and an exceptional group of new recruits. **As we head into the Post's 40th year (1974-2014), as always we stand ready to learn, excel and serve.**

THE SMELL OF B.B.Q. IS IN THE AIR!! CIRCLE October 9 ON YOUR CALENDAR!!

The Annual Phoenix Police Explorers **Fundraising BBQ** is being held on **Wednesday, October 9** at PLEA from 11am-2pm and 5pm-10pm. (1102 West Adams) Follow your nose and enjoy an expertly grilled hamburger or hot dog with all the fixings while supporting the Department's own Explorer Post!

You've seen our award winning Post at many community events, directing traffic, fingerprinting kids and assisting the Department in a myriad of ways. This is one of the ways we earn the funds that keep us going throughout the year.

The Post is self-funding, and this is our main fundraiser for the year. You can also **order ahead** and send someone to pick up your order. (Contact Officer Doug Burrow at 602-316-8871 before Oct. 9) Start or end your shift with some great food, and pass the word to colleagues, family and friends! As always, there will be tables for dining in. **We hope to see colleagues from all precincts and divisions on October 9th!**

Mark your Calendar:

October 9: Fundraising BBQ at PLEA
January 14: Explorer Parent OPEN HOUSE

NEW RECRUITS JOIN THE POST

After testing and a rigorous vetting process, 13 new Recruits joined Post 2906 on September 3. With high interest, a long waiting list and limited vacancies, these 'best of the best' applicants bring high energy and enthusiasm as they take the first step toward a law enforcement career. These probational Recruits bring Post 2906 up to our maximum of 50 members, and they will participate fully in all training and community service events in the coming busy months. A Recruit and Family Open House was held in late August to welcome the new Recruits and their families to the Post, giving everyone an opportunity to get questions answered and to meet fellow Explorers before the first full Post meeting in September.

With a variety of ages and schools represented, Phoenix Police Explorers welcome:

Recruit **Kenia Carillo**, Glendale CC, Freshman
 Recruit **Gabriel DeAnda**, Washington, HS Senior
 Recruit **Jeffrey Ecker**, Mountain Ridge HS, Freshman
 Recruit **Chris Gonzalez**, Franklin Police & Fire HS, Freshman
 Recruit **Anthony Perez**, Franklin Police & Fire HS, Freshman
 Recruit **Damon Rose**, ASU Prep HS, Junior
 Recruit **Fabian Ruiz**, South Mountain HS, Senior
 Recruit **Joseph Ruiz**, ASU Prep HS, Junior
 Recruit **Lyndelle Sanjuanero**, St. Mary's HS, Freshman
 Recruit **Anthony Scheinert**, Brophy Prep HS, Sophomore
 Recruit **Laia Stanley**, Sandra Day O'Connor HS, Freshman
 Recruit **Matthew Weisbly**, ASU Prep HS, Junior
 Recruit **Edik Zazueta**, Franklin Police & Fire HS, Junior



Squad A Command Staff & Recruits

L-R: Stanley, Weisbly, Rose, Ecker



Squad B Command Staff & Recruits

L-R: J. Ruiz, Zazueta, Sanjuanero, C. Gonzalez



Squad C Command Staff & Recruits

**L-R: DeAnda, Scheinert, A. Perez, Carillo
 (F. Ruiz, not pictured)**



SGT M. Sanchez explains General Orders

**THANKS TO THE FAMILIES FOR
 ATTENDING AND FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!**

41 New Law Enforcement Explorers Graduate from Academy 13-20

A tradition of excellence continues as 41 Explorer Recruits completed the 20th Law Enforcement Explorer Academy #13-20. Sponsored by Phoenix Police Explorer Post 2906, eight Arizona law enforcement agencies sent recruits to the 2 week- 100 hour course June 3-14, held at the Arizona Law Enforcement Academy South Mountain campus.



All classes were taught by veteran law enforcement professionals from Phoenix Police, on more than a dozen topics, ranging from ethics to

criminal law and traffic control, to report writing, including armory/range experience. Each day began with a 0530 show time followed by PC (physical conditioning), and even in the summer weather, the recruits met the challenge of the obstacle course, especially enjoying ESB's **SGT Jeff Benza** and **LT Kimberly Mitchell** joining them on their runs. **RTOs** challenging the Recruits were: **Officers E. Miller, D. Garcia and L. Ruelas.**

Thirteen Recruits from Post 2906 gained full Explorer status:

Scarlett Alliger, Acacia Anaya, Jorge Castro, Mersadez DeAnda-Sanchez, Amethyst Dennison, Marissa Dowhan, Michael Gonzalez, Orlando Gonzalez, Socorro Nieves, John Smokoska, Rebekah Torres, Carsen Vaughn and Analee Zavala. Class awards for best physical conditioning were won by Post 2906 Explorers **Acacia Anaya (female)** and **Orlando Gonzalez (male).**

Explorer **M. Gonzalez** noted that the SAU training by **Officer L. Wood** was #1 in his 2 week experience, enjoying the challenge of the class and the humor of the instructor. Explorer **A. Anaya** stated that the Traffic Law and Control courses were top of her list; "It was interesting to learn specific things that could be ticketed on the street and the basics of the law. I had so much fun doing traffic control. . . it was an awesome experience being the one in control in the middle of an intersection!" PC award winner **Anaya** notes she "stressed over the final PC test and inspection", and said she "became closer friends with my fellow Explorers because we were there for each other and we still are."

Graduate Explorer **M. Dowhan** identified the POPAT Training as important to her, saying "I learned more of my strengths and weaknesses through it." Noting that her standards for herself

were "way higher" at graduation, **Dowhan** said she learned how to "push my limits" and "made so many close friends within the Post and outside the Post that I still talk to."

Explorer **R. Torres** echoed **M. Gonzalez** in choosing SAU as an interesting class module, noting she learned that females can also be members of a SWAT team. **Torres'** favorite activity was Patrol for the "experience of what it is like to work as a patrol officer." She notes that her Post 2906 friends were "brought closer and I made friends from other Posts."

Explorer **J. Smokoska** shared: "My first thoughts when I first saw myself in my Class As were: 'I made it and that I actually accomplished something! You can't just walk into the academy and get a uniform. You have to earn it through hard work and dedication. Most importantly you have to have Integrity Honor and Pride.' Many Recruits agreed with Explorer **S. Nieves** that the first day of the Academy was "unbelievably scary", but said she attended each day "with all the enthusiasm in the world". "Seeing everyone in their Class A uniforms at graduation made just one thought come to mind. . . 'We did it!' " **Nieves** gives a great summation of the Academy experience: "Success comes in three words: Hardwork, Determination and then your biggest prize of all is VICTORY!"



Congratulations to all 41 new Law Enforcement Explorers and especially to the 13 Phoenix Police Explorer Post 2906 graduates. Well done!



THEY'RE IN THE ARMY NOW!!

(And Air Force!!)

With goals toward a career in law enforcement, two Explorers left Phoenix and Post 2906 recently for service in the US Army. (ASST CMDR) **Marley Vore** E3, is now stationed at Fort Rucker/Alabama doing her AIT in aircraft pneumatic repair. She completed basic training at Fort Jackson this summer. **Vore** was an integral part of the Post's Tactical Competition Team and Honor Guard, and we look forward to seeing her during home leave during the holidays.

(CAPT) **Cooper Smith** is now in basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, to be followed by 11 more weeks of AIT (Advanced Individual Training) as he becomes a member of the Military Police. During his recent sendoff from the Post, **Smith** remarked about the Explorer program: "Leadership and integrity are the biggest things that have really stuck with me. Going to the Academy and the pressure and mental game--not to quit--they want to see you succeed, THAT'S what I remember. I'm looking forward to AIT and the traveling. I want to go places!" It's certain that both **Vore** and **Smith** will be going places; they were valued and dedicated members of the Post, and we wish them the best!

2012 Graduates Return!



Airman Angie Delatorre, former CMDR 2012

A recent surprise visit from Airman **Angie Delatorre** was a highlight at an August Command Staff training meeting. A CMDR who graduated from the Post in 2012, she now serves in the US Air Force at Warren AFB/Wyoming. **Delatorre** supports the Missile Alert Facility of the 90th Missile Wing/20th Squadron. With over 40 Airmen in the security force, **Delatorre** is one of just two women in that job tasked with guarding the LGM-30G Minuteman III ICBMs. Although home to the most modern weaponry, her base is the oldest continuously active

military installation within the Air Force, established by the US Army as Fort Russell in 1867. **Delatorre** encouraged the Explorers to continue working hard to follow their goals.

Another 2012 graduate, (ASST CMDR) **Nick Nance**, has returned to Phoenix as a Reservist-E3 in the US Army. Nance completed basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, with AIT as an Imagery Analyst for Army Intelligence Units. **Nance** answered questions and shared his experiences with the Post during a recent visit and shared that his goal is to become a sworn officer with Phoenix Police. Over the years, many Explorers have served their country in all branches of the Military, and we thank them for their service and wish them the best as they pursue excellence in their new positions!



New Recruit Training August 27



Training the new Recruit crew, August



CMDR M. Cousins welcomes Post 2906

ABLE CONFERENCE: Professional Growth

A special opportunity to attend the ABLE 2013 Criminal Justice Conference was given to 15 students at Franklin Police & Fire High School in August. Seven of our own Explorers (**A. Godinez, A. Perez, D. Sesmas, J. Flores, E. Zazueta, E. Gonzalez and A. Dennison**) from Franklin were included at the 3-day conference. Sponsored by the Arizona Black Law Enforcement organization, students in attendance recognized the Department's own **Chief Daniel Garcia**, as well as **Officer James Holmes**, who served as Master of Ceremonies. Classes from Computer Crimes and Scene Management to presentations by the US Marshal's Service allowed the students to experience a wide variety of topics and grow their interest in law enforcement. The opportunity to meet so many professionals sharing their expertise was invaluable. (SGT) A. Dennison noted that *"Listen to the leader, they have been in your shoes and moved on"* to be helpful advise. Post (CMDR) A. Godinez said: *"Being able to attend the ABLE conference was a priceless opportunity not only for myself, but for all attendees. This conference allowed me to not only have a better understanding of diversity with the Police Department, but to embrace it and use it to have a better connection within our communities while serving."* Many thanks to ABLE for making the student registration scholarships available!

13 PROMOTE TO COMMAND STAFF

With graduations and departures to the military at academic year's end, there were only 5 open positions available in the Command Staff hierarchy.



Newly promoted: well done!

In order to promote, Explorers follow much the same rigorous requirements as Phoenix Police, taking a test and going through an Oral Board interview process.

While some Command Staff chose to stay in their 2012-2013 position, many pushed themselves to grow in experience and progress to gain higher rank. Quite a few Explorers who had just completed the Academy challenged themselves, as well. **Advisor Officer Doug Burrow** noted, "Final scores were very high and very close. It was obvious the Explorers put in the time to prepare." Aided in their quest by **LT K. Mitchell**, who conducted a class on Oral Board interviews, the Explorers agreed that just participating in the process was very worthwhile.



Four new Sergeants join Command Staff

L-R: Zavala, DeAnda-Sanchez, E. Gonzalez, Dennison, with Asst Chiefs Markley and Müller, Officer Burrow

Parents "pinned" their Explorer at the Promotion Ceremony August 13, and were honored to have **Assistant Chiefs C. Müller and H. Markley** in attendance, as well as **LT K. Mitchell** and **SGT J. Benza**. Congratulations to all! We have a very strong Command Staff of 19 heading into academic year 2013-2014!



Lieutenants Anaya and Dowhan

Joining **CMDR C. Carpenter** is newly promoted **CMDR A. Godinez**. Promoting to **EXEC SGT** are **A. Zavala** and **D. Sesmas**. New **ASST CMDRS** are **K. Jones, J. Davis** and **S. Garcia**, with **CAPT J. Flores** and **V. Rincon** newly promoted as well.

A. Anaya and **M. Dowhan** earned squad **LT** rank, with three **SGTS** joining Command Staff ranks: **SGTS A. Dennison, E. Gonzalez, M. DeAnda-Sanchez**.

After August training classes, everyone hit the ground running and did a great job planning, preparing and hosting the Recruit Open House August 27. Post 2906 is in good hands from the top down!

Newly Promoted: the Captains & Commanders



Captains Flores and Rincon



Asst Commanders Davis and S. Garcia



Commander Adelita Godinez

With Asst Chiefs Miiller, Markley & Officer Burrow

THANKS TO COMMAND STAFF FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT!!

EXPLORERS EXCEL, EARN SCHOLARSHIPS and AWARDS

Balancing school, Explorer activities as a member of Command Staff, and sometimes a job would be challenging for anyone. Many in our Post do that daily. After school's end, a number of scholarships were awarded to some very deserving students over the summer:

Zoe Anaya (CMDR-Graduate 2012, now at NAU): the Hispanic American Police Command Officers Association awarded her their national Law Enforcement Explorer Scholarship.

CMDR C.J. Carpenter: earned the President's Scholarship, a 2-year scholastic merit full-ride award at Paradise Valley Community College, where he is a freshman in a cooperative program with NAU in Computer Science. **Carpenter** begins his second year serving as CMDR of the Post with **CMDR Adelita Godinez**.

ASST CMDR Sarahy Garcia: awarded the Arizona Transit Foundation Scholarship, as well as the 2-year full ride President's Scholarship for scholastic merit.

She is a freshman at Paradise Valley Community College and recently promoted to ASST CMDR.



Kevin Jones with Major G. Stanton

ASST CMDR Kevin Jones: honored with the City of Phoenix 2013 Youth Volunteer Award at a recent citywide dinner; for public service and volunteerism in Phoenix by youth under 18. **Jones** is currently a senior and recently promoted to ASST CMDR.

These students and many others in Post 2906 go well above and beyond the service and scholastic requirements of the Explorer program (2.0 GPA). Their determination and drive has paid off. Congratulations to all. . . you make the Post and your families proud!

Leadership Teambuilding Conference: Colorado June 2013

by Sarahy Garcia (ASST CMDR)

This past summer was full of excitement and improvement as Phoenix Explorer Post 2906 embarked on one of the most thrilling trips yet! We traveled to Colorado and the Circle K Ranch for five amazing days to meet challenges that were designed to increase our leadership skills. We divided into groups and each day a different Explorer got to be leader. We learned the importance of working as a team through the challenges and classes, but we also had free time to interact with everybody.



During our stay, we got to do so many things that it was very difficult not to go to bed tired! Everyday there were mandatory exercises such as learning how to use a compass, taking a class on surviving in the wild, having an astronomy night, as well as many other challenges. One of our tactical scenarios featured a bear attack, another was a physically challenging rope course, and we all went horseback riding. A special day included hiking through the high country to a stunning waterfall located at an altitude of almost 11,000 feet! We also came up with our own team skits, and we even told scary stories one night that came back to 'haunt' us. In our free time, most of us went hiking, on mountain bike rides, fished or played volleyball.

We even got to enjoy the creek that had a reputation of having leeches, but we found none. As a result, a lot of the Explorers got in, even Officer Burrow! We also played hide and go seek in the dark, and had a farewell water balloon fight with really cold water. After the scary stories, the Advisors just loved terrorizing the bunkhouses and hearing the girls yell from inside. As a consequence, we put our bunks together, and yes, I was one of those girls. Nonetheless, in the morning we would all be looking forward to breakfast and although everything was amazing, I bet not one Explorer can forget the homemade food made from scratch. Words can't even do justice to the food we got to eat made by the ranch staff. Those ten pounds we probably all gained were totally worth it!

Everything in this experience helped us get to know each other better, to be better leaders while at the same time having an unforgettable time! We hope that next summer we can go back again!

Funding for our Post:

Phoenix Police Explorer Post 2906 relies strictly on fundraisers and donations. Your support keeps us active in serving our community and Department.

Post 2906 dates from 1974 . . . almost 40 years of excellence in growing the law enforcement officers of the future!



Just for fun . . . new Command Staff 13 with Officer Burrow

If you are a city employee, you can choose to provide a \$2 per month payroll deduction and support us all year long! For information or a payroll form, please contact Advisor Doug Burrow.

**620 West Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85004
Phone: 602-534-6334
FAX: 602-534-1972
Doug.Burrow@phoenix.gov
Phoenix.gov/police/explor1.html**

**Please contact Mary Graf V1230 with any Newsletter items.
Mary.graf@phoenix.gov**