



### **History CPAAA 2009**

**The Beginning.** With the changing of the by-laws, the organization elected new leadership under the new two year terms, providing for greater continuity for the organization. Scott Peterson was elected President, Melissa Hammerquist and Trey Johnson were elected Vice-Presidents, Dawn Falk was elected Secretary and Cheryl Bashore was re-elected as Treasurer. The voting was certified by Phil Van Guilder and the election committee. Additionally, Burt Warner was appointed as Parliamentarian and Scott Townsend continued as Historian. Cheryl Bashore decided to step down as treasurer late in the year and Barry Willett stepped up and was appointed to the board as her replacement in December. The organization as a whole also renewed its membership with the Citizen's Police Academy Alumni of North Texas (CPAANT), the regional version of our organization. In fact, FM CPAAA hosted the monthly CPAANT meeting in July.



**CPSP.** The Citizen's Public Safety Patrol (CPSP) celebrated its two year anniversary on March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009. The Citizen's Patrol contributed over 2600 hours at a value of over \$52,000.00 in 2009. This equated to participation in over 400 calls for service for the department. Ninety-eight of these were as the primary unit. The patrol participated in virtually every other event or happening mentioned in this history. Mid-year, the chief decided to promote several members to Sergeant due to their leadership. Don Chambers was promoted to Sergeant for his stewardship over the patrol, Phil VanGuilder for his leadership over the tower program and Scott Peterson for his position as CPAAA President residing over the remainder of the volunteers. Later in the year, Doug Graves was also promoted to Sergeant for his work in Operations Management for special events and deployments. One new endeavor for the patrol was providing the FMPD with a ground search force in the event of a missing or lost person either in a rural or urban environment. Spearheaded by Scott Townsend, this joint venture with CERT and is still in the formulation but has been through several deployments. Ultimately, the value of this organization was directly reflected in the reduction of the overall crime rate by 5 percent in 2009.

**Volunteer of the Year.** With the assistance of the FMCPAA executive board, the department selected its second volunteer of the year in 2009. It turned out that one of the association's most valued teams would keep it in the family when Doug Graves was selected as the 2008 Volunteer of the year and was honored as such at the Police Banquet in February. Pat Graves was previously honored as the 2007

Volunteer of the Year. Both of these folks are integral members of almost everything that happens at the PD throughout the year.

**Volunteer Desk.** This continues to be a focal point for coordinating our volunteer efforts on a daily basis. Melissa Hammerquist, Karen Miller, Kim Hale, Cheryl Bashore, and Carol Peterman all logged time at the desk in 2009. Their assistance to LT Clay Pierce, Officer Steve Caldwell, Allen Burns, our fleet technician, as well as the rest of the department in coordinating volunteer activities is difficult to measure. One of the new tasks they have taken on in 2009 is a more accurate assessment of the number of hours the volunteers support and the dollars saved by the town.



**4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration at FMHS and 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade.** Volunteers from both departments (FMPD and FMFD) assisted with support at both the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Fireworks display at FMHS. Doug Graves coordinated deployment of the Patrol members along the Parade route for the purpose of Parking control and safety during the Parade. Once again, volunteers were instrumental in the both events, but nothing illustrated this more as when volunteers manned the new football field service with water to extinguish embers falling on the field once again in 2009. Rumor has it there will be a new fireworks location for 2010.

**Softball Game.** Trey Johnson headed up the annual softball game effort between the FMPD and FMFD. As hard as they tried and worked, Trey and his committee could not overcome a very wet fall that caused the postponement of the game until the spring of 2010.

**Trail Marking.** Once again, Don Chambers and Doug Graves with the assistance of some Boy Scouts, managed to get some more of our trails marked here in Town. This effort included a stretch of trail in close proximity to the FM PD and Parker Square Park. As was the case of the softball game, the very wet fall hindered this effort but it is expected that the effort will continue in 2010.



**Open House.** Although weather once again threatened, the department hosted its open house this year in October, on the new National Night Out (Texas Night Out) schedule. CPAAA members were present throughout the building giving tours of the department, assisting citizens or showing off the FMPD and CPSP fleet. McGruff was present, as were the FD Clowns and community members were treated to static displays, tours, popcorn and even a bounce house. Search One participated this year for the first time, rounding out the volunteer support for missing or lost persons.

**National Night Out.** At the conclusion of the open house, teams of CPSP, CERT and McGruff team members hit the road to visit block parties throughout the community. While the weather forced the

cancellation of a few of the block parties, our mixed volunteer teams were able to meet and greet with party members and do some community education along the way. The mayor and participating town council members made it a point to thank our volunteers for the work they do on this event each year.

**Football Season.** The patrol and other departmental volunteers once again supported 5 home games at Flower Mound High School patrolling the parking lots and adjacent areas. In addition to answering questions for visiting team parents and friends, the patrol assisted in the apprehension of some misbehaving young people and supervised visiting team/band/drill team/cheerleading bus parking. The volunteers felt very fortunate to support such a great group (and often fairly senior) group of officers at these games. The coming year will come with some questions, including how to support both the FMHS and MHS home stadiums next year with the addition of the new stadium.

**New Academy Grads.** There were two academies conducted during the course of the year adding 14 graduates from Class 13 (spring of 2009) and 16 graduates from Class 14 (fall of 2009). Many of these new graduates have gone on to join our ranks. Their impact has already been seen in the CPSP, Ghost Cars, Santa Cops and even the simple but very necessary task in patrol car washing. A complete listing of the graduates is attached to this report.

**Dorothy's Dash.** Volunteers assisted for the third year in a row in this tribute to Dorothy Walkup, a former town employee, who lost her battle with Multiple Sclerosis. Patrol members were stationed at key areas along the run to ensure runner safety as they traverse the course. The patrol executed this very well and managed to keep both the runners and drivers safe and happy. Thanks for SARGEANT Doug Graves for his leadership on this special event.



**Skywatch Tower.** Sergeant Phil VanGuilder continued to head this program which expanded in 2009 under his leadership. More locations were watched by the Scarecrow as it is known and a camera was added allowing access via the internet. This increased optempo did have two unfavorable consequences; we had our first two mishaps with the tower, with the trailer becoming separated during transport (which operated exactly as designed) and the camera mount finally giving way to the stresses of transportation. The trailer was undamaged (though not the volunteer driver's ego) and the camera mounting system is currently being reviewed.

**Christmas Season Ghost Cars.** Again this year the volunteers lead the effort in posting Ghost Cars at our retail center locations from Black Friday until the end of the Holiday Season. Melissa Hammerquist headed this effort for the FMCPAA working with the FMPD Sergeant's to determine where cars should

be deployed on a daily basis. This effort was affected from time to time by the unavailability of cars, due the number of new FMPD officers on the streets (a good problem to have).



**Santa Cops.** The need in Flower Mound has never been greater and sponsor Officer Steve Caldwell and co-chairs Pat Graves and Melissa Hammerquist did not disappoint. With over 40 families in need this year, the Santa Cop effort kicked into gear. This great team managed to get all the donations boxes deployed in a very competitive environment where other charitable organizations were seeking assistance, we were able to co-exist and prevail. This year the effort affected over 40 families and over 100 kids ranging in age from 6 months to 18 years. A virtual army of volunteers contributed to this effort, as did officers, civilian employees and family members of FMPD. It was truly a sight to behold a few days before Christmas as officers and volunteers deployed to bring the gifts to our families in need. A special thanks to all who donated or otherwise participated; it could not have happened if not for you. Your efforts amounted to over 300 hours dedicated to the project.

At the conclusion of the FMPD efforts, the remaining toys were split between Children's Medical Center and CCA. Additionally, Officer Caldwell, Scott Townsend and Carol Peterman presented the USO with 8 boxes of Beanie Babies for their Reading Room at DFW airport. The plush toys will be sent by the USO to service member children along with a book and a DVD of the deploying Dad or Mom reading said book.

**Christmas Parade/Parker Square Stroll.** Again this year, volunteers were heavily involved in the execution of the Flower Mound Christmas Parade on December 6<sup>th</sup>. Headed by Sergeant Doug Graves, CERT, CPAAA and CPSP took charge of virtually all aspects of pre-staging and staging for the parade. The only thing they didn't do was the float safety certification which was provided by the Fire Department. Additionally, volunteers were stationed throughout the parade route working side by side with officers to ensure safety and security of the parade participants and the general public. The Skytower was again used as a platform to shoot the parade video by FMTV.

**Christmas Dinner.** Holiday meals were once again provided several times during each shift for officers. This effort was headed by Cheryl Bashore. Volunteers brought food and stood by for the on duty officers on both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. This long standing tradition dates back to the early days of the association and the members take great pleasure in seeing our officers enjoy a good meal.



**McGruff.** Karen Miller took over this branch of the Crime Prevention and Education program and has done a wonderful job with it. She immediately integrated with the teen court and local NHS organizations establishing a pool of volunteers to play McGruff. She was able to support all requirements throughout the year, of which there are many!

**Training.** Several volunteers received additional training this year in order to better serve both the department and community. Chris Van Degna was certified as a Crime Prevention Inspector able to assist Flower Mound residents with inspections to better protect themselves. Karen Miller and Carol Peterman became experts on incident command while attending a course in Anniston, AL.



**Other.** We said farewell to Harold Pettigrew as he retired as the vehicle maintenance tech and welcomed Allen Burns to the position. Volunteer assistance in taking Police cars for car washes, and ferrying new (and old) patrol cars to Royce City, Texas for outfitting by a vendor as well as to the Flower Mound service center are critical services that often get overlooked but should not be dismissed. These services are invaluable and both the officers and leadership are thankful for the willingness of the organization to help out in the ancillary, but important tasks. Additionally, the CPAAA purchased new cool cops systems for all the front line vehicles as well as a system for Bullet, the department's K-9 officer. Later in the year, a GPS module for the accident/crime scene surveying equipment was purchased and delivered to the traffic department.

**Closing.** It was another great year for the CPAAA. As a volunteer force, the CPAAA and CPSP contributed over 6000 hours to the department worth over \$120,000.00. As stated earlier, Acting Assistant Chief Wendell Mitchell attributed at least some of the 5 percent drop in crime to the volunteer force that assists the department, taking calls for service and allowing officer's to focus on more serious activities and incidents. Thanks to all our members who contributed in their own unique way to a great 2009!

Scott A. Townsend, FM CPAAA Historian