

Partners in Policing

Euleless Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association Monthly Newsletter

Volume 13 Issue 8 | AUGUST 2009

2009 Officers

President: Rose-Marie Stevens
1st Vice President: Pete Jones
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Treasurer: Leah Benoit
Coordinator EPD: Sgt. Eric Starnes
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Hospitality: Sharon Finnegan and Helen Wagner
Newsletter: Leah Benoit and Rose-Marie Stevens

Submissions Welcome!

Do you have any funny stories, e-mails, or photos to share with our members?

Please e-mail your police-related submissions to eulesscpa@sbcglobal.net

Submissions are due the first day of each month.



August Speaker

Senior Corporal Brett Morgan
Assisted by Detective John Haecker
Euleless Police Department

Brett will be giving a synopsis of what the Euleless Police Department has termed "The Lighthouse Murder". It was a cold case that remained unsolved for 13 years before being assigned to Brett. Brett will walk through the steps that both himself and Detective John Haecker took to identify the two suspects that were recently sentenced to prison terms for their involvement.

You can learn a little more about Brett by reading his biography on page 5 of the newsletter.

ECPAAA Members Answer the Call for Help in the EPD Jail

Lt. Danny Neill will be speaking to the volunteers that responded to the call for help needed in the Jail. There was an overwhelming response and Lt. Neill wants to address everyone at the same time about the duties and responsibilities of this volunteer opportunity and to hear any suggestions you may have. He will also be introducing the Lead Public Service Officers that will be providing the training.

A sign-up sheet will be made available so that you can start scheduling your time. The hours he described as ideal are from 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. and from 7:00 - 11:00 p.m.; however, any time that meets your availability is a good time. So if you were one of the volunteers that called Lt. Neill to sign up to work, please try to attend the meeting.

A new tab was added to the ECPAAA Volunteer Log Book called "Jail". Please record all of your volunteer time under this tab when volunteering in the jail.



**Sgt. Eric
Starnes**

Momentum Breakers vs. Momentum Makers

Dr. John C. Maxwell

A train travelling 55 mph on a railroad track can crash through a 5-foot thick steel-reinforced concrete wall without stopping. That same train, starting from a stationary position, won't be able to go through an inch-thick block in front of the driving wheel.

It is never the size of your problem that is the problem. It's a lack of momentum. Without momentum, even a tiny obstacle can prevent you from moving forward. With momentum, you'll navigate through problems and barely even notice them.

As a leader, your responsibility is to understand momentum, to get it moving for your organization, and to sustain it over time. Momentum can be tricky to comprehend, though, often appearing elusive and intangible. In this article, my goal is to give you handles so that you can better recognize how to generate momentum in your workplace. To help you grasp the concept of momentum, I'll outline ten momentum breakers alongside ten momentum makers.

Momentum Breakers and Makers

Momentum breaker - double-mindedness

Momentum maker - focus

By creating and following a clear and focused vision statement, a leader develops momentum. A leader drains away momentum by shooting at nothing or attempting everything.

Movement causes friction. When you paint a target for your team, you'll likely encounter resistance. As a leader, you can't restrict yourself by living inside of someone

else's comfort zone. Great accomplishments require leaders to fix their gaze beyond what's easily attainable.

Momentum breaker - the past

Momentum maker - the future

An organization picks up steam when its leaders point to a better tomorrow. Momentum breaks down when leaders pre-occupy themselves with the past. Or, as I've heard quoted, "Losers yearn for the past and get stuck in it. Winners learn from the past and let go of it."

Many people have powerful dreams. However, most don't realize that the viability of their ideal tomorrow is based on what they do *today*. The difference between a dream and wishful thinking is what you're doing now. Practice today what you want to be tomorrow. If you do it well enough, someday you may arrive at your dream.

Momentum breaker - individualism

Momentum maker - teamwork

If you want to kill momentum, then insist on doing things by yourself. Momentum grows through team victories in which numerous people can claim to have played a role. The level of celebration on a team depends upon the level of participation.

Momentum breaker - critical attitude

Momentum maker - constructive attitude

Tennis great Chris Evert said it best, "The thing that separates good players from great ones is mental attitude. It might only make a difference of two or three points over an entire match, but how you play those key points often makes the difference between winning and losing."

Momentum breaker - tradition

Momentum maker - creativity

Don't tear down the fence until you understand why it was built. At the same time, relentlessly question the logic, "that's how we have always done it." What worked in the past may be outdated and could hold you back in the future.

Momentum breaker - apathy

Momentum maker - passion

Passion energizes your talent and rubs off on those around you. If you have courage, then you will influence people based on your passionate convictions. If you lack courage, then you will only influence people to the extent of your comfort zone.

Continued on Page 3

FROM THE CHIEF

Your Servant Mike is on vacation and will have an article for us next month.

Sgt. Eric Starnes – Continued from Page 2

Momentum breaker - dishonesty

Momentum maker - character

Character is the sum total of our everyday choices. It cannot be built overnight. A trustworthy leader has a much easier time generating momentum than a leader with a reputation of being manipulative and deceitful.

Momentum breaker - conformity

Momentum maker - change

As John F. Kennedy said, "Conformity is the jailer of freedom and the enemy of growth." Sticking with the status quo won't create an ounce of momentum. Although it's difficult and may demand sacrifice, change is required to build momentum.

Momentum breaker - ingratitude

Momentum maker - gratitude

As a Chinese proverb states, "Those who drink the water must remember those who dug the well." No one can claim to be self-made. Whatever accomplishments we attain in life have connections to the goodwill and support of those around us. When we express thankfulness for the benefits bestowed upon us by friends and colleagues, then those people are more apt to aid us again in the future.

Momentum breaker - indecision

Momentum maker - action

I am never overly impressed with idea people. Anyone who takes a long shower can come up with a good idea. I'm impressed with a person who has the tenacity and discipline to make ideas happen.

I've seen many leaders break the momentum on their team by succumbing to the paralysis of analysis. Leaders have to act with incomplete information. You can never know all of the variables. Momentum and risk go hand in hand. As a leader, if you always play it safe, then you'll never inspire excitement in those you lead.

Closing Assignment

I'll leave you with a simple assignment. Assess your personal momentum. Are you speeding through the obstacles in your life or struggling to surmount even the smallest problems? What is responsible for your momentum or lack thereof? Do you recognize any of the momentum makers or breakers in your personal leadership?

From the President – Rose-Marie Stevens

Four of us were able to attend the 2009 Texas Citizen Police Academy Alumni & Law Enforcement Annual Training held in San Marcos – Chief Mike Brown, Leah Benoit, Geri Sorg and yours truly. Since Geri had to work a half day, she travelled with CPAAA members from Carrollton and Arlington. The Chief had the privilege of traveling with Leah and me.

The training/convention was much better than I had expected. It was originally scheduled to be held in Galveston this year, but the weather changed all that. So the San Marcos CPAAA stepped in. The team did not have nearly as much time to prepare; however, in a brief conversation with Greg Wurzbach, SMCPAAA President, he could not praise the CPAAA members, the city and the police department enough for working together to produce a training/convention they could be proud of.

Continued on Page 6

Upcoming Events

- Aug 18 – ECPAAA General Meeting, 7 pm, Police Station
- Aug 21 – Verlon Thompson, 7 pm, Eules Public Library (reservations required, call 817-685-1679)
- Aug 25 - City Council Meeting, 7 pm, City Hall
- Sept 5 – CPAANT Meeting, Desoto (location & directions can be found on www.cpaant.org)
- Sept 12 – ECPAAA BBQ Dinner and Silent Auction, 6-9 pm, Ruth Millican Center

Welcome CFPA Class 2

Their first class began August 6th and the students will graduate on November 5th.

If you would like to attend any of the classes for a refresher, please feel free to do so. Or you can just stop in and say hi to the new folks.

July 2009 Volunteer Hours

- CID Clerical - 20 Hours 0 Minutes
- Citizens On Patrol - 114 Hours 0 Minutes
 - Number of Handicap Citations Issued - 0
 - Number of Handicap Warnings Issued - 0
 - Number of Junk Vehicles Written - 0
- Courts - 25 Hours 45 Minutes
- CPA/CERT Class - 38 Hours 30 Minutes
- Crime Victims Assistance Program - 12 Hour 30 Minutes
- Meetings/Training - 102 Hours 0 Minutes
 - Includes the following:
 - CPAANT Regional Meeting - 6 Hours 30 Minutes
 - ECPAAA General Meeting - 21 Hours 30 Minutes
 - TCPAAA San Marcos Convention—74 Hours 0 Minutes
- Miscellaneous - 10 Hours 0 Minutes
- Selective Vehicle Parking - 0 Hours 0 Minutes
- Speed Trailer - 0 Hours 0 Minutes
- Vehicle Maintenance - 76 Hours 0 Minutes
- Watering of Plants - 11 Hours 0 Minutes
- Total - 409 Hours 45 Minutes**

Value of Volunteer Time — \$8,291.36

Year-to-Date Value of Volunteer Time — \$66,116.25

July Meeting — 30 Alumni Members Present



September 12th BBQ Dinner and Silent Auction Fund Raiser

Time is running out. Please either purchase your tickets or reserve them by August 31st if you are planning on attending the event. Tickets will be available at the August 18th meeting from Leah Benoit. Prices of the tickets are as follows: \$15 for Adults, \$10 (ages 5-13) and under 5 eat Free. We have lots of great auction items and door prizes. Come join us for a night of fun and good eating by our wonderful cooks!

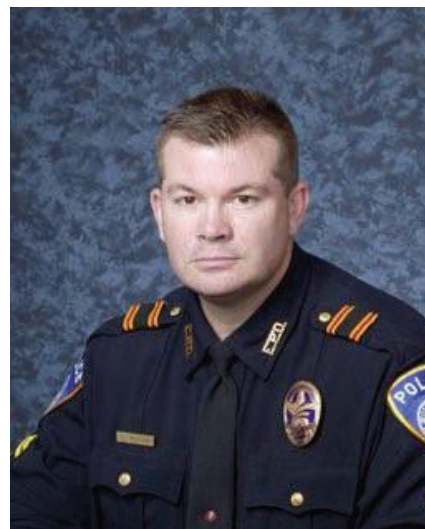
Officer Biography Brett Morgan

Date of Biography: August 4, 2009

Current title with EPD: Senior Corporal

Year started and history with the EPD:

- 1993 - Graduated the Police Academy
- 1996 - Assigned to the TACTICAL TEAM
- 1996 - Assigned as a Field Training Officer (FTO)
- 1997 - Assigned to the Bike Patrol
- 1998 - Assigned to Honor Guard
- 2000 - Assigned to CID
- 2000 - Reassigned to the Narcotic Task Force
- 2004 - Reassigned to CID
- 2006 - Assigned as Assistant Team Leader of the TACTICAL TEAM
- 2007 - Promoted to Senior Corporal and assigned to CID
- 2009 - Assigned to Patrol Division – Nights B



Where were you born? Dallas, Texas

In what city do you currently live? Keller

Tell me a little about your family, spouse, children (ages), grandchildren, pets, etc.

I have been married to my beautiful wife, Angie, for 9 years. I have a 6 year old son, Bryce and we have one dog and two ducks.

What are your hobbies? Fishing, hunting, sports and whatever Bryce has planned for me when I get home; it’s always an adventure.

What is your favorite part of being a Public Service Officer? The opportunity to serve and give back in a positive way. No two days are the same!

Any interesting or little-known facts about yourself...

I became an ordained minister when I was about 20 years old and I have a Masters Degree in Criminal Justice Administration.

Who is your favorite celebrity? I don’t really have a favorite....maybe Tommy Lee Jones or Robert Duvall.

What is your favorite food? Again, don’t really have a favorite.

Happy Birthday ECPAAA Members

Lou Baum – 8/4

Susan Vest – 8/12

Loren Johnson – 8/14

Steve Doty – 8/4

Julie Watkins – 8/12

ALUMNI CORNER



Spotlight on Pat McDowell

Interviewed by Jerrie Keller and Faye Stinneford

Pat is a graduate of ECPA Class 24 and ECFA Class 14. She was born in Nebraska on February 8, 1938. Pat has been married to Bill for 12 years. Pat initially was not sure if she had one sister or two; however, after continual interrogation she committed to just the one sister. Pat has lived in Eules for the past 4 years.

Pat says she enjoys flying, reading and participating in the CPA/CFA/CERT and COPS activities. Her favorite book is any John Jakes, John Grisham or Joseph Waumbaugh books. Her favorite places to travel are Nebraska, Washington DC and Israel. Her favorite activities are talking to her sister and best friends in Florida and California. You can find her most mornings at LA Fitness participating in the water fitness class.

She said what made her join the ECPAAA was she saw a notice in the water bill. She joined the Alumni Association because she wanted to continue with the friendly dedicated bunch of people. We asked her what she enjoyed most about the class and she replied EVERYTHING, especially all the great people and everything she learned. She expressed what she most enjoyed about the Alumni Association is staying in touch with the people, finding ways to serve the community and the continued learning.

We lastly asked her what would she like the members to know about her, and she replied she is aging gracefully, she still loves being involved, she has had more fun in the last two years than ever before – and she says she has had a lot of fun previously.



From the President — Rose-Marie Stevens — Continued from Page 3

I attended several sessions, but I'm only going to talk about two of them – the two I was skeptical about. One focused on the Terry Shivo Case and the other focused on the Texas State University Body Farm.

You may remember that Terry Shivo was a young woman on life support in Florida whose husband wanted her removed from life support but whose parents went to court to prevent that removal. There was a lot of media coverage concerning this disagreement between spouse and parents, but Sgt. Brian Unmisig talked about how the Pinellas Park Police Department was affected. If my memory serves me, their police department is a little larger than ours, and yet the police had to devote many hours in the hospital and in the surrounding area to protect the families who lived near the hospital from the many demonstrators that converged in the area. Citizens who had family and friends in the hospital had to go through the police checkpoints creating a delicate public relations situation for the police.

However, the biggest problem for each officer involved was dealing with personal feelings about euthanasia. They had to cope with their own moral and religious beliefs while dealing with demonstrators who wanted to impose their beliefs on others and dealing with citizens whose lives had been adversely affected by circumstances beyond their control. To say they were under great stress is an understatement.

Sgt. Unmisig encouraged us to try to always be prepared for any contingency as we never know what will happen. We easily anticipate weather problems here, but I have never considered the possibility of the City of Eules having to deal with the kind of situation Sgt. Unmisig described. Fortunately, we have CERT to help us prepare for different kinds of disasters.

Continued on Page 7

**EULESS CITIZENS POLICE
ACADEMY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

July 21, 2009

Meeting called to order 7:06 pm

Members Present: Lou Baum, Byron Benoit, Leah Benoit, Renee Bier-schenk, Perry Brockmeyer, Sherri Browning, Karen Duncan, Teresia Foreman, J. R Goad, Kay Goad, Marian Goethe, Loren Johnson, Pete Jones, Sandi Jones, Jerrie Keller, Sue Kosec, Don Martin, Pat McDowell, Eugene Moren, Dawn Nisbet, Betty Overstreet, Renee Potter, Al Simmenroth, Barney Snitz, Geri Sorg, Rose Marie Stevens, Faye Stinneford, Tim Stinneford, Susan Vest and Helen Voss

**INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLE-
GIANCE:** J.R. Goad

JUNE MINUTES: Tim Stinneford made a motion we accept the June Minutes, second by Geri Sorg. Motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT: Pete Jones made motion to approve the June Treasurer's Report, second by Sandi Jones. Motion passed.

WATER COOLER: Chief Brown made a request for the Association to provide water for the jailers. The Board approved the request.

PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS: The presentation will be August 10 at 7:00 pm at City Hall. Congressman Kenny Marchant will present the awards. Dress attire required for participants; regular dress for those attending.

A motion was made by Kay Goad, second by Sue Kosec to provide refreshments for the presentation. Motion passed. Kay Goad made a second motion to purchase a cake with Congratulations Volunteers – 2008, second by Teresia Foreman. Motion passed. Volunteers include Kay Goad, Sandi Jones and Betty Overstreet.

FUNDRAISERS: Leah announced we received a check from the City for \$1,430.62 for Warrant Round Up; \$89.40 from Cartridge Recycling and \$40.00 from Albertson's.

BBQ FUNDRAISER: Leah had BBQ dinner tickets available - \$15.00 each for adults, \$10.00 per child ages 5 – 13; under 5 – Free. Donations are continuing to come in. Rose-Marie announced that the Board made a decision to not purchase a television to raffle off because there wouldn't be enough time to sell tickets.

CPAANT: Geri Sorg announced that there would be a TV raffle for the State Convention. Tickets were available for purchase.

MISCELLANEOUS: Rose-Marie read a postcard from Denise Miles; announced that she still had letters for the Tom Thumb Reward Card allowing members to add a code for the organization.

COMMENTS: Once the meeting was adjourned, it was time to enjoy the sweets that were brought.

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm.

From the President – Rose-Marie Stevens – Continued from Page 6

The next topic I will briefly describe is the Texas State University Body Farm, and that is exactly what it is. This institution collects bodies for research, and you can donate yours. Unfortunately, I did not write down the contact information, but I believe Leah did.

Anyway, this research is related to forensics. For example, if bones are recovered, it is difficult to determine the time of death, so they have bodies on the ground to measure the speed of decomposition. A body found here will decompose at a different rate than one in Tennessee where Dr. Michelle Hamilton, our speaker, moved from to Texas. The founder of this form of research, Dr. William Bass, described in one of his books how a body was recovered and brought to him for study. They hoped to identify the bones. He correctly described the gender, race and approximate age of the individual, but he said that he had been dead about a year. Other testing proved that the bones, which were identified, were over 100 years old. The area in Tennessee where they were found significantly protected the remains.

Dr. Hamilton described another situation where bones were recovered and were believed to be those of a boy who had been missing for about a year, I think. His teeth were perfect so there were no dental records to be found. There was DNA but the people who they believed were his family would not supply any DNA for verification. Dr. Hamilton theorized that they could not accept the finality of death and could, therefore, remain hopeful that he was alive somewhere. Consequently, they went to another specialist for facial reconstruction. The results of the facial reconstruction certainly resembled the missing boy, but they could go no further.

Dr. Hamilton provided several examples of their work, but hopefully you get the picture.

It was a great conference, and next year it will be held in Bryan/College Station, and in 2011 it returns to Galveston. Maybe you can make the next one.

Here's the website address for more information on how to donate your body to the Body Farm.

<http://www.txstate.edu/anthropology/facts/donations>

July 2009 Treasurer's Report

INCOME	Carry Over	July	YTD Income	Annual Budget	Over/Under Budget
General Fund	\$20,706.07				
Afghan Sales			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bass Pro Events			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
BBQ FUNDRAISER		\$15.00	\$15.00	\$4,000.00	-\$3,985.00
Brick Sales			\$525.00	\$0.00	\$525.00
CRUD Day			\$600.00	\$1,300.00	-\$700.00
Donations/Outside Income			\$760.00	\$0.00	\$760.00
Grocery Care Cards		\$37.35	\$99.56	\$100.00	-\$0.44
Meeting Raffle			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership Dues		\$40.00	\$1,420.00	\$1,200.00	\$220.00
Member Merchandise			\$49.00	\$0.00	\$49.00
Recycle Program		\$89.40	\$89.40	\$400.00	-\$310.60
Reimbursement Brick installation			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Warrant Roundup		\$1,430.62	\$1,430.62	\$1,300.00	\$130.62
Total Income		\$1,612.37	\$4,988.58	\$8,300.00	-\$3,311.42
Total	\$20,706.07	\$25,694.65	\$25,694.65		
EXPENSES	Carry Over	July	YTD Expenses	Annual Budget	Over/Under Budget
9-1-1 Day			\$0.00	\$250.00	-\$250.00
Audit - Treasurer's Records		\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$0.00
BBQ Silent Auction			\$0.00	\$1,500.00	-\$1,500.00
Bricks			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Checking Account Expenses			\$115.16	\$0.00	\$115.16
Computer Repair			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Corrections to Checking Account			\$152.00	\$0.00	\$152.00
CPANNT Dues - Paid Dec. 2008			\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Expenses Not Covered			\$0.00	\$125.00	\$125.00
Honorarium Awards and Gifts			\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Member Merchandise Items			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Memorials and Gifts			\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Office Supplies			\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
PALS Summer Camp			\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Police Appreciation Week			\$383.57	\$400.00	\$16.43
Police Chief Wish Projects			\$4,453.73	\$2,525.00	-\$1,928.73
Police Clown Program			\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Police Officer Christmas Meals			\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Postage/Envelopes for Newsletters			\$6.07	\$300.00	\$293.93
President Awards			\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Savings Account Transfer			\$10,000.00		
Social Events			\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Water by the Gallon		\$187.98	\$607.98	\$600.00	-\$7.98
Web Site/Domain Name			\$0.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
Total Expenses		\$337.98	\$15,868.51	\$8,300.00	-\$7,568.51
Funds Available in Checking			\$9,826.14		
SAVINGS ACCOUNT					
Savings Account			\$10,000.00		
Interest from Savings Account		\$0.33	\$2.00		
Funds Available in Savings			\$10,002.00		
Total ECPAAA Funds			\$19,828.14		