

Partners in Policing

Eulesse Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association
Monthly Newsletter

Volume 13 Issue 3 | MARCH 2009

2009 Officers

President: Rose-Marie Stevens
1st Vice President: Pete Jones
2nd Vice President: Karen Duncan
Secretary: Susan Vest
Treasurer: Leah Benoit
Coordinator EPD: Sgt. Eric Starnes
Bereavement: Sharon Finnegan
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?

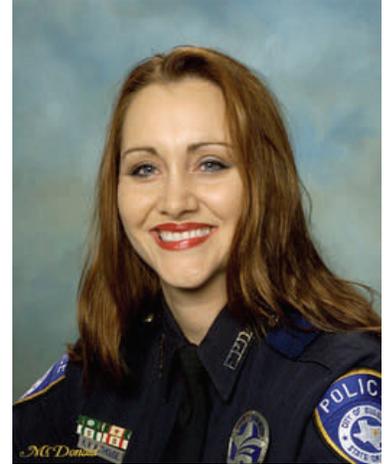
Please e-mail your police-related submissions to eulesscpa@sbcglobal.net

Submissions are due the first day of each month.



March Speaker

Sr. Cpl. Kim Althouse will be speaking about sex offenders in the City of Euless and how Alumni members can be involved in CART – Child Abduction Response Team. The information will cover the risk of sex offenders to the community.



If you are going to order a monogrammed paver, please bring your order form and payment to the March meeting and give to Leah Benoit for processing.

Notice for 2009 Dues

2009 dues are due and can be given to Leah Benoit, Treasurer, at the March meeting or mailed in to:

ECPAAA
Attn: 2009 Dues
1102 W. Euless Boulevard
Euless, TX 76040



Sgt. Eric Starnes

March 3, 2009 Failing Forward

By Dr. John C. Maxwell

Vincent Van Gogh failed as an art dealer, flunked his entrance exam to theology school, and was fired by the church after an ill-fated attempt at missionary work. In fact, during his life, he seldom experienced anything other than failure as an artist. Although a single painting by Van Gogh would fetch in excess of \$100 million today, in his lifetime Van Gogh sold only one painting, four months prior to his death. Before developing his theory of relativity, Albert Einstein encountered academic failure. One headmaster expelled Einstein from school and another teacher predicted that he would never amount to anything. Einstein even failed his entrance exam into college.

Prior to dazzling the world with his athletic skill, Michael Jordan was cut from his sophomore basketball team. Even though he captured six championships, during his professional career, Jordan missed over 12,000 shots, lost nearly 400 games, and failed to make more than 25 would-be game-winning baskets.

Failure didn't stop Vincent Van Gogh from painting, Albert Einstein from theorizing, or Michael Jordan from playing basketball, but it has paralyzed countless leaders and prevented them from reaching their potential.

At some point, all great achievers are tempted to believe they are failures. But in spite of that, they persevere. In the face of adversity, shortcomings, and rejection, they hold onto self-believe and refuse to see themselves as failures.

Here are seven abilities of achievers that enable them to rebound from failure and keep moving forward.

Seven Principles for Failing Forward

Reject Rejection

Achievers who persevere do not base their self-worth on their performance. On the contrary, they have a healthy self-image that's not dictated by external events. When they fall short, rather than labeling themselves a failure, they learn from mistakes in their judgment or behavior.

Don't Point Fingers

When people fail, they're often tempted to blame others for their lack of success. By pointing fingers, they sink into a victim mentality and cede their fate to outsiders. When playing the blame game, people rob themselves of learning from their failures and alienate others by refusing to take responsibility for mistakes.

See Failure as Temporary

People who personalize failure see a problem as a hole they're permanently stuck in, whereas achievers see any predicament as temporary. One mindset wallows in failure, the other looks forward to success. By putting mistakes into perspective, achievers are able to see failure as a momentary event, not a symptom of a lifelong epidemic.

Set Realistic Expectations

Unrealistic goals doom people to failure. For instance, if a person hasn't exercised for five years, then making it to a gym twice a week may be a better goal than running in next month's marathon. Also, some people insensibly expect to be perfect. Everyone fails, so expect setbacks and emotionally prepare to deal with them.

Focus on Strengths

Don't invest time shoring up non-character flaws at the exclusion of investing in your strengths. People operating from a position of strength enjoy a far lower rate of failure than those laboring in areas of weakness. You're built to give your talents to the world; be diligent about finding expressions for them in your career.

Continued on Page 3

From the President — Rose-Marie Stevens

Since, during our last meeting, I mentioned the Texas Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association's Annual Training/Convention scheduled for this summer, I thought I should give you more information.

The hosts for this event are the San Marcos Police Department, the Hays County Sheriff Department and Texas State University who have only had a short time to prepare for the event which was originally scheduled for Galveston.

The Convention will start Thursday evening, July 30th, with a BBQ and welcome program. Opening ceremonies and classes will start Friday, July 31st, and the closing banquet is scheduled for Saturday, August 1st. All of these activities will take place in San Marcos at the Embassy Suites located at 1001 McCarty Lane, San Marcos, Texas 78666. Although detailed information is not currently available about the class schedule, we do have information about the hotel.

The room rate is \$119 per evening and includes a full breakfast every morning as well as a free open bar every evening from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Call 1-800-EMBASSY (1-800-362-2779) to make your reservations and ask for "TCPAAA 2009."

As some of you may know, San Marcos is home to the famous Outlet Mall. I understand from the Texas CPAAA newsletter that we will be treated to a lunch at the Mall, compliments of Hector Trevino, Operations Manager. Of course, plenty of shopping opportunities will be available after lunch.

I hope you will be able to attend. I have found these conventions both informative and enjoyable, and you may also.

Rose-Marie

Sgt. Starnes—Continued from Page 2

Vary Approaches to Achievement

In the Psychology of Achievement, Brian Tracy writes about four millionaires who made their fortunes by age 35. On average, these achievers were involved in 17 businesses before they found the one that took them to the top. They kept trying and changing until they found something that worked.

Bounce Back

Rehashing missteps and blunders for too long sabotages concentration and eats away at self-confidence. When dealing with failure, achievers have short memories. They quickly forget the negative emotions of setbacks and press forward resiliently. While taking pause to learn from failures, achievers realize that the past cannot be altered.

Summary

I believe it's nearly impossible for any person to believe he or she is a failure and move forward at the same time. For those who have been downsized, let go, or bankrupted, the temptation may be to internalize failure. My hope is that anyone who has suffered setbacks recently will be able to separate life's unfortunate events from their self-worth. Failure, like death and taxes, will happen. Your response to failure holds the key to your future.

Upcoming Events

March 17 – ECPAAA General Meeting, 7 pm, Police Station

March 24 – City Council Meeting, 7 pm, City Hall

March 28 – Easter Egg Scramble, Parks at Texas Star, 10 am–Noon



April 3 – Police Awards Banquet, 7pm, Texas Star (doors will open at 6:30)

April 4 – CPAANT Meeting – Decatur (location & directions can be found on www.cpaant.org)

April 4 – Texas Trash Off, 9 am–Noon, Meet at Incredible Pizza



April 4 – CRUD Day, 9 – 11 am, Eules Municipal Complex



April 9 – CFPA Class 1 Graduation, 7 pm, Texas Star



April 14 – City Council Meeting, 7 pm, City Hall

February 2009 Volunteer Hours

- CID Clerical - 14 Hours 45 Minutes
- Citizens On Patrol - 94 Hours 30 Minutes
- Number of Handicap Citations Issued - 1
- Number of Handicap Warnings Issued - 0
- Number of Junk Vehicles Written - 0
- Courts - 8 Hours 30 Minutes
- CPA/CERT Class - 20 Hours 30 Minutes
- Crime Victims Assistance Program - 6 Hours 45 Minutes
- Meetings/Training - 150 Hours 15 Minutes
- Miscellaneous - 18 Hours 0 Minutes
- Selective Vehicle Parking - 0 Hours 0 Minutes
- Speed Trailer - 17 Hours 0 Minutes
- Vehicle Maintenance - 87 Hours 30 Minutes
- Warrant Roundup - 0 Hours 0 Minutes
- Watering of Plants - 8 Hours 30 Minutes

Total – 426 Hours 15 Minutes

33 Alumni Members and 1 Guest Present at the February Meeting

**Happy Birthday
ECPAAA
Members!**

Sharon Finnegan – 3/6

Judy Rick – 3/11

Helen Wagner – 3/11

Chris Shanahan – 3/13

Joyce Humphrey – 3/21

Karen Duncan – 3/31

Officer Biography will resume next month!

From Our Chief

My Fellow Servants,

Thanks again for the hours you gave us last month! We have a real need coming up and I ask that as many of you help us as possible. We will be holding the Warrant Round Up again, and we need people who are willing to help call those on the warrant list who forgot they had gotten a citation and need to pay their fine. Just a few numbers to let you know what we are looking at; there are over \$2,000,000 worth of unpaid citations out there. As you all know, the economic times are hard, they are hard on everyone, but those people who willingly fail to pay their fines are causing an undue hardship on us all. No one likes to be the bearer of bad news, but I feel it is important we do all we can to insure the hard work of all those members of the department who risked life and limb to issue those citations is not wasted.

I am not asking you to put forth an effort that we are not joining you in. I have asked our patrol officers to spend some of their time, as call loads permit, serving those warrants. For them it means knocking on the door and speaking directly with the violator. We are not dragging people out of their houses in the dead of night, but we are reminding them they have outstanding warrants and there is a consequence for not taking care of their business.

Since the last time you helped us with this detail, the City has made it easier for those who owe a fine to pay it. They can now access the court online and pay with a credit or debit card.

I know you give a lot, but I warned you I was going to ask for more!

Again, thanks for all you do. We could not provide the level of service to this community that we do without you. I spoke to the regional CPAAA meeting a few months ago; my advice to them was to become indispensable to their departments. That's what you are to us, you are indispensable!

Your servant,
Mike

ALUMNI CORNER

Spotlight on Jerrie Keller

Hi, my name is Jerrie and I'm a graduate of ECPA Class 21. I was born in Torrance, California on April 10th, but got to Texas just as fast as I could. I have been married to Jeff Keller for 22 years and we have one son who is in his freshman year at SMU. I have one sister and 2 brothers, all living in different parts of Texas.

I've lived in Eules since 1988. I enjoy sewing, construction and yard work. If I could have a million dollar gift card to any store, it would be Lowes. My favorite book is any one of the Harry Potter series, its classic good vs. evil, with interesting twists. I love to travel to anyplace with a white sandy beach and crystal blue/green water. I also enjoy just getting together with wonderful friends I've made through the Alumni for a laugh fest.

I joined the Alumni because it sounded interesting. In no way did I anticipate becoming as involved as I have, nor meeting so many terrific people. The things I enjoyed most about the CPA class is getting to know the officers and seeing things through their perspectives. I know how my heart races when an officer approaches my car after a stop; I never thought about how fast his/her heart must be racing as well. The thing I most enjoy about the Alumni Association is being able to help support our wonderful officers and meeting other people who also want to help make Eules a great place to live. The one thing I'd like people to know about me is that I love living in Eules and look forward to getting acquainted with more members. I'm shy, so if I don't come talk to you, come say hi to me.



Jerrie and Jeff Keller

**EULESS CITIZENS POLICE
ACADEMY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 17, 2009

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm

Members Present: Arthur Anderson, Nadine Barnes, Lou Baum, Renee Bierschenk, Perry Brockmeyer, Loretta Doty, Steve Doty, Karen Duncan, Sharon Finnegan, J. R Goad, Pete Jones, Sandi Jones, Jerrie Keller, Sue Kosec, Helen Lightbody, Don Martin, Pat McDowell, Denise Miles, Eugene Moren, Betty Overstreet, Judy Rick, Richard Dick, Al Simmenroth, Geri Sorg, Rose Marie Stevens, Tim Stinneford, Jeremy Tompkins, Susan Vest, Helen Voss, Helen Wagner, Julie Watkins, Ruth Zavala

INVOCATION & PLEGE OF ALLEGIANCE: J. R. Goad

CHIEF BROWN: Congratulated The Goad's on their 55th Wedding Anniversary.

JANUARY MINUTES: Sandi Jones made a motion we accept the January Minutes, sec-

ond by Helen Voss. Motion passed.

TREASURER REPORT: Geri Sorg made a motion to approve the January Treasurer's Report, second by Tim Stinneford. Motion passed.

BASS PRO: Rose-Marie asked the members to reconsider Bass Pro Gift Wrapping. After much discussion, both for and against, Sandi Jones made a motion to proceed with the Gift Wrapping event, second by Sue Kosec. Motion did not pass.

FUNDRAISING: Rose-Marie reminded members that H & R Block will donate \$25 for each person who has their taxes done. Forms are on the website.

NEWSLETTER: Rose-Marie thanked Jerrie Keller and Faye Stinneford for starting the Alumni Corner. For those who have not filled out a profile, please contact Jerrie Keller.

C.R.U.D. & TRASH OFF: J.R. announced that both events will take place on April 4th. A few volunteers are still needed. Please check sign up sheet.

CANS & CARTRIDGES: Continue recycling both the cans and cartridges.

WARRANT ROUND UP: Al Simmenroth asked that everyone show up on Monday, March 9th at 6:00 pm to start making phone calls. We will do every night until the list is completed.

COPS: Rose-Marie reminded members about the training session scheduled for February 21st.

UPCOMING MEETINGS: Geri mentioned that Eules will be hosting the June 6th CPANANT meeting. The Annual Convention will be held in San Marcos. More information to follow.

COMMENTS: Rose-Marie read a letter from the Mayor to former President Bush to attend the Volunteer Service Awards Presentation. Hopefully, he will have one night to spend with the Association.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

February 2009 Treasurer's Report

INCOME	Carry Over	January	February	YTD Income	Annual Budget	Over/Under Budget
General Fund	\$20,706.07					
Afghan Sales				\$0.00		\$0.00
Bass Pro Events				\$0.00		\$0.00
BBQ FUNDRAISER				\$0.00	\$4,000.00	-\$4,000.00
Brick Sales				\$0.00		\$0.00
CRUD Day				\$0.00	\$1,300.00	-\$1,300.00
Donations/Outside Income		\$250.00		\$250.00		\$250.00
Grocery Care Cards				\$0.00	\$100.00	-\$100.00
Meeting Raffle				\$0.00		\$0.00
Membership Dues		\$520.00	\$440.00	\$960.00	\$1,200.00	-\$240.00
Member Merchandise		\$10.00		\$10.00		\$10.00
Recycle Program				\$0.00	\$400.00	-\$400.00
Reimbursement Brick installation				\$0.00		\$0.00
Warrant Roundup				\$0.00	\$1,300.00	-\$1,300.00
Total Income		\$780.00	\$440.00	\$1,220.00	\$8,300.00	-\$7,080.00
Total	\$20,706.07	\$21,486.07	\$21,926.07	\$21,926.07		
EXPENSES	Carry Over	January	February	YTD Expenses	Annual Budget	Over/Under Budget
9-1-1 Day				\$0.00	\$250.00	-\$250.00
Audit - Treasurers records				\$0.00	\$150.00	-\$150.00
BBQ Silent Auction				\$0.00	\$1,500.00	-\$1,500.00
Bricks				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Computer Repair				\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
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				\$0.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Police Chief Wish Projects			\$744.00	\$744.00	\$2,525.00	\$1,781.00
Police Clown Program				\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Police Officer Christmas Meals				\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Postage/Envelopes Newsletters				\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
President Awards				\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Savings Account Transfer		\$10,000.00		\$10,000.00		
Social Events				\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Water by the Gallon		\$210.00		\$210.00	\$600.00	\$390.00
Web Site/Domain Name				\$0.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
Total Expenses		\$10,210.00	\$744.00	\$10,954.00	\$8,300.00	-\$2,654.00
Funds Available in Checking				\$10,972.07		
SAVINGS ACCOUNT						
Savings Account		\$10,000.00		\$10,000.00		
Interest from Savings Account		\$0.04	\$0.32	\$0.36		
Funds Available in Savings				\$10,000.36		
Total ECPAAA Funds				\$20,972.43		