



# Partners in Policing

## Euleless Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association Monthly Newsletter

Volume 19 Issue 12 | DECEMBER 2015

### 2015 Officers

**President:** Sandi Jones

**1st Vice President:** Jason Reyes

**2nd Vice President:** Shawna De Puente

**Secretary:** Rose-Marie Stevens

**Treasurer:** Leah Benoit

**Parliamentarian:** Jerry Goad

**EPD Liaison:** Senior Corporal Rocky Fimbres



As a thank you to all the ECPAAA members and their time they gave this past year, join us at the December ECPAAA meeting for food and drinks.

Hope you can join us and please bring a dessert!



### Submissions Welcome!

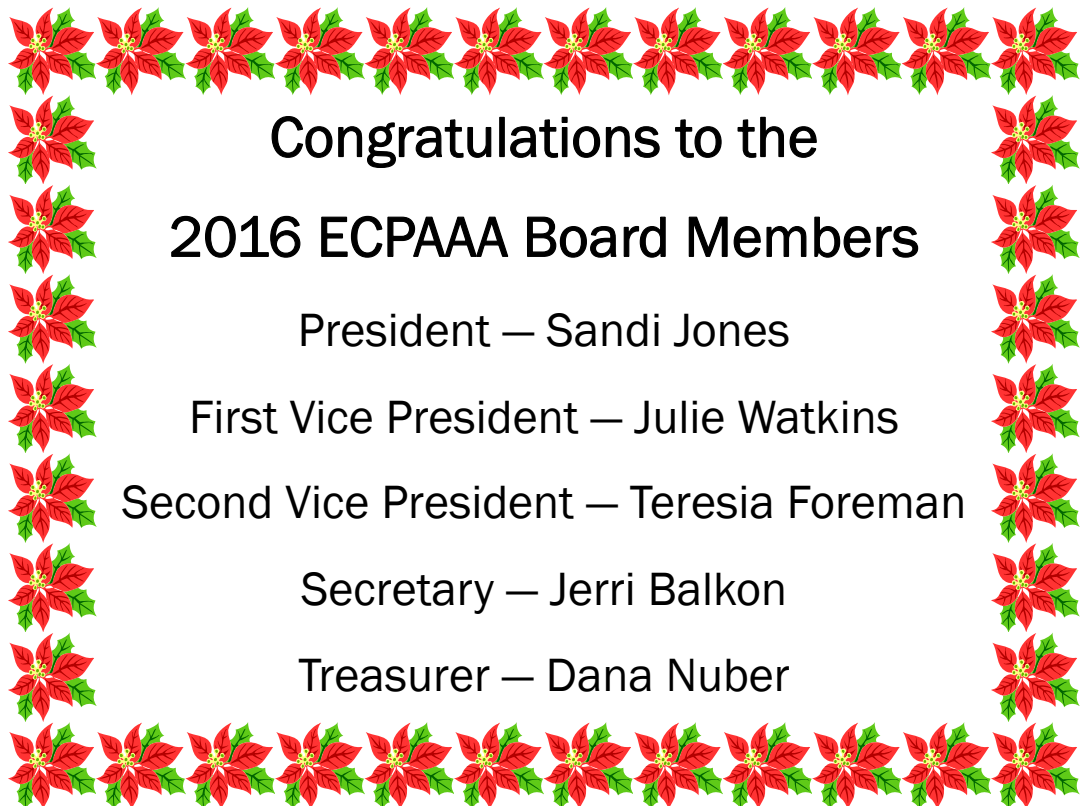
Do you have any funny stories, e-mails, or photos to share with our members?

Please e-mail your police-related submissions to  
[lbenoit@vha.com](mailto:lbenoit@vha.com)

Submissions are due the first day of each month.

Link to ECPAAA Web Page

<http://www.ecpaaa.org>



## Congratulations to the 2016 ECPAAA Board Members

President — Sandi Jones

First Vice President — Julie Watkins

Second Vice President — Teresia Foreman

Secretary — Jerri Balkon

Treasurer — Dana Nuber

**Our Mission: To provide the citizens of Euleless a better understanding of the dedication and integrity of the police department.**

## From the Desk of Chief Mike Brown

Looks like we all survived the monsoon of 2015. I am happy to report that even though we received close to 10 inches of rain there was not one home in the City of Euless that was flooded. As many of you can remember that has not always been the case. There are a lot of factors that goes into whom and why our creeks and lakes overflow, but this time everything worked as it was designed. That's a great victory for the city and for our residents. Now that the rain has stopped it has become apparent that winter has arrived!!! I hope you all enjoyed a great Thanksgiving Holiday full of food, family and friends. Now that we are headed right into the Christmas Season, I want to remind you of all the crime prevention strategies and practices you've learned. I hope you will join us in spreading the word about keeping your belongings safe. In other words, keeping your stuff, your stuff. It takes us all being vigilant and remembering the little things we've learned to stay safe and secure.



As you know, we pay close attention to our crime statistics. What we are seeing for the last few months is a marked increase in our Property Crimes, with thefts and Burglary of Motor Vehicles leading the way. I tell you this because we need your help in deterring these types of crime. I hope you all will have just a few extra minutes to come out and help us this holiday season. Our Sky Tower will be deployed in various locations for the next few weeks and it is a very visible deterrent to crime and criminal activity. But it's also like a huge scare crow, in that if the criminal element doesn't believe someone is actually manning the Sky Tower then it will lose its effectiveness and will become a beacon for criminal activity. We don't want it to become a place that attracts criminals because they know it's never manned. Please, if you can, help us by spending a few minutes manning the Sky Tower. It is fully heated and air conditioned, it has a great camera system with a great zoom capability. It's a great piece of crime fighting equipment, but it needs to have some real teeth this holiday season.

For those of you who have a thing about heights, we still have the Citizens On Patrol car for you to drive, or just observe from. This is another tremendous crime fighting tool that we want to make sure is deployed as much as possible in the next few weeks. If you don't like to drive, you can team with someone else and just be the observer. You would not believe the benefits we get from this unit when it's on the streets. Our COP handle all of our vacation house watches, this frees the patrol officers from having to perform this task. That is a huge benefit for us, especially when they are being slammed with calls for service. We also need these cars driving our shopping center parking lots, apartment communities, assisting patrol when needed. This unit can handle a lot of different non-enforcement tasks that are usually performed by a patrol officer.

Some of you have been trained in working in the jail. Please don't forget to come help us in the jail if you can. Anyone who has worked in there knows how busy it can get and how important that operation is to the overall success of the Euless Police Department. We never have an empty jail, so there is always some way you can help us there if you have been trained, or would like to be trained to work in there.

As you can see, we need your help. You are what we call a force multiplier, your contribution to our operation allows us to do more with less. Without your contribution to our operation we could not provide the services that we do to the public. PLEASE, if you have a few extra minutes over the next few weeks, consider coming out to help us have a direct and lasting impact on crime this holiday season.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Your Servant,  
Mike

## EPD Liaison — Senior Corporal Rocky Fimbres

Hello ECPAAA Family,

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday and enjoyed the extended weekend. The month of November had a lot of outside Police Department projects that were accomplished by the Community Services Division. The “Coffee with a Cop” program has been a good success and it gives officers a chance to meet citizens. I believe it allows people to realize that police officers are human, compassionate and have the same concerns as everyone.

The Euless Police Department was able to team up with Trinity High School and the small business partners of Euless and provided a pizza party for selected students. Officers spoke with students about making good decisions, college plans, and consequences when making poor decisions. The local newspaper did a great story and students really enjoyed the interactions with Euless Police officers.

I had a great opportunity to attend a presentation that was provided to new employees given by the Sikh’s Temple. The presentation was very informative and the Sikh’s gave a lot of information about their religion, cultures, and common misconceptions regarding their identity. I also learned that Sikhism is the 5th largest religion in the world and it is not of Muslim faith.

The Sikh Temple was also given the opportunity to get CPR certified at the police department and Cpl. Gordon also taught a RAD class for the church group. I was told by Cpl. Gordon that there was a lot of positive feedback and that the Sikh Temple was very appreciative for the services that the Euless Police Department provided.

Lastly, I want to give a special thanks to the ECPAAA members that attended the November 24th council meeting. I was presented with the “Employee of the Month” award and the supporting faces in the crowd made the experience better than expected. From the bottom of my heart, I really appreciate the continued support.

Rocky



# Congratulations Rocky City of Euless December Employee of the Month

### November Volunteer Hours Comparison by Lou Baum

Month	Year
2015 — 409 Hours	2015 — 4,742 Hours
2014 — 436 Hours	2014 — 4,484 Hours
Almost Even	6% Increase

Lets keep the momentum going.  
Looks like a plus over last  
year. Thanks for the minutes you  
gave to our City.  
Have a safe Holiday Season.

## Upcoming Events

Dec 8 — City Council Meeting, 7:00 pm, City Hall, 201 N. Ector Drive

Dec 9 — Amateur Radio Euless, 7:00 pm, Euless Police Department Emergency Operations Center

Dec 12 — Breakfast with Santa, 9:30 am—12:00 Noon, Texas Star Conference Centre, 1400 Texas Star Pkwy.

Dec 12 — Heritage Park Christmas Celebration, 10:00 am—5:00 pm, 201 Cullum Drive

Dec 15 — ECPAAA Board Meeting, 6:15 pm; General Meeting, 7:00 pm, Euless Police Department

Dec 25 — **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Jan 1 — **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

Jan 2—Christmas Tree Recycling Event, 10:00 am—1:00 pm, Euless Family Life Ctr., 300 W. Midway Drive

Jan 9 — CPAANT Meeting, 10:00 am—12:00 Noon, Euless Police Department Training Room

Jan 12— City Council Meeting, 7:00 pm, City Hall, 201 N. Ector Drive

Jan 13 — Amateur Radio Euless, 7:00 pm, Euless Police Department Emergency Operations Center

Jan 19 — ECPAAA Board Meeting, 6:15 pm; General Meeting, 7:00 pm, Euless Police Department

## November 2015 Volunteer Hours

CID Clerical — 13 Hours 30 Minutes

Citizens On Patrol — 40 Hours 30 Minutes

Includes the following:

COP Car — 28 Hours 30 Minutes

COP Sky Tower — 12 Hours 0 Minutes

Number of Handicap Citations Issued — 1

Courts — 0 Hours 0 Minutes

Crime Victims Assistance Program — 8 Hours 15 Minutes

Euless Radio Club — 56 Hours 30 Minutes

Jail — 61 Hours 0 Minutes

Meetings — 41 Hours 30 Minutes

Miscellaneous — 13 Hours 30 Minutes

Speed Trailer — 10 Hours 0 Minutes

Training — 36 Hours 0 Minutes

(CERT Regional Training November 7th)

Vehicle Maintenance — 122 Hours 15 Minutes

Watering of Plants — 6 Hours 0 Minutes

**Grand Total — 409 Hours 0 Minutes**

**November National Value of Volunteer Time — 9,435.63**

**November Texas Value of Volunteer Time — \$10,085.94**

**2015 YTD National Value of Volunteer Time — \$109,397.94**

**2015 YTD Texas Value of Volunteer Time — \$116,937.72**

**November Meeting — 32 Alumni Members Present**

# Town Hall Meeting - January 21 at 7:00 pm

## Happy Birthday ECPAAA Members

Dana Nuber — 12/4

Jud Park — 12/12

Leah Benoit — 12/18

Kyla Oberg — 12/18

Patrick Hinde — 12/30

## From the President — Sandi Jones

Merry Christmas,

First let me say congratulations to our new board members. At our November meeting we voted on our new board and I think next year will be a great year.

It is near the end of 2015 now and we have once again had a very successful ECPAAA year and I, for one, am looking forward to our 2016 activities, including our barbeque.



With cold weather starting to settle in, it's a time we tend to cuddle in and sit by the fire, watch TV, and drink hot cocoa. This year, though, let's think of our furry friends out there who need warmth, the homeless that need sustenance and the safety of our Euless residents. Take time to look in on your neighbor, drive the COP car and patrol, take an Angel name off the angel tree at Wal-Mart or N.E. Mall and get involved in your community. This is a sad time of the year for some people, not all of us are lucky enough to have a family to enjoy the holidays with. Think of others which I know all of you from our ECPAAA will do. To all I wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe holiday season.

## CPAANT Liaison — Geri Sorg

CPAANT HOST: Arlington CPAAA

December 5, 2015

I was unable to attend the December meeting and Leah Benoit went in my place. Leah reported that there were approximately 40 people in attendance representing 18 cities. The guest speaker was Retired Arlington Police Chaplain Harold Elliott and he spoke about "Supporting the Banner by the Bearer" - banner meaning badge. Leah was elected as Treasurer of CPAANT for 2016. Hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! The January 2016 meeting will be hosted by the Euless CPAAA. We will need volunteers to bring breakfast items and for set-up and will talk about this at the December ECPAAA meeting. For more information on CPAANT, see the website at [www.cpaant.org](http://www.cpaant.org).



## EULESS CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER 17, 2015

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Leah Benoit, Jerry Goad, Sandi Jones, Jason Reyes, Rose-Marie Stevens, Sr. Cpl. Rocky Fimbres

Sandi called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. She asked Rocky to introduce the guest speaker as Shawna was unable to attend tonight because of illness. After the guest speaker completes his presentation, JR would be next on the agenda.

JR told the Board that he needed three more volunteers at the Parade of Lights. He also told us that he had two more gift cards from Home Depot which he gave to Leah for the auction.

Sandi said she would then talk about the BBQ; the first committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the training room. Afterwards, she would announce the November birthday celebrants.

New business will include a discussion of the food to be served at the December meeting. There is also a need to talk about the food that will be provided to the police officers on Christmas Day. Some of the members indicated that they preferred that the sandwiches were purchased from Pot Belly rather than the place from which they had been purchased in the past. Since Julie Watkins normally oversaw the Christmas Day arrangements, Sandi said she would talk to her

Leah moved and Sandi seconded the motion to adjourn; the meeting was then adjourned.

*General Minutes on Page 6*

**EULESS CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
NOVEMBER 17, 2015  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

Attendees: Kathy Ames, Jerri Balkon, Melody Balkon, Minuet Balkon, Lou Baum, Leah Benoit, Sherri Browning, Shirley Daily, Diana Deering, Roy Deering, Gary Fieldsend, Teresia Foreman, Jerry Goad, Ruben Hernandez, Loren Johnson, Pete Jones, Sandi Jones, Joyce Maxwell, Anniece McKanna, Betty Overstreet, Betty Priddy, Jason Reyes, Judy Rick, Thomas Salmi, Barney Snitz, Rose-Marie Stevens, Faye Stinneford, Tim Stinneford, Tyler Van Horne, Peggy Vandiver, Susan Vest, Julie Watkins, Sr. Cpl. Rocky Fimbres

The meeting opened with prayer and pledges to the flags of the United States and Texas, although the Texas flag was missing.

Old Business

Rocky introduced our guest speaker, Derrick Rogers. Detective Rogers joined the Euless Police Department on July 11, 2011. He said he was from Desdemona, Texas, a town with a population of about 200 people. Faye Stinneford humorously indicated that she and Derrick could be related as she was related to about 150 of the people in Desdemona. Derrick talked about his family life, his work as a member of the Northeast Tarrant Tactical Unit and his work in CID, his current assignment.

After Derrick answered questions from the members, ballots to elect the 2016 Executive Board were collected. Faye and Rocky left the room to count the votes.

Loren moved and Julie seconded the motion to approve the minutes; they were approved.

JR then told us that he needed one more person to help at the Parade of Lights on December 5. When no one volunteered, Teresia offered to bring someone else with her. The volunteers were asked to be at their assigned sites by 4:30 p.m.

Sandi brought up the BBQ/auction committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the training room. She asked that all who could attend the first meeting to come. They will try to have a list of other events that are currently scheduled during the spring and fall.

Sandi announced the November birthdays, and the members sang Happy Birthday.

Sandi announced that the COP car will not be part of the Parade because they were unable to figure out a way to install functioning, decorative lights, the primary requirement. However, several members made suggestions on how to include lights. Ruben said he would go back to the drawing board.

New Business

Christmas Celebration: Sandi announced that we had \$380 to spend for food for our last meeting of the year, and she asked the members to bring desserts. They anticipate that about 40 people will attend the meeting. The members were also asked to bring cookies, desserts, sweet breads, etc., to add to the food that will be purchased for the police officers to eat on Christmas Day. Julie Watkins will oversee the effort to feed the police officers.

Faye and Rocky returned to the meeting; the elections results are as follows:

President, Sandi Jones  
First Vice President, Julie Watkins  
Second Vice President, Teresia Foreman  
Secretary, Jerri Balkon  
Treasurer, Dana Nuber

Sandi invited everyone to attend the next City Council meeting Tuesday, November 24, starting at 7:00 p.m. as Rocky will be recognized as Employee of the Month.

Faye asked anyone who had ordered or wanted to order a COP shirt or an ECPAAA shirt to meet with her. Polo shirts cost \$22, tee shirts, \$15 and sweat shirts, \$25.

Leah moved and Melody seconded the motion to adjourn; the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

"One Thought From a Charter Member"

Have you all noticed how beautiful music sounds when you have all the parts, and the parts blend perfectly?

The success of this organization is like making beautiful music, some have the more important roles; yet the role that appears less important are the most important to the success of this organization. Never, never look at your job or role in this organization as unimportant. You are all very important to the total success of this great family we call ECPAAA.

Yours truly,  
Lou Baum



## Thanks to the volunteers who worked the Euless Christmas Parade of Lights!



### Christmas Fun and Interesting Facts

- \* Alabama was the first state in the United States to officially recognize Christmas in 1836.
- \* Christmas wasn't declared an official holiday in the United States until June 26, 1870.
- \* Oklahoma was the last U.S. state to declare Christmas a legal holiday, in 1907.
- \* In 1962, the first Christmas postage stamp was issued in the United States.
- \* According to the Guinness world records, the tallest Christmas tree ever cut was a 221-foot Douglas fir that was displayed in 1950 at the Northgate Shopping Center in Seattle, Washington.
- \* The traditional three colors of Christmas are green, red, and gold. Green has long been a symbol of life and rebirth; red symbolizes the blood of Christ, and gold represents light as well as wealth and royalty.
- \* All the gifts in the Twelve Days of Christmas would equal 364 gifts.
- \* President Teddy Roosevelt, an environmentalist, banned Christmas trees from the White House in 1901.
- \* Approximately 30-35 million real (living) Christmas trees are sold each year in the U.S.
- \* Commissioned by Sir Henry Cole (1808-1883), British illustrator John Callcott Horsley (1817-1903) invented the first Christmas card in 1843.
- \* Christmas purchases account for 1/6 of all retail sales in the U.S.
- \* There are two islands named Christmas. Christmas Island (formerly Kiritimati) in the Pacific Ocean and Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean.
- \* There are 3 towns in the US that are named Santa Claus. One in Georgia, one in Arizona and one in Indiana.



## November 2015 Treasurer's Report

INCOME	Carry Over	November	YTD Income	Annual Budget	Over/Under Budget
12/31/14 Balance in Checking	\$10,554.63				
Afghan Fundraiser			\$30.00	\$30.00	\$0.00
BBQ Dinner/Silent Auction			\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Brick Sales			\$150.00	\$35.00	\$115.00
Craigslist Fundraiser			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
CRUD Day			\$1,001.52	\$700.00	\$301.52
Donations/Outside Income			\$1,842.34	\$500.00	\$1,342.34
Grocery Care Cards			\$62.04	\$50.00	\$12.04
Membership Dues			\$1,890.00	\$1,600.00	\$290.00
Member Merchandise			\$147.00	\$100.00	\$47.00
Recycle Program (Cans & Cartridges)			\$0.00	\$100.00	-\$100.00
Recycle Program (Electronics)			\$0.00	\$50.00	-\$50.00
Fundraisers			\$132.00	\$200.00	-\$68.00
Warrant Roundup			\$531.25	\$1,000.00	-\$468.75
Funds Used to Cover Major Projects			\$0.00	\$13,310.00	-\$13,310.00
Total Income		\$0.00	\$6,286.15	\$17,675.00	-\$11,388.85
Total	\$10,554.63	\$16,840.78	\$16,840.78		
EXPENSES	Carry Over	November	YTD Expenses	Annual Budget	Over/Under Budget
9-1-1 Day			\$360.00	\$350.00	\$10.00
Audit - Treasurer's Records			\$200.00	\$500.00	-\$300.00
BBQ Silent Auction			\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bricks			\$120.00	\$500.00	-\$380.00
Checking Account Expenses			\$8.00	\$30.00	-\$22.00
CPAANT Dues			\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Fundraisers			\$0.00	\$300.00	-\$300.00
Expenses Not Categorized			\$550.00	\$1,050.00	-\$500.00
Honorarium Awards and Gifts			\$0.00	\$50.00	-\$50.00
Member Merchandise Items			\$0.00	\$150.00	-\$150.00
Memorials and Gifts			\$217.77	\$150.00	\$67.77
Office Supplies			\$125.98	\$300.00	-\$174.02
PALS Summer Camp			\$0.00	\$1,200.00	-\$1,200.00
Police Appreciation Week			\$598.71	\$800.00	-\$201.29
Police Chief Wish Projects			\$6,000.00	\$5,295.00	\$705.00
Police Honor Guard			\$2,752.00	\$5,000.00	-\$2,248.00
Police Officer Christmas Meals			\$0.00	\$400.00	-\$400.00
Postage/Envelopes for Newsletters			\$98.00	\$200.00	-\$102.00
President Awards			\$192.32	\$200.00	-\$7.68
Social Events		\$380.00	\$399.09	\$400.00	-\$0.91
TCPAAA Convention			\$0.00	\$125.00	-\$125.00
Water by the Gallon			\$476.00	\$650.00	-\$174.00
Total Expenses		\$380.00	\$12,122.87	\$17,675.00	-\$5,552.13
Money Transferred to Savings			\$0.00	Note: \$400 of Outside Donations is earmarked for RAD Equipment/\$1,000 for EPD Picture Project	
Money Transferred from Savings			\$3,000.00		
Funds Available in Checking			\$7,717.91		
SAVINGS ACCOUNT					
Major Projects/Future Projects	\$19,335.36		\$19,335.36		
Interest from Savings Account		\$0.14	\$6.11		
Savings Deposit			\$0.00		
Savings Withdrawal			\$3,000.00		
Funds Available in Savings			\$16,341.47		
Total ECPAAA Funds			\$24,059.38		