

Telecommunicator of the Month: Daisy Grabert

By Larry Weidel

Daisy has worked hard over the last 6 months, in the Communications Section. She assisted as acting CSS for approximately 3 months.

Daisy was nominated by co-workers saying she has the ability to work willing with others. How she talks to people has improved her image of herself; and she has adapted to the work environment, which has proven to be a pleasant place for her and her co-workers." Fellow co-workers have expressed that Daisy is a pleasure to work.

Daisy has proven on numerous occasions to be an asset to this section. Congratulations on receiving Telecommunicator of the month for July 2006.

July LDA Meeting Minutes

The LDA held a developmental meeting @ 5:00 P.M. at the Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office training academy. President Nicole Frank called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Members present: President Nicole Frank, Treasurer Barbara Morgan, Secretary Christie Pepper, Main Office representative Dawn Lamkins, Personnel rep Katie Degruise, Lt. Sean Scott, Whitney Building rep Cindy Savoie, and Greg Dumas.

Lt Scott led the meeting in reciting the pledge of allegiance. Dawn made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the last meeting, since everyone read them on the bulletin board and Barbara seconded. The reading of the minutes was waived.

Old Business:

Softball Tournament Fundraiser plans were discussed everyone hoped for a successful tournament.

Lafourche Pride:

-Will be at the Nicholls Ballroom on September 9th from 6:30 P.M. to 11:00 P.M.

-Social will be from 6:30-7:00

-Buffet meal 7:00-8:00

-Awards ceremony 8:00-10:00

-Mixer 10:00-11:00

-Barbara advised that she found a DJ who is willing to provide services at no charge.

-Ticket price will be dependent upon the prices quoted by the caterers. We are still waiting on quotes from caterers before a decision can be made on the meal choice and price.

-The Ballroom will cost \$500.00 +\$175.00 for the clean up fee, which is mandatory upon rental of the room.

-Paper plates and plastic utensils will be used in order for an easier pick up.

What's Coming up on the Web Just for Employees

While the webpage is up and going, we continue to make improvements each day. Currently, webmasters are working on a page just for employees. In addition to employee applications, photo from events will also be placed on this page.

Each day, PIO Larry Weidel uploads press releases to the webpage. Therefore, check your Sheriff's Office site daily. You may even make it in the news!

www.lpsso.net

-The explorers will be present to help out as needed.
-In reference to the public tickets will be given to the person who is receiving the award, all others will have to pay in order to get in, exception is when the award recipient is a child/minor, then the parents will be given each a ticket also.
-Attendees should be in dress clothes, no jeans
-We will not have door prizes in an effort to save money for more door prizes for the Christmas party
-We will have a half and half raffle

NEW BUSINESS:

Christmas Party

-The majority of people liked the way the Christmas party went last year and we are going to try and keep this year's in the same format.

-We are also going to attempt to give all LDA members a gift, due to the amount of complaints received from members last year. Possible gifts: clipboards, t-shirts, coffee cups, small duffle bags with the LDA logo. This matter was left open for discussion

-Location considered at this time is the central area. We will look into fire stations, American Legion Hall, Bayou Blue KC hall, etc. This is also left open at this time.

The next general meeting will be held on August 16th @ 5:30 @ the training academy. Once again we urge all members to attend, if you are unable to attend and have anything you can offer or suggestions please contact your rep and have them speak on your behalf at the meeting.

At 6:30, Christie made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dawn seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

COP#923
7/25/2006

June/July 2006

the RAP sheet

A publication for the employees and friends of the Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office.

CRAIG WEBRE, SHERIFF



Summer Youth Activities Highlighted

By Larry Weidel



A brief conversation with Sgt. "Spanky" Day revealed a busy summer for many of the youth of Lafourche Parish. Here are some of the activities that were held this summer:

Explorers attended and competed at the National Law Enforcement Explorer Conference in Flagstaff, AZ, July 9-16. The LPSO sent 8 Explorers (Lt. Derrius McDuffy, Lt. Justin Reynaud, Sgt. Anthony Adams, Sgt. Ricky Orgeron, Exp. Lasey Rink, Exp. Derrick Fuselier, Exp. Christopher Reynaud, and Exp. Sandy Birnberg) to the Conference. There they attended leadership, defensive tactics, internet piracy, and other classes. They also competed in Arrest and Search, Crime Prevention, Crime Scene Search, and Bomb Threat Response competitions. The group drove to Arizona. In addition to the competitions, classes, and demonstrations attended, the Explorers also got to enjoy some leisure time visiting the Grand Canyon and stopping by Tombstone, AZ to watch a re-enactment of the shootout at the OK Corral.

The LPSO conducted the Sheriff Webre Summer Camp June 19-23. A total of 80 students (11 - 13yoa) were brought to the Louisiana Youth Educational and Recreational Center in Bunkie, LA. There deputies, many of them DARE officers and School Resource Officers, interacted with the youth, taking part in many different activities including dances, swimming, volleyball, softball, scavenger hunt, camp riddle challenge, movie night, and Camp Fear Factor! Other events included dancing contests, limbo contests, egg toss, water balloon toss, and a tug-of-war.

Also held this summer was an Explorer Academy which consisted of 40 hours of Law Enforcement Training for Explorer Scouts (ages 14-21). The training was conducted at the Range and LPSO Academy and included firearms, defensive tactics, building searches, vehicle stops, crime prevention, traffic direction, fingerprinting, accident investigation, physical assessments, crime scene, and drug education. Sixteen Explorers took advantage of this training.

A RAD Kids program was conducted three times this summer. The locations were Lady of the Sea Learning Center, the LPSO Range, and the LPSO Academy. Sgt. Carla Landry was in charge of the activities. All classes were a big success.

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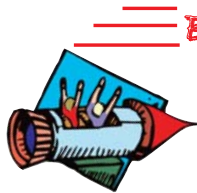
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Story Ideas or Suggestions?

Please contact Larry Weidel with your story ideas at larry-weidel@lpsso.net or 985-632-5844.



Blast from the Past

We knew it would happen sooner or later.



Spotlight on Deputy Leeman Howard



By Larry Weidel

Lafourche Parish Sheriff Craig Webre said, "The Lafourche Parish Sheriff's Office is very proud of the many young deputies who have chosen law enforcement as a career. Deputy Leeman Howard is a fine example of the dedicated public servants we have here."

This quote was made by Sheriff Webre after learning that Deputy Leeman Howard was selected to receive the Outstanding Law Enforcement Award presented by the Raceland American Legion on Monday night, July 17th.

After receiving the award, Deputy Leeman Howard and Deputy Jacob Thibodaux were back on patrol in the Raceland area when they saw a light colored pickup truck fail to come to a complete stop at an intersection. They conducted a traffic stop and identified the driver as Ronald J. Poindexter, Jr., age 31, of 201 Gouaux Ave, Houma, La. There was also a 16 year old passenger in the vehicle.

When Deputy Howard approached the truck, he observed a brown cigar lying in the center of the vehicle. It appeared to be a marijuana cigar. A verbal consent to search was granted and the marijuana cigar was recovered. Both subjects were handcuffed and Poindexter was charged with Possession of Marijuana (5th Offense); Contributing to the Delinquency of a Juvenile; and Failure to Stop at a Stop Sign.

Dispatch officers with the Sheriff's Office informed Deputy

Leeman Howard and his fellow officer that the truck was reported stolen from a company in Houma. Mr. Poindexter was also charged with Possession of Stolen Property.

The following information was given during the award presentation:

Deputy Leeman Howard was born on October 11, 1984 in Houma, La. He was raised in Chackbay, La. his entire life. Deputy Howard began his career with the Sheriff's Office in March of 2004 in the Corrections Division under the command of Captain Eddie Rodrigue.

Deputy Howard was transferred to the POST Training Academy in August of 2004 and graduated that November. He was then transferred to the Patrol Division under the Command of Captain Roy Gros.

Deputy Howard has been an active member of the special Crisis Management Team since November of 2005 and was recently promoted to a Field Training Officer in March of 2006.

For the past 10 months Deputy Howard has been training in the K-9 division. He continues to work to improve his knowledge and skills in law enforcement. As a Patrol Officer, Deputy Howard has had an active first half of this year. He has made 27 arrests, conducted 12 summons arrests, and issued 98 traffic citations while patrolling the Raceland area.

Make that 28 arrests.

What is Accreditation and Why is it Important?

By Larry Weidel

WHAT IS ACCREDITATION? It is the certification of an agency or institution by an independent authority recognizing that the agency has met the rigid standards and achieved the competence and professional excellence specifically applicable to them. "We expect to see our hospitals, universities, and medical personnel accredited to symbolize that they meet high standards and have the training and equipment to achieve that distinction," said Sheriff Craig Webre. "Why not law enforcement?"

HISTORY OF ACCREDITATION In 1983 a 21 member commission made up of 11 professional law enforcement people and 10 other non-law enforcement professionals such as college professors and attorneys came together and adopted a set of standards for law enforcement agencies. They set guidelines for what they believed a well-run law enforcement agency should have. Such as policies on weapons, investigations, evidence, hiring, records, etc. They wrote a manual, with 900 standards to be met. Now, in it's 4th edition, there are 436 standards with parts and sub-parts that total 977 different components to the standard manual. These standards have to be adjusted as new laws are passed or court decisions are handed down. The Commission says in order to be accredited, these are the

standards that must be complied with. Once it has been verified that the standards have been met, the Commission will confer on that agency the recognition of achieving the accreditation designation.



WHY ACCREDITATION? (1) This is the right way to fulfill the mission of the agency. (2) For a third-party outsider to come in and give a favorable evaluation of your agency from top to bottom validates the good job you are doing. (3) The agency improves because the standards require written policies and procedures; proper equipment; adequate buildings; training; organization; hiring, firing and evaluation policies; educational opportunities; etc. (4) Prestige...Only 4% of law enforcement agencies in the United States are accredited. Five law enforcement agencies in Louisiana hold that distinction. Lafourche Parish will be in the top 2%. (5) Insurance liability will be less because of the training, equipment, policies, standards and professionalism achieved through the accreditation process. (6) Accredited law enforcement agencies are more likely to get preference points in grant applications or be the only ones that can apply for certain grants.

The True Meaning of "Whatever it Takes"

By Joyce "Sam" Clark

Cast of Characters: Mrs. Elda Williams, resides at 132 Mar Drive, Chackbay
Ardell & Jimmy, reside somewhere in Dulac
Anna, a 7 year old Dachshund/Terrier Mix dog

Ardell and Jimmy were preparing to move to a new apartment that could better accommodate Jimmy's needs. Ardell has mental issues and Jimmy is wheelchair bound. They live on a very fixed income.

Mrs. Elda Williams is a Booking Officer for St. James S.O. Tuesday morning Lt. Arabie received a call from Mrs. Williams. Mrs. Williams had answered a newspaper ad regarding a dog to be given away. That dog was Anna and the owners were Ardell and Jimmy. Mrs. Williams drove to Dulac to get Anna, the dog, and took her home to Chackbay. She had the dog for two days and that's when the fun began. Ardell called Mrs. Williams, crying her heart out as she wanted her dog back. Initially, Mrs. Williams stated no, but then she had a change of heart, probably due to the fact that Ardell and Jimmy were constantly calling her and asking to have Anna back. Mrs. Williams told Ardell and Jimmy they could have the dog back but that she was not driving back to Dulac, that they had to make arrangements to come to Chackbay to get Anna.

As they are on a very fixed income, Ardell told Mrs. Williams they could not afford the gas to go to Chackbay. The phone calls to Mrs. Williams increased. Mrs. Williams then made arrangements to meet Ardell & Jimmy at the Wal-Mart in Thibodaux, and she thought everything was set. Mrs. Williams drove to Wal-Mart yesterday morning and waited (and waited). The phone calls from Ardell to Mrs. Williams increased even more with Ardell wanting Mrs. Williams to go to Dulac. That is when Mrs. Williams called Lt. Arabie and explained the situation. Lt. Arabie called Ardell and explained to her that Mrs. Williams was willing to give Anna back, but that she had to meet Mrs. Williams in Thibodaux. He was having a difficult time with Ardell trying to get Ardell to understand this. At some point he had a scheduled appointment that came into the office. That is when he passed this along to me.

I then called Mrs. Williams, who was still at the Thibodaux Wal-Mart. As I was talking to Mrs. Williams, she received four calls from Ardell. I then called Ardell who told me the reason she was constantly calling Mrs. Williams was that she was mentally unstable and very depressed without Anna, but that she did not have any gas money to give to anyone who could drive her to Thibodaux. A relative of theirs wanted \$15.00 for gas and they did not even have that. Through several phone conversations with Mrs. Williams, Ardell, and Jimmy, I started to really want to help these people, as did Lt. Arabie.

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"Whatever it Takes" cont.

By Joyce "Sam" Clark

That is when Lt. Arabie, Captain Gros, Deputy Michael Danos and myself did "WHATEVER IT TAKES" to resolve the issue.

Deputy Michael Danos was in Thibodaux. He drove to Mar Drive and picked up Anna and brought her home to Dulac. Needless to say, everyone was thrilled, especially Mrs. Williams, who was tired of the phone calls. When I called Ardell and told her what we were doing, all she did was cry. Jimmy told me he'd pray for all of us.

Special thanks needs to go out to Deputy Danos. In the process of performing his "mission of mercy" he stopped for a Signal 20 and got soaking wet, which is the condition he drove to Dulac in.

After Deputy Danos delivered Anna, Ardell called me. She was no longer crying and told me we were all Anna's Guardian Angels.

Mrs. Williams called me and stated she does not know if St. James S.O. would have gone to all this trouble to help someone in this situation.

All in all, everyone was happy.

Was that the end of the story? Oh, no.

At 8:30 last night I received a call from a neurosurgeon in Thibodaux, who happens to be my husband's doctor. He explained to me that Ardell was a patient of his, and during the course of all this, she had called him. She was acutely distressed over Anna. When Anna arrived home, Ardell called the doctor to tell him the good news. When she mentioned Miss Sam, he realized it was me she was referring to and called to thank me. He explained that we cannot fully appreciate what our kindness meant to this woman. He thanked me and wanted me to pass this on to all those involved. He stressed that we should all feel very proud of what we had done, as this small kindness made a world of difference in Ardell's life.

Anyhow, wanted all of you to know the story of Ardell, Jimmy, and Anna the Dog.



Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan Stakeholder Workshop

By Larry Weidel

On July 18th there was a Louisiana Speaks Regional Plan Workshop held in Lafayette, La. There were about 100 participants from as far west as Calcasieu Parish and as far east as Lafourche. The program format was about 8 or 10 people sitting around a table with a facilitator. We heard from a Mr. Landry with the Louisiana Recovery Authority who gave brief talk about the role of the LRA and the need for community leaders' input into the planning process.

We then heard from Peter Calthorpe, a planner working with the LRA, who discussed a 50 year vision of what we wanted Louisiana (South Louisiana in particular) to look like in 50 years. This was the basis of the workshop exercise.

There were several exercises of scenario planning at the individual tables throughout the day. We first discussed levees and restoration projects, playing a restoration/protection game. Where to put the levees in south Louisiana ...at what cost to people and property ...and what was economically feasible. We discussed the need to restore our wetlands and I was able to inform my group of the importance of Port Fourchon and the Hwy. 1 project. Introducing fresh water into the coastal areas by pipeline and canals while dredging offshore to restore our outer islands was discussed. We were given maps showing three options as to where to place the levees. We chose the one most favorable to the coastal parishes, particularly Lafourche and Terrebonne, with the Morganza to the Gulf alignment.

After lunch we heard from Planner Robert Twilly who gave a presentation entitled Bass or Redfish, about what Louisiana could look like in 50 years if we don't protect our coastline.

Our group then worked on a Community Growth and Transportation game that had us building roads with population centers and re-distributing the population along major and minor transportation routes including high speed rail, air, interstate highways and bike paths. Employment was critical to where transportation systems were developed.

The last program called for discussion of economic development now and 50 years from now. It was also an opportunity for the group to discuss big ideas such as utilizing the former air base in New Iberia as a commercial air transportation hub. There was some discussion of using the coastal area for protected salt water fish farming projects and abandoning large portions of the wetlands that prove to be too expensive and difficult to save in favor of those areas that can be protected and saved.

Each group selected a spokesperson to present points made at the individual table discussion groups. We wrapped up at about 4:00 pm. I think it was good to have a couple of representatives from Terrebonne & Lafourche to explain the importance of our area. Billions of dollars will be coming into Louisiana and it is up to all of us to see that this money is spent wisely, efficiently, and intelligently...not to mention legally!

SCUTTLEBUTT

As most of you know on June 16, 2006, **Captain Octavio "Ox" Gonzales** of the St. John Parish Sheriff's Office was killed in the line of duty. "Ox" was a personal friend of the LPSO who has assisted us with Narcotic and SWAT Operations throughout the years.

I have been given the opportunity to serve on a committee organizing a memorial golf tournament for "Ox". Sheriff Webre has been requested to be a Honorary Committee member for this event.

The tournament is being held on 9/11/2006 at Belle Terre Country Club in Laplace, La.

- * \$125.00 per golfer
- * \$600.00 4-some & Hole Sponsor
- * \$200.00 Hole Sponsor

Fees Include Drinks, Beer, Ditty Bag, Golf Shirt, and Food.

*ALL proceeds are going to Ox's wife Gloria and 2 sons Alexander and Bryson

This event is being advertised throughout the state. If you are wishing to play or donate in anyway please contact me ASAP. It appears all 72 teams have signed up but tee box sponsors and donations are still being accepted. Don't miss out on a good time for a great cause! **Lt. Josh Champagne** - 985-637-4732 - 504-234-6919 - 504-840-1169

Reminder to anyone that has registered with **NSU for the fall semester**, you are required to send Angie a completed enrollment form. If you have not done so already, please get this to her ASAP.

Lt Karla Beck and **Sgt Michael Beck** are proud parents of a 7 lb 2 oz 19 1/2 inches long baby boy, **Michael Beck III, "Three"**. All are doing well at Thibodaux Regional room 301.



Dty. Sean Chauvin is the proud father of a new baby girl, **Ava Michelle Chauvin**. She arrived at 14:42 hours. She weighed 8 lbs. and 11 oz. and was 20 inches long. Mom, Dad, and baby are all doing well. Congratulations!

Award applications for **Lafourche Pride** are now due in. Time period is from October 2005-now. If you know anyone civilian or employee that deserves an award fill out the awards application form (which also can be found in the public folder under forms) and send it to Captain Brinkley @ Personnel. DEADLINE IS AUGUST 11TH.

Ben Constant has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant in the Corrections Section of the Work Release Division under the command of **Capt. Milfred Zeringue**

effective Monday, July 24, 2006.

BIG BOSSES...

Todd Diaz has been promoted to the rank of **Major** of the Criminal Department effective July 1, 2006. His new radio number is 3.

Terry Lyle has been promoted to the rank of **Major** of the Civil Department effective July 1, 2006. His new radio number is 4.

Major Marty Dufrene has been transferred to the Corrections Department effective July 1, 2006.



Shannon Delatte has been promoted to the rank of **Lieutenant** in the Information Systems Division under the command of Major Terry Lyle, effective Monday, July 24, 2006.

As discussed at the meeting held at Central Lafourche High School, the Sheriff is paying 6% of the pension that the employee should be paying. To properly handle this in payroll for taxes these new earnings and deductions were needed **PL-Pension LPSO1** and **PL-Pension LPSO**.

Training Identification and Communication with Immigrants

Dates: August 29, 30, 31, and September 1, 2006
Times: 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Location: Training Center Credits: 1

DONATION - Mrs. Merline Molaison called about receiving a phone call requesting a donation for law enforcement. She decided she wanted to give a donation but wanted to give a donation that would benefit in her own community. She called the LPSO and eventually spoke to **Sgt. Lafate Day**. Sgt. Day advised her of the Explorer Program and Sheriff Webre's Summer Camp. She decided she wanted to make a donation to the summer camp and had a check delivered to the LPSO that same day. She did not ask for any compensation or praise, but it is a true testament of the great citizens we have living in Lafourche Parish.