

THE NEWSLETTER FOR
CPA COORDINATORS,
ALUMNI, VOLUNTEERS,
AND OTHERS INTERESTED
IN THE CPA CONCEPT



A PUBLICATION
OF THE
ILLINOIS CITIZENS
POLICE ACADEMY
ASSOCIATION

Keeping You

Connected

IN THIS ISSUE...

DeKalb County
Sheriff's Office
Citizens Academy 2

Running Great
Association Board
and Committee
Meetings..... 5

Trainers: It's Not
About Us 6

Citizen Police
Academies:
A Model for
Smaller Agencies 8

Getting to Know
Your Illinois CPAA
Directors 10

Where Current
Illinois CPAA
Members Are
Located 11

The Value of a
Prepared Public..... 12

Easy and Inexpensive
Ways to Thank
Volunteers..... 13

Crime Prevention
is Everyone's
Business 14

WCPAAA Celebrates
10th Anniversary.... 15

Reminders..... 16

September, 2009

Simulated Firearms Training Offered to Citizens Academy Students of the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office



The hands-on classes offered to students of the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office Citizens Academy are along the same line as most citizen academies offered throughout the nation, and includes crime scene investigation, traffic stops, and mock trials. The program also includes topics unique to the sheriff's office, such as history of the office of sheriff, corrections procedures and jail tours, as well as an in-depth review of police combined communications. The simulated firearms training class, which is conducted at the County Highway Department, is always popular with the students. *See article and photos on pages 2-4.*

DeKalb County Sheriff's Office Citizens Academy

The Port St. Lucie, Florida, Citizens Police Academy was the catalyst for the DeKalb County Sheriff's Citizens Academy in 1996.

In January of 2010, the Sheriff's Office will offer its seventeenth Citizens Academy to the citizens of DeKalb County. The academy will be coordinated by Detective Sarah Frazier, who took on the additional responsibility of coordinating and leading the academy in 2006. Detective Frazier continues to bring enthusiasm and innovation to the academy program.

The first years of the academy were under the dedicated coordination of Deputy Ray Nelson. During 1997 and 1998, there were two academies presented each year. Since 1998, the academy has been presented once a year beginning the first Thursday evening after New Year's Day. It runs for ten consecutive weeks, with three hours of training each week. The classes take place in four different venues over the ten-week period. The bulk of the training occurs in the Legislative Center for DeKalb County Government. Other training regarding corrections, crime scene investigation, and communications occur at the Sheriff's

An article that Sheriff Roger Scott read regarding the success and goals of that Florida program caused him to investigate further. Along with other members of the staff, he attended training regarding the citizen academy concept at the Springfield Police Department. This helped lay the groundwork for what has become a highly successful program in DeKalb County, Illinois.

Office. Traffic stops and simulated firearms training are conducted in the warmth of the County Highway Department, and the mock trial is held in the County Court House.

The willingness of the men and women of the Sheriff's Office to be actively involved as instructors and support staff, combined with the availability and dedication of DeKalb County citizens, is the key to the enduring quality of this program. Each class regularly consists of 24 to 28 participants from all walks of life and areas of DeKalb County. Among the graduates are farmers, medical personnel, members of the press, government officials, professors, homemakers, retirees, teachers, accountants, and many more. In Academy VII, there was even a foreign exchange student visiting DeKalb County from Norway who participated. The individual classes are taught by a variety of sheriff's personnel. In addition, there is participation by the State's Attorney's Office, other law enforcement agencies from all levels, and the judiciary.



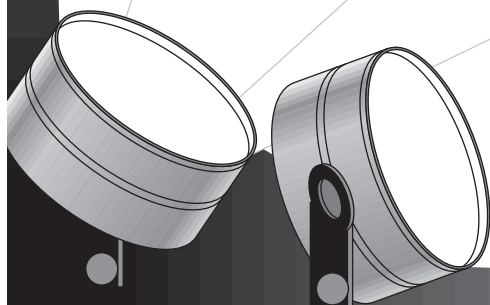
All instructors teach from the knowledge and experience of working daily in their area of expertise. It is truly a great opportunity for citizens and law enforcement to exchange thoughts and provide answers to questions, while providing well-balanced discussions in

a positive venue. The academy not only gives citizens a realistic view of the criminal justice system in DeKalb County but, equally important, it requires instructors to be current and prepared regarding their topics.

The hands-on classes are along the same line as most citizen academies offered throughout the nation, and includes crime scene investigation, patrol procedures, and mock trials, but also includes topics unique to the sheriff's office such as history of the office of sheriff, corrections procedures, jail tours, and an in-depth review of police combined communications.

The DeKalb County Farm Bureau has been a vital sponsor and strong supporter of the academy for not only its membership, but also for all DeKalb County citizens. Since implementation, the DeKalb County Farm Bureau has played a huge part in the academy's success in many ways, not least of which is the highlight of the academy — graduation night. In

[continued on next page]





David Browning, the "Mayberry Deputy" impersonator, kept the DeKalb County students entertained at their graduation.



A participant in the DeKalb County Sheriff's Office Citizens Academy gets an opportunity to don a Redman suit with assistance from one of the instructors. The Redman suit is ideal for defensive tactics training due to its mobility and design.

Redman Training Gear celebrated its 25th Anniversary of developing and manufacturing innovative training products to keep officers safe.

Sheriff Roger Scott introduced a very special guest at one of the citizens academy graduations — the 26th President of the United States — Theodore "Teddie" Roosevelt.

DID YOU KNOW...

In 1895, Roosevelt was a Police Commissioner of New York City. Always an energetic man, Roosevelt made a habit of walking officers' beats late at night and early in the morning to ensure the police were doing their jobs. He drew the ire of many German immigrants by enforcing an often ignored law requiring the closure of beer halls on Sundays.



[continued from previous page]

addition to the Farm Bureau, graduation night has been cosponsored by State Senator Brad Burzynski, recently joined by State Representative Bob Pritchard. Graduation night is held at the Farm Bureau's Center for Agriculture and includes a presentation of a plaque and other items to each of the graduates, along with a great dinner from Fay's Pork Chop Catering. The evening includes entertainment that has ranged from David Browning playing the role of the "Mayberry Deputy," to music, plays, and visits from President Theodore Roosevelt, Mark Twain, and Will Rogers impersonators.

Many Citizen Academy alumni return for the graduation night and add to the excitement. The alumni also have an important role in the recruitment process for new academy participants each year, and many alumni have gone on to volunteer for the DeKalb County Sheriff's Auxiliary.

The Sheriff's Citizens Academy requires significant preparation, and dedication by many individuals, and the rewards and satisfaction are worth all that goes into these academies. Academy XVII is on the horizon, and will continue to emphasize the motto of the Sheriff's Citizens Academy:

"The Police are the Community and the Community are the Police."

Sir Robert Peel - 1829

Founder of the Metropolitan Police

For more information about DeKalb County Sheriff's Office
www.dekalbcountyilsheriff.org

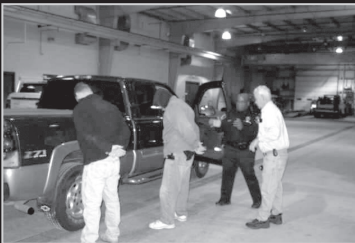


ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Roger Scott has served as DeKalb County Sheriff since 1985. He is a past president of the Illinois Sheriffs' Association, and a graduate of Aurora University. He collaborated with Dr. David Struckhoff in writing the second edition of the book, The American Sheriff. Sheriff Scott, along with the one hundred men and women of the Sheriff's Office are privileged to offer the full range of law enforcement services to the citizens of DeKalb County.



Traffic Stops



Mock Trials



Graduation Fun



A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE EDITOR...

The DeKalb County Sheriff's Office has had great success with their citizens academy program. We know there are other great CPA programs as well as alumni associations in Illinois, and we're asking you to share them with the rest of the Illinois CPAA membership.

Together, we can learn from one another, and continue to make a difference in our local communities!

If you'd like to have your Citizen Police Academy program appear "In the Spotlight," please submit your curriculum and article to:

Attn: Executive Editor • Illinois CPAA • P.O. Box 26 • Wheeling, IL 60090

Feel free to submit photographs, too! They will be returned to you after they appear in the newsletter.

Need to contact us?



E-mail
illinoiscpaa@illinoiscpaa.org

Telephone
(847) 459-7195