



Citizens *In Action!*

MAY 2012

Volunteer Proclamation

The City Council of La Porte proclaimed April 15 through April 22, 2012 as 'National Volunteer Week' in La Porte, and urged all citizens to be aware of the contributions made by our service organizations and volunteer workers.

La Porte's CPA Alumni Volunteers are the lifeblood of the police department volunteer program. From patrolling the streets and fundraising for underprivileged children to supporting our police officers and community, these everyday heroes make a real and lasting impact on the lives of those in our community. "Our CPAAA is one dynamic group and we are blessed to have each and every one of them working by our side," says Chief Ken Adcox.

America's story has been marked by the service of volunteers. Generations of selfless individuals from all walks of life have served each other and our Nation, each person dedicated to making tomorrow better than today. They exemplify the quintessential American idea that we can change things, make things better, and solve problems when we work together.

CPAAA President, Phillip Ferguson wishes to call upon all La Porte citizens to volunteer in service projects across our city and pledge to make service a part of their everyday lives.



La Porte Mayor Louis Rigby, LPCPAAA President Phillip Ferguson, Emma Zech, Gwen Tilley, Richard Tilley, Norma Elliott, Darlene Burkey, LPCPAAA Secretary Cheryl Hiser-McCoy, Officer Roger Gonzalez, and Chief Ken Adcox.

Volunteer Activities

Citizens On Patrol have logged over 60+ hours patrolling city parks, photographing Handicap Parking violations, street light outages and vacation home checks. As a result of the success of the program 12 HC citations have been filed, the city no longer pays for 18 non-working street lights and 9 vacation home checks were made. During COP training Paula Wohnoutka and many trainees were surprised to learn that the boundaries of LP extent to the other side of Shoreacres.

Volunteers stepped up to help out at the Sylvan Beach Festival by manning the CPA and Animal Control booths as well as assisting with traffic control. Being situated near the stage ensured everyone enjoyed the bands and citizens readily stopped by the booth to request information. Several volunteers walked the parking lots and side streets to enforce the Slap.N.Tag program. A special shout out to Phillip Ferguson for helping get the LPPD trailer to the park and back!

A new opportunity is now underway - Dispatch Greeter. Volunteers in good standing and who have completed the NCIC/TCIC training are eligible to attend a training session before assisting at the dispatch front desk. Job duties include fielding inquiries and logging reports from citizens. Three training sessions were held in April and within a few days Paula Rizzuto had become the first greeter. Way to go Paula!

Future Volunteer Opportunities

- June 2 C.O.P. Training
- June 9 TCPAAA Meeting
- June 10 Sylvan Beach Triathlon

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SIDNE

CPA Alumni members, Explorers, and community service youth took part in the SIDNE experience on March 24 and came away with a more serious understanding of the effects of drinking and driving.

Simulated Impaired Driving Experience (SIDNE) is a go-cart that simulates impaired driving by delaying the reaction time of those behind the wheel. In the impaired mode, SIDNE reacts with delayed steering, braking, and acceleration, similar to how a driver would react if driving while impaired.

Everyone anxiously awaited as the orange cones were statically placed in a designated pattern throughout the department parking lot. Two by two, participants entered a cart with their impairment goggles strapped on. Each team made an attempt to maneuver the course without crashing or running off course. For most, the attempt would be unsuccessful, thus proving the seriousness of driving under the influence.

"Learning the effects of driving under the influence and its dangers is important for everyone's safety," Officer Gallion said.

SIDNE is an eye-opener to all those who participate in the experience. It shows the harsh realities of driving under the influence and encourages participants to have a non-drinking designated driver at all times.

See page 3 for photos of the event.

Market Days

Volunteers are needed to staff the Animal Control Information Booth:

When: First Saturday of each month.

Where: Five Points Plaza - Animal Control

What: Distribute Animal Control materials.

How Long: Any hours 8am-3pm

Contact: Officer Robyn Gallion
@281.842.3162

Vendors are on hand with fruit, veggies, and other items as well as food.

BP's "Fabric of America Fund" Donates to LPCPAAA



Phillip Ferguson and Denise Guerrero (center)
Vicky Copley, Viki Ferguson, Warren Portenier, Chris Copley

BP's Fabric of America Fund provides employees with an opportunity to engage personally and make a difference in their communities through various forms of corporate-sponsored donations. Under the program, BP-Texas City employee Denise Guerrero requested that BP America make a contribution through the fund to the La Porte Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (LPCPAAA), and her request was readily granted.

La Porte Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association President Phillip Ferguson stated, "BP's donation will allow our association to go out and make an even bigger difference throughout community - one project at a time."

For more information about volunteering with the La Porte Police Department or attending the La Porte Citizen Police Academy, contact Phillip Ferguson at Phillip.Ferguson@att.net or visit the LPCPAAA website at www.LPCPAAA.org.



Explorers Car Wash A Sudsy Success

In conjunction with the Blue Santa Garage Sale, the La Porte Police Department Explorer Post held a car wash to raise money for upcoming state-based Explorer competitions.

The weather was a bit cool and windy but that didn't stop them from keeping a steady stream of water and suds flowing. Sometimes there was even more water on the washers than the cars!

Just over \$200 was raised to help cover both competition entry fees for the youth group, as well as added travel costs and any unforeseen equipment issues which may arise for competition.

If you know of someone interested in joining the La Porte Police Youth Explorer Program, contact Officer Roger Gonzalez at 281-842-3183.

Volunteers in Action!



Bomb Suit: Viki Ferguson
CPA Class May 1



Rusty Paulus Receives Award from
Phillip Ferguson & Roger Gonzalez



Liz Lainhart & Sister
Appreciation Picnic



Cheryl Hiser-McCorry & Vicky Copley
"Attempting" to complete the SIDNE



Joe & Felicitas Hernandez & Ram Macias



Explorers Thank LPPOA for Donation
Explorers Josh Zech & Kimberly Ferguson
LPPOA Matthew Novosad



Officer "Iron Chef" Robyn Gallion (l)
Volunteer Appreciation Picnic



Emma Zech & John Krueger
Appreciation Picnic

Explorers Take Home Third Place

The city of Waxahachie was the site of the statewide law enforcement Explorer competition April 28. Teams from around the state took part in the all day event held at the Waxahachie High School.

Accompanied by three sworn Learning for Life advisors, officers Gonzalez, Paige, and Dalton and civilian advisor, Viki Ferguson; the La Porte Explorer Post entered 7 explorers (2 teams) in the state competition. Team "A" consisted of four members and competed in the Burglary in Progress, Bomb Threat, Officer Down, and an Accident Investigation. Team "B" consisted of three explorers and competed in White Collar Crime, Domestic Dispute, Felony Stop, and Unknown Call.

The competition consisted of 18 total scenarios and each team was given four randomly selected scenarios. A record total of 126 teams entered into the competition from across the state and this was our teams second time to compete in competition.

La Porte Explorers post Team "A" brought home third place in the Bomb Threat Scenario.

These young adults train hard every week and sometimes weekends to hone their skills in law enforcement activities. They are a dedicated group that knows when to get busy and when it's time to have a little fun.

The next time you see our explorers or one of their advisors at the station, please join us in congratulating them on their recent accomplishments.

Who's Who

Highlighting LPCPAAA Members



1st Vice President, Viki Ferguson

Viki Ferguson currently serves as the 2012 VP of the La Porte Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association. She joined the Alumni to make a difference in the community and to spend more time with her husband, Phillip who is President of the LPCPAAA. Viki adds, "Also, it seemed like a fun way to meet new people and make some friends."

When asked how she feels about her position as a board member, Viki shared, "The LPCPAAA has been great and I have made a lot of friends which I really do cherish. Being the VP of the organization has been very rewarding. I provide support to the president of the association and have the ability to speak up when issues need addressing on behalf of the Alumni. As a board member I participate in the monthly Texas CPAAA meetings and learn about ways to help advance our Alumni."

In addition to her VP duties, Viki assists with the LP Explorers program as a Learning for Life civilian advisor. Her desire to be involved and continue to learn has driven her to make the decision to return to school and pursue a position as a veterinarian assistant in 2013.

Viki attended Milby High School and has been employed at the Peanut Gallery Childcare Center for 16 years. She is an active member of the Pasadena First Baptist Church and has been happily married for 18 years and the proud mother of daughter, Kimberly (Youth Explorer).



2012 LPCPAAA Board Members

President:	Phillip Ferguson
1 st Vice President:	Viki Ferguson
2 nd Vice President:	Chris Copley
Treasurer:	Bob Rivesman
Secretary:	Cheryl Hiser-McCorry



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES?

The quickest way to learn about opportunities is to attend a monthly meeting. Attending meetings will keep you up to date on all that is happening and all that is planned. Regularly visit the website to learn of new events.

C.O.P. Training

The next Citizens On Patrol training session is currently scheduled for Saturday, June 2 at 8am in the training center. Pre-requisites required prior to attending. Contact Officer Roger Gonzalez for more details.

NEXT LPCPAAA MEETING

When: First Thursday of each month.

June 7, 2012 @6:30PM

Where: LPPD at Spencer Hwy. and N. 23rd St.

Feel free to drop by and listen in on any meeting. We would love to hear what you think of our organization.



Need a Volunteer Badge?

Officer Rick Hilton @ 281.842.3120

Report Volunteer Hours

via the Volunteer Report Form to Judy Covin @
www.LPCPAAA.org

Newsworthy Articles or Photos?

Email to Editor, Deb Hathorn @
Editorlpcpa@att.net

The LPCPAAA helps enhance a variety of community programs through education, networking and sharing of information relative to what other law enforcement agencies, associations and volunteer groups are doing throughout the city and state.

Make A Difference
VOLUNTEER in La Porte!

If you want to touch the past, touch a rock. If you want to touch the present, touch a flower. If you want to touch the future, touch a life. ~Author Unknown