



President's Message

by Randy Boggs

I hope everyone had a very happy holiday season and were able to take advantage of the late winter start and subsequent snowfall that has graced our local mountain ranges.



The Foundation has been very busy getting ready for the 2nd Annual Sporting Clay Shoot at 5 Dog Ranges. The event will be on Saturday, May 6th,

2006. Sign up at 0730 hrs, event at 0800 hrs. We have a great steak lunch by Champs B-B-Q for all of the participants. Our search for a major sponsor has still been unsuccessful, however, The Law Offices of Young and Nichols, H.M.Holloway Inc, and Carter Pump have stepped up to the plate and are the sponsors of the shotgun raffles. These companies are very ardent supporters of the Kern County Law Enforcement Foundation and always help in a time of need. Please support them!

Wayne Ketcherside, our membership chairman, has been beating the bushes for new members, and has been somewhat successful, but we still need additional members. Contact your neighbors and friends and sign up a new member NOW. I will apologize for the delay in getting out the dues notification for January. Everyone has been extremely busy with his or her real job and the mailers became late. They are on the way as we speak.

I would like to welcome three new

board members to the Foundation. They are Jon Busby, co-owner of Bakersfield Premier Realty, Greg Sturges, owner of Comm-World, a communications company, and Pauly Wren, legal assistant with the Law Offices of Young and Nichols. These three new board members are going to be a great asset to the Foundation and will be instrumental in helping turn the organization into an aggressive aid to Kern County Law Enforcement. Please give them all of your support.

Our Annual Spring Awards Luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, May 25th, 2006, at the B-B-Q Factory, 1616 30th St. Tickets are available through Pauly Wren, at The Law Offices of Young and Nichols at Truxtun and "F" St, or by calling 861-7911. The price will remain the same (\$20.00). We will be honoring law enforcement and civilian personnl. I hope to see everyone there.

After three years as President of the Kern County Law Enforcement Foundation, I will be stepping down and giving an opportunity for fresh blood and new ideas to take place. It has been a great pleasure to head this organization and an honor to assist our local law enforcement. The nominated Officers and Board Members are as follows:

- President:** Tom Sheets
- Vice-President:** Lisa Boydston
- Treasurer:** Dale St Claire
- Secretary:** Pauly Wren
- Board of Directors-Three Year Term:** Lisa Boydston, Arnold Johansen, Arthur B. Shain, Stan Moe

Three Year Term-New Members:

Jon Busby, Greg Sturges

Two Year Term-New Member:

Pauly Wren

These individuals have been selected by the Nomination Committee of the Foundation and will be put to the general membership for a conformation vote at the Spring Awards Luncheon.

The Kern County Law Enforcement Foundation is your organization. Without it, Kern County law enforcement would have a much more difficult time in the acquisition of much needed equipment. Law Enforcement is the barrier between "Living the good life" and total chaos. It needs the support of the community and the backing of their respective government. I hope you will spread the word to get involved and join the Foundation. We need your membership, and your involvement. Thank you for allowing me to serve you.

Randy Boggs



The 2005 recipient for Citizen of the Year from the Kern County Law Enforcement Foundation was Harold Meek, President and CEO of Three-Way Chevrolet.

RIKKI'S STORY

by ??????

How did a bloodhound get to part of the Bakersfield Police Department Canine Unit? Well, the story goes like this. Reserve Coordinator, Senior



Officer Andrea Pflugh, went to a Reserve Coordinator Seminar in Huntington Beach in August, 2005. While there she met a fellow Reserve Coordinator from Buena Park Police Department, Chris Charalombous. He is part-time coordinator, full time patrol dog handler. He had just gotten a female bloodhound and they talked quite a bit. Until this time Officer Pflugh had never known or heard of an agency in California having a bloodhound. Officer Pflugh began to be amazed with the bloodhound's ability to track after doing some homework on the breed. A few months later Officer Pflugh had helped schedule a bloodhound demonstration at the Bakersfield Police



Department. Watching the bloodhounds cinched the decision that a bloodhound would be good investment in assisting in locating missing and apprehending wanted subjects in Bakersfield.

Rikki was born on October 5, 2005, in Quebec, Canada. Her breeder was Rene St. Louis who is a very well

known breeder in the bloodhound industry. Rene speaks only French, so Rikki only heard French for the first few weeks of her life. Then canine coordinator, Lieutenant Joe Bianco, flew to Canada to pick her up for the Bakersfield Police Department and Rikki was introduced to English. Being a puppy she responded to English like she did French, when she wanted to.

From Quebec, Canada, Lt. Bianco flew with Rikki to South Carolina to start her training and meet her new handler/trainer (aka "Mom"), Officer Andrea Pflugh who was there waiting for their arrival. The training seminar in South Carolina was conducted by the National Police Bloodhound

Association. There were 88 other bloodhound handlers in attendance. Five were from California, the rest were from the South. The classes were broken into various groups based on experience. Officer Pflugh had the youngest hound so she worked as the "decoy" or "runner", which meant she laid trails for the dogs to find her. It was also an excellent opportunity for Officer Pflugh to shadow the more experienced handlers when they

were training and observe both the seasoned handlers and bloodhounds. She was very impressed to see what the dogs and their noses were capable of doing.

Bloodhounds are an amazing animal and people in the South use them everywhere. Here in the west, bloodhounds are an untapped resource. Their value is not yet appreciated. Not only are they a great law enforcement tool, they are relatively inexpensive. The difficult part is the training which needs to start with a puppy and continues all through a dogs working life. Officer Pflugh is in a position as Reserve Coordinator to allow the

disruptions of having a puppy at work with her. Her basement office is big enough for a very large kennel, so when Rikki howls it doesn't bother others (right now it's really cute).

Rikki will be training six times a day for about 20 minutes per session. Right now training consists of having a "decoy" to get Rikki all excited, then running off, Officer Pflugh gives her the command "Find 'Em" and off she goes. She is doing very well with her training and is progressing nicely. Occasionally, Rikki acts like the puppy she is and she allows things to distract her. Another aspect of her training is exposure to all kinds of environments; Officer Pflugh is always looking for new



things to expose her to so she can overcome any potential fears she may have. Officer Pflugh has said, "Rikki has totally consumed my life. I guess this is what it's like to have a new baby. I have the 'diaper bag' of supplies, am constantly watching her, taking things out of her mouth, and cleaning up

her messes!" Officer Pflugh looks forward to being on-call when Rikki is fully trained in about a year.

Training a bloodhound is TOTALLY different than it is for a patrol canine. A patrol canine is approximately 1½ to 2 years old when they come to the Police Department and has a foundation of training. Bloodhounds are trained by their handlers from the age of 7 weeks on, and the younger the better because training in their environment is very important. Rikki was about 8 weeks old when she was purchased by the Bakersfield Police Department. She had been training daily with her

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Rikki's story continued...

breeder since she was a couple of weeks old, and that daily training will continue for the rest of her working life.

Officer Pflugh has become the department's authority on bloodhounds. While she is the first to admit she still has a lot to learn, she has done her homework. She says that bloodhounds are the most loyal and lovable breed of dog known. Rikki is not aggressive, she will not bite, she loves people and she especially loves children. Anyone working at the Bakersfield Police Department knows just how friendly she is. Rikki knows no strangers; she assumes that you want to pet her and

be around her and much as she wants to be around you.

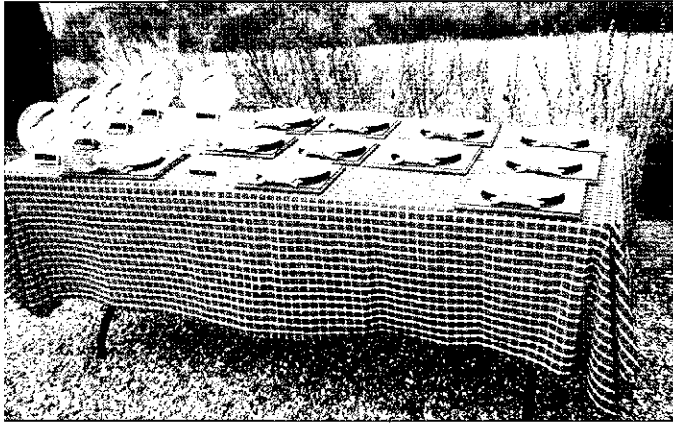
Rikki is being trained to locate people ONLY. Rikki will be used to find lost children, Alzheimer's patients, and bad guys. When looking for bad guys she won't be trained to assist in the apprehension like other police canines. Andrea will learn how to read Rikki and know when she is getting close to finding the bad guy. At that time she will be removed from the search. This is to protect Rikki so suspects won't hurt her while she is jumping up and licking their face.

Senior Officer Pflugh's mentor is Senior Deputy Coby Webb, from the Riverside County Sheriff's Department. Deputy Webb is a trainer

with the National Police Bloodhound Association and the Colorado Canine Training Academy. The next year will be spent working with her mentor Deputy Webb a few times a month and reading training manuals. Senior Officer Pflugh will also be attending training in Colorado in the spring, and the annual fall training in South Carolina. Rikki will be a well traveled dog, and once trained will get special riding privileges should there ever be another national disaster where her services might be needed.

Rikki and Senior Officer Pflugh's progress will be updated in future editions of the BPDInsider along with pictures.

"First Annual Clay Shoot Photo's"



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Kern County Law Enforcement Foundation Annual Spring Awards Luncheon



Thursday, May 25th, 2006
at the B-B-Q Factory, 1616 30th Street

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*For Tickets or Reservations,
Contact Pauly Wren at 861-7911, ext. 110*
