



OSROA ...On the Move!

Issue 1

6277 Riverside Drive • Suite 2N • Dublin, Ohio 43017-5067
Phone (614)718-3210 Fax (614)761-9509 www.osroa.org



Letter from the President
By Mike McCaskey-

Is it June yet? I never appreciated a teacher's need for all summer off until after the first year I worked in a school. I am sure most you feel the same way. Spring brings out the strangest behavior in our youth. Speaking of summer break, our Annual 2009 conference will be at Maumee Bay State Park lodge in Oregon, Ohio, which is a suburb of Toledo. The dates are June 21-23, 2009. Please mark your calendars. We have a number of great speakers planned and several opportunities to "network" with other SROs in the state.

I hope all of you received the information regarding the new cycle of COPS grants as well as information on the Ohio Attorney Generals' one-time grants for SROs, who also teach drug prevention programs in their schools. This money will can help keep SROs and DARE officers in our schools where they are needed.

Our Association continues to become stronger financially. Thanks to the efforts of our past and current executive board and especially, our executive director, Kari Parsons. There are a number of OSROA training opportunities available in 2009. I hope that you have an opportunity to take advantage of at least one of them.

This is my last message to you as my two years as president will end in June. It has truly been a pleasure to serve as the second president of this fine organization. I am very proud of what we have accomplished over the past two years as well as how positively we weathered the storm of the financial issues and the controversy surrounding the departure of former CEO, Todd Wurschmidt, from the OSROA. I believe our association is in good hands and our leadership will continue to ensure growth in our association and strength in our membership services and status in the area of school based policing.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to recognize one of our members that is retiring this year. Cincinnati Police Officer and SRO David Hamler. David has been an SRO since 1978. He is believed to be the longest serving SRO in the State of Ohio. Congratulations David. Best wishes for the future and thank you for your commitment to the youth of Cincinnati.

Sincerely,
Michael McCaskey

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Letter from the President	1
Teen 'Sexting' article	2-3
News from the Southwest Region	3
Notes from the Treasurer	4
News from the Northeast Region	5
News from the Southeast Region	5
News from the Northwest Region	5
2009 OSROA Conference Agenda	6



Teens bare all on phones - More 'sexting' nude pictures

By Cindy Kranz

ckranz@enquirer.com

In the Cincinnati area, where legend holds that trends come 10 years late, "sexting" arrived well ahead of time. Teens here are taking nude photos of themselves or others, sending them on their cell phones or posting them online.

Some teens do it as a joke. For others, it's the new bold pickup line to get a date.

A year ago, a 19-year-old Goshen cheerleading coach was charged and prosecuted for a misdemeanor, contributing to the unruliness of a child, for taking a topless photo of herself and a 15-year-old girl. A Glen Este Middle School boy was taken to juvenile court during the last school year for taking explicit photos of his girlfriend.

The National Campaign to Prevent Teen and Unplanned Pregnancy and CosmoGirl.com last month revealed results of a study that showed 20 percent of teens say they have sent or posted nude or semi-nude pictures or video of themselves. The results don't surprise local teens, school officials, police officers and others.

Are Cincy teens ahead on the 'sexting' trend?

"If I were to go through the cell phones in this building right now of 1,500 students, I would venture to say that half to two-thirds have indecent photos, either of themselves or somebody else in school," said Jim Brown, school resource officer at Glen Este High School.

Turpin High School Principal Peggy Johnson thinks that the results would be similar - about 50-50 - in her building. According to the national study, most teens that send sexually suggestive content send to boyfriends or girlfriends, while others say they send such material to those they want to date or hook up with or to someone they only know online.

Brown, who also is Glen Este Middle School's resource officer, said of the 14-year-old boy's cell phone photos last year: "They were as graphic as you would see in any Penthouse magazine, I've been told."

The study also showed that 44 percent of teens say it's common for sexually explicit images and text messages - sexting - to be shared with people other than the intended recipient.

"Guys who get pictures like this from girls, I don't think girls understand that guys gossip way more than girls," said Taylor McCleod, 17, a Withrow University High School senior who is a teen leader for the Postponing Sexual Involvement program.

"And when a guy gets a picture like that, he's not just going to keep it between him and the girl. He's going to take that and show every guy that he knows that knows that girl. And every time somebody looks at her, it's going to be a loss of respect for her."

The stakes of taking and sending sexually explicit photos can be high, compared to the thrill at the time. The consequences can range from humiliation to losing out on jobs to going to court.

When kids are 14 or 15, Brown said, they don't often make the right decisions. "They think, 'I have the right to decide what's best for me.' The next thing you know, it's on YouTube, and you become an international star because you're exposing part of your body. ... Then, they want to retrieve their good reputation, and they can't."

Kids have lost scholarships and jobs because of what's posted on Web sites, Brown said. Many kids have "wised up," taking photos of body parts, but not faces, to avoid detection.

And while some teens intend for the suggestive photos to be seen by only one person, they might not think those photos will be forwarded or that something posted on the Internet lives on.

"I don't think it even crosses their mind," Daniel "Woody" Breyer, chief deputy prosecutor in Clermont County, said. "I think that kids are in the moment. What's going to happen today? What are we doing tonight? What are we doing this weekend?"

Going to court might not cross their minds, either. Prosecutors evaluate the intent of the photo when deciding if charges are warranted.

"If this is clearly just a joke and everyone involved thinks it's funny, now somebody's mom sees it and gets mad. Technically, a charge could be filed," said Julie Wilson, chief assistant prosecutor and public information officer for the Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office.

"We're asking police to evaluate if it's a criminal charge or a matter that could be handled by the school or parents. For whatever reason, we have not seen a lot of these cases."

With so many implications, why do kids do it?

(continued page 2)

("Teens" continued from page 2)

Besides peer pressure, the practice is provoked by what's considered acceptable in this culture, Breyer said, citing videos, such as "Girls Gone Wild."

"What is acceptable behavior in our country has just gone through the floor," Breyer said.

Christopher Kraus, director of the Postponing Sexual Involvement program at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, said that in his 20 years of working in adolescent medicine at the hospital, he's yet to see a teenage trend that does not mirror a larger adult trend.

"Adolescent sexuality is part of normal human development," Kraus said. "Teens are trying to figure out how to express their sexuality appropriately. They are learning, and they are learning from adults."

Kraus, who also is project manager for the Ohio Department of Health's new Guidelines for Sexual Health and Adoption Education, Grades 7-12, said teens are learning how to sort out many sexual messages in the media, including text messages.

"Some messages are complimentary. Some are offensive. Some are confusing. Each message is different."

Another teen Postponing Sexual Involvement leader, Mariah McCollum, who has received unwanted and unsolicited photos from an acquaintance, talked about the trend.

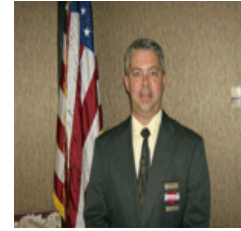
"Every day or every other day, I hear about a new video of one of my peers. There's a new video going around involving sexual activities," said Mariah, a 17-year-old senior at Withrow University High School.

"I think it's pretty lame for a male to send you pictures without consent. ... Who says I want to see your private areas?" Mariah said, adding that she lost a lot of respect for the boy who sent it.

Meanwhile, Brown said parents need to pay attention to their kids' use of technology. Part of the problem is that kids' inhibitions are knocked away by alcohol-fueled parties, where many sexually explicit photo opportunities occur, he said.

"It's 'Kids Gone Wild,' with technology being provided by the parents," he said.

News from the Southwest Region



By Troy Nelson - nelson@mason.k12.oh.us

The end of the school year is often times very hectic and filled with last minute responsibilities. But, the hope of summer is just right around the corner. As school winds down, keep in mind some great training opportunities that are coming up in the next several months.

Our state conference this year is coming together very nicely. Professor Bernard James will be back and we have Phil Chalmers booked this year. The conference will be held June 21-23, 2009, at Maumee State Park in Maumee, Ohio. We also received two CPT hours through OPOTA for this year's conference.

For those officers that have not attended School Resource Officer Basic Training, OSROA has two sessions coming up: August 3-7, 2009 at OPOTA in London, Ohio, and October 19-23, 2009 at OPOTA in Richfield, Ohio. This course provides SROs with a great understanding of their role and the function of a school resource officer.

Operation Street Smart is a drug and gang awareness seminar. A session will be held on September 10, 2009 in Hilliard, Ohio. Also in September, OSROA is hosting a SRO Supervisor Training. The supervisor training is scheduled for September 28, 2009 in Mason, Ohio.

Information regarding these upcoming trainings is available at www.osroa.org. I look forward to seeing you at our state conference and at some of our upcoming trainings. As always, stay safe and thanks for helping protect our kids and schools.

Notes from the Treasurer



By Barry Smith– bsmith@smfcsd.org

Value Added

As careful consumers, we seek to obtain the best value for our buck. Usually, this is true whether it pertains to our personal finances or our business finances. The more bang for that buck we receive, that happier we are.

Have you ever noticed the advertisements that state, "If you order right now we'll include a free xyz"? Or the car salesman who will throw in free oil changes and car washes, however, he will not knock anymore off the cost of the vehicle. They're attempting to add value to what they are selling and give you more reasons to buy.

In today's economic turmoil, we hear of budget cuts daily and officers want to be viewed as more than just the muscle. With this said, we are reminded that our schools and cities also want the best value. As School Resource Officers, we should seek to add value to our positions. In doing so, we add knowledge and value to our careers.

There are many specialty fields that we can become experts in that go hand-and-hand with our daily assignments as SRO's. Fields such as physical security, grant writing, certified instructors, guest speakers, and internet safety to name a few. Whatever field you choose, the goal is to add value to your assignment.

Remember, no one is coming to you and asking you to advance your knowledge in your field. This has to be self-initiated. When you start doing great things in your school, you are networking and sharing your ideas. Economics teach us that Opportunity Cost is what we give up when we make a choice. Simply put, add value to what you do and don't become the opportunity cost.

News from the Northeast Region



By Brian Haller– Haller@mentorschools.org

Things to consider when teaching a class:

One of the most important things in teaching and the learning process is to make it as conducive to the students as much as possible. Countless studies have shown that the more motivated the students are (adults or kids), the faster and the more effective the learning process is. I think that the same thing applies to teaching kids about school safety.

School safety is nothing new, really. In fact, some children might be getting tired of hearing about this topic as parents and school staff alike has probably been pounding these concepts into their brains for as long as they can remember. They probably think that they have heard enough and that they know everything that there is to know about school safety. So instead of sticking to the same old lesson plans, mix it up a bit and come up with something new and fresh.

A **GREAT** way to accomplish this is to attend the sixth annual OSROA conference at Maumee State Park Lodge. Not only can you re-charge your batteries during free time with swimming, volleyball, racquetball, walking trails or a quick trip to nearby Cedar Point, the educational sessions will provide plenty of **NEW** ideas to pass on next school year. Check out the conference agenda on page 6. Time to register for this year's conference is **NOW**. Hope to see you there this summer.

News from the Southeast



By Chris Smith– csmith@loganohiopd.net

I hope that as the school year is winding down, you are able to sit back and relax a little bit. I hope that you have had a good school year. I look forward to seeing all of you in June at the State Conference. This year's conference will be held at Maumee Bay State Resort June 21–23. We have a great conference in line for you this year. Conference Chairman Troy Nelson has worked very hard to make this conference one of the best ones yet.

OSROA has two-year Board of Director seat terms and a new president coming into office in June. Please join me in welcoming Steve Burgess, Miami Township PD, as the new president. A very special thank you to Mike McCaskey, Dublin Div of Police for ALL his hard work these past two years as President. Mike has done an EXCELLENT job bringing our organization to where it is today. The Southeast Region SROs feel very confident in turning things over from Mike to Steve and Steve taking the ball and running with it.

The SE Region met on May 12, one last time before the end of the school year. We had a short business and training meeting.

If you have anything you would like to share or would like to help with the state conference, please contact Kari or Eileen at the OSROA office. Good Luck and God Bless.



News from the Northwest

By Jackie Wegman– wegman-jackie@maumee.org

As Spring arrives, not only are students thinking about the end of the year but so are the staff and SRO's!!! It's easy to get into a complacent attitude thinking the count down has begun for summer and just maybe we can "cruise" through the next couple of weeks. Now is **NOT** the time to become complacent but to be on guard for subtle changes that students may be feeling due to economic factors combined with lack of opportunities for youth this summer.

It is no secret that summer jobs for youth will be harder to obtain due to competing with older adults who are unemployed with families and recreation programs sponsored by Cities or private entities have been cut back if not eliminated. For graduating seniors, college may have to wait an additional semester for reserve cash to be built up.

So what can a SRO do to help alleviate the stress? Remind the kids that intrinsic value also comes from giving and not always getting. Take this summer to volunteer; is there an older neighbor who might appreciate some extra help with chores? Does your community have a shortage of workers at the parks or hospitals? Take part in an observation/internship in their field of interest. Remind students that they will reap the benefits of these activities down the road when they complete applications for college, scholarships and future employment.

SRO's please don't sit around waiting for a happy ending. Maintain your focus—the safety of the students and staff until the last bell rings on the last day. **NO ONE CAN MOTIVATE YOU BUT YOU!** Your choices create your circumstances. Remember the prize in personal defense is your life. The perfect fight is one that is over before the loser realizes what is happening.

STAY VIGILANT–STAY SAFE.



Ohio School Resource Officers Association presents:

**2009 School Resource Officers
Sixth Annual Conference**

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, June 21, 22, 23, 2009



Maumee Bay Resort

1750 State Park Road, Oregon, Ohio 43618

Directions available at: www.maumeebayresort.com

OPOTC 2.0 CPT CREDITS APPROVED

Sunday

- 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. **Registration**– Lobby
- 4:45 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Dinner**–Cook Out– Patio
- 6:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **Welcome**– Bald Eagle
- 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. **Education Session** – *Inside the Mind of Teen Killers* – Phil Chalmers
- 8:30 p.m.– 11:00 p.m. **Social** –Icebreaker Lounge– DJ Jimmy Childs–
(Refreshments provided by OSROA for the first hour)
Free Time– Swimming, volleyball, racquetball, walking trials, plenty of lodge game rooms, etc.

Monday

- 7:00 – 8:00 a.m. **Breakfast buffet**– Icebreaker Lounge Room
- 8:00 – 8:45 a.m. **Business Meeting**– Tern Room– Everyone welcome!
- 9:00 – 9:45 a.m. **Education Session** – *Where are Teens Minds?*– Elise Strahan–National Organization for Youth Safety & Autumn Fasnacht
- 9:45 – 11:30 a.m. **Education Session** – *JUVENILE JUSTICE WORKSHOP: Safe Schools and Effective Collaboration: 2009 Legal Update*– Professor Bernard James
- 11:30 – 12:30 p.m. **Lunch buffet**– Icebreaker Lounge
- 12:30 – 4:45 p.m. **Education Session** – *Keynote Speaker Continued*
- 5:15 – 6:15 p.m. **Dinner buffet**– Icebreaker Lounge
- 6:15 p.m. **Free Time**– Cedar Point, Port Clinton, swimming, volleyball, racquetball, walking trials, plenty of lodge game rooms, etc.

Tuesday

- 7:00 – 8:00 a.m. **Breakfast buffet**– Icebreaker Lounge
- 8:00 – 10:15 a.m. **Education Session**– *School Shootings– The Prevention, Response and Resolution*– Jeff Travers, Ken Hughes, Keith Coy– Great Oaks Institute
- 10:15 – 10:30 a.m. **Break**– Check out of rooms
- 10:30– 11:30 a.m. **Education Session** – Continued
- 12:15 – 2:30 p.m. **Lunch Banquet**

Ohio School Resource Officers Association

6277 Riverside Drive • Suite 2N
• Dublin, Ohio 43017-5067

Phone:
(614) 718-3210

(614) 761-9509 (fax)

Website:
www.osroa.org

E-Mail:
osroa@osroa.org

OSROA We're on the Move

Visit us at:

www.osroa.org

About OSROA

The Ohio School Resource Officer Association is a nonprofit membership association dedicated to promoting school safety; youth citizenship and partnership, between the school system and local law enforcement agency. OSROA members represent individuals from police departments, sheriff's offices, schools, public agencies, business and other community groups interested in school safety. School Resource Officers are a valuable positive influence in the lives of young people.



First Row Chris Smith Southeast Regional Rep; Jackie Wegman Northwest Regional Rep; Mike McCaskey President; Sara Rath Central Regional Rep; Barry Smith Treasurer; Second Row standing: Kari Parsons Executive Director; Brian Haller Northeast Regional Rep; Greg Sheets; Steve Burgess Vice President; Troy Nelson Southwest Regional Rep.

Ohio School Resource Officers Association
6277 Riverside Drive • Suite 2N
• Dublin, Ohio 43017-5067



Customer Name
Street Address
City, ST ZIP Code