



OSROA ...On the Move!

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By SRO Barry Smith, MBA, Stow PD

Letter from The President

As the new President of the Ohio School Resource Offices Association (OSROA), I welcome you back for another great school year and thank you for all that you do for Ohio's school communities. We often don't get credit from our peers for the work we do in schools. As a fellow multitasking-SRO, I know and appreciate the various directions that a SRO may have to travel on any given school day to help bring order where there is sometimes disorder. Moreover, I know how rewarding it is when you're able to assist in successfully molding a future leader of our great country. Although you may not hear it often enough, what you do in our schools matters.

By now your school is back in full-swing and it appears that Ohio schools are off to another safe school year. Although people will measure the safety of schools in many different ways, a true measurement will include preparedness, training, proactive work, reactive work, and your ability to work with others to problem solve. There will be problems, situations, and crimes that arise and you most likely will not have the luxury of advanced notice. We are good at dealing with crimes; however, if you find that dealing with problems and situations are a weakness, make it a goal to improve upon these.

Our schools are all unique and we face different environmental problems as well as other challenges. Don't forget to take the time and re-familiarize yourself with some of the obvious challenges in your area so that you are prepared in crisis situation. If time allows, attempt to take the proactive approach in an effort to get in front of some of these challenges.

Again, thank you for the great work that you do in Ohio schools. I look forward to serving as the OSROA president for the next two years.

Remember, they are still kids.

News from the Northeast Region



By Todd Bennett- tbennett@orangeccsd.org

Calling all SRO's in the Northeast: I have been assigned the position of Secretary/Treasurer with the OSROA Board of Directors and began my duties on August 2. A process is in the works to select my replacement as the Northeast Regional Representative.

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year. I hope your summer was exciting and re-energized your spirit. The past 12 months have been very difficult for police, fire, teachers, and the other public employees that work closely with us. I commend you and all of your coworkers at the cities and schools for the job they do.

We know that public employees are worth more than they are compensated for and it is the internal drive combined with the high values/morals that separate us. I believe that character counts and all of the SRO's that I have had the pleasure to meet and get to know possess that high character. Bringing a positive attitude back to school can be contagious.

Hopefully the students and the parents of our students realize the valuable service we provide them and will support us come November. Keeping that positive approach may help in more ways than we know. Good luck in the upcoming school year and let's hope everyone "Remembers us in November."

Thank You for your service to Ohio's students and communities!!!

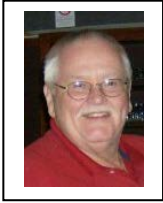
SRO Todd Bennett, Pepper Pike PD, Orange City Schools

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News from the First VP

News from the Southeast Region



By Butch Aldrich- baldrich@jcs.k12.oh.us

Hello to all the Southeastern School Resource Officers. We are getting ready for another new school year. We just finished with our Annual Conference and have jumped back in to prepare for next years conference. We will be having a regional meeting coming up in September in Gallia County. Our meetings are always open to all SRO's, Dare Officers, School Administrators, Juvenile Prosecutors, Law Enforcement Administrators, and Juvenile Probation Officers.

To get up to date information about O.S.R.O.A. go to the OSROA Bulletin Board and/or check the website. You will also be able to check on up coming training information. If you know of any SRO's in our region that would want any information about O.S.R.O.A., please have them contact me. If you need to contact me or have any comments, you can reach me at: baldrich@jcs.k12.oh.us or call the Jackson High School at 740-286-7575 ext. 3015.

Sgt Butch Aldrich
Jackson Police Department

News from the Second VP

By Chris Smith csmith@lhsd.k12.oh.us



Hello Ohio SRO's,

By now all of you are back at your prospective schools. I want to take this time to welcome all of you. Welcome to all the new SRO's as well. If any of you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me or your regional rep. Welcome to new OSROA President Barry Smith and VP Sara Rath. I have worked with both of them for a number of years now, and know that they will represent OSROA to the best of their ability. Good luck and thank you all for keeping our students safe.

Logan Hocking Middle School



By Sara Rath-
rath@westerville.k12.oh.us

Kids, Community and Restorative Justice

Restorative Justice is a system that involves victims, the community and offenders in mending the harm caused by criminal acts. It provides those who are most affected by these crimes the ability to consider options for contributing in an assortment of restorative practices that encourage healing.

As school resource officers we understand that within the existing criminal justice system, offenders may play a submissive role and not be held accountable to right the wrong they have committed. However, in the Restorative Justice structure, these juveniles become active participants in reparation efforts. Where parents were once pulling out a checkbook to right a wrong, our young offenders are held directly accountable to victims and the community and encounter the personal impact of the crime they committed.

Through Restorative Justice, these juveniles are offered the opportunity to learn firsthand what is required to make amends. Frequently this involves apology letters, neighborhood cleanup programs, senior citizen assistance programs and supplementary restitution through community service.

With the help of Restorative Justice programs, which are becoming more popular across the eighty-eight counties in Ohio, victims see that they are not forgotten and are offered opportunities to regain the sense of empowerment they may have lost as a result of crime.

The term "Restorative Justice" is difficult for many to understand. It's about involving victims, offenders and the community in repairing the harm. For some, it is easier to throw open the door to a juvenile facility and forget about "the problem". For those who choose to offer and participate in the initiative, they are able to experience the healing form of justice while providing an enhanced version of law related education to the juveniles served in the community.

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Restorative Justice is a new direction in service and demonstrates that programs can do more than institute a baseline of culpability and punishment. They can become the foundation for a completely new set of expectations and behaviors for juveniles and society.

For more information on how you can use Restorative Justice in your school or community, visit:

<http://www.ojdp.gov/pubs/implementing/balanced.html>

News from the Central Region



By Ron Burkitt,

ron_burkitt@hboe.org

Lead the way as an SRO

This year the OSROA Basic Training Course will see additions to the curriculum. Attendees will receive a session on leadership and on cultural diversity. As I was writing the lesson plan for the leadership class my head began to nod as the articles and notes seemed to tell me things I already knew but had put aside or not thought about for a time. In writing this article I hope to stir some thoughts about how you are seen as a leader in your position as an SRO.

Most patrol officers get very little training in the area of leadership. Some may receive training while becoming a Field Training Officer. Several departments ask for successful completion of First Line Supervision classes prior to leading a shift. However, the other areas of our job do not require any leadership training.

We are expected to be leaders by those who place us within our schools. Once inside the school our administrators, staff, teachers, parents and students all have different views of our leadership responsibilities. Some administrators will see you as a leader and some may not. You may have to earn that understanding by showing off your leadership skills. Teachers will almost always view you as a leader, unless you cross over into their area of expertise. Your school staff members will normally see you as a leader. This relationship can diminish

This relationship can diminish over time as you relate daily to custodian, lunch staff or bus drivers, etc. However, when you have to make a switch from Officer Friendly to Officer Not-so-friendly, they'll usually understand. An in-service day is a good opportunity to enhance your leadership relationship with those at school.

The student to SRO leadership relationship may be the hardest to comprehend, maintain, and understand. The larger your student population or the more diverse your student body, the tougher this task may be. It is hard to tell where you stand in a school of three hundred students let alone one with two thousand. The key is to maintain the qualities that make a leader effective; honesty, integrity, intelligence, and the list goes on.

Know that each of you is seen as a leader. Once you put on the uniform you become a leader to those you swore to protect. If you don't already, you should see yourself as a leader also. By taking on the responsibilities of protecting children and making each school campus as safe as possible you lead the way in preventing school violence.

SRO Ron Burkitt, Hilliard PD

News from the Southwest Region



By Paul Payne,

paynep@sycamoreschools.org

Just over 10 years ago, Islamic extremists carried out the worst terrorist attack in the U.S. history. At the time, most of our students were too young to understand the events that unfolded on 9/11. However, what many did learn was that the world is a scary place. There have been several tragedies that have reshaped on how we police our schools. With schools opening their doors to kick off another school year, we must not forget to complete our own SRO checklist: Lock-down drills, revising crisis plans, surveillance cameras, security assessments, etc....

Aside from our mandated security checks, we must start reaching out to all our students, staff and administrators to help bridge the gap between law enforcement officers. SRO's should never miss the opportunity to engage with a student while walking down the hallway or cafeteria. We should all strive to make at least someone smile three times every day!

In the southwest region, we are all gearing up for our first regional meeting...Please try to make it to all of the meetings...Networking and sharing our issues together is vital to our success in schools.

Have a Great School Year!

SRO Paul Payne, Montgomery PD

News from the Northwest Region



By Mark Potter, mpotter@ci.oregon.oh.us

Welcome back! I always wonder what challenges the new year will bring. For some, the year will start off slow and for others the year will be chaotic from the get go. One thing is for sure though and that is no matter what, at some point we will all have to fall back on training and procedures.

Please take some time and review all of your safety plans and procedures. Make the necessary changes and updates and distribute the new procedures and plans early in the school year. Do not assume that someone else will pick these up and take care of them and please do not wait until there is an incident to find out that your plans were not updated. If you need any assistance or ideas, please feel free to contact me. Also keep your eye out for any upcoming training that would be beneficial to keeping your schools safe.

By now most of you know that I am huge proponent of the A.L.I.C.E. program. I know you've heard me say this many times but, if you have not gone to the training, please seriously consider going. This is by far one of the best training classes you will attend. There is an upcoming A.L.I.C.E. instructor's course being held in Loveland, OH October 10-12th. You can find more information on the program and register for the training at responseoptions.com. Please feel free to call me with any questions.

Finally, look for information soon on our first regional meeting of the new school year. We are working to have a joint meeting with OSROA and D.A.R.E. I wish everyone a great year and look forward to working with you all.

Be safe, SRO Mark Potter, Oregon PD

Join the OSROA Bulletin Board

The OSROA bulletin Board is now available at www.osroa.org

The Bulletin Board is a secure area, for members only and requires you to register a username (your first and last name) and a password.

To Register: Go to our website and "Click Here" in the Bulletin Board box and fill in the information.

After you register, within a short period of time, you will receive a notification via email of password approval and then you will be able to read and post messages. This is a wonderful resource to keep current on school safety issues.

2011 -2012 OSROA Training Opportunities (more to come!)

SRO Basic Training

October 31 – November 4, 2011

OPOTA Richfield, Ohio

2012 School Resource Officer & D.A.R.E. Officer Combined Conference

June 24, 25, 26 2012

Maumee Bay Resort

Visit our website at www.osroa.org to register



HELLO OSROA MEMBERS IN THE CENTRAL, NORTHWEST AND SOUTHEAST REGIONS:

OSROA has a wonderful opportunity to raise funds for our organization by participating in the Kroger Rewards program.

TO USE THE KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM:

- Please register online at krogercommunityrewards.com
- Be sure to have your Kroger Plus card handy. (If you do not have a Kroger Plus card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger.)
- Most of you are new online customers, so click on SIGN UP TODAY in the 'New Customer?' box (to the right.)
- Sign up for a Kroger Rewards Account by entering zip code, clicking on a favorite store, entering your email address, creating a password, entering in contact information and agreeing to the terms and conditions.
- You will then get a message to check your email inbox and **click on the link** within the body of the email.
- Click on My Account and use your email address and password to proceed to the next step.
- Click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information and input your Kroger Plus card number.
- Update or confirm your information.
- Enter NPO number **81464**, key in Ohio School Resource Officers Association or, select our organization from the list and click on confirm.
- To verify you are enrolled correctly, you will see OSROA's name on the right side of your information page.
- Do you use your phone number at the register? Call 877-576-7587 to get your Kroger Plus card number.
- Members must swipe their registered Kroger Plus card or use the phone number that is related to their registered Kroger Plus card when shopping for each purchase to count. You'll be saving money by using your card and raising money for our organization.

OSROA members raised enough money last year to send two new SRO's to Basic Training!

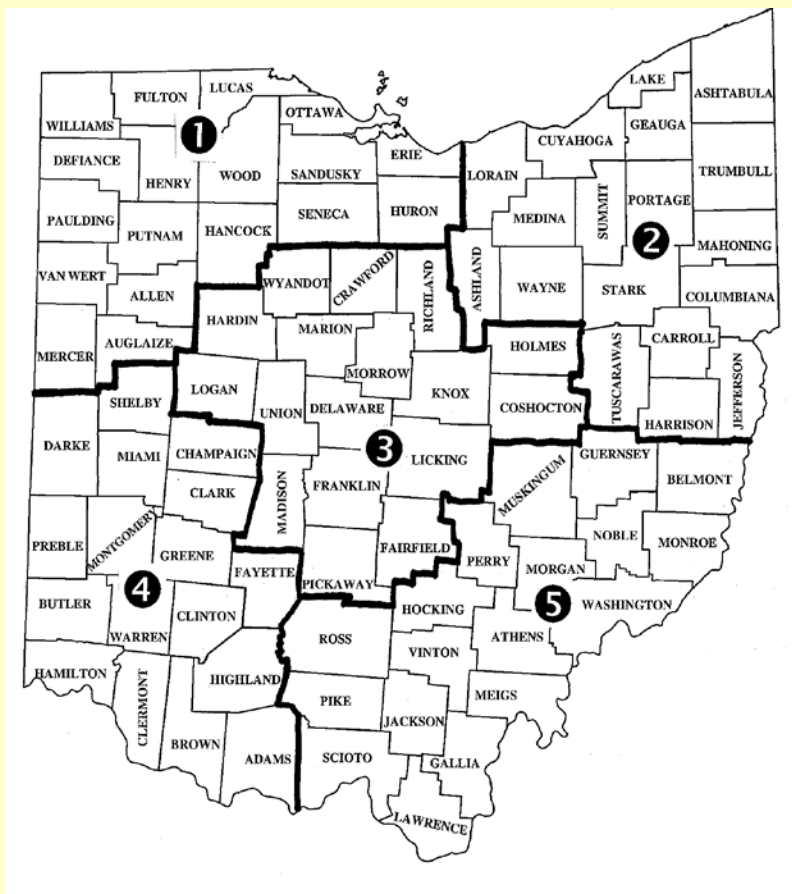
Thanks to all of you for your support!!

Eileen Kramer
614-761-4606
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2011 SRO Basic Training graduates from OPOTA London

OSROA DISTRICT MAP



**Ohio School Resource Officers
Association**

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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.



Back Row: SE Reg. Rep. Butch Aldrich, Sec./Treasurer Todd Bennett, First VP Sara Rath, Membership Coordinator Eileen Kramer, and President Barry Smith.
Front Row: Past President Steve Burgess, NW Reg. Rep. Mark Potter, Central Reg. Rep. Ron Burkitt, and Executive Director Kari Parsons
Not Pictured: SW Reg. Rep. Paul Payne, and Second VP Chris Smith.

**Ohio School Resource Officers
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