



October 2009

Dear Fellow Academy Alumnus:

When I think back to when I was growing up in the 1960's, I remember many songs that expressed the tumultuous changes of that time. And while that certainly was a time of change and challenge, some might say that was nothing in comparison to what we are facing today. As the worlds of many have changed within the last year, so has your Association.

Following the retirement of several of the Association's long-time leaders, PCPAAA floundered and struggled to find itself amongst the changes occurring within the organization as well as within the Phoenix Police Department. On the heels of those challenges came the beginning of the financial crises, causing more distraction and separation between members. With tighter budgets, uncertainty in employment and fewer hours available for volunteer organizations, we got away from brought us together.

Earlier this year, Clint Wisebaker stepped up to take the reins as Association President. Being the dedicated person that he is, Clint kept the Association alive with a sincere commitment to providing substance for the organization. However, once again, we faced an unexpected event when Clint was called back to active military service. We are proud of him; we miss him and we wish him a safe and quick return.

But Arizonans never have been known as ones to buckle in the face of adversity. So once again, we have stood up, shaken ourselves off and begun to move forward. In the interim, I have volunteered to serve as your president, and together with several fine leaders, the board has been working diligently to reaffirm its mission and develop even more value for its members.

Lt. Nick DeBenedetto recently summarized our mission succinctly and accurately when he said, "... (PCPAAA) provides the members of the Association with continuing law enforcement education and to the public, a window into the Phoenix Police Department..." That is who we are and what we are all about.

Lt. Nick came to us for a short time before being reassigned elsewhere in the Department, but during his time with us he made great strides for the Association. He reaffirmed to the board the Department's sincere interest in the continuance of the Police Academy and its desire for the Alumni Association to work closely as ambassadors of the Department to the community.



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Just this week the board met with Lt. Matt Giordano, who recently joined the Public Affairs Bureau, and Cassandra Mason-Motts, the PAB Public Relations Representative. It is clear from their words and actions that they and the Department are committed to work vigorously with us to build a substantive organization. So our vision is clear.

Currently, the Association is working on several events you will want to be aware of:

- We are working with members of the Crime Lab to create a CSI experience for our members. If you haven't seen the new crime lab, prepare yourself to be impressed.
- A picnic is being planned to bring alumni together with officers and their families. There is a possibility we will combine this with a day at the police firing range.
- We will be participating in the Alzheimer's Association's Memory Walk on November 14 at Wesley Bolin Plaza. Come and see us and get a free gift!
- Alumni and officers will be volunteering at the next televised KAET – Channel 8 Pledge Drive. Always a good cause.
- And our annual Bowlathon has been redesigned and relocated; wait until you see what we have planned.

Our continuing education programs are ramping up as well:

- Internet Crimes: Precautions When Using Social Media
- Financial Crimes: Foreclosure and Credit Counseling Dangers
- Drug Crimes: State of Current Affairs

As you can see, our vision is clear. We are going to do more things and involve more people. *To that end, I am reaching out to each and every graduate of the Academy to ask that you get involved with the Association once again.* The coming year will bring many new educational programs and participation in community events. The Academy continues to bring new students and prospective alumni, building a network of like-minded Phoenicians interested in protecting their homes and enriching the lives of their families and communities. This is our time to rebuild the Association into what we want it to be.

We are committed to bringing you value. But if you want to get more out of your membership, consider pledging some time as a board or committee member. There are



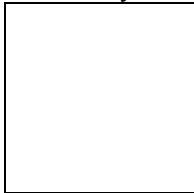
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several programs in the works now and we are meeting with alumni to fill the following positions.

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- Treasurer
- Recording Secretary
- Director positions
- Marketing Assistants
- Clerical Assistants
- Program Committee
- Ambassadors / Greeters Committee
- Newsletter Writers, Designers, Distributors

Join us. Be the face of the Alumni Association, the Phoenix Police Department and your community. I look forward to hearing from you soon either by phone at 602-256-2266 or by email at dperez@subrosapi.com.

Sincerely,



Dan Perez