

October 2, 2008

Sally Ellertson  
Public Information Officer  
141 West Renfro  
Burleson, Texas 76028-4261  
817-447-5400 ext. 286  
F: 817-447-6885  
[sellertson@burlesontx.com](mailto:sellertson@burlesontx.com)  
[www.burlesontx.com](http://www.burlesontx.com)



Left to right (front row) Lana Tadsen, Linda Brasher, Kristy Gilbert, Caty Atkins, Carolyn Carminati-Mitchell and Jerri McCallum; Left to right (back row) Sgt. Diron Hill, Rusty Reece, Blayne Hallmark, David Sinzinger, Bill Ayars and Police Chief Tom Cowan.

The Burleson Police Department has 10 pairs of new eyes and ears watching out for fellow citizens and businessowners.

Ten new Burleson Citizens on Patrol (COPs) recruits graduated from the third Citizens On Patrol Academy on Sept. 24. They each received a certificate of completion for successfully completing the course.

The class met on three consecutive Saturdays in August for their 24-hour classroom instruction. They were instructed on operating procedures, laws and ordinances, CPR/First Aid, radio procedures,

patrol techniques, disabled parking enforcement procedures, and suspicious persons.

This year, the COPs recruits were field trained by veteran COPs members. They were required to ride with a veteran member for eight hours, which was broken down into two shifts. The recruits were instructed by the trainers on the jurisdictional boundaries, business and neighborhood locations and how to complete close patrols and vacation checks. The recruits also learned how to enforce disabled parking violations.

All of the recruits were recent graduates of the 2008 Citizens Police Academy. It didn't take long for the recruits to begin their volunteer service. Several helped with the Hurricane Ike information center at the Seventh-day Adventist Church on Burleson Boulevard. COPs members also help with crowd control at the Burleson Elks home games and most recently helped with the Gang Conference in Arlington.

"The new Burleson COPs members are a very dedicated group and will definitely fit in with the current active members," Sgt. Diron Hill said.

The graduation took place at Burleson City Hall with Sgt. Hill, the COPs coordinator, and Police Chief Tom Cowan. The chief detailed what the COPs recruits' new responsibilities to the community entail. Sgt. Hill spelled out COPs . . . "C" for Cooperation, "O" for Observation, "P" for Partnership and "S" for Service.

"I challenge you to become leaders of your community," Sgt. Hill said.