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# WATERBURY POLICE EXPLORERS

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2012 Issue 1

January-May 2012

## Explorers Celebrate 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

*Waterbury Explorers host 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Holiday Dinner*

### Captain Ysmael Peguero

*Waterbury Police Explorers*

The Waterbury Police Explorers ended 2011 celebrating forty years of continued success. The event was held at the Cazuela Restaurant and Lounge. Over eighty guests attended the special event to commemorate the Waterbury Police Explorers.

All guests enjoyed an appetizing dinner buffet provided by the Cazuela Restaurant. Explorers also participated in a “Secret Santa” exercise where gifts were traded among explorers.

Keynote speakers of the event included Waterbury Mayor Neil O’Leary, Waterbury Police Deputy Chief Vernon Riddick Jr., Waterbury Police Assistant Deputy Chief David Jannetty (Waterbury Police Explorer Board of Directors Chairman),

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## Explorer’s First SWAT Team

*Explorer SWAT Team Train for Success*

### Captain Ysmael Peguero

*Waterbury Police Explorers*

The Waterbury Police Explorers initiated an Explorer SWAT team early in January 2012. A total of approximately 50 explorers tested for 10 vacant seats on the Explorer SWAT Team.

Testing for the Explorer SWAT Team included a background check of each explorer, a strict intense physical agility test, and an interview conducted by Waterbury Police Explorer Advisors.



*Explorer SWAT Members plan to execute a search warrant at the Annual Cadet Stations Day Competition*

To be considered as an Explorer SWAT Member you must not have any disciplinary write-ups within the past three months at the time of testing for a spot, all explorers must attend and pass the physical agility tests proctored by an

*continued on page 3 **SWAT***

Retired Waterbury Police Lieutenant Cicero Booker (founder of the Waterbury Police Explorers in 1971), Boy Scouts of America Connecticut Rivers Council Field Director Bryan Hall, and NERLEEA Director John Visone. Other guests included past and present Waterbury Police Explorers, past and present Waterbury Police Explorer Advisors, parents and guardians, and members from the Middlebury Police Explorers.

The Waterbury Police Explorers was founded in 1971 by Waterbury Lieutenant Cicero Booker. The non-profit organization started small and was only made available to the city's youth who were at least 14 years of age. Today the Waterbury Police Explorers is the largest Explorer post in the Northeast with over 150 enrolled explorers and is considered as a subdivision to the Waterbury Police Department.



The event ended with a special presentation of awards presented by Waterbury Police Officer Jose Diaz (Waterbury Explorer Senior Advisor) and Assistant Deputy Chief David Jannetty. Awards were given to former Waterbury Police Explorer Advisors Officer John Gugliotti and Detective Andrew Dellamargio as well as Civilian Advisor Joseannette "Mama" Peguero.

## 2011 Explorer Post Evaluation

*Evaluation Results Show Increase in Post Interest*

### **Acting Corporal Ryan Peguero** *Waterbury Police Explorers*

The Waterbury Police Explorer Post 4141 recently underwent an Annual Evaluation conducted by the Waterbury Police Explorer Captain and Administrative Lieutenant. The evaluation took approximately two months to complete.

Waterbury Police Explorer Civilian Advisor Jose Peguero had all explorers complete an individual evaluation sheet that questioned explorers about every aspect of the program. After submitting an evaluation sheet all explorers were privately interviewed by Waterbury Police Explorer Captain Ysmael Peguero, then Waterbury Police Explorer Lieutenant Luis Arroyo, and Associate Advisor, Waterbury Police Officer Matt Ocasio.

The personal interviews were conducted under strict interviewing procedures to help explorers practice how to interview. Although the evaluation was completed professionally, all explorers were forewarned that they were not being graded and were encouraged to have an open dialogue and raise attention to things they wanted to see change in the post. "Approximately 95% of all the explorers interviewed were relatively pleased with procedures in the post and stated that they would not like to see anything change" said Explorer Captain Peguero.

Some complaints that were brought up during the evaluation were complaints of explorer involvement in events and requests for copies of the "Waterbury Police Explorer By-Laws." Since then over 75 copies of the by-laws have been handed out and a Parent/Guardian meeting was held to raise the guardians' attention about events and policies about the program. According to the Senior Advisor, Waterbury Police Officer Jose Diaz, the parent meeting was also a success and parents were very pleased with the program.

## AWARDS COMMITTEE DELAYED

The Waterbury Police Explorer's Annual Awards Ceremony has been postponed because of a recent onset of events. The Waterbury Police Explorer Administration has recently seen a large volume of Explorer Requests at public and civic events around the city of Waterbury and surrounding towns.

Supervisors on the Awards Committee say that the confidential members are working tirelessly to appropriately recognize all explorers whom deserve recognition as well as planning the event with the Waterbury Police Explorer Advisors and Board of Directors.

The Waterbury Police Explorer Awards Committee serves a one year confidential term beginning after an Annual Awards Ceremony and ending with an Annual Awards Ceremony.

All explorers will be advised of the next Waterbury Police Explorer Awards and Promotion Ceremony.

## NEWSLETTER BOARD

The Waterbury Police Explorers is currently seeking interested explorers who would like to serve on the Waterbury Police Explorers Newsletter Committee. There is an unlimited amount of seats on the committee but all members must be approved by the Waterbury Police Explorer Advisors.

Interested members should be comfortable writing articles about several topics regarding the Waterbury Police Explorers and should be able to take photos at events, training sessions, meetings, and other sanctioned events and be comfortable with interviewing members of the Police Department, community, and post (upon approval).

Members will be held accountable for publishing all newsletters and voting on pertinent information regarding the newsletter.

Advisor and must score at least a 75 during a private interview. Other requirements include proper certification of First Aid/CPR, handcuffing, defensive tactics, and firearms.

Qualifying explorers are then tested individually to be placed in either a primary SWAT Team or a secondary SWAT Team. Both teams alternate in competitions and complete an equal amount of training. Both teams are also under the command of the same supervisor.

After the first Waterbury Police Explorer SWAT Team was composed, a new set of uniforms were ordered along with training firearms. The tactical uniform consists of a complete navy blue uniform and personalized explorer identification cards. The Explorer SWAT Team is currently looking for fundraising opportunities to purchase more training equipment and uniforms. SWAT members will begin to wear their uniforms at large events where over 500 people are expected to be in attendance.

The current SWAT Team consists of explorers Jose Rodriguez, Wandel Rodriguez, Nohemy Rossi, Kenneth Martinez, Joshua Monegro, Devon Robinson, Jonathon Negron, Jesus Garcia, and Kalil Garcia. All SWAT members will be retested in July, at which time all explorers will be eligible to test for a spot on the elite team.

For more information about the SWAT Team or how to donate directly to the SWAT Team please contact SWAT Commander Jose Rodriguez.

# Explorers Remember the Fallen

*Waterbury Explorers attended 2 Blue Masses in Honor of the Fallen*

Earlier this month, the Waterbury Police Explorers attended a state wide Blue Mass Ceremony held at the St Joseph Cathedral in Hartford, CT. A couple days later a select few explorers also attended the City of Waterbury Blue Mass and Ceremony.

During both ceremonies, Police Officers, Firefighters, and Emergency Medical Personnel who have paid the ultimate sacrifice were honored and remembered. “We will never forget”, repeated Waterbury Mayor Neil O’Leary during the city ceremony.

“It is a great feeling to stand here and hear about the great sacrifices these men and women have made to keep the country safe and secured” said Acting Corporal Ryan Peguero.

The Officer Down Memorial Page, [odmp.org](http://odmp.org), has 10 officers and/or inspectors that have died on the line of duty between 1903 and 1997. Waterbury has also seen a loss of officers recently due to medical conditions.

A weekly tradition of the Waterbury Police Explorers is to honor a fallen officer by preparing a tribute presentation. Executive Board President Jose Rodriguez says it is a great project for explorers that he plans to continue as he serves as President of the post.

On behalf of the Waterbury Police Explorers we would like to send our condolences to fellow police departments and families that have lost a life. Thank you to all the Police Officers, Firefighters, and Emergency Medical Personnel who serve the country proudly.



# Annual Cadet Stations Day another Success

*Waterbury Explorers Earn Awards at Stations Day*

On May 5, 12 explorers traveled to the Meriden State Police Academy to compete in several scenarios against other posts in the Northeast Region.

Waterbury Explorers competed in law enforcement areas such as Team Leadership, Felony Stop, DUI stop, Tactical Response, Search and Control, and numerous other scenarios that were proctored by Police Officers from various departments.

The Waterbury Police Explorers earned awards that included First Place Obstacle Course, Second Place Mountain Bike Training, and Third Place DUI stop.

All attending explorers did a phenomenal job and returned to teach their subordinates what they have learned.



# Explorer Supervisors Discuss Summer Schedule

## *Supervisors Meeting Plans for Future*

The Waterbury Police Explorers Supervisory Staff recently met to discuss summer plans. During a six hour meeting, explorers voted and discussed several proposals that will affect the post this upcoming summer.

Any supervisor of the Waterbury Police Explorer may attest to the importance of Supervisor Meetings. All supervisors meet at least once months to discuss essential topics regarding the post but meetings have been known to be held up to seven times a month.

The most recent Supervisors Meeting has resulted in a training schedule that will allow for explorers to receive sufficient amount of training necessary to participate in Ride-a-Longs with Waterbury Police Officers beginning June 1, 2012. Supervisors have also voted to find several locations in the community to paint graffiti as a way to give back to the community and in effort to continue recent Earth day cleanups that the Waterbury Police Explorers have volunteered in. Supervisors are also currently planning on holding squad competitions. The preliminary plan allows for all Explorer Squads to compete against each other to earn awards.

Other topics have also been proposed during the Supervisor Meeting but have yet to be voted on. Dates of several of the above mentioned activities still need to be voted on. These dates will be voted on at the next Supervisor Meeting.

Explorers are strongly encouraged to contact their immediate supervisor for more information regarding any of the topics discussed at Supervisor Meetings.

## AMR DONATES “CLASS A” SHIRTS

The Waterbury Police Explorers would like to thank the Waterbury American Medical Response for their recent donation of light blue Class A shirts.

The Explorer Quartermasters will be working over the next few weeks to get Waterbury Police Explorer patches stitched on the shirts. Explorers who qualify to attain a Class A uniform will be issued the shirts from the Quartermaster Office.

## Waterbury Police Explorer Blackboard

The Waterbury Police Explorer Webmasters are proud to announce the initiation of the Explorer Electronic Blackboard. The online training instrument will allow for an enhanced level of communication between squad leaders and explorers.

All explorers are encouraged to create an explorer profile, which can be accessed at [www.waterburypoliceexplorers.org](http://www.waterburypoliceexplorers.org). According to the Explorer Webmasters, supervisors can post announcements, training videos, and other pertinent information directly to their squad members. Online, explorers may also find a list of events as well as access to important explorer documents such as electronic Patrol Activity Reports, Incident Reports, Evaluation sheets, and other important documents.

Any explorer who may be having difficulties creating a profile or logging into the Explorer Blackboard should contact their supervisor or email the Explorer Webmasters at [webmaster@waterburypoliceexplorers.org](mailto:webmaster@waterburypoliceexplorers.org)

*Thank You  
For  
Reading our  
Newsletter*

