Chief's Welcome

2010 Annual Report

The economy has a profound effect on the way that local governments operate on a day-to-day basis. There is no longer a historical "norm" that we can count on to guide us, but instead we are creating new "norms". What we see in government or for that matter in society is that even though we are doing more with less, we are challenged to meet increased demands for service. We have been told that we are in an economic recovery; however, the city has again been forced to make budget cuts, award no merit raises or cost of living increases and to not fund needed infrastructure. Our response has been to seek out initiatives to combat criminal activity and to re-deploy some of our resources and workforce so we can continue to meet the needs of the community and help provide the quality of life that Peachtree City has come to enjoy.

We collectively as an organization embarked on one creative initiative by applying the principles of Data Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS). This approach ensures accountability and provides a dynamic, evidence-based problem solving approach to crime and traffic crashes. We were unable to fully execute all of the components of DDACTS, but even so we were able to see significant results from our efforts. One example is the application of high visibility traffic enforcement which proved an effective counter-measure that addresses both crime and crashes.

In 2008 and 2009 we were experiencing a dramatic increase in our Part 1 Crime which is considered – Homicide, Burglary, Robbery, Rape, Theft, Aggravated Assault, & Arson. However, in this year we had a 28% decrease in these crimes. We believe DDACTS was responsible for at least a portion of the decrease. These results could not have been achieved without the hard work and dedication of members of this department.

Peachtree City is a unique community with over 90 miles of multi-use paths that we are required to patrol to provide a safe environment. Over the past several years we have focused on providing a greater police presence on the paths. This past year officers logged over 1570 hours of patrol on the paths, which represents an increase of approximately 83% over 2009. This was accomplished by the utilizing a combination of ATV patrol, mountain bike patrol, golf cart patrol, and foot patrol. Road Patrol, the Community Response Team, Reserve Officers, and our Auxiliary Unit all worked to make the multi-use paths a safe part of our community.

We saw several additions to the department this year that we believe will provide a greater service level to the community that we serve. The first was the addition of a second K-9 (Enko) and his handler Officer Kloznick. The K-9 was purchased through donations and the handler came from existing personnel. The second addition was Cpl. Hyatt, assigned as our Motorcycle Officer with the Community Response Team. This was a position that we had a number of years ago, and we were able to reestablish the position with existing personnel. Last, but not least, the City's Code Enforcement Department was moved under the Police Department. We are pleased to have Code Enforcement Officer Tim Maret and Code Enforcement Officer Molly Drennen as part of the team. They have proven to be a great addition and have added not only to the police department's mission, but to the community in maintaining our quality of life.

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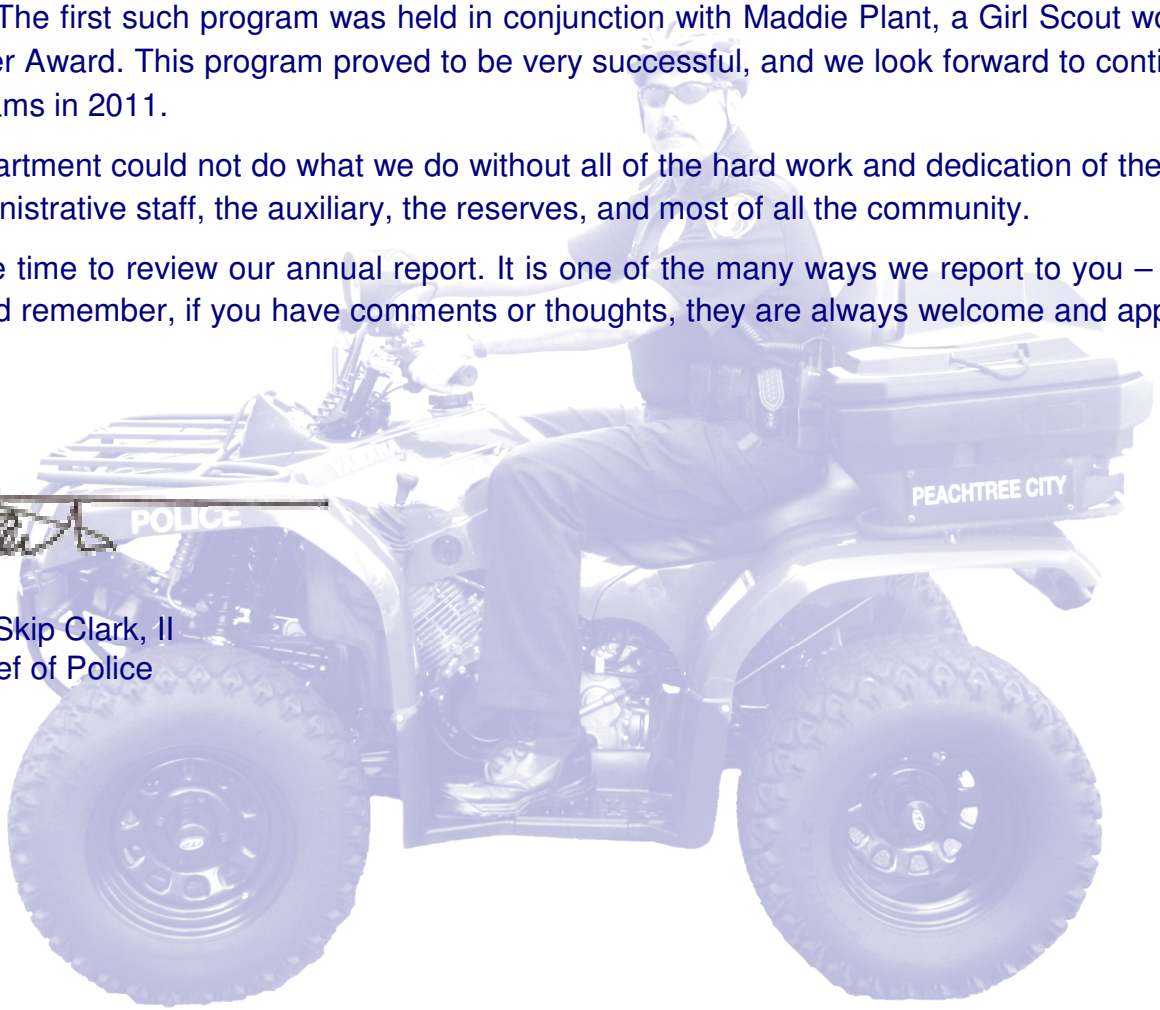
We continue to address community needs with such programs as the Citizen's Police Academy, the Junior Police Academy, the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and the Teen CERT programs, just to name a few. This year we started the Gang Resistance Education And Training Program (G.R.E.A.T.). The G.R.E.A.T. Program is a school-based prevention program that teaches students to avoid gangs, violence, and delinquency. Sgt. Kay Crider was the coordinator and the certified instructor for the pilot program at J. C. Booth Middle School. The first group of 48 sixth grade students completed the thirteen session program in December, 2010.

The Gang Data Base Community Website was created with the Fayetteville Police Department, the Fayette County Sheriff's Office, the Peachtree City Police Department and the Peachtree City Information Technology Department as a way for law enforcement to share information and to provide information to the public about gangs and gang activity. Cpl. Vicki Brown is the department's gang officer, and she was instrumental in the creation of the website.

Not only do we need to protect ourselves in the everyday world, but we need to protect ourselves in the cyber world, as well. After the department investigated a number of cases dealing with social networking sites, Captain Rosanna Dove developed and conducted several Internet safety programs this past year. The first such program was held in conjunction with Maddie Plant, a Girl Scout working on her Silver Award. This program proved to be very successful, and we look forward to continuing such programs in 2011.

The police department could not do what we do without all of the hard work and dedication of the officers, the administrative staff, the auxiliary, the reserves, and most of all the community.

Please take the time to review our annual report. It is one of the many ways we report to you – our community. And remember, if you have comments or thoughts, they are always welcome and appreciated.



H. C. Skip Clark, II
Chief of Police