

Law enforcement is not always about chasing the bad guys. In fact; a lot of the time the job can be routine and an officer might not have any “action” for days at a time. In addition to catching the bad guys I believe another goal the sheriff’s office should strive for is community involvement. Each year the sheriff’s office participates in many presentations and community functions throughout Weld County. The topics can range from neighborhood watch meetings, methamphetamine awareness programs, tips on securing your farm and ranch supplies, to citizen police academies. We are not alone; many local police departments have similar programs.

One area where the sheriff’s office really stands alone is our auxiliary services unit. This unit consists of reserves, volunteers, and posse members and operates at no cost to the citizens of Weld County. In total, the unit currently has approximately 225 members. All of these men and women work for free, and donate thousands of hours each year to the community. Some are retired but many have full time jobs in the health care, legal, and automotive fields; to name a few. One thing each member has in common is a desire to be involved and give back to their community. Members of our auxiliary services unit routinely provide security for the Weld County Fair, the Greeley Independence Stampede, bike patrol on the Poudre Trail, and participate in numerous town festivals and parades throughout the year. Not all of the assignments are what would be called fun; auxiliary services unit members have helped search for missing persons, provide crime scene security, and even participate in riot and crowd control. Some of these functions occur in the heat of summer and others in the bitter cold. In addition to donating their time members also donate personal use of vehicles and equipment; for example members transport their own horses to and from events and training and purchase supplies out of their own pockets. Members also attend monthly meetings and additional training throughout the year to stay certified in different skills such as first aid, and arrest control.

Everyone has their own reasons for participating. For some it’s the camaraderie and friendship while others are interested in a career in law enforcement. Many members tell me they feel a sense of pride in giving back to the community by working major events such as the Greeley Independence Stampede. Without the men and women who volunteer their time and equipment the cost of providing these services with full time personnel would be high.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the auxiliary services unit or would like more information please visit our website at www.weldsheriff.com or stop by any of our offices located in Greeley, Fort Lupton, or Del Camino and pick up an application. If you plan on attending any of the activities at the Greeley Independence Stampede this year feel free to talk to any of our volunteers, posse, or reserve members about any questions you may have.

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