

BIKEDAY 2010

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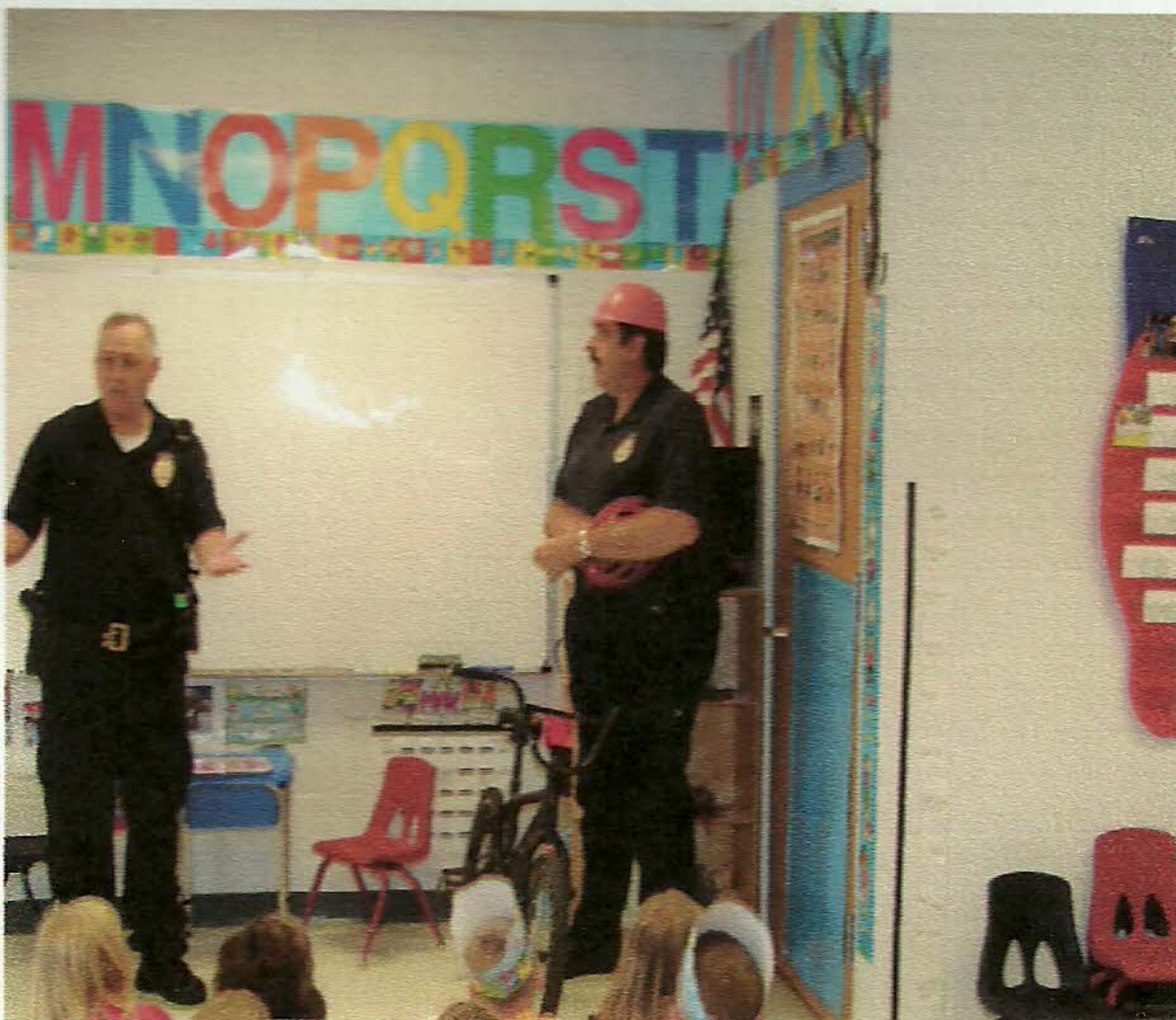
To begin with the title is all wrong. It should now be Bike DAYS.



Last spring we decided to change Bike Day and change it we did. We had some questions:

- 1) Why are there not as many kids coming to Bike Day?
- 2) Are the kids learning anything about being safe on bikes?
- 3) How can we reach more kids AND teach them about bike safety?

We came up with the idea to bring it to the schools and combine it with the day at the end of the school year when they go to the city park. So, in the course of several days, we presented bike safety lessons to all of the kids K-6th grade or around 700 kids.



What were the results?

- We reached more kids and that was a very big goal.
- We also taught bike safety lessons complete with hand outs.
- As in the past, we required all of participants to ride a course that we set up. After they had ridden the course they were eligible to put their name in a drawing for a bicycle.
- We gave away a total of 12 bicycles.

One big challenge was the weather. During late April and early May rain showers pop up often, cancelling Park Day and Bike Day, making it necessary to reschedule. There were a lot of bikes, cones, and other things to move on a daily basis to make up a course. Some classes used Park Day for a make-up day and went to a track meet instead so that became a schedule shuffle.

We learned a lot, too. In the coming year we are probably going to do Bike Days at the schools again with different approaches. One idea is to set up the course and leave it there until all grades are done. We will try to schedule it as a regular class with the assistance of the P.E. teachers. One negative about changing Bike Day is that we lost what has been a great family event that got people out into the fresh air for a little exercise.

Change it up? We did, and it is still a work in progress, but all good programs need to keep re-inventing themselves to keep fresh rather than becoming stale. We will do Bike Day again but watch for some changes!!