



May 2017

Our guest for May was Mary Helen Ivers. She is a volunteer with the Roseville Police Department's Community Outreach Division. For seven years she has gone out into local communities to educate the public on a variety of topics. She spoke about scams targeted toward seniors. There are a number of ways scammers will try to take your money via a phone call. They claim to be from the I.R.S. and you owe money and they need it right away. What can be confusing is private contractors may be hired by the I.R.S. . The most important thing to remember is you will receive a written notice first in the mail from the I.R.S. should you have a tax problem. Men will call people pretending to be a grandson in need of money, they are in jail or had a car accident. Make sure you are truly speaking to a family member. You will never receive a call from the Sheriff's Department demanding you pay a fine for missing jury duty. Anyone from a utility or phone company will always have proper identification with them. Should you be suspicious call the company they represent. Be aware when you answer your phone if you are immediately asked if you can hear them. They want to record your "yes" answer for fraud purposes later. Mary Helen recommends using a credit card if you shop online. With an ATM card it is easier to steal the account number so the scammers do their own shopping on your card. If you want to make sure a website is secure look for " https" within their e-mail address. The last advice Mary Helen had for women at the grocery store," do not leave your purse in your cart and walk very far. Purses are stolen all the time ".

Shelly Butler
Secretary RPSG