

the Sheriff's Star

September 1980

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What Every Sheriff Needs: A Sharpshooting Spouse
Around the House
(see story on inside front cover)

Instructor Fred Cannon with Dr. Shirley Freeman (left), wife of Monroe County Sheriff William A. Freeman, Jr.; and Mrs. Karen Cushing, wife of U. S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Agent Robin Cushing.



What every Sheriff needs:

A Sharpshooting Spouse Around the House

KEY WEST — When Sheriffs and other law enforcement luminaries gathered here in June for the 67th Annual Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association, everything was going along pretty much according to custom until it came time for pistol marksmanship training.

Then, in a complete reversal of tradition, the lawmen remained at the Casa Marina Inn, socializing and attending meetings, while their wives went out to the firing range.

The instructor for this turnabout session was Fred Cannon, District Manager, Law Enforcement Division, Smith & Wesson, Inc. No kidding, Cannon is really his name, and his credentials read like this: Ex-Commissioner of Police, British Colonial Police Service, Royal St. Lucia Police Force; former international rifle and pistol shot; qualified by the National Rifle Association as an instructor for all weapons.

A large group of ladies received preliminary firearms instruction from Cannon in an air conditioned Casa Marina Inn meeting room during a morning session, but the size of the group dwindled when it came time to go out to the sun baked firing range in the afternoon. Nevertheless, the resolute little band of survivors turned in a creditable performance, while back at the Casa Marina Inn Sheriffs were holding small, secret meetings to debate the pros and cons of having a sharpshooting spouse around the house.



Dr. Doris Carson, wife of Jacksonville Sheriff Dale Carson, squeezes off a round for Instructor Cannon while Mrs. Carolina Simmons, wife of DEA Agent Earl Simmons, checks the results.

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Editor, Carl Stauffer Art Director, Frank Jones Production Assistant, Ann Govett

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Colman's jail facilities first to be accredited by American Medical Association

ORLANDO — Orange County jail facilities were recently recognized as the first in Florida to receive accreditation for meeting health service standards set by the American Medical Association.

A Certificate of Recognition was presented to Orange County Sheriff Melvin Colman by Eugene G. Peek, Jr., M. D., President of the Florida Medical Foundation, a companion organization of the Florida Medical Association. The Foundation is under contract with the American Medical Association to provide technical assistance to Colman and 11 other Sheriffs who are seeking AMA accreditation of their jails in a pilot program upgrading health services.

Other Sheriffs participating are: Alachua County Sheriff Lu Hindery, Gadsden County Sheriff W. A. Woodham, Highlands Sheriff Joe Sheppard, Hillsborough Sheriff Walter Heinrich, Marion Sheriff Don Moreland, Monroe Sheriff William A. Freeman, Jr., Palm Beach Sheriff Richard P. Wille, Pinellas Sheriff Bill Roberts, Sarasota Sheriff Jim Hardcastle, Seminole Sheriff John Polk and Wakulla Sheriff David Harvey.

Florida's efforts are based on a program established by the AMA in 1976 in which 22 states now participate. The program was initiated as the result of a survey conducted by the AMA and the American Bar Association which revealed that many U. S. jails had either inadequate or non-existent health care facilities.

Sheriff Colman said he sought accreditation from the AMA to save money, because it has been proven that the services provided through accreditation help prevent expensive law suits.

This is what the program is expected to accomplish:

1. Risk of legal suits claiming physical abuse during arrest and incarceration will be reduced.
2. Cell tension and anxiety will be reduced.
3. Relatives of inmates with medical problems will be reassured.
4. Follow-up care of psychiatric patients returned from state hospitals will be assured.
5. The spread of T.B., hepatitis, and V.D. will be retarded by treating inmates before releasing them to the community.
6. Early discharge from hospitals will be encouraged by providing convalescent care in jail.
7. Unnecessary hospitalization of inmates will be avoided by providing emergency and maintenance medical care for detainees remanded to the custody of the Sheriff.

Upgrading prisoner health care, although it will save dollars in the long run, is far from cheap. With an esti-



Sheriff Mel Colman (right) accepts accreditation certificate from Dr. Eugene Peek, Jr., President of the Florida Medical Foundation, a companion organization of the Florida Medical Association. (Photo by Bill Johnson)



Major James C. Shoultz



Capt. Joyce Kuhrt, RN



Dr. Charles Hall

Pictured here are three of the staff members who played important roles in upgrading the health services at Orange County jail facilities. Dr. Hall is the jail physician, Capt. Kuhrt is the chief nurse, and Major Shoultz is the Director of Corrections. We regret that we did not have a picture of Staff Psychologist John Cassidy at press time. He has also been commended for assistance given to the accreditation project.

mated daily average inmate population of 825 in the Orange County jail facilities, the average cost per day for the operation of the medical program is \$1,617.36.

Capt. Gerard King

OCALA — Sheriff Don Moreland must have one of the most highly educated Sheriff's staffs in the state. Capt. Gerard King, his chief criminal investigator, recently received a master's degree from Rollins College. Two other officers on the staff have master's degrees; seven employees are working on master's degrees; seventeen have the 2-year associate of arts degree, while 22 are working toward that degree; eight have associate of science degrees and seven others are working toward that 2-year degree.

CLEWISTON — Down here in the heart of sugar cane country the horizon still has a flat permanent press unbroken by high-rise condominiums. Restaurants still serve gator steaks. Indians still hunt and fish (with or without reservation). Cowboys still ride the range, and a man can still become a legend if he's man enough.

Sheriff Earl S. Dyess, Sr., was man enough. He was murdered a few minutes after midnight, on Sunday, August 17, and by sundown Monday he had become a legend.

The Rev. Bernard Browne, Pastor of Clewiston's First Assembly of God Church, confirmed it at funeral services on August 19. "Earl Dyess was a legend in his own time... a man among men," he said.

Florida Sheriffs Association President Frank Cline added lustre to the image. "Earl was part of a vanishing breed of old-fashioned law enforcement men," Cline said.

"He'd not only enforce the law, he'd also let the people know he loved them, and he wanted to make the world a better place. Earl's not really gone. If you look around you, you'll see his influence everywhere."

Choked up with grief, Cline added: "Many times I've asked Earl, 'What should I do in this situation?' Earl would always say: 'If you can meet it head on, do it, as long as you can look at it tomorrow.'"

The funeral service itself was a ritual of legendary proportions. Relatives knew the crowd would be too large for any church or funeral home in Hendry County, so they decided to hold the Sheriff's last rites in Clewiston's John B. Boy Auditorium, the largest edifice available. However, after 750 mourners were packed into the auditorium, an equal number overflowed into the foyer and onto the lawn outside.

Sheriffs came from all sections of the state. Judges, court

Sheriff Earl Dyess is gone but THE LEGEND



Sheriff
Earl S. Dyess, Sr.

Flanking Sheriff Dyess' casket at graveside rites are six Sheriffs who served as pallbearers. They are (from left) Aubrey Rogers, Collier County; Alan LeBeau, Charlotte County; Frank Wanicka, Lee County; Roy Lundy, Glades County; and Frank Cline, DeSoto County.



clerks, bailiffs, state attorneys, court reporters and public defenders sat elbow to elbow with deputies, police officers, highway patrolmen, state law enforcement agents, FBI agents and jailers. The criminal justice system was out in force. Governor Bob Graham sent Floyd Luckey, Jr., as his personal representative to offer help and heartfelt sympathy.

"I don't know that I have ever known a time when an entire county wanted to bow its head in grief for one man like they have today," the Rev. Mr. Browne declared and then he sketched further dimensions of the legend. "Earl Dyess knew no fear. He could be gentle as needed, but he was also courageous."

The Rev. Mr. Browne added that the deceased was "more than just a Sheriff. People went to him with problems any time of the day or night. He was accessible."

Outside on the lawn, officers in uniform stood around in small groups talking about the kind of lawman Sheriff Dyess had been. They remembered him as a rough talking man whose bark was worse than his bite... a fearless man who seldom carried a gun, but never hesitated to wade into a barroom brawl or any other situation that demanded

the talents of a peacemaker. "He figured he could talk people out of it," one of his deputies explained. "I don't know anybody he was afraid of. I never seen him back up from anything."

Meanwhile, inside the auditorium, the Rev. Mr. Browne was nearing the end of his eulogy. "Who killed Earl Dyess?" he asked. "Was it just those who spilled his blood, or was it more than that? Was it a society that tries to put a bandaid on the cancer of drug abuse and alcohol? Was it a society that laughs at God's law?"

The questions just hung there unanswered, while mourners filed out of the auditorium and into their cars.

Led by police motorcycles and a vast array of patrol cars with flashing blue lights, the three-mile-long funeral procession moved slowly up Clewiston's main street while men, women and children stood in little groups along the sidewalks watching silently. Flags were at half mast. Stores and other business places were closed.

After brief graveside services, the crowd moved off, and criminal justice practitioners returned to the task of bringing the Sheriff's suspected murderers to justice. Two teenagers, one 15 and the other 18, were being held. According to officers involved in the investigation, the two youths had been firing a 22 revolver at street lights and other targets in the Sheriff's neighborhood around midnight.

The Sheriff, who had been watching the fights on television, heard the shooting and went outside to investigate while his wife remained asleep on the couch.

Apparently, the Sheriff confronted the teen-agers in an alley behind his house. There was an argument and a tussle which ended when the Sheriff was stabbed in the heart with a knife. As the teen-agers fled, the Sheriff apparently staggered to his unmarked patrol car about 30 feet away, then collapsed and died.

The two suspects were arrested some 20 hours after the murder and held temporarily in the Hendry County Jail before being transferred to Fort Myers, approximately 35 miles away, for their own safety.

Next day Capt. Don Taylor, Hendry County Sheriff's Department investigator, summed up the Dyess legend. "This county flat lost a friend," Taylor said. "He can't be replaced as far as I'm concerned."

LINGERS ON



Friends and neighbors stood in line at John B. Boy Auditorium to pay their last respects.



Headed by officers on motorcycles, the longest funeral procession in Hendry County's history stretched for three miles.

Acting Sheriff

CLEWISTON — Following the death of Sheriff Earl S. Dyess, Sr., Circuit Judge James R. Adams, of the Twentieth Judicial Circuit, appointed Earl S. Dyess, Jr., as Acting Sheriff.

An 18-year veteran of the Hendry County Sheriff's Department, Dyess, Jr., announced his intention to seek the office of Sheriff as a write-in candidate in the November general election. He faces another announced write-in candidate and one candidate who had qualified to run against his father.

A Man called "Boat"

The only Law East of the River

This is a condensation of a long article from THE MARION LEADER by News Editor Bob May. It was recommended to THE SHERIFF'S STAR by Marion County Sheriff Don Moreland.

OCALA — In 1957, Marion County east of the Oklawaha River was a wild, heavily forested area with over 400,000 acres of land and very few people. The ones that were there wanted, for the most part, to be left alone to do as they pleased. Communities were, and still are, called by strange and sometimes comical names such as Hog Valley, Indian Bluff, Little Tokyo (named because the Navy accidentally dropped a bomb there), Eureka, Scrambletown and Lake DeLancey just to name a few. But, by 1960, the area was better known to local people as "Boatwright Country." Folks had a good reason for calling it that, because there lived there a man named Boatwright and he was the only law East of the River.

In 1953 Clinton Boatwright made his home in Salt Springs where he opened a garage and bought a wrecker. He still owns a garage and continues to operate the wrecker service from there when he's off-duty. But in 1957, Boat's lifestyle took a drastic turn when he became a Marion County Sheriff's deputy under Sheriff F. L. McGehee, the father of Ocala's present Police Chief.

Boat's application for the job is still in his personnel folder in the Marion County Sheriff's Office. He says he doesn't know how he decided to become a law enforcement officer. "The man who was there left, so some people asked me to take over the job," he said in an interview. But even if Boat is reluctant to call attention to himself, his personnel folder gives his reason at the time. It reads, in regard to the reason why he wanted to become a deputy, "My interest in the community and young people."

And he didn't come by the reputation he has earned easily. In fact, he has had to risk life and limb on a daily basis to achieve it. He rarely came to Ocala, unless he had a car full of prisoners to deliver to the jail or a sick or injured person to transport to the hospital. He didn't have a regular shift, but worked on a 24-hour-a-day basis going out as he was needed. He never wore a full uniform either. Boat was responsible for law and order East of the River and he, by himself, shouldered the demands of the job. Wherever the law was needed and in whatever capacity, Boat was there to take charge of the situation.

He didn't do it for the pay either. In those days deputies were paid under what was called the fee system. In other words, they were paid a set fee per arrest. When Boat



Deputy Sheriff Clinton Boatwright, the man who has become a legend East of the Oklawaha River.

started, he made \$7.50 per head for arrests made. A few years later Sheriff McGehee raised his fee to \$10.00 per arrest. He didn't start making a regular salary until he was brought into the department on a full-time basis later.

"If you didn't arrest anyone," he said, "you didn't get paid." And at \$10.00 per head he didn't make a trip to the jail until it was necessary. "I'd put 10 to 15 in jail over the weekend. Could've put more in if I'd had a bigger car."

It was a tough and risky job for several men, let alone one. "I was all by myself," he related. "314 was the only paved road at the time and it was full of holes." During the week it was pretty quiet, but on weekends and holidays people came from miles around to visit their favorite watering hole, a place known as the Salt Springs Juke.

"It was the only thing in Salt Springs at the time," he said. "There was anywhere from 50 to 500 people in the place and they'd get to drinkin' and fightin' and I'd get a call and have to go settle 'em down. We didn't have any bad trouble. Mostly fights. But you'd walk into that Juke and you'd wonder if you were coming out." Many tales are told about Boat's exploits in the Juke. He never called for help, but many times other deputies were sent to give him backup, especially after he had been out of touch for several hours. Deputies tell of the times they converged on the Juke wondering if Boat was still alive. When they got

there, Boat was usually handcuffing the last of the rowdies. It was a good thing that help came on many an occasion. Boat had too many prisoners to carry in his car, so the backup deputies helped him transport them to the jail.

Besides being the only law East of the River, he had the only wrecker and the only ambulance. Uniform Patrol Captain Martin Stephens said that when there was a bad accident and a wrecker and ambulance were needed as well as a deputy, Boat took care of everything. With no government to speak of on that side of the county, Boat became lawman, doctor, ambulance driver and confessor to the people who inhabited the area. Sometimes the only way to deliver a message in that area was to call Boatwright. He was the only man who knew the country well enough to find people who were hunting or living in some of the more remote areas. And remember, at that period in time, it was all wild country East of the River.

Present Marion County Sheriff Don Moreland said that Boatwright has been responsible for saving countless lives because he was always there when there was trouble or when someone needed help. His high-speed runs from East of the River to the hospital are legendary. In fact, some Ocala police officers refused to run interference for him on downtown Ocala streets because Boat would invariably outrun them. He says his record for the 30-plus miles is 26 minutes. Sheriff Moreland also commented that most of Boat's equipment was purchased by Boat himself. Some of the equipment was donated, but for the most part, Boat took care of everything himself.

There are humorous stories told about him too, mostly centering around his penchant for chewing tobacco. "He had a load of deputies one time," Captain Stephens said. "They were all in his car and they were going to serve some warrants. It was hot and they all had their windows down when Boat decided to spit. The deputy riding in the back seat caught it right in the face." Stephens jokingly commented that when the Department purchased a new car for Boat, they ordered an extra door. "The original door always rotted off," he added.

Perhaps his most famous exploit was the one which gained him international recognition for handling a potentially dangerous situation. Newspapers all over the country and even a paper in London, England, carried the story of how Boat tangled with the man who had a car full of snakes.

"Sammy Seashole was his name," said Boat. "I'd stopped him for some reason. Can't remember why right now. But he was drunk and after I'd talked to him for a while, he went over to his car and reached inside." What

Sammy came out with was a snake in each hand. "He had all kinds of 'em in that car. Cobra. Anaconda. All kinds." The newspaper reports state that Boat drew his gun and said, "You'll be as dead as those snakes are going to be if you try to throw them." Sammy put the snakes back in the car and meekly surrendered. Boat then took him to the jail to sleep it off.

It isn't all popularity though. It appears that no one is indifferent about the man. "Boat has his detractors," said Sheriff Moreland, "but others want to keep him. In fact, there are some people who don't want any other deputy but Boatwright." Sheriff Moreland said that when he first took office there was a group of people who wanted to get rid of Boat and put the pressure on the new Sheriff. But Moreland says that he and Boat had been together on the Department since Boat had taken over the job East of the River. "I kept him on because of his reputation and his good work," said the Sheriff.

Times are changing, though, and Boat is nearing 60. Inevitably he'll have to retire someday, but for now he continues to do the job he was hired to do: take care of law and order East of the River.

Moreland said Boat's interest in people has tempered his actions as a lawman. "He's a counselor to the people he arrests sometimes. He would much rather try to salvage people, especially young people, than put them in jail. Boat doesn't lock people up all the time," Moreland added. "In fact, if the truth were known, he's probably let a lot of people go who should have been locked up."

Moreland best described Boat as a "unique" man. "He's unique, but not perfect. He's more like the old time lawman that you find in out of the way places in the mountains of Tennessee or some place like that," said Moreland. "He's the 'old West' type of lawman. Kind of like John Wayne."

Probably no greater compliment could be placed on the shoulders of any man than to be likened to "The Duke" who single-handedly tamed the old West, fought countless wars and became a household name. But there are some who say Boat has done all of that too.

"After all," said one man who lives East of the River, "Boat tamed this country, didn't he?"

Boat says he'll retire "someday." But many people have expressed sadness that that day may be too soon in coming.

"It's not easy to find people like him," said Moreland. "He is a character out of our history. After he is gone, only the legend will remain." The legend will live on in the hearts and minds of Marion Countians who will always remember: a man named Boatwright. The only law East of the River.

More Drugs for the Incinerator

CRESTVIEW — Drugs and drug smuggling equipment worth millions have been confiscated by Sheriffs during 1980, and the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office is doing its share. Okaloosa Sheriff Frankie Mills is pictured with his latest haul, a quantity of drugs valued at \$250,000. Also confiscated were a motor home and several other motor vehicles.



Will elections be any fun *with* **Sam** **refusing to run?**

VERO BEACH — After 26 years in the rough and tumble game of politics, Sheriff Sam T. Joyce is going to retire to the sidelines, and Indian River County politics may never be quite the same again.

The legendary Sam T. got off to a spectacular start in 1954 when he sprinted into the political arena at the last minute as a write-in candidate. No one had ever heard of a write-in candidate winning a Sheriff's election, but Sam T. wasn't one to be held back by historical precedents.

This brash, competitive young fellow had a few bucks in his pocket and he was determined to win. He also had some good credentials. His ten years of law enforcement experience — eight in the Florida Highway Patrol and two as a deputy sheriff in Indian River County — counted heavily in his favor. Moreover, he was already wearing the Sheriff's badge by virtue of a fateful turn of events. His boss, Sheriff L. B. Osteen, had been killed in a traffic accident early in October, and Sam T. had been appointed to fill the vacancy until a successor was elected. The appointment and the decision to run came too late for Sam T. to get his name on the printed ballot, but that didn't slow him down. He spent \$122 for some



The other side of Sam T. Joyce — the jocular, laid back, good ole' boy side — is coming to the fore as retirement approaches. He's pictured here with his wife, Betty, during a relaxed weekend at a Florida resort.

political posters, a few radio ads, and a big bunch of pencils with his name printed on them, then hit the campaign trail.

By conventional standards, it was a wild election. There were four candidates. Two had their names on the ballot, and two were write-ins. Sam was running as an Independent (no party affiliation) write-in — a strange



Sam T. and Betty load up their new live-in van for a trial spin. They expect to do a bit of traveling next year.



Sam T. and Betty used to spend some of their summers planning election strategies. Now they're more interested in road maps and travel brochures.

and unheard of animal in those days — but the pencils with his name printed on them must have made the difference. On election day he was swept into office for a two-year term by 1,494 literate voters. Political historians say this was the first and only time an Independent write-in candidate has been elected Sheriff in Florida.

Sam T. has been winning, and adding spice to, Indian River County elections ever since. One time he put his opponent in jail — legally. In 1964 he hit the high point of his career by trouncing three Democrats in the primary election without a runoff, and then overwhelming a Republican contender in the general election.

Three times — in 1956, 1968, and 1972 — the doughty campaigner was reelected without opposition. In campaign after campaign, he “led the ticket” (polled more local votes than any candidate in any race).

In 1976 he scared hell out of his friends and supporters by having a serious heart attack during the early part of the campaign. He was down for the count, but not out. After much soul searching, he got up from his hospital bed, announced he was not dropping out of the race, and eventually won it.

“My friends did the campaigning for me,” he said later, explaining that he had been able to attend only two political rallies, and made two short speeches. After the election, his strength and vigor gradually returned.

While indulging in shop talk with other Sheriffs recently, Sam T. laid claim to another political oddity of sorts. He said he spent only \$3,600 in his first six campaigns. However, he also admitted that his seventh and last campaign in 1976 cost him almost three times as much as all previous campaigns.

continued on next page



In a few months Sam T. will be able to unplug his phone and ignore the sound of sirens. However, there's no doubt he will still respond on the double when Betty rings the dinner bell.



Uh oh . . . the photographer goofed by failing to ask Sam T. to change into his old working clothes. Oh well, it's not a bad pose, and besides, Sam T. does plan to spend a lot of time in his workshop after he retires.



To charges that he has been neglecting his fishing Sam T. would have to plead guilty, but he plans to catch up next year.

Sam refusing to run . . . *continued from page 7*

Times have changed, obviously. The game of politics is getting expensive. It isn't as much fun as it used to be, and, well . . . Sam T. has decided he has had enough. "Those guys who are running for Sheriff this year will have to run on their own merits," the mellowing campaigner commented recently with a chuckle. "They won't be running against Old Sam T."

Sam T. is putting up a cheerful front, but he's not entirely lighthearted about retiring. Politics and law enforcement have been too much a part of his life for too long for him to not feel a sense of loss. He may find solace, however, in reminding himself that law enforcement is not what it used to be — that it has become bogged down in court rulings, bureaucratic regulations and red tape.

"The hazards have also increased," he said recently. "We are working with a criminal element that is hopped up on narcotics . . . many of them are older teen-agers and young adults who have no regard for (taking a) life . . . so many law enforcement officers fail to recognize the danger."

Sam T. is no stranger to danger. His career has been punctuated with many situations in which he faced armed assailants and had to disarm them. He still remembers vividly the load of shotgun pellets that hit the door of his patrol car when he was a deputy — and how he jumped out, ran to the gunman, and took the smoking gun before it could be reloaded.

In the 1970s, Sam T. went into a mobile home unarmed, negotiated for 45 minutes, and brought out an armed man who had been holding a hostage. The man at first refused to give up his gun, but Sam T. finally talked him into it, and took him to jail. The gunman went in style. He insisted on riding in the front seat.

Sam T. is a Sheriff's Sheriff and a politician's politician, but he's not two-dimensional. There are other sides to this likable, capable man. The public has seen his public servant side primarily, but he also has a good citizen side that has gotten him involved in many worthy causes and brought him many honors.

Titles he has held over the past 20 years include President of the Florida Sheriffs Association; Chairman of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch Board of Trustees; member of the boards of directors of the Indian River Safety Council, the Indian River Mental Health Association, and the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund; Junior Chamber of Commerce Good Government Award winner; President of the Vero Beach Kiwanis Club, and President of the Vero Beach Shrine Club.

Sam T. has paid his dues in service to his city, county, state and nation, and there's still another side to this square shooter that is just emerging. (After a while the geometric metaphors get pretty sticky, but read on.)

As retirement nears, friends and neighbors are going to see more and more of Sam T., the good ole boy — the laid-back, jocular fellow who devotes more time to his fishing, putters in his woodworking shop, and makes improvements to his home. He recently bought a live-in van so he and his wife, Betty, can enjoy long, leisurely trips. He's also planning to put a vacation home on some mountain-top property he owns in North Carolina.

It appears that retirement will be a piece of cake for Sam T., but, then, what else should we expect from a guy who once won a write-in election with \$122 and a handful of pencils?

Sam T., you're something else!

Deputy R. Gene Oehmigen

NAPLES — While stopping traffic at an intersection for a funeral procession, Collier County Deputy R. Gene Oehmigen heard a woman scream, "The baby stopped breathing!" He rushed to the woman, took the baby, placed her on the hood of his patrol car and began artificial resuscitation. Soon the baby started to breathe. He rushed her to the hospital where she was admitted and released the next day. Thanks to Deputy Oehmigen's training and fast action, this is a story with a happy ending.

It looked like a pawnbroker's convention when lawmen called a press conference to announce the successful conclusion of "Gulfstream II." Facing newsmen from behind a display of stolen articles were (from left): State Attorney E. J. Salcines, Sheriff Walter C. Heinrich, Tampa Police Chief Clayton Briggs and FBI Special Agent Robert Dwyer.



Gotcha Again!

Second "Sting" hurts more than the first

TAMPA — Hillsborough County's thieves have been "stung" twice, and they are really hurting.

The severity of their pain became evident recently when lawmen announced the successful conclusion of "Gulfstream II," an undercover fencing operation which resulted in recovery of nearly \$2.7 million worth of stolen property, and scores of arrests. "Gulfstream I," the same kind of "sting" operation, had a similar success in 1977 and 1978.

Gulfstream II was a joint project of the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, the FBI, the Tampa Police Department, and the State Attorney's Office. Major stolen items recovered when crooks made deals with undercover officers posing as crooks included 150 automobiles, 43 pick-up trucks, 29 semi-tractors, five pieces of heavy grading equipment, one airplane, one pleasure boat, and one refrigerated meat truck with a cargo of meat. The loot also included quantities of illegal drugs, 90 guns of various types and 50 machine guns with silencers. Recovery of the machine

guns produced evidence that enabled the U. S. Office of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to seize over 300 additional illegal weapons.

Sheriff Walter Heinrich said Gulfstream II was considerably more successful than Gulfstream I which resulted in recovery of \$1.7 million worth of stolen property and the arrest of 70 persons.

The "sting" operations were financed by \$475,000 in federal funds partially matched by local funds. It was a good investment. Sheriff Heinrich said in Gulfstream II undercover officers spent only about three cents for each dollar's worth of stolen property recovered.

Many of the persons arrested were armed and dangerous. Some were identified as career criminals. One arrest cleared up five robberies. Heinrich said information gathered by the Sheriff's Office and the Tampa Police Department during the 16 months the fake fencing was going on will result in many future arrests for a variety of crimes.

Audrey Burton

BRADENTON — Audrey Burton, daughter of Manatee County Sheriff Thomas Burton, Jr., was elected president of the Florida Sheriffs Explorers Association when it met recently in Ocala. She is a lieutenant in Manatee County's Explorer Post 61. Her duties will include presiding at delegate meetings throughout the year and attending the 1981 convention.

Sgt. John Turner

SARASOTA — Sgt. John Turner, of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Department, received the Deputy of the Year Award from American Legion Post 30 for his work with the City-County Narcotics Unit. He was instrumental in the arrests of several narcotics dealers.

Deputy Barbara Jean Kersey

PENSACOLA — Escambia County Sheriff's Department's only female deputy, Barbara Jean Kersey, was recently named Officer of the Month by the Pensacola Exchange Club. Sheriff Royal Untreiner said she has "consistently been the officer with the highest arrest record month after month."

Deputy Mike Griffith

PANAMA CITY — Deputy Mike Griffith, of the Bay County Sheriff's Department, was named Outstanding Lawman of the Year by the local Optimist Club.



Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund HONOR ROLL



On these pages the Florida Sheriffs Association gives special recognition to generous supporters of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund and its child care institutions: The Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, Girls Villa and Youth Ranch. Those listed as "Builders" have given gifts totaling \$100 or more.

Those listed as "Lifetime Honorary Members" of the Florida Sheriffs Association have given \$1,000 or more. Builders receive certificates suitable for framing. Each honorary lifetime member receives a plaque, a lifetime identification card and a lifetime subscription to The Sheriff's Star.

Lifetime Honorary Members

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MR. & MRS. JACK CRAIN
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WEST PALM BEACH — Morris Temel (right), of Vienna Investment Company, receives a Lifetime Honorary Membership plaque from Palm Beach County Sheriff Richard P. Wille.



CRYSTAL RIVER — Citrus County Sheriff B. R. Quinn (left) presents a Lifetime Honorary Membership plaque to Richard T. Carroll, of Inverness.



CRYSTAL RIVER — Citrus County Sheriff B. R. Quinn (right) is shown presenting a check for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund to Youth Fund President Harry Weaver. Sheriff Quinn has raised more than \$20,000 for the Youth Fund through his annual benefit barbecues.



DeLAND — Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund President Harry Weaver (left) presents a Builder Certificate to Volusia County Sheriff Ed Duff for his support of the Youth Fund.



TALLAHASSEE — In exchange for making a pizza at Mr. G's Pizza Place, Leon County Sheriff Ken Katsaris (left) received a \$300 donation to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund from Mr. G's owner, Gerald A. Waite.

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They get paid for talking about rape

FT. PIERCE — Rape isn't their favorite subject, but Sheriff's Department Detectives Fonda Cook and Pegi Erhardt talk about it a lot. That's what they are paid to do.

Ever since Sheriff Lanie Norvell assigned them to a special detail to handle rape cases, they have spent a large portion of their time telling women individually and in groups how to avoid rape. That's the more desirable side of their daily routine.

The other side requires them to investigate rape cases, question witnesses, talk to rape victims in the hospital emergency room, and in some cases actually arrest suspected rapists.

Their theme on the prevention side is that women should be constantly alert to avoid potential rape situations. "Rape is a crime of opportunity," Erhardt explained. "Women need to be more aware and concerned."

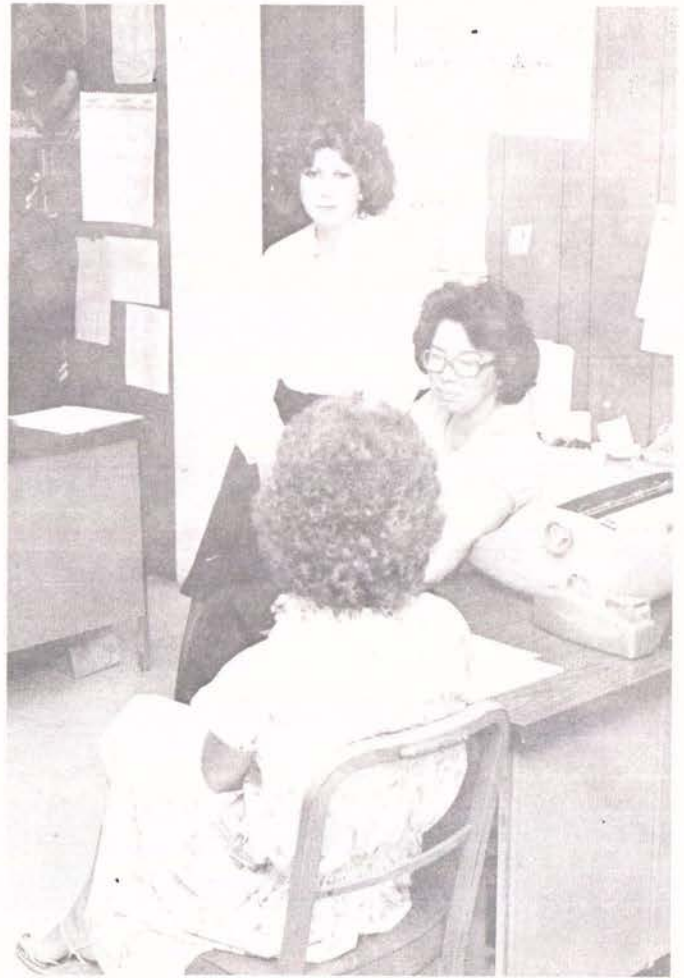
"Some precautions are just common sense," Cook said. "Don't accept a ride with someone you don't know. Instead, get a ride with someone you know or call a taxi. And don't pick up hitchhikers."

A recent rape attempt occurred when a woman met a student, had a conversation with him, and then agreed to take him home. He attempted to attack her, but either fell or was pushed out of the car. The youth, a juvenile, was turned over to the Division of Youth Services.

Erhardt said women should be careful where they park, and choose well-lighted areas of parking lots at night and should lock the car. "Have your keys in your hand when you come to your car and check the back seat before you get in."

Both women said a prime problem in rape cases can be the unwillingness of the victims to testify. "They have seen some of the TV stories about rape cases which have blown the situation up into a spectacular, and they are afraid of what could happen in court," Erhardt said.

The detectives try to give women a realistic, honest look at what might happen. "It is not pleasant and they will have to tell what happened," Cook said, "but they do have protection. Their names will not be made public and no one will go into their background. Also, some women are afraid



Rape victims usually find it easier to talk with a woman, according to Detectives Pegi Erhardt (standing) and Fonda Cook (facing camera). "If a woman has just been raped, she may well have a bad feeling about men," Cook said.

that if they submit rather than fight, their claim of rape will be discounted. A woman in a rape situation must make her own decision about what she must do. If she is going to fight, she must be prepared to fight all the way. But if she submits because she is afraid of being killed or injured, that is still rape.

"In some cases," Cook said, "the rape victim is afraid it will be a case of her word against the man's, but there are lab tests that can back up victims' statements."



Thieves Make News Snatching Cockatoos

GAINESVILLE — Stolen property recently recovered by the Alachua County Sheriff's Office included three cockatoos valued at \$3,400. In this picture pet shop owner Bryan Frontine expresses his appreciation to Deputy Sheriff Ralph Williams after the exotic birds were traced to Tampa and Sarasota, and rescued. Two suspected cockatoo snatchers were arrested.

Pellicer nearing number one spot

HOLLYWOOD — Putnam County (Florida) Sheriff Walt Pellicer is just two steps away from the highest office a Sheriff can aspire to — the presidency of the National Sheriffs Association. He was elevated to Second Vice President when the National Sheriffs Association held its annual informative conference here in June.

Pellicer is a past president of the Florida Sheriffs Association and has held many positions of responsibility in various charitable and law enforcement organizations. His 32 years of law enforcement experience include six years as a deputy sheriff and 26 years as Sheriff.

Jacksonville Sheriff Dale Carson was reelected to the board of directors of the National Sheriffs Association.

During the national conference a group of Florida Sheriffs under the leadership of Florida Sheriffs Association President Frank Cline fed over 1,100 visiting Sheriffs and guests at a Florida style barbecue that prominently featured swamp cabbage, along with the usual beef, baked beans, cole slaw and corn on the cob.

Florida Sheriffs Association Executive Director Berwin Williams ramrodded the planning, and his administrative assistant, Rodney Doss, coordinated the gifts of meat and groceries from various Florida firms. Doss said almost all of the food was donated, and the Florida Association had practically no expense.

Sheriffs who assisted with the cooking, serving and other chores on the pool patio of the Diplomat Hotel included Pellicer, Cline, John Whitehead, Louie Mims, Newton Murdock, Aubrey Rogers, Frank Wanicka and Robert A. Butterworth.

Sheriffs Murdock, Sam Joyce and others provided bags of citrus fruit and other souvenirs for the visiting Sheriffs.

House calls at jail will cut Dr. bills

BARTOW — By contracting with McPike Emergency Physicians to provide in-house medical care, Sheriff Louie Mims expects to make a substantial cut in the cost of providing treatment for inmates at the Polk County Jail.

Mims said the McPike physicians, working under the supervision of Dr. Joseph D. McPike, will treat as many inmates as possible at the jail, and thus the number taken to Polk General Hospital for treatment will be greatly reduced.

The McPike agency will be paid \$2,000 per month to have its physicians visit the jail a minimum of ten hours each week, with no limit on number of inmates to be treated. Nurses will be on duty at the jail to administer shots and other medication ordered by the physicians.

Prior to the new arrangement, most of the inmates needing medical care were transported to the hospital. This was expensive. The minimum cost for a visit to the emergency room was \$30, and the cost per day was \$157 if an inmate was admitted to the hospital. Sending inmates to the hospital also caused a considerable drain on the Sheriff's manpower because most of the inmates had to be transported under guard and kept under guard at the hospital.

Mims said medical costs at the jail totaled \$175,000 for the first eight months of the current fiscal year, and he hopes to possibly cut this in half under the new system. He also pointed out that treating inmates at the jail instead of at the hospital would cut down on opportunities for escapes.



Some Flipper --- And That's No Flap, Jack!

SANFORD — Never let it be said that Seminole County Sheriff John Polk doesn't give a flip about community service. He's pictured here flipping pancakes at the annual Kiwanis pancake supper.



A Couple of Good Guys

INVERNESS — James Best (left), the actor who plays Roscoe P. Coldtrain on the Dukes of Hazard television series, and his buddy, Citrus County Sheriff B. R. Quinn, have at least two things in common. They both live in Citrus County, and they both support good causes. In this case the good cause was a barbecue to raise funds for Little League baseball. Best was making a guest appearance, and Quinn was the head chef. (Photo by George Wilkens, Ocala Star-Banner)

Bob's Good At:

Fixing Throttles, Throttling Thugs



Sheriff Frank Wanicka (left) presents certificate to Bob DiBonaventure in recognition of his heroism. Standing beside Bob are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Al DiBonaventure. (Photo by Jentek Identification Services)

FORT MYERS — The day began routinely for Bob DiBonaventure, who works at Rollins Gulf Station, Main and McGregor Streets. He pumped gas, cleaned windshields, made some minor repairs, chatted with customers — his usual thing — not knowing he would be a hero before high noon.

About 11:30 a 1978 Mercedes Benz 450SL convertible halted at the Main and McGregor traffic light. DiBonaventure immediately recognized it as one that had been stolen recently from Dale Mast, one of his customers. As the traffic light changed and the car began to ease through the intersection, DiBonaventure took out after it on foot, made a dive onto the trunk, grabbed the driver by the neck, forced him to stop, and detained him until the police placed him under arrest.

When the driver, Steven Anthony Camposano, 18, was taken to the Lee County Jail, he was charged with grand theft and second-degree burglary for stealing the car and other items from Dale Mast. Further investigation revealed Camposano was wanted in Massachusetts for a parole violation. He was also charged with theft of another car.

News reporters and photographers made DiBonaventure an instant hero. Two weeks later, he was in the

limelight again when Lee County Sheriff Frank Wanicka dropped by the service station to make a surprise presentation. The Sheriff handed DiBonaventure a \$250 reward from Dale Mast and the Lee County Insurance Agency, and also presented him with a Sheriff's Department certificate honoring him for his heroism.

"We in law enforcement really appreciate the efforts of individuals like Bob DiBonaventure," said Wanicka, "and it is important that we recognize citizens who take personal risks that help to make our community a better place in which to live."

Chip Rollins, DiBonaventure's boss, told Wanicka this was not the first time DiBonaventure had risked his personal safety on the side of the law. He recalled the time DiBonaventure had chased a man who had held up the service station, and also the time DiBonaventure had collared a driver who tried to drive away without paying the full amount of his bill.

Harking back to DiBonaventure's dive onto the rear of the stolen Mercedes, Rollins shook his head in admiration. "It was the sort of swan dive you see on 'Starsky and Hutch,'" he said.