

October 1980

the Sheriff's Star



Law Enforcement is Losing a Good Man

(See page 2)

Governor Said it:

Law Enforcement system is society's dumping ground



Governor Bob Graham

HOLLYWOOD — "Law enforcement and our corrections system have become society's dumping grounds for the failures of all our other systems," Florida's Governor Bob Graham told Sheriffs attending the annual informative conference of the National Sheriffs' Association here June 16.

Using the recent Miami race riots as an example, Governor Graham said: "What started as a problem for other agencies of government, social service agencies on one hand, judicial agencies on the other, rapidly became a law enforcement problem.

"Very often, other agencies of government, the school system, the various social help agencies, will pass their own particular failures along to the point that they become law enforcement problems. When the other agencies handle such matters, they are invisible failures, but when law enforcement is unable to cope with all society heaps on it, those invisible failures suddenly become law enforcement failures.

"Law enforcement is a service that can't say 'no.'

"It is a service that never closes its doors, that remains open to the citizen's call for help at any hour of the day or night. And that is as it should be.

"But law enforcement needs more than a pat on the back and a hearty 'well done.'

"When society expects you to fill in for every conceivable social emergency, from an armed robbery in progress to an unexpected maternity call, then society is going to have to be a little more understanding of law enforcement's needs.

"As more and more demands are placed upon law enforcement in this country, local, state and federal governments are going to have to understand that operating society's dumping grounds is an expensive proposition indeed.

"If government agencies in other areas don't do a better job of deterring criminality, of preventing mental disease,

of curing social ills, then the burden on law enforcement is going to get heavier and heavier. Each of us in this room has a stake in the two most important aspects of modern law enforcement: one is seeing that we have the capability of keeping the peace under all circumstances, and two, is making society aware of the fact that law enforcement cannot continue to bear the brunt of the burden for all of society's uncured ills.

"Law enforcement does a fine job in handling its traditional duties. It can patrol, deter, defend and incarcerate. But, generally speaking, it has neither the training nor the resources to handle the kinds of situations society is now insisting that it handle. It doesn't have the training or the resources to handle the mentally ill, or to handle on a long-term basis all the myriad social problems, family disputes, marital discord, and all the day-to-day situations that officers know from experience can erupt into deadly life and death struggles instantaneously. It doesn't have the authority to conduct foreign policy, for instance, in order to turn the drug flow off at the source.

"It is one thing to say to law enforcement: No, we don't expect you to be able to handle all these complex and diverse problems. But then the question arises: Who is going to handle them? What other agency is there that cannot say no when a citizen calls for help?

"What can we in the policy arm of government do?

"We have to be sensitive and responsive to your needs and that means money. State government is going to have to begin assuming its share of the burden. In Florida, law enforcement is a priority issue. We have made many criminal justice improvements over the past seventeen months, including higher police standards, a tough contraband law, a minimum mandatory sentencing law, which we have recently extended to include the influx of Quaaludes into our state.

"In Florida, we also have a budget appeals process that insures that a local Sheriff's budget can be reviewed by the Cabinet and the Governor, to keep it from becoming a local political football.

"Resources to upgrade the equipment and the quality of your personnel, that is the responsibility of those in government who control the purse strings."

Adding a historical footnote to his address, Governor Graham said, "It was the appointment or election of the county sheriff (in pioneer days) that served as a sign that a town was truly getting civilized. That is the legacy you have inherited from the past: the Sheriff in this country was the first real sign that law and order had come to stay.

"In all of our society, there is no finer, no more honorable symbol of law and order and civilized society than the star which you all carry. And there is no finer or more honorable title in this country than peace officer."

the Sheriff's Star

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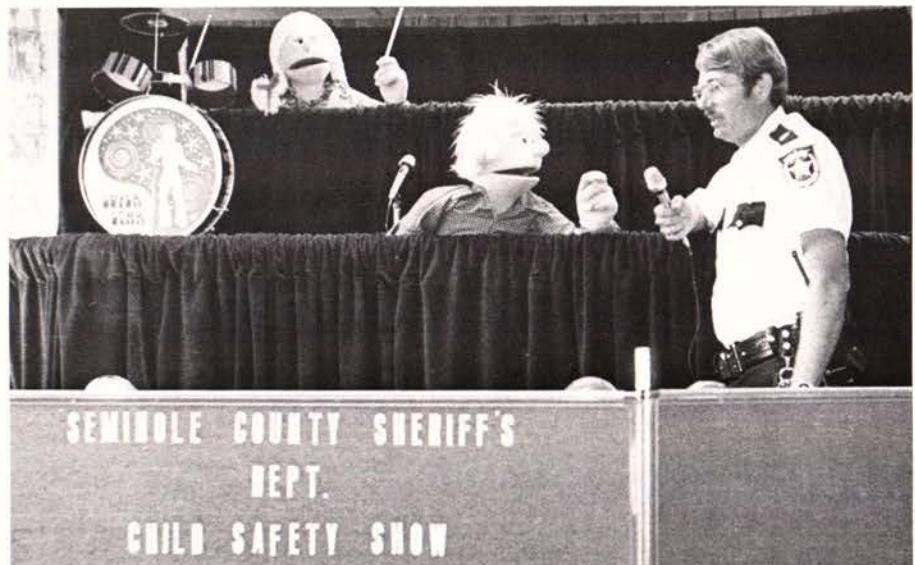
Puppets teach safety lessons

SANFORD — The children of Seminole County's 45 elementary and middle schools will learn a thing or two about insuring their safety through an entertaining teaching program put on by the Seminole County Youth Deputies under the direction of Sheriff's Lt. Beau Taylor.

The program's message is conveyed through the use of puppets — George Jenkins; his wife, Martha; his children, Danny and Wendy; and friends, Roger and Susie. Lt. Taylor insists each puppet has his own distinct and almost human personality.

The young people manipulating the puppets are forbidden to pick up one without assuming its character. Because of this rule, the puppets' personalities seem to grow and become warmer as the young people try ever harder to make the puppets more entertaining and believable. The children love the puppets and, therefore, pay close attention; teachers are also enthusiastic about the positive teaching effects.

The puppets talk, sing, play instruments and crack jokes. They also teach bicycle safety, the importance of



Lt. Beau Taylor, of the Seminole County Sheriff's Department, with friends.

registering a bike, the desirability of working with the police, and the dangers involved in talking to strangers.

Lt. Taylor, whose interest in puppets goes back to childhood, says about his work, "I love every minute of it. There isn't enough money in the whole world to pay me for the personal rewards I've received from the kids." The Youth Deputies are also truly dedicated to this effort, and several of them are planning to make law enforcement their life work.

York announces appointments

TALLAHASSEE — Commissioner Jim York, of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) recently announced the appointments of G. Patrick Gallagher as Director of the Division of Standards and Training within the Department, and of Paul A. Rowell as General Counsel.

Gallagher, 44, former Director of the Police Executive Institute of the Police Foundation in Washington, D. C., will be responsible for administration of the Division and for implementation of policies established by the Police Standards and Training Commission. The Commission is directly responsible for monitoring statewide standards of employment, training and certification of Florida's 19,000 full-time, 4,000 part-time, and 9,000 auxiliary law enforcement officers.

A graduate of Marist College, Gallagher received his MA from New York University and did his Ph. D. course work at Purdue. He has taught public safety and criminal justice courses at American University, Washington, D. C.; Golden Gate University, San Francisco; and at Indiana and Purdue.

Rowell, 30, has served as Chief Field Counsel for FDLE since August, 1979. As General Counsel, he will be responsible for coordination of all attorneys within the Department and will serve as principal legal advisor to the Commissioner. He will also maintain regular liaison with the Office of Attorney General concerning major legal criminal issues which affect the Department, and will be responsible for the development and implementation of a coordinated departmental legal program.

Rowell received his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and his law degree from the University of Florida. He served as assistant public defender and city prosecutor in Orange County. Immediately prior to this appointment, he was an assistant state attorney under State Attorney Robert Eagan in Orlando and served as legal advisor to the Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation there.

A plea for help

LAUDERDALE LAKES — At a meeting of the Fort Lauderdale-Broward County Chamber of Commerce, Broward County Sheriff Robert Butterworth said the major causes for increased crime in the county are the breakdown of the family, religion and community spirit. In urging the group's support for increased crime prevention, Butterworth said that with such help, law enforcement officers can reduce crime and the law enforcement budget.

Since a major portion of the area's crime involves juveniles, a revitalization of family and community interest is necessary to prevent crime, Butterworth said. He added that Crime Watch Programs and parents' support of police actions taken against juvenile offenders have already enabled law enforcement officers to make some headway in the fight against crime in the community.

Although the Sheriff's Department has requested a six percent budget increase for the next year, Butterworth said it may be possible to reduce the budget in the future if the community becomes involved in crime prevention programs and helps reduce the number of offenses.



COVER PHOTO

After he hangs up his badge, Murdock is going into the insulation business. In fact, he's already in it during his spare time.

"If a man is Sheriff for eight years or more, one of four things will occur," Sheriff Newton Murdock told Sheriffs attending the 1980 annual conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association. "He will get ulcers, have high blood pressure, develop heart trouble or get bald or gray or both." Later he confessed to high blood pressure and thinning hair. That's his wife, Christine, sitting beside him.

For Murdock: A Boyhood Dream Has Gone Sour

WAUCHULA — Daydreams. Newton H. Murdock had them as a po' boy on an Alabama farm, and later as a high school student in Winter Haven, Florida. One daydream outranked all the others. In it he was wearing a badge and bringing bad guys to justice.

One evening after school, he wrote a letter to FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover asking how he could become an FBI agent. Hoover told him he would have to get a law degree first. Getting a law degree was out of the question, but the daydream about wearing a badge persisted.

In 1956, after he had been out of high school for just a few years, Murdock became a Florida Highway Patrol trooper.

Some nine years later, he was sworn in as Sheriff of Hardee County, and his boyhood daydream seemed to be coming true in a spectacular fashion.

Honors and accomplishments piled up as the years passed. Murdock was reelected Sheriff three times. He improved, modernized and enlarged the Sheriff's Office. He sharpened up on his professionalism by attending law enforcement courses and seminars offered by Florida Law Enforcement Academy, Florida State University, the State Department of Education, Civil Defense, the Florida Peace Officers Association, the National Sheriffs' Institute and the Institute of Applied Science.

He was named to the Central Florida Regional Planning Council of the Governor's Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals. He served as chairman of the South Florida Junior College Criminal Justice Advisory Board in Region Eight. The Wauchula Kiwanis Club chose him as its president, and he was later selected as the most outstanding president among Florida's 228 Kiwanis Club presidents.

Murdock's career reached new heights when he was graduated from the FBI National Academy, America's West Point of law enforcement. His fellow Sheriffs honored him by electing him chaplain of the Florida Sheriffs Association and then later naming him vice president — a move that put him in line for the presidency.



Improvements at the Sheriff's Department include a closed circuit television system that monitors the county jail. The system's screens are shown at the top of this picture. That's Deputy Sheriff Gene Lanier with Sheriff Murdock.



An enlarged and modernized communications room is another of the improvements for which Murdock can take credit.

After 16 exemplary years as Sheriff, it seemed that the ladder of success had turned into an escalator and Newton H. Murdock had the control switch in his hand. It seemed that way, but somewhere along the line something had happened. The sweet smell of success had turned rancid, and Murdock's boyhood dream of a law enforcement career had turned sour. The change did not happen overnight, and it didn't become fully apparent to his friends and associates until the early part of 1980 when Murdock announced he was not going to run for reelection. Now he is getting ready to hang up his badge and get out of the law enforcement business.

"What happened?" he was asked recently as he sat in his living room, relaxing in his recliner. The house was quiet. His wife, Christine, had gone to bed. The TV set was a dark, silent hulk. Hardee County was buttoned up for the night.

The question hung there, waiting to be answered, but instead of giving a direct response, the Sheriff just sort of rambled through the meadows of his mind, picking up thoughts at random.

"We have one of the best criminal justice systems in the world, and some of the finest judges in the country," he said, "but the criminal justice system is a slowly sinking ship."

The parole system is partly to blame, he said, and then he rattled off some of its sins:

- * Too many early paroles. Prisoners sentenced to 10 years can be paroled in two years, and those sentenced to five years may get out in as little as nine months.

- * Seventy percent of the parolees get back into the system within five years. "We are just recycling prisoners."

- * Approximately 70,000 former prisoners who were sentenced for felonies, misdemeanors and federal crimes are on parole in Florida, but parole supervisors have such heavy caseloads they are unable to exercise close supervision. Consequently, it has been estimated that possibly 20 percent of the parolees are breaking the law and/or violating the terms of their paroles without getting caught. This leaves about ten percent of the parolees who go straight — who commit no further crimes.

"Rehabilitation just doesn't work. It is a flop — period," Murdock continued. Then he drew a mental bead on the prison system. Our prisons are overcrowded, he said, but

instead of the state legislature appropriating money to build new prisons, legislators and other officials are trying to work it out so they won't have to. "We have to get one out (by parole or completion of sentence) before we can get one in."

The Sheriff stirred from his recliner long enough to get a slug of lemonade from the refrigerator, then settled back and continued his string of indictments. The court system was his target this time:

- * There is too much plea bargaining. Judges, public defenders and prosecutors don't want to spend time in the courtroom, so they take shortcuts.

- * Prosecution of criminals is weak. Young attorneys recently out of law school are hired as assistant state attorneys. They get a little experience, and just when they are starting to become effective crime fighters, they leave.

- * Only a small percentage of persons arrested are actually convicted. "You catch them and nothing happens. You catch them again and nothing happens."

Murdock said these leaks in the slowly sinking criminal justice system have not developed overnight. They have existed for quite some time, and year by year, they have been adding to his disenchantment. Finally, the handling of an important drug smuggling case built up such shock

continued on next page



Plaques, certificates and diplomas tell the story of a successful career.



In years to come, the Murdocks will revive old memories and share a few laughs over scrap books that record the highlights of his 23-year career in law enforcement.

For 16 years most of the phone calls Murdock has received have been bad news of one kind or another. That's how it goes in the Sheriff's Office. Come January, the calls will be more cheerful — many of them from prospective customers who want an insulating job done.



For Murdock continued

waves of anger and frustration that Murdock decided to end his law enforcement career.

Two smugglers were caught in April, 1979. This was the Sheriff's first big smuggling case. "We worked hard and prepared a strong case," said Murdock. "I had pledged to myself if any drug smugglers were caught in this county we were going to do it right ... we were going to make sure they got substantial prison sentences."

The wheels of justice moved slowly. The 1979 case did not work its way through the court system until 1980, and the two smugglers got off light. Each was sentenced to pay a fine of \$5,000 and serve six months in prison. However, because they were given credit for the time they were in jail awaiting trial, they actually served only about four months, Murdock said. They were also given "a reasonable time" to pay their fines, he added.

"I've concluded crime pays. You can't fight the system."

The Sheriff was silent for a while. His lemonade glass was empty.

"Do you regret leaving law enforcement?" he was asked.

"Not really," he said, adding that his law enforcement career had given him many good memories. He spoke of the many friends he had made in law enforcement, particularly sheriffs and deputies ... "some of the most dedicated people I know of."

He recalled the many improvements that had been made

in the Sheriff's Department during his terms in office — a 911 telephone emergency system; a closed-circuit television system to monitor the jail; an enlarged and modernized communications system; and a videotape system for recording confessions, preparing evidence against drunken drivers, and maintaining surveillance of suspected criminal activity.

He also talked about his financial blessings — the slow climb from the lean years to his present level of relative economic security. He remembered borrowing money on his insurance policies to help finance his first campaign for Sheriff. He said after he was elected in November, 1964, he faced three months of unemployment before being sworn in, and he had a wife and three daughters to support, so he worked at various temporary jobs in the building trades. After he was sworn in, he discovered he would have to wait 30 days for his first pay check. Bills were piling up. He made a short term loan of \$500 from a bank to tide him over. When this note came due, he borrowed from another bank to pay it off. This switching of loans from bank to bank continued for about nine months until he finally got on his feet financially.

Newton Murdock came up the hard way, and although he now has a spacious, attractive home and other assets such as a valuable piece of property where he expects to some day build his retirement retreat, none of his acquisitions has come to him without a struggle. He did much of the work on his house himself, including carpentry, painting, roofing and even laying bathroom tile. His wife, Christine, who has worked at his side in the Sheriff's Office as jail matron and cook, secretary, records clerk, purchasing agent and general handywoman for 15 years, also helped with the house construction job.

Newt and Christine have worked as a team in the Sheriff's Office, in raising a family, and in winning successful political campaigns — three out of four without runoffs. They expect to continue to work as a team in the insulation business Newt has already started. He is plying his new trade in his spare time now, and will be working at it full time after he hangs up his badge.

Newton H. Murdock will make out okay. There's no cause to worry about him, but law enforcement is going to lose a good man — a praying, Bible reading, tithing man who has accepted Christ as his Savior.

Murdock's first encounters with religion came when he was a child on an Alabama farm and walked two miles to a church where the threat of hell fire became a strong reality.

As a teen-ager, Murdock strayed from the faith and began experimenting with liquor and cigarettes. That phase of his life lasted for a while, but his law enforcement experiences turned him into a confirmed teetotaler, "I couldn't cut it," he explained. "I've seen too many hungry children, children needing clothes, problems faced by wives of alcoholic husbands, killings, cuttings, divorces, fatal accidents caused by drunken drivers."

In 1962, while working as a Florida Highway Patrol trooper, Murdock rededicated his life to the Lord. In 1965 he was ordained a deacon, and now he's a Sunday School Superintendent.

"Being Sheriff is kind of like a minister's job ... sort of lonely ... no one to talk to," he said recently. "I talk to the Lord about my trials and tribulations. I give Him credit for me being here today. The Lord has blessed me tremendously throughout my life."

110 Crooks got stung!

FT. LAUDERDALE — How sweet it is when the "good guys" win! Broward County Sheriff Robert Butterworth had the last laugh after 240 arrest warrants were served on 110 sharpsters who had sold stolen merchandise through his Department's extremely successful "sting" operation.

The 18-month project, known as "Operation Focus," was aimed at recovering stolen cars and heavy equipment. It ended with the recovery of some \$3 million in vehicles and merchandise.

Financed through a federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration grant, the operation was under the direction of Lt. Phil McCann. His undercover team included other members of the Broward County Sheriff's Department and officers from the Fort Lauderdale and Pompano Beach Police Departments.

The officers rented a warehouse in June, 1979, and opened "Estate Liquidators" three months later after installing a video camera and recording devices. Business was slow at first, but soon began to snowball. Sheriff Butterworth said he wanted to close down the false fencing operation in December, but had to delay the closing because the county jail was too crowded to handle the anticipated round-up of "stung" crooks.

Crime losses targeted

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Utilizing a \$12,000 federal grant, Clay County Sheriff Jennings Murree has instituted a Crime Awareness Program to help businessmen reduce their crime losses. Sgt. Scott Lancaster is in charge of the program.

In order to show a businessman the areas of security he needs to improve, a security consultation form is filled out. It may show that installation of better locks, an alarm system or better lighting will make his business an unlikely target for a potential robber.

Originally, the main thrust of the program was aimed at the 89 businesses located in the Orange Park Mall. Special emphasis was placed on security for the Mall jewelry stores, since one item stolen from one of them could represent a loss of many thousands of dollars, whereas the highest priced item in a clothing store, for instance, would sell for a few hundred dollars.

Carroll Compton, in charge of operations and security at the Mall, was enthusiastic about the program. "The more than \$5 million lost to shoplifting nationally each year is passed on to customers, so it is to everyone's benefit to keep shoplifting and robbery to a minimum," he said.

Hindery & Lamb honored

LAKE BUTLER — When Chapter Five of the Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency held its annual dinner at the ranch of Union County Sheriff John Whitehead, Distinguished Service Awards were given to Alachua County Sheriff Lu Hindery in the area of law enforcement; and to Dr. Iven Lamb, Director of Police Science and Corrections at Lake City Community College, in the area of criminal justice. Dr. Lamb is Editor of the Florida Sheriffs Manual.

"Customers" sold "Estate Liquidators" an amazing variety of stolen articles ranging from a Rolls Royce to credit cards, from a college diploma to heavy earthmoving equipment. The recovered items were returned to the rightful owners as soon as possible.

The staff of "Estate Liquidators" consisted of two undercover officers who dealt with customers, while a third agent hidden behind a partition took pictures of the transactions with a camera mounted behind a one-way mirror. To get customers to look to one side so they would present a profile view to the camera, centerfold magazine pictures of nude women were pinned on the side wall of the office area. It worked. All transactions were carefully videotaped and recorded.

The "sting" operated so smoothly that the landlords from whom the warehouse was rented were among the persons who got stung. They sold a stolen \$18,000 Porsche to the undercover officers for \$8,000. It had only 8,000 miles on its odometer, and had reportedly been stolen from a police compound in Tennessee.

"It was a tremendously successful project," said Sheriff Butterworth. "The guys just did a super job. The undercover work led us to four other major fencing operations in the county, and the arrests will clear up some 500 robberies."

Trained for CPR

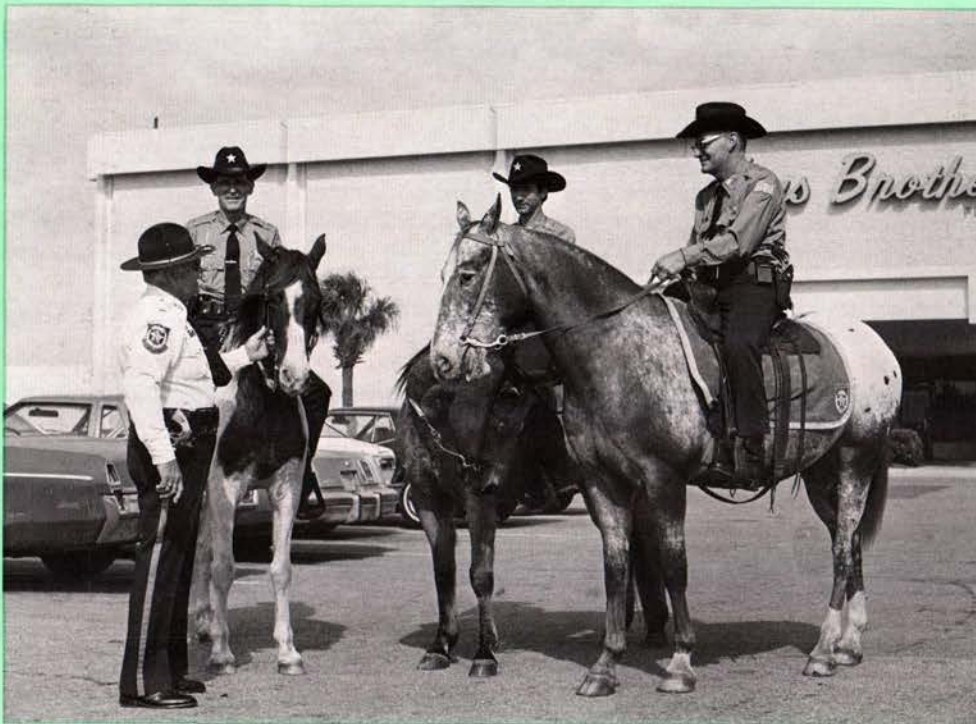
BARTOW — Polk County Sheriff Louie Mims recently announced that all 17 members of his Department's Explorer Post 900 are now certified in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation. The Explorers, who are 14-19 years old, completed a 3-week CPR training course taught by the American Red Cross. Investigator Neil Merrill, of the Polk County Sheriff's Department, is advisor to the Post.



Roland Corrales, Jr.

TAMPA — Roland Corrales, Jr., is shown being congratulated by Hillsborough County Sheriff Walter Heinrich on his election as National Chairman of all Law Enforcement Explorer Posts. Corrales, former Chaplain of the Florida Sheriffs Explorer Association, will be Chairman of the 1981 National Law Enforcement Explorer Conference to be held in August at Ohio State University.

Sheriff's Lieutenant Harvey Woods (left), who serves as coordinator between the Sheriff's Department and the Posse, is pictured here with the top brass of the Posse elected to serve from October 1, 1979, to October 1, 1980. Mounted, from left to right, are: 1st Lt. Robert Bayliss, Capt. Al Farrington, and 2nd Lt. Jack Gunther. (Lt. Woods was off duty due to a serious illness when this article was written, but is expected to return to his post as coordinator.)



Those Posses: They Don't Just Horse Around



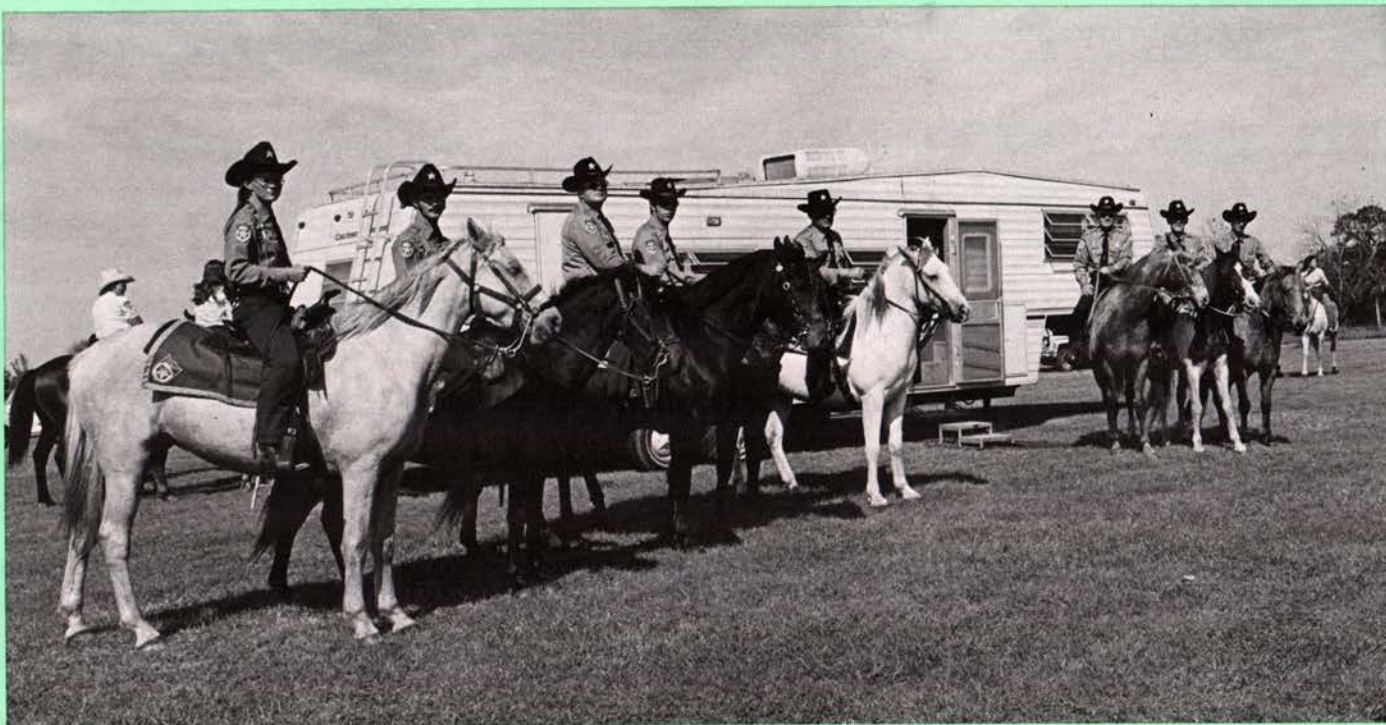
Sharon King is a member of the Junior Posse.

BRADENTON — It looks like fun, and it is. They ride in parades, hold horse shows, get together for cookouts and take leisurely trail rides; but there's more to being a member of the Manatee County Sheriff's Posse than just horsing around.

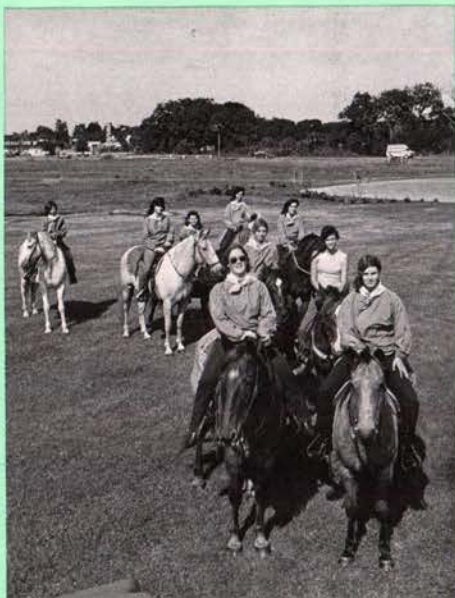
These spare time non-paid horsemen also assist Sheriff Thomas M. Burton, Jr., with his law enforcement, public security and crime prevention duties. They get involved in search and rescue missions. They direct traffic and park cars at large public functions, and they also mount special patrols to discourage looters in shopping center parking lots during the period between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Some members with special training are qualified as reserve deputies and ride in patrol cars with full-time salaried deputies. This elite unit of eight members is designated as the Mounted Posse. There are three additional divisions: The Associate Posse, the Junior Posse and the Drill Team. All told there are 150 members in the Sheriff's Posse, and they log about 4,000 manhours of public service each year.

It's fun and it's work, and it also requires a hefty financial investment. Members provide their own uniforms, horses, horse trailers and equipment. Sometimes this represents an investment of as much as \$10,000. They also sacrifice valuable spare time and take time away from their businesses and families.



The Mounted Posse members are trained as reserve deputy sheriffs.



Members of the Drill Team — just posin'.



The Junior Posse, with Lt. Harvey Woods and Mr. and Mrs. George Lusby in the foreground. Mr. Lusby is in charge of the juniors.



The Associate Posse members saddle up for the fun of it most of the time, but they also get involved in serious assignments.



Plaques and certificates testify to the success of Sheriff Bill Roberts, who started at the bottom and worked his way to the top.

Roberts Remembers:

Making \$175 a Month and Wearing a Borrowed Gun



Among Roberts' souvenirs is a frontier type Sheriff's badge that came from the Oklahoma Territory. He's not old enough to have worn it but he treasures it, nevertheless.

CLEARWATER — Bill Roberts sort of eased into law enforcement by degrees — and not the kind of degrees they hand out on college campuses.

It was like this: Roberts was living in Largo and working daytimes in the citrus business. It was grove work. Occasionally, Largo Police Chief Phil Boyette would drop by of an evening and say, "Hey, Bill, how about helping me out a little?" Boyette usually had a belligerent drunk to pick up or something like that.

Roberts got pretty good at wrestling drunks and other basic police skills — so good, in fact, that Boyette put him to work full time. Going to work as a policeman was a simple procedure back there in the 1950s. Boyette gave Roberts a badge and a hat and put him out on the street. The rest was up to Roberts. He borrowed a 32-20 six shooter, holster included, and put together makeshift uniforms by dying some khaki work pants and shirts dark blue.

The police department headquarters was just a little bit

bigger than a phone booth. There was one patrol car, a black '49 Chevy with a red light, siren and radio. In those days, having a police radio was 'way up there on the scale of professionalism, but radio communications were pretty primitive compared to what they are today. If Roberts the Rookie was riding along in his '49 Chevy patrol car and wanted to call headquarters, he couldn't. To contact the chief, he had to radio the nearby Clearwater Police Department and ask them to relay a message. If Roberts the Rookie turned up the volume too high, his headlights would dim. If he left his patrol car parked with the radio on for more than a few minutes, the battery would be drained.

Those bygone days before transistorized radios have been called the good old days, but were they really? Roberts was drawing \$175 a month from the police department, which wasn't enough to live on even then, so he continued his citrus grove work in the daytime and worked as a police-man at night.

So, when did he sleep?

Mostly on Sundays, and certainly not on Mondays because court was held on Monday nights and that meant putting in hours of overtime.

Money was tight and Roberts was overworked, but Chief Boyette was sympathetic. He began advancing his rookie patrolman \$50 on the 15th of each month so Roberts wouldn't get too far behind with his bill paying. The rookie still wasn't exactly making ends meet, so he began picking up some spare change by working part-time for Pinellas County Sheriff Todd Tucker. In those days, the Sheriff was paid a fee for his official duties — so much for making an arrest, another fee for transporting a prisoner, another fee for keeping a prisoner in jail, and so on . . . It was entirely logical, and legal, therefore, that the Sheriff paid Roberts \$2 for each criminal case he turned over to the Sheriff's Office . . . sort of a bounty system.

Law enforcement was relaxed and informal. So was the business of meting out justice. Arrested persons were usually taken before one of the Justices of the Peace (JPs) who were scattered around Pinellas County. One JP was accustomed to holding court on his front porch. Others held forth in dingy store fronts.

More conventional court proceedings could be had at the county courthouse, but even there the system was not burdened down with manpower or formality. Roberts recalls that one circuit judge — the legendary John U. Bird — handled all the felony (serious crimes) cases. Another circuit judge handled all the civil cases, and a Criminal Court of Record (which no longer exists) handled the misdemeanors (minor crimes). Today, 25 circuit judges tend the bar of justice in the circuit that encompasses Pinellas and Pasco Counties.

Chapter two of the Bill Roberts success story opened in 1953 when Roberts turned in his Largo PD hat and badge and went to work as a deputy under Sheriff Tucker. The pay was better — \$275 a month — but each deputy had to provide his own patrol car. No one in the Sheriff's Office wore a uniform. The Sheriff furnished a heavy duty alternator and batteries (those old style radios ate up batteries in a hurry). He also provided a siren and gasoline and a car expense allowance of \$100 a month. Out of that allowance the deputy was expected to pay for the car plus insurance, repairs, maintenance and tires. He also had to provide his



Roberts declares he is through with being a workaholic and plans to take some relaxing trips with his wife, Madelyn.

own gun, handcuffs and ammunition.

Roberts didn't find a slower pace at the Sheriff's Department. He was working seven days a week, making arrests, investigating crimes, serving court papers, whatever had to be done. He was on call 24 hours a day. It certainly wasn't the road to riches or a life of leisure, but, nevertheless, Roberts got hooked on law enforcement.

A young Clearwater policeman by the name of Don Genung was in a similar predicament. Genung joined the Sheriff's Department about six months after Roberts, and the two neophyte deputies eventually became a team that dominated the law enforcement scene in Pinellas County for almost two decades. When Genung became Sheriff in 1958, he appointed Roberts as his chief deputy, and during *(continued on*

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A modern corrections complex laid out like a college campus will be one of many improvements Roberts will pass along to the next Sheriff of Pinellas County.





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

M. L. BARNHART Odessa	HAROLD S. JENSEN Largo
MR. & MRS. WILL M. BENNETT Ft. Myers	MR. & MRS. FRANK KEENER Belleair Bluffs
MRS. DOROTHY S. BIKLE Dunedin	RANDY KINCAID Bartow
MR. & MRS. JAMES B. DeVORE Largo	SPARKLING CITY JAYCEES Clearwater
MR. & MRS. CHARLES A. HAVLIK Eustis	MRS. CHARLES STERN Tampa
MRS. NORMA A. HEFLIN Temple Terrace	VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES, SUNSHINE CITY POST NO. 6827 St. Petersburg
HOLIDAY INN, DOWNTOWN Stuart	



BRISTOL — John Fasson (left) receives a Builder Certificate from Liberty County Sheriff Harrell W. Revell.

Builders

MICHAEL AMATUCCI Lake Park	MR. & MRS. M. A. DURRANCE Bowling Green	MRS. IRA W. JONES Lakeland	JOHAN H. OLSEN Margate	STANLEY C. THOMAS Hampton
ERNEST L. ARBUCKLE Haines City	MRS. DOROTHY EGGLESTON Clearwater	ROBERT W. JOURDAIN Clearwater	MR. & MRS. MIKE PEDEN Branford	MR. & MRS. W. C. TODD Tampa
JOHN W. AYERS Cocoa	EMPLOYEES OF OSCEOLA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT Kissimmee	MRS. H. B. KIRKWOOD Belleair Bluffs	MR. & MRS. RALPH S. PENDEXTER Dade City	ABNER H. VANN Clewiston
MR. & MRS. CARL W. BAKER Largo	MS. F. W. FARNSWORTH Jacksonville	WILLIAM W. KOOLAGE Vero Beach	MR. & MRS. FRED C. PHILLIPS Alachua	MR. & MRS. CARSON J. WALTERS Kissimmee
MR. & MRS. MAURICE BAKER Jacksonville	JOHN FASSON Bristol (See photo)	DEPUTY SCOTT LANCASTER Green Cove Springs	MR. & MRS. WILLIAM H. PRATHER Kissimmee	SAMUEL A. WEAVER Green Cove Springs
MR. & MRS. JACK W. BEATTY Ocala	HOKE FITZGERALD Lake Wales	FRANK J. LeFEVERE New Port Richey	FRED PREUSS Margate	MRS. WINONA WRIGHT Clearwater
MRS. DELORES BEDLEY Tampa	FORT MYERS B. P. O. E. LODGE NO. 1288 Ft. Myers	MR. & MRS. JAN LONG Oldsmar	RADIOLOGY ASSOCIATES OF CLEARWATER Clearwater	MR. & MRS. VICTOR B. YEATS Tampa
EVERETT R. BENNETT Bradenton	MR. & MRS. WILLIAM GALE Holiday	MRS. MARY MAHAFFY Jacksonville	MS. MARY REGISTER Clearwater	MRS. BERNICE ZELIFF Dunedin
MRS. JENNIFER BIELING Miami	ROLAND LEE GAUGH, MGR. HOLIDAY INN Stuart	MR. & MRS. CHARLES F. MARSH Ocala	PETER RICHMOND New York, New York	BILL ZELIFF Ft. Myers
MR. & MRS. JOHN C. CAMP Jasper	MR. & MRS. GEORGE W. HALL Sarasota	AL MARTIN Redington Beach	ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL Stuart	
CARDINAL BAR West Palm Beach	MISS MADELINE HALL Tampa	MR. & MRS. WILLIAM MCDONALD Seminole	DR. & MRS. BRUNO SCHMIDT Ft. Lauderdale	
MR. & MRS. JOHN E. CARROLL, JR. Kissimmee	NORMAN R. HARDING Panama City	MILITARY ORDER OF THE COOTIE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA DIXIE PUP TENT NO. 3 St. Petersburg	HUBERT A. SHARPE Jacksonville	
EDWARD CLARK Holiday	ELBERT B. HARROD Bradenton	ARNOLD R. MILLER Boca Raton	MR. & MRS. FRED CONE SIKES Clewiston	
MR. & MRS. EUGENE F. CLEMENT Boca Raton	MRS. EARNEST HAYWOOD Lakeland	MR. HERO, INC. Clearwater	STERLING W. SMITH Sarasota	
MRS. ARTHUR B. CRAIG Miami	HERZBERG'S, INC. Kissimmee	MOOSE LODGE NO. 248 Ft. Pierce (See photo)	SOUTH POINTE LIQUORS, INC. Ft. Myers	
MR. & MRS. J. ROBERT CROWELL Kissimmee	PATRICK CAPPETTA Altamonte Springs	GENERAL & MRS. WINSLOW C. MORSE Santa Rosa Beach	ALLEN STAHL Maitland	
MR. & MRS. WILLIAM DARNALL Winter Haven	LOUIS L. HUNTLEY Orange Park (See photo)	GEORGE MULROY, JR. Seminole	JOHN STRIPLING Ft. Myers	
MR. & MRS. ROBERT F. DIETZ Parma Heights, Ohio	DEWEY T. JAMES, JR. Jacksonville	PERCY L. MYERS Kissimmee	MR. & MRS. ROBERT L. SWETLAND Largo	
PARVIN DUFF Hollywood		SHERIFF LANIE NORVELL Ft. Pierce (See photo)	GWYN THOMAS Vero Beach	



FORT PIERCE — George Towler (left), representing Moose Lodge No. 248, is shown presenting a check for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund to St. Lucie County Sheriff Lanie Norvell.



FORT PIERCE — St. Lucie County Sheriff Lanie Norvell (left) receives a Builder Certificate from Jim Mason, Director of Public Relations for the Youth Fund. The picture in the background is of Sheriff Norvell's father, the late Sheriff J. R. Norvell, one of the founders of the Boys Ranch.



ORANGE PARK — One hundred cases of Pepsi-Cola purchased by Louis L. Huntley, owner of Jiffy Food Stores, Inc., in a Muscular Dystrophy Drive were donated to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch through the Clay County Sheriff's Department. Clay County Chief Deputy John A. (Pete) Petersen (left) expressed his appreciation to Ron Shouse representing Mr. Huntley and Jiffy Food Stores, as the cases of Pepsi were being loaded for delivery to the Ranch.

Be careless and wind up carless

Although warnings have been repeated over and over, careless owners are still one of the major causes of car thefts.

Soooo.....here we go again, one more time. Follow these precautions to avoid becoming a car thief's victim:

- (1) Close all your windows tight. It'll make stealing that much more difficult.
- (2) Cars are often stolen simply to get the contents, so don't leave valuable items in open view. Lock them in the trunk.
- (3) Lock all your doors.
- (4) Avoid parking in isolated or dimly lit areas. The more light and traffic around your car, the safer it is.
- (5) When you leave your car, even for a few moments, remove the ignition key and take it with you --- and don't leave the ignition switch in the unlocked position.

Prevention on wheels

LAKELAND — Polk County Sheriff Louie Mims has a new Mobile Crime Prevention Unit which will be used to teach residents of the county how to protect themselves, as

much as possible, against becoming the victims of a crime. Crime Prevention Unit Supervisor Neil Merritt is in charge.

The unit will be equipped with video screens, a public address system, slide projector, a recorder and literature on crime prevention and safety programs. Subjects to be covered include: rape prevention, home security, marking of valuables for identification, con artist detection, crimes against the elderly, worthless checks, drug abuse, shoplifting, armed robbery and bike safety and registration. All seminars and programs are free to the public.

Former Sheriff dies

BLOUNTSTOWN — Former Calhoun County Sheriff W. C. Reeder died on September 25. He was 59. Reeder was first elected Sheriff in 1956 and served 20 years, retiring in 1976. During a portion of his tenure as Sheriff, he served as a Trustee of the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch.

Reeder began his law enforcement career in 1946 after receiving three Purple Heart medals in World War II as a paratrooper. He is survived by his wife, Estelle Reeder; his son, Bill; his mother, Clara B. Reeder; two brothers and three sisters.

After 30 years as a crime fighter, the Sheriff is looking forward to his next career as a house doctor.

Roberts Remembers

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the next 17 years, they labored together to make the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department one of the most professional and innovative law enforcement agencies in the state.

In 1975 Genung retired and Roberts was appointed Sheriff. In 1976 Roberts was elected to a four-year term which is now drawing to a close. Also drawing to a close is a 30-year law enforcement career that began as a spare-time diversion and turned into an impressive success story. Bill Roberts is retiring.

In a couple of months, he will be packing up the framed certificates that identify him as a graduate of the FBI Academy, the National Sheriffs' Institute, the Police Management Forum, and special courses at Tallahassee Community College, Wayne State University and Michigan State University. He will clean out his desk, shake hands with trusted associates who have shared the trauma and the drama of many hectic years, and if time permits, lean back in his high-backed office chair to reminisce about the "fur piece" he has come.

If he happens to compare the Sheriff's Department of 1953 with today's Department, it will be quite a nostalgia trip. There were 12 employees back then. Now there are around 700. The Sheriff's Department was located in two high-ceilinged rooms. Now it occupies thousands of square feet in more than one location. The starting salary for deputies was \$275 a month. Now recruits draw \$12,521.

In 1953 deputies dreamed about paid vacations but didn't get any. They received their training on the job (on the street, as it were); and paid contributions to a retirement fund. Now they get paid vacations, a 14-week training academy course before facing the public; and a retirement system that does not require them to make contributions.

Today the Sheriff operates a fleet of some 350 vehicles, and deputies would mutiny if he asked them to use their personal cars on patrol.

"It's a different ball game," Roberts said recently. "It's more complex and less informal."

Does he regret leaving it?

"Not really," he said. "I've enjoyed it, but I've had enough, and I'm ready to do something else."

That "something else" will sort of bring the Roberts career to a full circle.

Come January, when he hangs up his badge, he will don khakis or jeans not much different from the ones he dyed some 30 years ago when he started police work, and he will go into the business of renovating old houses.

He has pattered around as a handyman in his spare time for years, and he has always liked working with his hands. Currently, on nights and weekends, you'll find him warming up for his new career, sawing and hammering, painting and seemingly having a ball.

At the time this article was written, he had three old houses in various stages of marketability. One had been completely renovated and was on the market. One was being renovated, and one was being rented pending the start of renovation work.

The metamorphosis from Roberts the crime fighter to Roberts the house doctor has already begun, and the retiring lawman seems to know exactly where he's going and how far. Roberts said he plans to keep his new business small and free from stress and strain. He doesn't plan to hire a crew of workmen. Instead, he will do most of the work himself. His brother-in-law will help out with the plumbing, and a friend who is an electrician will do some wiring in his spare time.

Roberts isn't going to be a workaholic, he says. "I expect to play some golf with my 11-year-old grandson," he explained, "and I'll probably get back to my regular Saturday game."

He paused for a moment, then laughed. "Hell ... it'll take me two years just to finish up my wife's 'honey do' list."

Honey do list?

"Yeah ... you know how wives are always saying 'honey do this and honey do that.'"



...And a Lady Shall Lead Them

GAINESVILLE — For the first time in its history the Alachua County Sheriff's Mounted Posse is headed by a woman. She is Capt. Vernie Fields, pictured here with Sheriff Lu Hindery. Posse members provide security for the Gatornational Drag Races, round up stray livestock, participate in search and rescue missions, ride in parades, hold benefit horse shows for local charities and sponsor a Junior Posse.

Getting the word out

DADE CITY — Pasco County residents are getting pedestrian safety messages in a new way this year — via a mobile education unit operated by Sheriff John M. Short.

The unit is equipped with extensive audio visual equipment, allowing the use of a wide variety of educational media and is staffed by a safety education deputy.

"The mobile nature of the unit makes it possible for us to reach areas all over the county to make presentations to groups which might not have audio-visual equipment or seating space for at least 30 persons," said the Sheriff's Chief Planning Officer, Ken Modzelewski.

According to Modzelewski, public acceptance of the mobile unit has been high, with bookings ten hours a day, six days a week.

McCalls celebrate 50 years

TAVARES — Sheriff Malcolm McCall, of Lake County, has requested that THE SHERIFF'S STAR print a notice of a special open house to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of his father and mother, former Sheriff and Mrs. Willis McCall.

Family and friends are invited to the affair which will be held at the Umatilla Civic Center on October 18 from 7 to 9 p.m. There are to be no gifts, just a big celebration.

Willis McCall was first elected Sheriff of Lake County in 1944 and served 28 years.



Don McTarsney

ORLANDO — Sheriff Mel Colman (left) is shown receiving a Commendation Award from Don McTarsney, representative of the National Police Officers Association. The award was given in recognition of the excellent service given the people of Orange County by the Sheriff's Department despite unprecedented growth in the county and its attendant problems.

Academy planned

LAKELAND — Polk County Sheriff Louie Mims recently accepted, on behalf of the Polk County Board of Commissioners, a 75-acre plot of phosphate-mined land from USS Agri-Chemicals. Mims said his department plans to build a law enforcement academy on the partially reclaimed land near Bartow.

"The academy made possible by this grant will train officers for our department," said Mims, "and its facilities will be available to train officers for other law enforcement agencies in Polk, DeSoto, Hardee and Highlands Counties."

A portion of the donated land has been used for several years by the Sheriff's Department as a pistol range and more recently as a physical fitness training site with USS Agri-Chemicals' permission.



Jail Administrators are a breed apart

The following tribute to Jail Administrators was sent to The Sheriff's Star by the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office with assurances that it aptly describes Lt. Clyde Walls, the head man at the St. Lucie County Jail.

Jail Administrators

Somewhere between high school, marriage, military service and the road patrol, we find a dynamic, dedicated one-of-a-kind individual called the Jail Administrator.

Jail Administrators come in all sizes and temperaments. They are found in Federal prisons, State institutions, County jails and often in debt.

Salesmen love them, police officers frustrate them, jail visitors tempt to outwit them, ministers try to evangelize them, and the Sheriffs can't do without them.

A Jail Administrator is a composite — constantly on the move like a child, sly as a fox, patient as Job, an artist at procuring needed jail equipment, and ambitious as Casanova.

Jail Administrators love cleanliness, polished floors, promptness, higher budgets, jailers with shined shoes, modern kitchens, and an office "up front."

They dislike dirt, jail tours, juveniles that set fires, hand-me-down office furniture, paperwork, and anyone who suggests that they store anything in "their" basement.

No one but a Jail Administrator can get as much fun from a new piece of equipment, a clean glass door, 100% cooperation in any effort from HIS STAFF, and a day when there are no complaints about the food.

Only a Jail Administrator can hunt down a trampoline for the game room, worry about a squeaking door, insist on military neatness in the jail confines, laugh at himself, rule like a monarch in his kingdom, and spot a fingerprint on a wall from 500 feet.



St. Lucie County Sheriff Lanie Norvell (left) with his jail administrator, Lt. Clyde Walls.

There is something magical about Jail Administrators. You can load them down with requests from judges and sheriffs and chief deputies and captains, but they have a way of disappearing for a short time and coming back with the right answer to all requests.

If you should marry a Jail Administrator, you might as well give up. He'll work long hours, talk about nothing but his men and his jail, how much he hates his job, and when he can give it all up and let someone else worry about it.

If you are his wife, you will think all of your dreams have come true when he finally comes home, sits in his favorite chair, and smiles deeply into your eyes. Then you're likely to hear him say, "Honey, I got a new food warmer today."