

the Sheriff's Star



The Passing of the Presidency

The presidency of the Florida Sheriffs Association passed from Marion County Sheriff Don Moreland (right) to Gadsden County Sheriff W. A. Woodham during the Association's Annual Mid-Winter Conference, January 12, 1982. In return, Woodham presented Moreland with a past-president's plaque and a Sheriffs Association Lifetime Honorary Membership plaque.

Code System for Merchants Is Crime Prevention Feature

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Clay County Sheriff Jennings Murrhee has added a new feature to his crime prevention program. He is giving merchants and owners of various business establishments emergency code numbers which are prominently displayed on stickers.

Each sticker contains the following message: "In cooperation with the Clay County Sheriff's Department this business is registered for emergency purposes. In case of emergency, notify code No. ____."

The code numbers are on file at the Sheriff's Department along with the phone numbers of the persons who are to be contacted when emergencies occur.

Sheriff Murrhee said this system of handling emergency calls through the Sheriff's Department will expedite getting the appropriate person to the scene in an emergency. He said it will also eliminate the posting of private telephone numbers at business



Sheriff Jennings Murrhee (left) gave one of the first emergency code numbers to Ron Everts, owner of Keystone Heights Jewelry Store.

places for criminals to see and use.

Robbers have been known to fake an emergency, summon a store owner to his store late at night, force him to open the building and then hold him hostage while they loot the establishment.



Five Who Share a Common Distinction

TAVARES — Lake County Sheriff Noel E. Griffin, Jr., doesn't have an affinity for hiring twins. It's just a coincidence that five of his staff members have twin brothers or sisters. Fortunately each is just half of a set of twins, and therefore a lot of potential confusion has been avoided. Pictured from left are Carolyn Gregg, Tamme Ward, Rodney Stienstra, Terri Merrill and Alice Williams.

Murrhee Was Top-Rated

GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Clay County Sheriff Jennings Murrhee and School Superintendent Jesse P. Tynes were selected to receive the first annual Good Government Awards presented by the Clay County Young Democrats.

James D. Ricks III, President of the Young Democrats, said Murrhee and Tynes were selected from a field of 21 county officials on the basis of a random survey.

NOTICE TO LIBRARIANS AND OTHERS

The February, 1982, issue of THE SHERIFF'S STAR was incorrectly numbered as Volume 26, No. 2. It should have been numbered Volume 25, No. 8. We request that librarians and others who are maintaining permanent files of the magazine, make appropriate corrections on the left-hand page immediately inside the cover.

the Sheriff's Star

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President's Message:

Guess Who's Running the County Jails

By Sheriff W. A. Woodham

Many citizens will be surprised to learn that Sheriffs are no longer in control of Florida's county jails.

During the past three years control has shifted to federal judges, and the resulting crisis is going to have serious repercussions. It is going to place extremely heavy burdens on taxpayers, and there is evidence that it will be detrimental to law enforcement.

Here is how the change came about:

Guidelines resulting from federal court proceedings that began in 1979 forced the State of Florida to establish jail rules and regulations that are unreasonable and unrealistic. The state acted under court pressure and was not entirely to blame. Nevertheless, the new regulations have placed Sheriffs in an impossible bind.

There is just no way most counties can pay for the jail improvements demanded by the new regulations and also continue to provide high quality law enforcement. And yet, if Sheriffs don't comply with the regulations, they face the threat of being taken into court.

The situation is becoming ridiculous. Our jails are demanding an unreasonable amount of our time, financial resources and manpower. Furthermore, because of all the attention we have been forced to focus on the hassle over county jails, we don't have adequate time and money left to devote to our number one priority: law enforcement. This was one of the prime reasons behind the record number of Sheriffs' budget appeals in 1981.

The new regulations tell us how many correctional officers (jailers) we have to hire. Consequently, I actually have more correctional officers employed in

Sheriff W. A. Woodham
President, Florida
Sheriffs Association



the county jail than I do deputies on patrol. The same situation will prevail in most other counties, if Sheriffs abide by the state regulations.

We need help. We need relief from the impact of a series of events that began in March, 1979. It was then that nine prisoners held in various county jails filed suit in federal court against Louis Wainwright, Secretary of the Florida Department of Corrections (DOC). They charged Wainwright with failing to establish constitutional county jail standards, and failing to require meaningful jail inspections.

The court suit (which became known as *Arias V. Wainwright*) did not seek monetary compensation. Instead it demanded changes in Florida's jail standards which would eliminate 17 conditions described as unconstitutional.

The list ran the gamut from reasonable to unreasonable, and included items such as denial of adequate exercise, and failure to have a law library available for prisoners to consult.

Sheriffs followed the litigation with great interest. Working in cooperation with the DOC and plaintiffs' attorneys, they also became involved in the drafting of new jail rules and regulations. Their objective was to make the outcome as reasonable and realistic as possible, but the final result, which was achieved after much drafting and redrafting, did not satisfy them. Unfortunately, they had no choice but to accept it as the best compromise they could attain.

The new rules went into effect May 10, 1981, setting standards that most counties did not have sufficient time or adequate financial resources to meet.

Jail inspections became much more rigid. Many jails were found to be in violation of the new standards, and some were simply too old or obsolete to be renovated.

A crisis began to develop in short order, and it was intensified when DOC inspectors began "factoring" county jails to establish their proper capacity. This

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Echo from the Whitehouse:

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Presidential Counselor Edwin Meese III told Sheriffs here recently: "In this administration, we think Sheriffs know more about running the jails than federal judges do."

He said the Reagan Administration wants to put a stop to federal judges "running" the nation's jails and prisons; and the administration, through Attorney General William French Smith, is actively seeking to bring about "restraints" upon the judiciary.



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Sheriffs serving as directors from this district are: K. E. "Ken" Murphy, Gulf County; Fred Peel, Washington County; James H. Scott, Jefferson County. Other counties in this district are Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Leon, Holmes, Gadsden, Jackson, Jefferson, Liberty, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Wakulla and Walton.

District II

Sheriffs serving as directors from this district are: Roy J. Rodgers, Gilchrist County; Dale Carson, Duval County; and L. J. "Lu" Hindery, Alachua County. Other counties in this district are Baker, Bradford, Columbia, Clay, Dixie, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Suwannee, Taylor and Union.



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Louie T. Mims



John M. Short

District III

Sheriffs serving as directors from this district are: Walter C. Heinrich, Hillsborough County; Louie T. Mims, Polk County; and John M. Short, Pasco County. Other counties in this district are: Brevard, Citrus, Flagler, Hernando, Indian River, Lake, Levy, Marion, Orange, Osceola, Pinellas, Seminole, Sumter and Volusia.



Thomas M. Burton, Jr.



Joe Sheppard



Richard P. Wille

District IV

Sheriffs serving as directors from this district are: Thomas M. Burton, Jr., Manatee; Joe Sheppard, Highlands; and Richard P. Wille, Palm Beach. Other counties in this district are: Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Dade, DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Lee, Martin, Monroe, Okeechobee, St. Lucie and Sarasota.

President's Message

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procedure, which resulted in response to federal court proceedings, utilized a formula to determine how much jail space has to be allotted to each prisoner. As a result, many jails have failed to pass inspection.

A jail designed for 65 inmates had been remodeled to house 92, but factoring reduced the capacity to 42. In another jail built to hold 150, factoring reduced the capacity to 67.

DOC inspectors factored 56 jails in eight months and the average reduction in rated capacity was 25 to 30 percent. This will be beneficial for prisoners, but it is bad news for Sheriffs.

Faced with the necessity of expanding or replacing jails, they have been seeking financial help from the state as a long range solution. They have also instituted emergency measures such as speeding up court procedures to reduce the number of jail inmates awaiting trial. Some have sought temporary, make-shift housing for prisoners. Others face the possibility that dangerous criminals will be put back on the streets by court orders demanding reductions in jail

populations.

The crisis is real. It is also alarming because it underscores the fact that Florida's citizens and their elected representatives are no longer in control of Florida's county jails.

Control has been taken over by federal judges. They have become the final arbiters of county jail standards, and these standards cannot be changed by the DOC, the governor, the legislature or local officials.

Sheriffs are frustrated hostages. We are literally prisoners of our own jails because the jail crisis is preventing us from devoting appropriate time and money to other duties.

Two things will help set us free:

First, federal judges and the DOC will have to get off our backs — ease up and be reasonable.

Second, the state will have to help counties finance jail improvements.

Meanwhile, there's no doubt about who will be running the county jails.

If the Sheriff's on the Ball, Who Cares About Being Small?





Former county jail "drunk tank" has been converted into a small but adequate medical dispensary.



New exercise yard improves prisoner morale and raises the jail's rating.

MACCLENNY — Baker County is small and thinly populated. Fifty of Florida's 67 counties have more people and more area. Palm Beach, Florida's largest county, has over four times as many acres. Dade, the state's most populous county, has over 100 times as many residents.

Financial resources are limited in Baker County, and Sheriff Joe Newmans operates on a tight budget, but that doesn't prevent him from modernizing his department and improving his jail facilities. He improvises a little, capitalizes on the resources at hand, and seems to run a shipshape department.

Using surplus military equipment, Newmans turned the county jail's former "drunk tank" into a compact medical dispensary. He also has a doctor under contract to treat prisoners.

No one is likely to take Newmans into court for failing to provide adequate medical care. Doctors' offices, the county health department, the local hospital, and the county rescue service are all nearby.

If a nurse is needed at the jail, Newmans can get one from the health department. If a prisoner is injured or becomes ill, the Sheriff can call in Emergency Medical Technicians from the rescue service and, when emergency treatment is required, they will rush the patient to the hospital.

One of the latest improvements at the jail is an exercise yard which gives prisoners an opportunity to play basketball, pitch horseshoes, or just relax in the fresh air and sunshine. It will improve prisoner morale and raise the jail's rating as a facility approved for housing federal prisoners.

Newmans averages about 15 federal prisoners per day in his jail, and collects a substantial sum of money from the federal government for this service.

Baker County taxpayers are pleased with the extra



Commissions, certificates and plaques testify to the professional status of Sheriff Joe Newmans.

income, and also with the federal grants Sheriff Newmans has obtained to improve his communications center.

Macclenny's city commissioners also like the way Newmans is handling his job. They recently abolished their police department and turned the city's policing duties over to him.

Apparently, being small doesn't prevent Baker County from having a Sheriff who's on the ball.

Sheriff Newmans and Dispatcher Paula Crews discuss the new eight-channel console which will be purchased with federal funds to improve the efficiency of the communications center.

Mid-Winter Conference:



Veteran Sheriff Dolph Reddish, from Bradford County (second from right), holds the attention of (from left) Sumter County Sheriff James L. "Jamie" Adams, Jr.; Hardee County Sheriff Doyle W. Bryan; and Lafayette County Sheriff Bobby McCray.

palaver
parley
discussion
tete-a-tete
interlocution
colloquy
pow-wow
conversazione (It.)
assembly
convocation
gathering
assemblage
conclave
pourparler (Fr.)
symposium
caucus
rap session



Walton County Sheriff Quinn A. McMillian (left) and Calhoun County Sheriff W. G. "Buddy" Smith talk shop.

Talkfest Describes it Best



Jacksonville Sheriff Dale Carson (right) tells Lee County Sheriff Frank Wanicka, how they do it in northeast Florida.

The Editor's dictionary lists over 20 synonyms in three languages for "conference," but Talkfest (a word the dictionary overlooked) seems to describe best of all the Annual Mid-Winter Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association, which was held in Cocoa Beach, January 10 - 13, 1982.

The list of speakers read like a "Who's Who" of federal, state and local law enforcement.

The topics were as up-to-date as tomorrow's front page, especially during a criminal justice symposium that focused on violent crime, drug enforcement, and financial problems arising from government efforts to reduce taxes.

Strong emphasis was placed on teamwork as Sheriffs and their special guests from state and federal agencies sought effective ways of attacking crime problems.

During breaks that punctuated a heavy schedule of meetings, Sheriffs indulged in shop talk that ran the gamut of law enforcement priorities. The current crisis resulting from overcrowded jails seemed to be the number one concern.

In business sessions Sheriffs elected officers and planned legislative strategies. They also applauded progress reports presented by Sheriffs Association Executive Director Berwin Williams and Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund President Harry Weaver.



Drug enforcement activities of federal agencies were discussed by Joseph V. Corless, Special Agent-in-Charge, FBI, Miami; Peter Gruden, Special Agent-in-Charge, Drug Enforcement Administration, Miami; Commander Dave Russell, U. S. Coast Guard Intelligence, Miami; and Neil Lageman, Director, Patrol Division, U. S. Customs Service, Tampa.



Thomas

Local Financing for Law Enforcement, and State Assistance for Local Governments were discussed by State Senator Joe Carlucci; State Representative James Ward; State Senator Kenneth Jenne; and State Association of County Commissioners Executive Director John Thomas.

Carlucci, Ward, Jenne

continued on next page

Gadsden County Sheriff W. A. Woodham was elected president of the Sheriffs Association; Sarasota County Sheriff Jim Hardcastle, Vice President; Collier County Sheriff Aubrey Rogers, Secretary; Wakulla County Sheriff David Harvey, Treasurer; Calhoun County Sheriff W. G. "Buddy" Smith, Chaplain; and Martin County Sheriff James D. Holt, Sergeant-at-Arms.

Named to the Board of Directors were Jefferson County Sheriff James H. Scott, Duval Sheriff Dale Carson, Gilchrist Sheriff Roy Rodgers, Hillsborough Sheriff Walter C. Heinrich, Pasco Sheriff John M. Short, and Manatee Sheriff Thomas M. Burton, Jr.

Members of the Board of Directors elected Polk County Sheriff Louie T. Mims as their Chairman.



State and local drug enforcement efforts were discussed by (from left) Broward County Sheriff Robert A. Butterworth; Col. Joe Brown, Director, Division of Law Enforcement, Florida Department of Natural Resources; and Bob Edwards, Director, Division of Local Law Enforcement Assistance, Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

Temporarily stumped by a strategy problem were Wakulla County Sheriff David Harvey (left), this year's Legislative Committee Chairman; and Broward County Sheriff Robert A. Butterworth, last year's Chairman.





Okaloosa County Sheriff Larry E. Gilbert (right) received congratulations from Seminole County Sheriff John Polk after he was elected to the Board of Managers of the Florida Sheriffs Self-Insurance Fund. Polk is the Board Chairman.



Jackson County Sheriff John P. McDaniel (left) received congratulations from Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund President Harry Weaver after he was appointed to membership in The Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund, Inc. Jean Whitaker, of Lake Placid, was also appointed to the Youth Fund membership, but he could not be present for the conference. One month after the conference, Representative Beverly Burnsed, of Lakeland, was appointed to the membership.

Talkfest continued



Sheriffs Association Executive Director Berwin Williams (left), with an assist from Polk County Sheriff Louie T. Mims, Chairman of the Sheriffs Association's Board of Directors, explains improvements planned for the Association's new office building.



Past President Don Moreland, (left) thanks Brevard County Sheriff C. W. "Jake" Miller, the Conference Host, for a job well done.



OCALA — Marion County Sheriff Don Moreland (right) and Deputy Dennis Strow (left), Community Relations Officer, accept a Youth Fund donation from Bob Grant, Commander of VFW District 22.



CLEARWATER — Pinellas County Sheriff Gerry Coleman (center) and Youth Fund Vice President Joe Spenard (right) accept a Youth Fund donation from Louis Feighner, President of the District 35-R Lions Club.

Galaxy of Generous Givers

Featured on this page are just a few of the thousands of loyal donors who support the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund with their generous gifts. These good friends have one thing in common: a strong desire to help needy and worthy youngsters.



FORT PIERCE — St. Lucie County Sheriff Lanie Norvell (right) accepts a Youth Fund donation from L. A. O'Laughlin, representing American Legion Post #40, Fort Pierce.



BARTOW — Florida Sheriffs Girls Villa Resident Director Lloyd Godwin (left) accepts a \$500 gift from Mobil Chemical Company, Phosphorus Division, represented by Don Turk. The company's division headquarters is at Nichols, Florida.



GREEN COVE SPRINGS — Lt. Robert C. Davis (left) and Sgt. Tom Darby, representing the Clay County Sheriff's Department, accept a pickup truck donated to the Youth Fund by Ralph L. Henney (right), of Orange Park.



PUNTA GORDA — Charlotte County Sheriff Glen E. Sapp (right) accepts a Youth Fund donation from Francis J. Panzarino, Sr., representing General Development Corporation.



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.

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CLEARWATER — Pinellas County Sheriff Gerry Coleman was on the receiving end for a change when Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund Vice President Don Genung (right) presented him with a Lifetime Honorary Membership plaque in recognition of his contributions to the Youth Fund. At the same time Youth Fund Vice President Joe Spenard (left) presented a lifetime plaque to Carl Hernandez, Director of Administrative Support Services for the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department.



Whitman



Goode



Thompson



Bierbaum



Speer



Mr. & Mrs. Templeton

CLEARWATER — Pinellas County Sheriff Gerry Coleman presents Lifetime Honorary Membership plaques to Richard N. Whitman; Mrs. Catherine A. Thompson; Mrs. Faith Bierbaum; Mr. and Mrs. Percy V. Templeton; George G. Speer; and Mike Goode, President of the Great American Banks of Pinellas County.



Mr. & Mrs. DeWitt



Johnson



Mr. & Mrs. Meighen

WEST PALM BEACH — Palm Beach County Sheriff Richard P. Wille presents Lifetime Honorary Membership plaques to Mr. and Mrs. Marshall M. DeWitt; and Norman B. Johnson. A lifetime plaque was also presented to Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Meighen by Undersheriff Charles McCutcheon (left) and Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund Vice President Cory Ciklin (right).

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Payne, Ward, Smoak, Wirick, Mr. & Mrs. Miley, Mr. & Mrs. Deadwyler, Sheriff Sheppard



Albritton

SEBRING — Highlands County Sheriff Joe Sheppard presents Lifetime Honorary Membership plaques to Mr. and Mrs. William H. Miley and Andrew Snyder; and Builder Certificates to C. M. Payne, G. Franklyn Ward, John Smoak, Jr., John Wirick, Mr. and Mrs. Don Deadwyler, James P. Albritton, DeWayne Ritenour, George Ameen and William Wilson.

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GAINESVILLE — Alachua County Sheriff L. J. "Lu" Hindery (left) presents a Lifetime Honorary Membership plaque to Bob Kelly, President of Bear Archery, in appreciation for archery equipment donated to the Youth Fund summer camping program and the Boys Ranch. Officials of the archery firm also pictured are Nancy Ward, Director of Public Relations; and Frank V. Iaquinto, Vice President, Finance.



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Entrance to the new Sheriffs Association headquarters at 2617 Mahan Drive.



At Last - A Home of Our Own

For the first time in its 72-year history the Florida Sheriffs Association has a home of its own — a handsome cedar-paneled office building situated under giant oak and pine trees on Tallahassee's Mahan Drive.

The staff moved into the new building on February 10, and Association officials held a brief, simple dedication program on February 14.

Increased space will allow the Association to operate its own computer service and provide facilities for meetings. Previously the Association leased computer services and rented office space.

Sheriffs Association President W. A. Woodham presents a Sheriffs Association Lifetime Honorary Membership to Mrs. Agatha Godfrey, former staff member, in recognition of her many years of faithful service to the Association.



Executive Director Berwin Williams, President W. A. Woodham and Immediate Past President Don Moreland (left to right) with plaque dedicating the new building to Florida's Sheriffs "past, present and future," for their service to mankind.



Sheriffs held their first meeting in the new conference room following brief dedication ceremonies.