

# the Sheriff's Star

PUBLISHED BY THE FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER 1983



## The Score So Far — 52 Apprehensions

WEST PALM BEACH — Each "star" on the rear door of Deputy Sheriff Robert Anderson's patrol car represents one apprehension — one lawbreaker nabbed by Anderson and his K-9 buddy "Bingo." The Anderson-Bingo score of 52 arrests is impressive, but not surprising, considering that the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department claims to have the number one K-9 team in the state, and Bingo is rated as Florida's number two dog in U.S. Police Canine Competition.





SARASOTA — Mr. and Mrs. Tom Severn (left) were honored by Sarasota Mayor Ann Bishopric and Dr. Erwin Eckhowser, of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, for their outstanding volunteer work in the Crime Prevention Section of the Sarasota County Sheriff's Department. Sheriff Jim Hardcastle said the activities of volunteers like the Severns have helped to lower the burglary rate in Sarasota County. "The Severns have helped all of us to become better neighbors," he added.



CLEARWATER — Pinellas County Sheriff Gerry Coleman (right) presented gold certificate awards to four employees of the Sheriff's Department's radio shop for establishing interference-free communications channels which will enhance the safety of deputies on surveillance assignments. They are (from left) David Byrum, John Van Heyningen, David Fragale and Chris Gentile.

FORT LAUDERDALE — Cab driver Fred McPherson, who won the gratitude of the Broward County Sheriff's Department by chasing down an escaped prisoner, heads this month's line-up of good guys and gals who have earned a *Sheriff's Star* salute.

McPherson said he didn't know he was chasing a dangerous fugitive when he went after a passenger who had failed to pay a \$20 fare. All he wanted was his money, but he got more than that.

In a ceremony with news media coverage, Sheriff's Department employees gave the cabbie a pair of running shoes and \$20 to cover the fare he had lost. Sheriff George Brescher also presented him with a certificate of appreciation.

**Kurt Gibbs**

NAPLES — Inside a parked van with flashing trouble lights Collier

## We Salute!

County Deputy Sheriff Kurt Gibbs found a one-year-old boy who had choked and stopped breathing. After clearing an obstruction from the child's throat, Gibbs administered mouth-to-mouth resuscitation until paramedics arrived. The child was taken to a hospital, examined and released.

**Susan Brown**

OCALA — Praised for the role she played in helping to rescue three people from a burning car, Marion County Deputy Sheriff Susan Brown treated the incident as routine. In her written report she merely said: "Writer discovered a two-car accident on Lacota Road. Both vehicles were on fire and ultimately there was one death. Three occupants of the second vehicle

were removed and led to safety."

**Kenneth D. Allen**

TAMPA — Kenneth D. Allen, a Sergeant in the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department, was recently graduated from the FBI National Academy. He is one of 16,889 officers who have attained this distinction since the Academy opened in 1935.

**J. M. "Buddy" Crevasse III**

GAINESVILLE — Following in the footsteps of his illustrious father, Capt. J. M. "Buddy" Crevasse, who is in charge of the Patrol Division in the Alachua County Sheriff's Department, was recently chosen by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, (FDLE) as one of the ten outstanding law enforcement officers in Florida for 1983. He is the son of former Alachua County Sheriff Joe Crevasse, and is working toward a

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FORT PIERCE — St. Lucie County Sheriff Lanie Norvell presented Distinguished Service Awards to three youngsters who saved a 24-year-old man from drowning. They are (from left) Wayne Kruse, Ronnie Kruse and Matt Rose.



TAMPA — Stanley R. Doss, a Patrol Sergeant in the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department was recently graduated from the Southern Police Institute at the University of Louisville after completing courses in communications, police administration, personnel management and behavioral dynamics.

degree in criminal justice while attending classes part-time at the University of Florida. He was nominated for the FDLE award by his boss, Sheriff L. J. "Lu" Hindery.

### **James Eckert, Jr. Beverly Walker**

GAINESVILLE — Two employees of the Alachua County Sheriff's Department were chosen as "Outstanding Law Enforcement Officers" by Gainesville Elks Lodge No. 990. Sgt. James Eckert, Jr., and Deputy Beverly Walker were cited for their hard work, dedication to duty and leadership ability.

### **Robert Joye**

PENSACOLA — An American Red Cross Certificate of Merit was presented to Escambia County Deputy Sheriff Robert Joye after his resuscitation efforts saved the life of a man overcome by drinking too much Tequila in a beach bar.

The Red Cross said Joye's action "exemplifies the highest ideal of the concern of one human being for another who is in distress."

### **Frankie Winchester**

PANAMA CITY — After Sgt. Frankie Winchester of the Bay County Sheriff's Department was named "Lady of the Year" by Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, she demonstrated that modesty is the mark of a lady by giving credit to her husband, Bill Winchester, for his supportiveness and to Bay County Sheriff LaVelle Pitts for "allowing me to do what I think needs to be done" in crime prevention. Both Winchesters are employed by the Bay County Sheriff. Frankie was cited by the sorority for her "outstanding achievements and contributions to the community."

### **George Adams**

LEHIGH ACRES — American Legion Post No. 323 recently chose Cpl. George Adams, from the Lee County Sheriff's Department, to receive its Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer of the Year



BRADENTON — Eighteen-year-old Kenneth Harbor (third from left) received praise from Manatee County Sheriff Tom Burton (right), and a \$500 reward from Little General convenience stores officials, after his identification of a suspect helped to solve an armed robbery. The Little General Stores officials are Ray W. Chambers (left) and Roy Hollis. Sheriff Burton praised Harbor for "taking an active role in the safety of his community, and showing the courage to live by his convictions."



OCALA — Capt. Gerard T. King, Sr., (left) who commands the Patrol Division in the Marion County Sheriff's Department, accepted a plaque from Tom Kern, representing the Inverness Vocational Center, after he was chosen as the vocational school's outstanding instructor for the 1982-83 term.

award in recognition of his successful efforts to foil a jail escape and solve a series of theft cases. Sheriff Frank Wanicka praised him for his "awareness, aggressiveness and professionalism in helping to protect the lives and property of others."

### **Charles S. Dean**

CRYSTAL RIVER — For helping to establish a child and spouse abuse program in Citrus County, Sheriff Charles S. Dean received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Crystal River Junior Woman's Club. "We are proud to have a Sheriff who recognizes the importance of this issue," said Public Affairs Chairman Cathy Swartz.



# For Sheriffs --- a Learning Experience

WEST PALM BEACH — Sheriffs attending the 70th Annual Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association here July 17 - 20 participated in a four-day learning experience, and went home well informed about the latest advances in law enforcement.

Their discussions covered a wide range of subjects, including new sentencing guidelines that are being developed for Florida's court system; current reforms in the state's corrections system; the present status of prison industries; and the advantages of using radio-controlled robots in hostage and riot emergencies.

They saw an impressive demonstration of canine police work put on by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department; and they viewed examples of "Crime Stoppers" — television reenactments of unsolved crimes that are being presented to the public in an effort to unearth new evidence and clues.

During coffee breaks, the Sheriffs looked at displays of law enforcement equipment ranging from bullet-proof T-shirts to sophisticated computers. They also toured the recently completed Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Complex, which has been described as the most modern facility of its kind in the state. It includes a spacious headquarters building for the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department, as well as state-of-the-art detention buildings capable of housing 600 inmates.

The conference was held at the Colonnades Beach Hotel, with President Jim Hardcastle, the Sheriff of Sarasota County, presiding. Guests included city, state, and federal law enforcement officers, as well as officials from various government agencies.



Host Sheriff Richard P. Wille (right) and Mrs. Wille with Capt. Robert Meenaghan, who was in charge of transportation for Sheriffs and guests.



Sheriff Walt Pellicer, immediate Past President of the National Sheriffs Association, (right) chats with Cary Bittick (left), Executive Director of the National Sheriffs Association; and Eddie Graham, Tampa wrestling promoter and long time supporter of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund.





Impromptu caucus involving Sheriffs Noel E. Griffin, Jr., Charles S. Dean, W. G. "Buddy" Smith and L. J. "Lu" Hindery.



State Senator Mattox Hair discussed new sentencing guidelines which will be used in Florida's court system.



Sheriffs Lanie Norvell and Joe Peavy discuss law enforcement equipment display with Julius Baker, representing Public Safety Devices, Inc.



Palm Beach County Sheriff Richard Wille (right) expresses appreciation to Thomas S. Waldron for a Conference barbecue which Waldron hosted.



Florida Sheriffs Association President Jim Hardcastle (right) discusses luncheon seating arrangements with Sheriff Jim Scott, Chairman of the Sheriffs Association's Board of Directors.

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Quinn McMillian, Jr., son of Sheriff Quinn McMillian, was one of the youngest guests. He was describing his helicopter ride when this picture was taken.



The final banquet of the conference was held outdoors on the oceanfront.



## For Sheriffs --- a Learning Experience continued

Canine deputies from the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department put on a ferocious display of their law enforcement talents, then allowed themselves to be petted by children who had watched the demonstration.







Sheriffs and guests entering the Criminal Justice Complex.

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHT:

# Sheriffs Tour Palm Beach County's Imposing Criminal Justice Complex

WEST PALM BEACH — Sheriffs attending the 70th Annual Conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association here July 17-20 were given a tour of the new Palm Beach County Criminal Justice Complex which includes detention facilities for 600 inmates and a spacious headquarters building for the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Department.

Completed early in July, the complex has been described by Sheriff Richard P. Wille as the most dramatic achievement in the history of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office.

He said it will alleviate two of his imperative concerns by maximizing the effectiveness of law enforcement services, and reducing jail overcrowding.

The headquarters building houses state-of-the-art crime laboratories; crime prevention, intelligence and crime analysis sections; computer-assisted information management systems; and a computer-assisted communications system.

The Sheriff's main computer center in the new complex is linked to 225 display terminals and 75 mobile digital terminals located throughout the county. This system represents a substantial investment in data processing hardware.

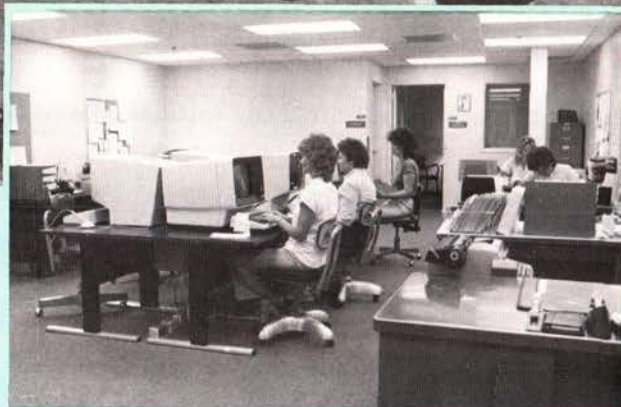
Sheriff Wille said planning and construction of the detention facility was a joint venture he shared with the Board of County Commissioners in response to court orders setting jail population limits, and demand-

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**Criminal Justice Complex, with Sheriff's Department headquarters in the foreground, and high-rise detention facility in the background.**



**The warrants section in the Sheriff's headquarters is fully computerized.**



**The main control center in the detention facility.**



**Substances are identified in this section of the Sheriff's crime laboratory.**





Sheriffs Joe Sheppard (left) and Larry Gilbert check out a water pipe confiscated in a Palm Beach County drug raid.

## Sheriffs Tour Palm Beach County's Imposing Criminal Justice Complex

*continued from page 5*

ing revised correctional facilities.

It is modern throughout and includes a well-equipped hospital ward as well as a courtroom for traffic and first appearance hearings. It replaces two old jails.

Inmates are offered courses in basic remedial reading, the use of a law library, indoor and outdoor recreation, contact and secure visitation, non-denominational religious services, and daily telephone privileges.

Now that the new criminal justice complex is in use, Sheriff Wille and his staff can put a total of 1,052 inmates behind bars. The Sheriff's Bureau of Corrections operates a 100-bed jail in Belle Glade, and a 352-bed stockade in Loxahatchee, in addition to the new facility with its 600-bed capacity.

These detention units require a staff of 277 certified detention officers, and 25-non certified employees.



No bars, no beans, no cabbage. It was not a typical jailhouse luncheon — the one served to Sheriffs and guests.



Sheriffs Joe Peavy, Jim Scott and Bobby McCray on tour.



# A Dream Captured

MIAMI — Stephen O. Corbett had a way with words. Given the right set of circumstances, he might have become a writer — perhaps a poet. But, from the time he got his first toy police car at the age of four, all he ever wanted to be was a police officer.

When he was still too young to wear a policeman's badge, he became a Police Explorer. He was eager to learn everything possible about police work.

After he reached 21, he joined the Metro-Dade Police Department, attended the Police Academy, and went to work as a rookie cop. Life was full and meaningful. He was engaged to marry a rookie policewoman.

Riding on patrol as an observer with Officer Dave Graveline, he often said that police work just seemed to be in his blood. It obviously was, but death came suddenly in the line of duty and cut short a promising career.

On May 28, 1983, just three months after he was graduated from the Police Academy, Officer Stephen O. Corbett was struck by a car and killed while assisting at an accident scene.

A short time later his grief-stricken family found some sheets of paper on which he had been writing his thoughts about police work. They were headed "Day of a Chosen Few," and they were recorded on tape to be presented as a tribute at his funeral.

Officer Graveline sent *The Sheriff's Star* a copy, and we are printing excerpts. Said Graveline: "Stephen's mother speaks of so many people who are never able to reach their dreams . . . of parents who try to discourage their sons and daughters from joining our ranks. She prays that others, like Stephen, will be able to reach their goals and do what he did: demonstrate a sincere desire to help others."

## Day of a Chosen Few

The day begins with the squeak of leather in your hands, then molds itself to your body. Your chest has grown in size, not from swelling of pride, but from the addition of a new layer — a layer of steel and cloth to stop the charge of lead. Oh the dreaded lead one wishes never to encounter.

Your body is ornamented with sparkle . . . you stand out in a crowd. Your garment is smooth and pressed, and your feet shine like mirrors. Your body, once normal, has now undergone a metamorphic change from a normal being to one of charge and sternness.

## Roll Call

You arrive at work and chatter away with friends. Seemingly at times of importance they are the only ones who care. Information from the hours before is given to you in cold, harsh words. Your mind wanders.



Steve Corbett in a photo taken shortly before he was killed in the line of duty.

You are trying to grasp the things that could keep your soul in this ever-changing world.

You gather the tools of your trade and respond to your desk . . . not a commonplace desk, but one on wheels amid constant chaos. Your mind is now set and your heart is alive. You know what is to be done, and you hope you'll be able to fulfill it.

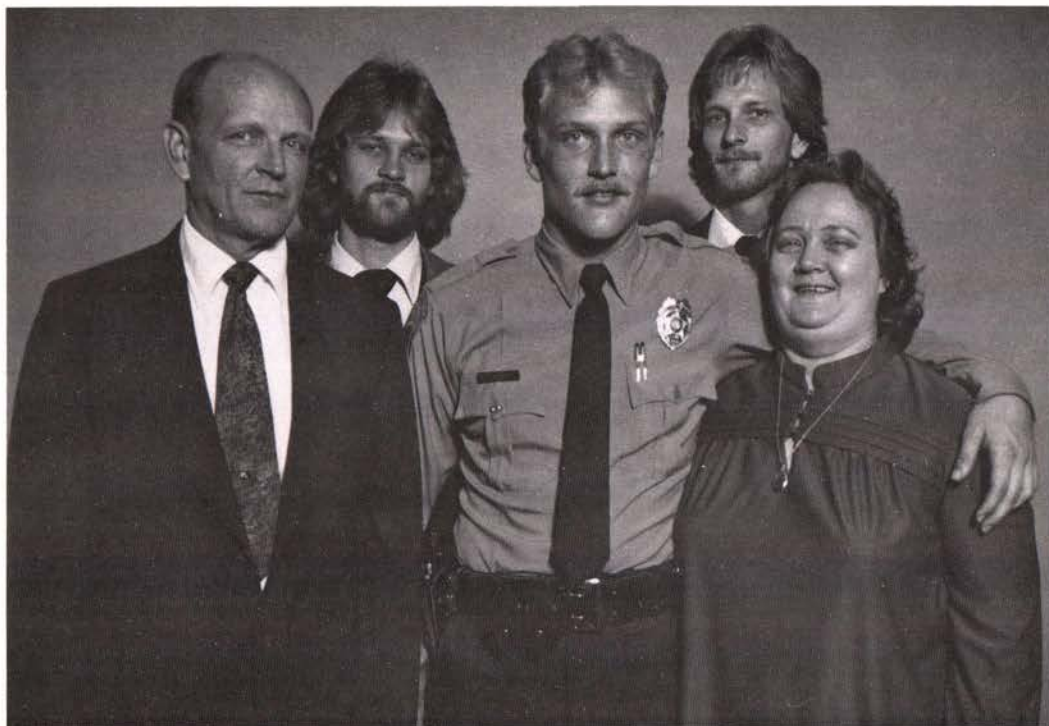
## On Patrol

Your voice is sent into molded plastic and metal plagued with wire and glass. It awakens others unknown to you. It makes them aware of your presence.

You're moving around in view of thousands, yet very few wish to acknowledge your presence. Suddenly the molded plastic and metal begins to send thoughts into your being. You converse back with it and begin your unknown adventure. As you go in body, your mind plays things through, trying to enact the events soon coming. But, before it plays things through entirely you have arrived.

Now many look towards you, some demanding, others questioning. Facts beat off your brain, some with pain, yet some with pleasure. With every available means at your disposal you sort out the chaos, trying to appease all with a common verdict. There are times





Steve Corbett with his parents and two brothers, Jay (left) and Russell.

when it works to everyone's advantage, and times when it does not.

### Looking for Answers

Conflicts arise, then fall. Some last longer than others. You continue to wonder about people, wishing you had all the answers. You hope with time and experience they will all become clear to you. Once in a while . . . conflict unwanted jumps up and announces itself to you.

You wonder why it has to be. You feel the pain wreak through you . . . a process that seemingly never ends, yet eventually does . . . some times by your own hand, but other times by yours and those like you.

You take the freedoms you're sworn to protect away from those you've sworn to safeguard. They see you as cold metal. Contentment of doing right is all the comfort you will receive.

### Your Rewards

There are few rewards given by man in this profession you have chosen, but there are times when rewards step out and give themselves up to you . . . like the soul that did wrong and hurt the innocent, the one that you alone removed to a place of securement. Like the life that you saved, the one that was fading before you. The comfort you shared to many that no one else could give. Finding a soul misplaced and returning it home.

The thanks from people for helping them through a time that seemed impossible to endure . . . the straightening of a life that, without your insight and influence, was heading down the road to destruction. Applying sympathy to the compounded problems of others. Giving guidance to make life work.

### The Will to Survive

You continue on . . . pondering if your soul hangs in the powers of one not yet known. Suddenly, like out of a nightmare, you're at a place and time you wish would never have come about. Yet, it's your quest to make it right. You do what your heart cries out against, but your job dictates. In a shriek of blasting metal you separate the body and soul of a man . . . a man who probably wished he had separated yours.

Your heart hurts like never before, but you know the destiny had to be. You think back to something written long ago:

"The will to live, to survive the attack, must be uppermost in every officer's mind. Fight back against the odds. Turn the tables. Get up off the ground. Seize the initiative. Take every advantage . . . Don't give up! You don't bleed. You don't hurt. You're going to make it . . . You're fighting for yourself . . . to see the kids again. If your attacker knocks your teeth out, swallow them and keep punching. Don't let them waste you in some dirty, stinking alley."

### Going Home

With that quotation ringing in your head you smile a little contentedly, for you know you've come out on top. You did what you had started out to do — to survive the day . . . and now you are going home, tired, but relaxed. You did your job and did it well. You're a policeman, and your job was to safeguard others and you did. So, now the ornaments of your profession are removed . . . the squeaking leather silenced once again until tomorrow.



# 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, Youth Ranch and Youth Camp. 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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UNITED FIRST FEDERAL  
SAVINGS & LOAN  
Sarasota  
HENRY L. WIGGINS, JR.  
Bradenton



GAINESVILLE — After a Small Fry Fishing Tournament raised \$2,700 for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund at McGilvary's Fish Camp, Alachua County Sheriff L. J. "Lu" Hindery presented a Lifetime Honorary Membership and a house plant to the fish camp owner, Mrs. Ernest Wigglesworth.



CLEARWATER — Pinellas County Sheriff Gerry Coleman presents Lifetime Honorary Memberships to the Fraternal Order of Eagles Lodge No. 3452, represented by Joe Blair (left) and Bobby Charles; and to Mrs. Stanley Hawkins, who was accompanied by her daughter and son-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Maken. The late Stanley Hawkins was the Supervisor of the Pinellas County Sheriffs Department Radio Shop at the time of his retirement. Following his death, Mrs. Hawkins donated items from his collection of antique and modern radio equipment to the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch Radio Club.







LeBeuf



Mr. and Mrs. Bivens



Michaud

TAMPA — Hillsborough County Sheriff Walter Heinrich presents Lifetime Honorary Membership plaques to Eugene LeBeuf, of Running Horse Ranch; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bivens; and Rudolph Michaud, representing Metropolitan Insurance Company.

## Builders

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Sanford  
MR. & MRS. EDWARD TESS  
Seminole  
MR. & MRS. GLENN R.  
TREFFINGER  
Tampa  
MR. & MRS. EDWARD L. TURNER  
Oviedo  
V. F. W. POST, NO. 4194  
Stuart  
MRS. HELEN L. VAUGHN  
Charlotte Harbor  
HEINRICH VON KEMENADE  
Bradenton  
MRS. MARGUERITE F. WELLS  
Clearwater  
EDWARD WISE  
Stuart  
MRS. WILLARD O. WOOD  
Port Charlotte  
MR. & MRS. WALTER  
ZIMMERMAN  
Clearwater



FORT MYERS — Lee County Sheriff Frank Wanicka presents a Lifetime Honorary Membership to Mrs. Lee "Butterball" McKenzie.



NEW PORT RICHEY — Pasco County Sheriff John M. Short (left) presents a Lifetime Honorary Membership to Frederick H. P. Schuck.



FORT PIERCE — St. Lucie County Sheriff Lanie Norvell (left) presents a Lifetime Honorary Membership plaque to Larry West, District Manager of 7-11 Stores. West was representing the employees of District 1454 who made a substantial contribution to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund.





**TAVARES** — Lake County Sheriff Noel E. Griffin, Jr., (right) presents a Lifetime Honorary Membership to Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Harter.



**CLEARWATER** — Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch Resident Director Mac Stones (left) presents a Lifetime Honorary Membership to Gordon Calendar and Dave Stocky (right), representing the Clearwater Amateur Radio Club.



**ST. PETERSBURG** — Joe Spenard, Youth Fund Vice President for Planned Giving (right), presents a Lifetime Honorary Membership to Col. Joseph O. Moore.



**CLEARWATER** — Leroy Banks, representing IBM, presented a large cash gift to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund, represented by Joe Spenard, Vice President for Planned Giving.



**GAINESVILLE** — Alachua County Deputy Sheriff John Nobles (right) accepts a Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund gift from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local, No. 2156, represented by Jim Hope.

## Honor Roll continued . . .

**WEST PALM BEACH** — Charles McCutcheon (right), Palm Beach County Undersheriff, presents Lifetime Honorary Membership plaques to Russ Russo for "World of Sound's" West Palm Beach and North Palm Beach stores.





Sheriff Vince Seely (right) presents the proceeds of the Annual Sheriffs Bayfront Run to Jim Mason, Director of Public Relations for the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund.



Led by Sheriff Seely, 559 runners gathered at the starting line.

## Sheriff Runs for Fun--- and for the Youth Fund

PENSACOLA — Hailed as the most successful yet, the Third Annual Sheriff's Bayfront Run held here on July 4th attracted runners from as far away as Colorado, Massachusetts and Montana. One couple among the 559 competitors was from Sweden.

Escambia County Sheriff Vince Seely sponsors the event for the benefit of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund and also runs in it. This year he covered the five kilometer course in 22 minutes, his best time. The winning runner crossed the finish line in less than 16 minutes.

Seely said the annual run has raised over \$5,000 for the Youth Fund in three years, and he plans to continue it in the future. This came as no surprise to Seely's friends and associates, since they are well aware that he is hooked on running.

Seely recently placed fifth in his age bracket in the 6.2-mile run at the Florida Police Olympics, and he is likely to do better next year when he moves up to another age bracket.

## So Those Were the Good Old Days?

TITUSVILLE — The recent retirement of Captain James Garvin after 26½ years of service in the Brevard County Sheriff's Department stirred up dusty memories of "the good old days."

When Garvin was hired in 1956, there were only seven people in the Sheriff's Department. Today there are 377 on the payroll.

In 1956, Brevard County was on the threshold of a spectacular boom brought about by America's space exploration effort. The population was 27,000 then. Today it is 281,000.

Garvin remembers that deputies had to be versatile in the "good old days," and also had to be willing to put in long hours. They worked many 12-hour shifts, six days a week, and often spent their days off in court as witnesses.

In addition to enforcing the law and handling various types of emergencies, they served court papers, knocked on doors to notify citizens of jury duty, delivered ballot boxes to polling places at election time, transported prisoners, and investigated traffic accidents.

Today, the Sheriff's Department is still saddled with similar responsibilities, but modern complexities require deputies to specialize. Gone is the "jack-of-all-

trades."

During his 26½ years with the Sheriff's Department, Garvin advanced steadily until he attained the rank of Major. He also enhanced his professional stature by graduating from the FBI National Academy in 1976.

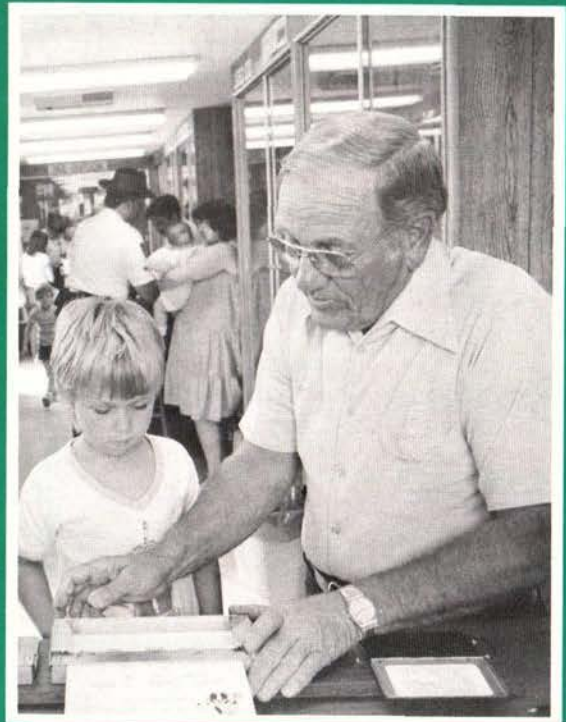
Service as a military police officer and a Florida Highway Patrol Trooper prior to becoming a deputy sheriff gave him a law enforcement career of almost 34 years.



### Seventeen Kilometers for a Good Cause

INVERNESS — These Citrus County Sheriff's Department employees raised over \$1,600 and received a trophy as the top contestants in the annual "Walk America" March of Dimes Campaign. They are (from left) Susan Bowsky, Lorie Vick, Sgt. Robin Moffatt, Patricia Bergerson and Diana Crowder.





## Sheriff Charms (Most) Future Voters



Port St. Lucie News photo

FORT PIERCE — Kids are just naturally captivated by soft-spoken, kindly Lanie Norvell, the Sheriff of St. Lucie County, and he puts his charm to good use. When the new child restraint laws went into effect on July 1, he sweet talked his grandson, Brett McCain, into accepting a federally approved car seat. Later on, when youngsters were going through the strange and sometimes frightening process of being fingerprinted in a crime-prevention campaign, he used his charisma to calm their fears. Apparently it worked — most of the time.