

# the Sheriff's Star



## Old-timer in undercover garb

Bill Eddy (left) shares with Sheriff Neil J. Perry some recollections from his amazing store of law enforcement lore. (See cover story, page 2.)



## It's a good deal

ST. PETERSBURG — Under a contract signed in 1984, the Salvation Army is supervising work release prisoners from the Pinellas County Jail, and Sheriff Gerry Coleman is pleased with the results.

"The program is operating successfully," said Coleman. "Fifteen carefully selected low risk inmates with at least 90 days remaining on their sentences are housed at the Salvation Army Facility, in St. Petersburg.

"These inmates return to the facility each day after work. When they are initially enrolled in the program without jobs, they are assisted in securing employment within ten days."

Once they are employed, said Coleman, each inmate pays \$6 toward the Salvation Army's fee of \$21 per day, per inmate, thereby decreasing the cost to taxpayers.

## Jail system accredited

TAMPA — The Hillsborough County Jail System was recently accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care after an inspection confirmed that the system is complying with the American Medical Association's standards for health service in jails.

In a brief accreditation ceremony, National Commission President Bernard P. Harrison congratulated Sheriff Walter Heinrich; Major David M. Parrish, the Jail Division Commander; Chris LaCourse, R.N., the Health Care Program Administrator; and the medical staff.

## "Doing something right"

PENSACOLA — "Escambia County Sheriff Vince Seely must be doing something right," commented the *Pensacola Journal*, after Michael F. Morris, Professor of Sociology at Pensacola Junior College, reported that the county's crime rate is going down and the crime clearance rate is going up.

According to Morris, who has made a study of crime statistics, the Escambia County crime rate decreased 9.3 percent in 1984 — continuing a five-year trend.



Sheriff Gerry Coleman (right) discusses details of the work release program with Major Richard Ulyat (center), Division Secretary of the Salvation Army; and his Administrative Assistant, Ed Freeh, Jr.



## Dean's "roast" was well done

INVERNESS — The "Charlie Dean Roast" held by the Junior Woman's Club of Crystal River raised \$1,194 for the Officer Friendly Program sponsored by Citrus County Sheriff Charles S. Dean. Shown presenting the proceeds to Sheriff Dean and Deputy Howard Arnold (right), who fills the role of Officer Friendly, are (from left) Marilyn Jones, Pat Deutschman and Anna McElroy.

# the Sheriff's Star

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Aerial view of the new jail. Each of its four "pods" has a rated capacity of 96 inmates. The building at the lower left of the photo is a new repair garage and radio shop.

## Moreland no longer eligible for overcrowded jail roster

OCALA — Although he has been a member in good standing for quite some time, Marion County Sheriff Don Moreland is about to be dropped from the roster of Florida Sheriffs with overcrowded jails.

Moreland is getting ready to move into a new jail that has been described as one of the most modern and up-to-date facilities in the nation. Designed with a rated capacity of 384 inmates, it will provide complete medical and dental facilities.

The old jail that Moreland is vacating was built for a factored capacity of 112 inmates, and during recent months it has been bulging with a record population of 304.

In addition to the new jail, Moreland is also getting a new \$450,000 repair garage and radio shop. This facility will enhance the preventive maintenance program that keeps his fleet of motor vehicles in tip-top running condition. It will also provide modern repair and maintenance services for emergency equipment such as radios, sirens, light bars and plectrons.

Anticipated in the future is a proposed new Operations Center which is expected to be built on the same site as the jail and service building. It will house the Sheriff's Patrol, Major Crimes, Support Services and Communications Divisions.

Ground level view of the new jail.



Ground level view of the repair garage and radio shop.







*This is one of a series of historical articles appearing in **The Sheriff's Star** during 1985 to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Florida Sheriffs Association.*

## *Historical Highlight:*

# Bill Eddy has an amazing store of law enforcement lore from days of yore

ST. AUGUSTINE — Don't let the faded bib overalls and the battered hat fool you. This man, who looks like an underprivileged farmer from the backwoods of north Florida, is a law enforcement legend with an amazing store of lore from the days of yore.

His name is Bill Eddy, and he has an almost unlimited supply of yarns culled from his 46-year career as a city policeman, deputy sheriff, State Beverage Department agent, Governor's investigator, Attorney General's sleuth, and Sheriff.

The country bumpkin outfit was not his normal attire. He only wore it when he was working undercover as a moonshiner and was actually helping to run off batches of 'shine. He managed to look very much like his co-workers, but there were two items that set him apart. One was the small camera concealed under the bib of his overalls, and the other was a hidden tape recorder.

When it seemed that he was just lounging around with his hands tucked inside the bib (as country folks are accustomed to doing) he was actually snapping pictures through a small hole in the fabric.

On one undercover foray into Lake County he let his car get stuck on purpose, and when a man came along to help him, Eddy told him he was from Georgia and looking for a job.

"He was convinced I was in trouble with the law," said Eddy, "so he offered me a job making moonshine. I helped him set up a still and mash it in. Then I arrested him. I had pictures and a recording of his conversation."

Eddy remembers long days and nights concealed in pine woods and swamps watching the activities of moonshiners while battling mosquitoes and monotony.



COVER PHOTO: For this picture, Bill Eddy (left) put on the outfit he used to wear while working undercover as a moonshiner. With him is his present boss, St. John's County Sheriff Neil J. Perry.



Eddy shows Sheriff Perry the hat he received from Governor LeRoy Collins, and the gun and ammunition belt that were given to him by the late Sheriff John Kirk.







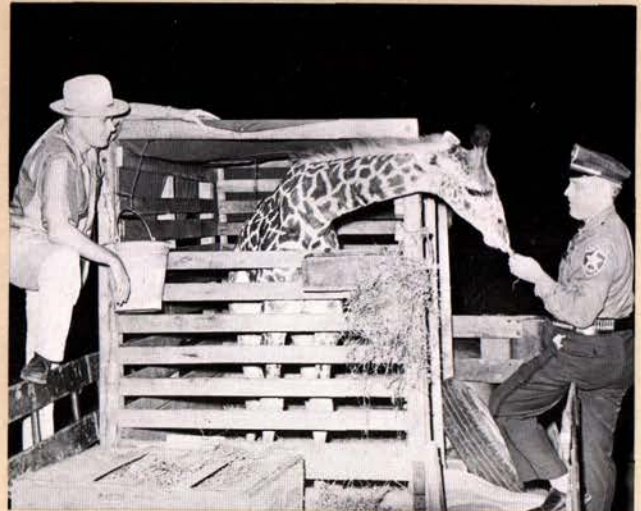
While working as a police officer in West Palm Beach, Eddy patrolled on horseback and also on a bicycle. This picture was taken in 1940.

He also nurtures memories of the police chief from a small north Florida town who was caught in south Florida running a load of 'shine. . . and the moonshine still that was hidden inside an abandoned city bus under a sign that said "this vehicle observes all laws". . . and the annual migration of South Carolina moonshiners who came to Florida for the winter because the warmer climate speeded up fermentation and increased their production capacity.

Eddy learned many "tricks of the trade," and one in particular that caused considerable grief for automobile dealers. He said moonshiners, working in cahoots with a car salesman, would pretend to be shopping for a new car. The crooked salesman would let them take a car out for a trial spin, and, instead of bringing it back, they would use it to run a load of 'shine. The car would be reported as stolen by some shady characters who had been careful not to leave any identification. Eventually it would be found abandoned at the other end of the state and in less than factory-fresh condition.

Moonshiners were careful to conceal their sources of supplies, said Eddy, and this resulted in a "scam" that puzzled a sugar wholesaler through many sleepless nights. The wholesaler was getting complaints that each of the 100-pound sugar bags he was delivering actually contained only 90 pounds of sugar. Eventually an investigation revealed that employees were skimming 10 pounds from each bag and selling it to moonshiners who were willing to pay top dollar for supplies that were almost impossible to trace.

In the era after World War II, moonshining was very profitable, and to get caught hauling, manufacturing or possessing it was only a misdemeanor. "I remember arresting a driver hauling 1,020 gallons of 'shine in a two-ton truck," said Eddy. "He



In addition to a baby giraffe, this carnival show truck carried a hidden cargo of moonshine. Eddy is on the right in the uniform of a Palm Beach County Deputy Sheriff. The year was 1953.



Sheriff John Kirk (left) and Eddy with two confiscated loads of moonshine. Both loads were nabbed on the same night.

was fined \$75 and got his truck back."

Eddy also recalled the night he caught a moonshiner unloading his wares under a streetlight. "I asked him why he was so brazen," Eddy said, "and he told me that for \$2 most cops would look the other way, and for \$5 they would help unload the whiskey."

Eddy said Bobby Lincoln and Municipal Judge Joe Peel, who were later revealed to be co-conspirators in the bizarre murder of Circuit Judge Chillingworth and his wife, once offered him \$1,000 a week to lay off after he and a federal officer confiscated 45,000 gallons of moonshine during a 45-day period.

In those days, according to Eddy, virtually all of the moonshine hauled into southeast Florida was

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Eddy at a moonshine still in Alachua County with Governor Farris Bryant (left) and State Beverage Department Director Richard B. Keating (center). The year was 1964.

manufactured in the piney woods of Baker, St. Johns, Clay and Nassau Counties which formed a crescent around the Jacksonville area.

"They hauled 'shine in everything imaginable — tank trucks, hearses, farm vehicles and automobiles," Eddy said. "I once stopped a truck with a baby giraffe in it and found that the truck had been restructured to haul animals and 'shine — mostly 'shine."

Eddy's great talent as a lawman, his colleagues said, was in building a far ranging network of informers in Florida, Georgia and Alabama. "He had more informers than any law officer I've ever known," said former Baker County Sheriff Ed Yarbrough, who, with the help of Eddy, broke the back of the big moonshining industry in that county in the late 1950s.

Eddy credits the late State Senator Edwin Fraser and former State Representative John Crews (who is now a circuit judge) with giving law officers the muscle needed to crush the moonshine industry. In 1955, when Fraser and Crews were in the Florida Legislature representing Baker County, they sponsored a law that made it a felony to possess, haul or manufacture more than one gallon of moonshine. Under the same law, ringleaders could be arrested for conspiracy.

Armed with this new legal ammunition, the State Beverage Department hired Eddy and Phil Tomberlin as the first state agents with power to operate anywhere in Florida to curb moonshining.

During the next 16 years Eddy and Tomberlin worked all over the state, mostly in cooperation with Sheriffs. They were also assigned as special investigators for several governors and for the



This 1962 photo shows Eddy (left) with Martin County Sheriff Roy Baker (right) and Deputy Sheriff Jim Holt, after they had confiscated a load of moonshine. Holt is the present Sheriff of Martin County.

Attorney General's Office. To facilitate their work, they were often deputized by various Sheriffs, not only in Florida, but also in Georgia and Alabama.

At one point in his career, Eddy was a bonded deputy in 17 Florida counties. He commented recently that he had been a bonded deputy for almost 46 years, having been commissioned numerous times as a courtesy, while holding jobs not directly connected with Sheriffs' Departments.

As a boy growing up on a farm near Holley, N.Y., in the early 1920s, Eddy developed a chronic itch to become a police officer. After high school, he attended a police academy and applied for a job with the New York Police Department. Then, when he discovered that he couldn't qualify because he was 3/4 of an inch short of the 5'9" height requirement, he went to West Palm Beach, Florida, on the strength of a tip that the police department there needed some good men. That was in 1939.

"They hired me on the spot," he said. "I didn't even have to take the civil service exam. I was the first policeman with any formal training to join the force."

Eddy's method of patrolling the downtown area of West Palm Beach was another "first." He made his rounds on the midnight shift riding a bicycle, and, although this European style of patrolling failed to catch on with other officers, it worked well for the young rookie.

Cruising through the streets and alleys on a bike was quieter than patrolling on foot, and he was often able to slip up on a crime scene while the crime was still in progress.





Eddy (left) and Sheriff Ed Yarbrough (standing beside the mule cart) heading out into the wilds of Baker County in search of a moonshine still. The year was 1960.

After he became bored with the bicycle, he switched to patrolling on horseback, but this diversion was brief. The horse he rode had been recovered as stolen property, and he lost his mount within a few weeks when the owner was located.

These unconventional shenanigans didn't seem to bother Eddy's boss, Police Chief Robert Milburn. The only advice he gave to Eddy was: "Don't be too quick on the trigger, and don't play petty politics — that's my job."

At the outbreak of World War II, Eddy enlisted in the Coast Guard and was later transferred to Navy Intelligence because of his police training. In the Navy he was assigned to George Owens, who later became a crime-fighting Assistant Attorney General in Florida and spearheaded crackdowns in which Eddy was involved as an investigator.

After the war, Eddy returned to police work in West Palm Beach. In 1952, he was hired by Palm Beach County Sheriff John Kirk, and became the Captain in charge of the Sheriff's Road Patrol.

At this point, Eddy was in the early stages of his long career as the nemesis of Florida's moonshine industry. He was also having some run-ins with the notorious Cash gang whose members were terrorizing south Florida with violent crimes, and this prompted Sheriff Kirk to give him a .38 revolver and ammunition belt which Eddy still keeps among his souvenirs. The Sheriff was concerned about Eddy's habit of frequently going around unarmed.

In 1955 Eddy went to work for the State Beverage Department, and, because of his broad experience in police work, was frequently borrowed for special investigations by the Governor's Office, the Attorney General's Office and various State Attorneys.

On one occasion, his assignment from the Governor was to close down a highway speed trap that was being operated by a small town police officer in central Florida. In preparation for the task, he put on his faded bib overalls, battered straw hat and old

*(continued on next page)*

## From the Book of Moses

Asked to pick the law enforcement men who have qualified for his personal "hall of fame" during the past 46 years, Eddy gave the following list:

Former Baker County Sheriff Ed Yarbrough, who also served as Executive Director of the Florida Sheriffs Bureau; former State Attorney Bill Hopkins, from Tallahassee; Martin County Sheriff Jim Holt; former Assistant Attorney General George Owens; Bradford County Sheriff Dolph Reddish; and the late John Kirk, former Sheriff of Palm Beach County.

Eddy said he admired these officials for their ability and fair dealing. "These men walked right out of the Book of Moses," he added.





At a social gathering of law enforcement officials in Tallahassee, Eddy volunteered to play the organ. With him are (from left) State Comptroller Bud Dickinson, Leon County Sheriff Bill Joyce and State Attorney Bill Hopkins.

brogans. Then he went cruising through the small town in an old junker of a car.

Right on cue, the police officer pulled him over and informed him that he would have to pay a speeding fine of \$25 or go to jail.

Eddy said he was just a hard working farmer from Macclenny who had been having a lot of bad luck and he didn't have \$25.

The officer's response was to lower the amount of the fine, but Eddy patiently continued to explain that he didn't have \$15 or \$10 or even \$5.

"O.K.," said the Officer "follow me to the jail." When they arrived at the jail the officer said, "I really hate to put you in jail. How much money do you have?"

"Two dollars and some change," said Eddy.

"Oh hell," said the officer, "give me the two dollars and keep the change."

At that point Eddy revealed the the tape recorder that had been running on the seat beside him, and the camera with which he had been taking pictures through a hole in the bib of his overalls.

Closing down the speed trap was only one of many assignments Eddy handled for the Governor's Office, and he did his work so well that Governor LeRoy Collins presented him with a brand new Stetson to replace the old straw hat that had become his undercover trademark.

In 1967 Governor Claude Kirk demonstrated his confidence in Eddy by appointing him Sheriff of Jefferson County to fill a temporary vacancy. Eddy ran the Sheriff's Department for a brief interim period, then remained with the Department for a year as an acting deputy after his successor was sworn-in.

When Eddy retired from the Beverage Department in 1979, Governor Bob Graham commended



Old-timers will remember these law enforcement officials who were photographed while attending an FBI seminar in Tallahassee. They are (from left) Bill Eddy; Police Chief Cherry, from Madison; Frank Stoutamire, Tallahassee Police Chief and former Leon County Sheriff; Simmie Moore, Madison County Sheriff; and Joe Peavy, the present Sheriff of Madison County.

him as "a giant among people in law enforcement," and presented him with a revolver.

Since then he has been working part time for the St. John's County Sheriff's Department, and collecting additional experiences for his memoirs.

His present duties include serving notices on people who are threatened with losing their homesteads because they have failed to pay their real estate taxes. This is not a pleasant or rewarding task, but he has been praised for the considerate and compassionate manner in which he handles it. Apparently he spends almost as much time helping unfortunate people to avoid losing their homes as he does serving papers.

"This man does a tremendous job," said St. John's County Sheriff Neil J. Perry, Eddy's present boss. "The Tax Deed Notices and civil papers he serves are mostly the ones with bad or difficult addresses, but it seems no matter how vague the address, Mister Eddy can always find the person he's looking for."

Although Eddy is now 69 and no longer on front-line duty in Florida's war against crime, he seems delighted with his present situation. After all, he's still where he has always wanted to be — in the law enforcement business.





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## Historical Highlight:

### Hanging witness remembers the "strange quiet" just before the trap was sprung

GAINESVILLE — For readers of *North Florida Living* magazine, John Paul Jones recently described how he played hookey from school on February 24, 1922, to witness Alachua County's last hanging.

He said he tried to get into the jail yard where a scaffold had been built, but was chased away, and ended up in a camphor tree where he was screened by foliage, and yet could see the scaffold and the crowd inside the jail yard.

People were all over the top of the high board fence that surrounded the jail yard, and the jail yard was packed.

The condemned man was John Bowyer, 23, who had been convicted of murdering a deputy sheriff. He had spent the morning of his last day with his minister and friends, praying and singing hymns. Shortly before noon Sheriff P. G. Ramsey appeared in the jail yard with the prisoner, who was smoking his last cigar.

"Bowyer mounted the scaffold steps without difficulty," said Jones, "and stood with head bowed while his minister offered a prayer, and there was more singing, and still another prayer.

"My most vivid memory of this part of the event was Bowyer's statement to the crowd, in which he advised those assembled to go to church and stay away from bad women and whiskey. And then he added that neglect of Sunday School had brought him to the gallows.

"In this solemn moment I resolved never again to miss Sunday School."

A newspaper account published right after the hanging said Bowyer "made no plea in extenuation of his crime, but declared he had made his peace with God.

"Sheriff Ramsey then read the death warrant... and the prisoner showed extreme agitation and swayed unsteadily... but when he spoke his voice did not tremble.

"As the noose was placed about his neck he implored the Sheriff to pull it tight, and then, his face hidden by the black cap, called to the witnesses to meet him 'in the land of rest.' The trap was sprung by the Sheriff at 12:00 p.m., and 12 minutes later the physicians pronounced the culprit dead."

Said Jones: "That is the way it was reported, but what I remember most was the strange quiet just before the trap was sprung with a loud thump. It was as if everyone had stopped breathing. The birds were still. There was no breeze. There were no sounds from town, a scant three blocks away. The whole world seemed to have halted in its tracks.

"And then, as the trap fell away and the body dropped through the trap door, there was one gigantic sigh as people exhaled. Some fell off the fence as they forgot to hold on, and several dropped out of the trees and hit the ground like sacks of meal or grits.

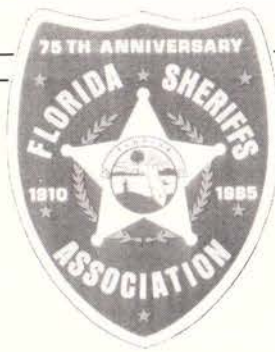
"There were a number of 'amens' and 'oh my Gods!' and some left the area hurriedly with their hands over their mouths."

Jones said he dropped out of the camphor tree and ran as fast as he could. "To this day I don't know why I ran," he added, "except that I wanted to get home and see my mother and know that everything was all right."



This photo was taken in Bradford County during the hanging of Hersey Mitchell, who is shown standing under the gallows. Bradford County Sheriff S. B. Denmark, who was responsible for carrying out the execution, was behind other witnesses including Alachua County Sheriff P. G. Ramsey (white shirt and suspenders), and Duval County Sheriff W. H. Dowling. The date was July 18, 1918.





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## *Historical Highlight:*

# Sheriff praised for “stopping the mob” after five were killed and 32 wounded

TAMPA — Thousands of people milled in the streets. There were cavalry charges and the rattle of machine guns fired from behind sandbag barricades. Militiamen carried rifles with fixed bayonets. Tear gas bombs exploded. Fifty frenzied men using a heavy timber as a battering ram smashed a hole in the jail wall. Jail windows were riddled by snipers' bullets. Searchlights swept back and forth through the smoke picking out running figures. The Sheriff's car was overturned and set on fire.

This was an attempted lynching that had just about everything in the catalogue of mob violence. Classed as one of the wildest emergencies in Florida's history, it occurred in Tampa in 1927 and lasted through four nights. Five people were killed and 32 wounded, but law and order prevailed, and there was no lynching.

Here is how the *Literary Digest* reported it in the issue of June 18, 1927:

“From Tampa dispatches we learn that a white resident of the city — a self-confessed murderer — had been arrested. The law apparently was moving as rapidly as could be expected, when a mob attacked the jail in which the prisoner was confined. Repulsed, the mob returned the following night, and again the next night.

“‘They had murder in their minds,’ according to the commanding officer of the militia that was sent by Governor John Martin to the scene, ‘and stern measures were necessary.’

“The rioting started in an effort to lynch B. F. Levins, held responsible for the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Merrell and three of their children. Saturday night and Sunday night (May 28 and 29) a mob gathered around the jail. It increased Monday night, and in two sallies the jail was attacked, a hole being rammed in the brick wall. Troops were called out Tuesday morning.

“The mob formed again Tuesday night and per-

sisted in its purpose until the troops' fire had mowed down 21 persons, four of whom subsequently died of their wounds. (A fifth victim died later.)

“The militiamen had posted their infantry guards, with rifles and bayonets. Machine guns, snipers' nests, tear bombs, and sandbag barricades were set up by guardsmen in their defense of an area surrounding the jail. In addition, mounted troops and artillerymen carrying side arms were patrolling the lines.

“All traffic was barred from an area four blocks in every direction. Searchlights were brought in play, and held in readiness to forestall another attempt to congregate in the vicinity.

“Sergeant Davis, leading a detail of 16 soldiers, was felled by a brick hurled by a hoodlum. The sergeant ordered his men to fire their pistols, and six of the mob fell.

“It was estimated that more than 2,000 persons were in the throng that milled about outside a roped-off area on the four sides of the jail, their shouts and curses being punctuated here and there by scattered shots from their own ranks and the rattle of machine guns and bark of pistols as the guardsmen returned the fire.

“Cavalrymen dashed through the eddying mass of humanity in an effort to scatter the throng, but their frequent sallies failed to do more than open temporary lanes which quickly were closed again.

“The second clash came after midnight when a mounted trooper was pulled from his horse. Members of the crowd fired into a group of soldiers who ran to his aid, and the troops answered with machine gun fire.

“A number of those treated at hospitals said they were several blocks distant from the danger zone at the time they were shot. One victim was at home in bed when six bullets, one of which hit him in the thigh, tore through his house and struck a brick wall next door.





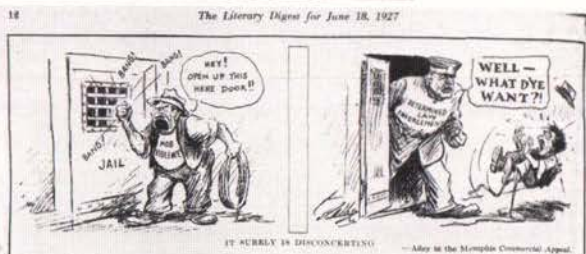
Hillsborough County's old jail which was described as "mob proof" by a leading national magazine after a lynching attempt was thwarted in 1927.

"As darkness fell tonight (June 1) 1,000 deputy sheriffs sworn in at a mass meeting of citizens and officers . . . were patrolling the entire city in groups of ten. They had orders to disperse any groups of over three persons."

In Michigan, the Grand Rapids *Press* said, "The nightmare is over . . . Tampa has set a salutary example by standing up for a government of law against rule by mob violence."

Other newspapers in the north and south made similar comments, and Hillsborough County Sheriff L. M. Hiers was praised nation-wide as "the man who stopped the mob."

Said the Kansas City *Star*: "The Tampa incident suggests that the mob spirit is not simply a manifestation of racial antagonism. The victim sought in this case was white. The offense with which he was charged, that of murdering an entire family, was serious enough. But it called for a speedy trial and a strict execution of justice, not for more lawlessness and crime."



#### HOW TAMPA TREATS LYNCHERS

"IT WILL BE A LONG TIME," predicts the *Savannah News*, "before Tampa has another riot." The three nights of conflict about the Hillsborough County jail, in the Florida city, culminating in the deaths of five persons and the wounding of thirty-two others, was "bad business," admits the *Baltimore Evening Sun*, "but it would have been worse for the sheriff and the national guardmen to permit the mob to murder a prisoner in their hands." The officials are receiving commendation in both Northern and Southern dailies on their successful resistance to the Tampa mob during three nights of rioting. They have set an example, we are told, that county authorities throughout the country should emulate. "A little hot lead and a measure of cool courage will have more effect on a mob than months of preaching and volumes of threats," declares the *Columbus Ohio Star-Journal*. "Only the most severe treatment will cure a mob of its folly," agrees a *Southern daily*, the *Winston-Salem Sentinel*. To quote the *Savannah News* further:

"The lesson to be learned from the Tampa incident is that mob rule is dangerous and grows unless they are given a sharp blow when they first begin to gather and before they get the idea that the authorities are afraid of them. Once they get that idea into their heads, it takes time and often bloodshed before the mob spirit gets out of them and they begin to see conditions normally again."

"The Tampa soldiers did not want to fire on their fellow citizens; but their fellow citizens should not try to make the law a joke, and should not fire on the authorities and the troops. The Guard's duty was to defend the law, and also at the cost of killing and wounding mob members, if it defied the law."

"The mob members took the position that the man they were authority to kill him." The law alone, by due process, has that right. Either the laws must be torn up and thrown away or the mob must be defeated."

From Tampa dispatches we learn that a white resident of the city—a self-confessed murderer—had been arrested. The law apparently was moving as rapidly as could be expected, when a mob attacked the jail in which the prisoner was confined. Heaped the mob returned the following night, and again the mob night. "They had murder in their minds," according to

the commanding officer of the militia that was sent by Governor Martin to the scene, "and stern measures were necessary." According to Associated Press dispatches from Tampa, the first of which is dated June 1:

"The rioting started in an effort to lynch B. F. Lewis, held responsible for the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Merrell and three of their children. Saturday night and Sunday night a mob gathered around the jail. It increased Monday night, and in two rallies the jail was attacked, a hole being rammed through the brick wall. Troops were called out Tuesday morning."

"The mob formed again Tuesday night and persisted in its purpose until the troops' fire had moved down twenty-one persons, four of whom subsequently died of their wounds. The militiamen had posted their infantry guards, with rifled bayonets. Machine-gun, sniper, gas, tear gas, and snatching batteries were set up by guardsmen in their defense of the area surrounding the jail. In addition, mounted troops and artillerymen carrying side arms were patrolling the lines. All traffic was barred from an area four blocks in every direction. Searchlights were brought in play, and held in readiness to forestall another attempt to enter the jail in the vicinity."

"Sergeant Davis, heading a detail of sixteen soldiers, was killed by a brick, hurled by a hoodlum. The sergeant ordered his men to fire their pistols, and six of the mob fell. It was estimated that more than 2,000 persons were in the throng which swelled about outside a rapid-off area on the fourth side of the jail. Their shouts and curses being punctuated here and there by scattered shots from their own ranks and the rattle of machine-guns and bark of pistols as the guardsmen returned the fire."

"Cavalrymen dashed through the eddying mass of humanity in an effort to scatter the throng, but their frequent falls failed to do more than open temporary lanes which quickly were closed again."

"The second clash came after midnight when a mounted trooper was pulled from his horse. Members of the crowd flung into a group of soldiers who ran to his aid, and the troops answered with machine-gun fire. A number of those treated at hospitals said they were several blocks distant from the danger zone at the time they were shot. One victim was at home in bed when his bullet, one of which hit him in the thigh, tore through his house and struck a brick wall next door."

"As darkness fell tonight (June 1) 1,000 deputy sheriffs were in at a mass meeting of citizens and officers this afternoon were patrolling the entire city in groups of ten. They had orders to disperse any groups of over three persons."

The fifth victim died in a Tampa hospital on June 6, according to another dispatch. "The nightmare is over, but the experience



THE MAN WHO STOPPED THE MOB  
L. M. Hiers, sheriff of Hillsborough County, Florida, of which Tampa is the county seat.

In this photo, reproduced from the *Literary Digest* of June 18, 1927, Sheriff L. M. Hiers was identified as "the man who stopt (sic) the mob."



# Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund Honor Roll



## Roster of Lifetime Honorary Members

A.A.R.P. FOREST  
CHAPTER #3522  
Oklawaha  
MR. & MRS. RENE AERTS  
Orlando  
AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY  
TO POST #25  
Lake Placid  
ARONOW STABLES  
Ocala  
MS. LYNN BAITHOLTS  
Fernandina Beach  
BOBBY BARE  
Nashville, TN  
BARTOW PRINTING COMPANY  
Bartow  
MS. JAN BOWEN  
Delray Beach  
MS. JUDITH R. BROWNSTEIN  
Punta Gorda  
MR. & MRS. HUGH A. BUIE, SR.  
Lake City  
CALVARY EPISCOPAL  
CHURCHWOMEN  
Indian Rocks Beach  
JOHN W. CANADA  
St. Augustine  
RAY CHAMLIS  
Tallahassee  
CITRUS CITY SHERIFF'S DEPT.  
EXPLORER POST 331  
Inverness  
MRS. HUGH M. COACHMAN  
Clearwater  
MR. & MRS. HARRY G. DEEVER  
Homestead  
MRS. SARAH B. DONNELLY  
Akron, OH  
MRS. DORIS L. DOOLEY  
Lake Worth  
MRS. ANN DUNBAR  
Tarpon Springs  
MR. & MRS. R. C. EMMETT  
Belleair  
FLO-RITE MANUFACTURING  
COMPANY  
Sanford  
MR. & MRS. JOSEPH F.  
FOGARTY, JR.  
Ocala  
ROBERT FOGARTY  
Ft. Lauderdale

MISS TERRI GIBBS  
Nashville, TN  
TOM T. HALL  
Nashville, TN  
MR. & MRS. HARRY E. JARRARD  
Middleburg  
LAMAR ADVERTISING  
Ft. Walton Beach  
MR. & MRS. ROBERT LANCASTER  
Pittsburgh, PA  
MRS. EDGAR W. LAWRENCE  
Stuart  
MR. & MRS. ROBERT N. LOWE  
Sarasota  
MR. & MRS. JAMES McCALLEY  
Lighthouse Point  
L. EDWARD McCLELLAN, JR.  
Ocala  
MR. & MRS. PAUL MEISSNER  
Tarpon Springs  
MR. & MRS. ROBERT MELBERTH  
Clearwater  
MR. & MRS. HERMAN E. MODLIN  
Sanford  
MISS KATY MOFFATT  
Los Angeles, CA  
DENNIS MORGAN  
Ft. Lauderdale  
MRS. THOMAS E. MUSGROVE  
Live Oak  
CLINTON NANGLE  
Boca Raton  
NCNB COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
Sarasota  
OPTIMIST CLUB OF EAST ORLANDO  
Orlando  
OSMOND BROTHERS  
Orem, UT  
PALM BEACH MALL MERCHANTS  
ASSOCIATION  
West Palm Beach  
MR. & MRS. PAUL M. PAN  
Adelphi, MD  
PARNELL-MARTIN  
SUPPLY COMPANY  
Jacksonville  
EDWARD D. PAUL  
Indian Rocks Beach  
MR. & MRS. MARTIN H.  
PEDERSEN, JR.  
Tampa

On these pages we give special recognition to generous supporters of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund who have qualified for Lifetime Honorary Memberships in the Florida Sheriffs Association by giving \$1,000 or more to the Youth Fund. Each Lifetime Honorary Member receives a plaque, a lifetime identification card and a lifetime subscription to *The Sheriff's Star*. Under a new regulation which became effective in 1984, those whose gifts total over \$5,000 will receive additional gold stars on their plaques — one for \$5,000, two for \$10,000, and so on, up to a maximum of five stars for gifts totaling over \$25,000.

## Presentations

We regret that photos of Lifetime Honorary Members are not always available when their names appear on the membership roster. Consequently, we often find it necessary to print the names in one issue of *The Sheriff's Star* and the photos in a subsequent issue.



**BOYS RANCH** - Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund President Harry K. Weaver (left), assisted by Youth Fund Regional Director Bill Aust, presents a five-star Lifetime Honorary Membership to Mrs. Thomas Musgrove, of Live Oak. Mrs. Musgrove is the widow of the man whose gift of property in 1957 prompted Sheriffs to locate the Boys Ranch on the Suwannee River, and she has maintained an ongoing interest in the progress of the Ranch.



**DADE CITY** — Pasco County Sheriff Jim Gillum (right) presents a Lifetime Honorary Membership to Thomas Vassalotti, of Hudson.





**BRADENTON** — A generous gift for the Youth Fund was presented to Youth Fund President Harry K. Weaver (left) by Foster Gover, representing the Florida Advisory Commission on Arson Prevention.



**ORLANDO** — Florida Sheriffs Youth Fund President Harry K. Weaver (left) presents a two-star Lifetime Honorary Membership to the Orange County Sheriff's Department, represented by Sheriff Lawson Lamar.



**FORT MYERS** — Lee County Sheriff Frank Wanicka (left) presents a Lifetime Honorary Membership to Arthur L. Bubb.



**TAMPA** - Youth Fund Regional Director Fred (Mac) Stones presents a Lifetime Honorary Membership to the Rainbow Girls of Florida, represented by Mrs. Frances Griffie (left) and Schanna Andrews.



**BOYS RANCH** - Okaloosa County Sheriff Larry E. Gilbert (coat and tie), assisted by Youth Fund President Harry K. Weaver (right), accepts a generous gift for the Youth Fund from Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Asch.

MS. BETTY PETRIE  
Vero Beach  
STEVE PIPPIN  
Nashville, TN  
PERCY L. RICHARDSON  
Venice  
MISS JEANNIE C. RILEY  
Nashville, TN  
RONNIE ROBBINS  
Nashville, TN  
MR. & MRS. W. DANA ROEHRIG  
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HUGH SAMPSON  
Mango  
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Avon Park  
DR. ORSON J. SMITH  
Tallahassee  
MICHAEL SPRIGGS  
Franklin, TN  
MR. & MRS. FRED E. STONES  
Safety Harbor  
SUPERIOR ASPHALT  
COMPANY, INC.  
Mt. Dora  
TAMPA BONDED WAREHOUSE  
Tampa  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
AUXILIARY #8118  
Venice

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
AUXILIARY #10164  
Interlachen  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
AUXILIARY #5718  
Coral Gables  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
AUXILIARY #9986  
Astor  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
AUXILIARY #4225  
Kissimmee  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
Post #4945  
Auburndale  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
AUXILIARY #10477  
Lakeland  
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
AUXILIARY #10478  
Ft. Lauderdale  
DENNIS WEAVER  
Los Angeles, CA  
WEE BIT USED & NEW  
Clearwater  
DR. I. IRVING WEINTRAUB  
Gainesville  
MR. & MRS. RICHARD W.  
WEITZENFELD  
Bradenton

RICHARD D. WELLES  
Arcadia  
WOMEN'S TEAM TOURNAMENT  
Lakeland  
MR. & MRS. WILBUR WOOD  
Alachua  
MR. & MRS. JOHN C. WOODARD  
Port Orange  
MISS TAMMY WYNETTE  
Nashville, TN  
WAOC  
St. Augustine  
WAPG  
Arcadia  
WAVW  
Vero Beach  
WDCF  
Dade City  
WDVH  
Gainesville  
WFFG  
Marathon  
WFIV  
Orlando  
WJSB  
Crestview  
WMMK  
Destin  
WMOP  
Ocala

WOWW  
Pensacola  
WPCV  
Lakeland  
WPLA  
Plant City  
WQHL  
Live Oak  
WQIK  
Jacksonville  
WRKT  
Cocoa  
WSGL  
Naples  
WSUN - RADIO  
St. Petersburg  
WTAN  
Clearwater  
WTNT  
Tallahassee  
WTRS  
Dunnellon  
WVTY  
New Port Richey  
WZST  
Leesburg





# WE SALUTE!



## Frank Worley

OCALA — Marion County Sheriff Don Moreland awarded a plaque to Lt. Frank Worley as a commendation for his effectiveness as head of the Sheriff's Drug Enforcement Unit.

Moreland said the Drug Enforcement Unit, under Worley's leadership, confiscated drugs with a street value of \$3 million, two boats, 65 vehicles, 8 aircraft, 7 weapons, real estate valued at over \$750,000, and more than \$570,000 in cash.

This outstanding record was established over a four-year period, said Moreland, and resulted in solid and successful court cases.

## Thom M. Fair

TITUSVILLE — Recently honored as "Employee of the Year" in the Brevard County Sheriff's Department was Sgt. Thom M. Fair, who is in charge of the Department's Homicide Unit and Commander of the Emergency Response Team.

Sheriff C. W. "Jake" Miller said Sgt. Fair's personnel file contains 52 separate citations for achievements, and 49 certificates attesting to completion of law enforcement training courses. Sgt. Fair is currently majoring in Criminal Justice at Rollins College, and one of his goals is to receive a degree in 1986.

## William A. Freeman, Jr.

KEY WEST — To his long list of achievements, Monroe County Sheriff William A. Freeman, Jr., has added another item by completing the FBI's prestigious Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar.

Held at the FBI National Academy, in Quantico, Virginia,



OCALA — Lt. Frank Worley (left) receives a commendation from Marion County Sheriff Don Moreland for his outstanding drug enforcement work. (See article at left.)



CLEARWATER — Capt. Dennis Neal (right), from the Civil Division of the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department, congratulated Sgt. Floyd Darling, after Darling was honored as "Officer of the Year" for his outstanding service in the mental health field. The award was presented by Pinellas Emergency Mental Health Services.

the Seminar focused on political, social and economic trends that are having an impact on law enforcement in modern times; also labor relations, affirmative action, the executive's role, and dealing with the mass media.



### **Pam Biggs**

**MILTON** — In 1981 Pam Biggs became the first woman deputy to reach the rank of Sergeant in the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Department. Recently she claimed another "first" when she was promoted to Lieutenant and awarded the title of Corrections Supervisor.

### **Jim Garlitz**

**SARASOTA** — Cpl. Jim Garlitz, a decorated Vietnam veteran, has been chosen as the "Employee of the Year" in the Sarasota County Sheriff's Department. His peers selected him on the basis of his work as a member of the SWAT (Strategic Weapons and Tactics) Team; also for his "fair but firm" dealings with his associates and the public.

### **O'dell Kiser**

**TITUSVILLE** — A County Commission commendation was presented to O'Dell Kiser, a Sergeant in the Brevard County Sheriff's Department, after he helped to rescue an injured accident victim who was trapped inside a motor vehicle.



**TAMPA** — In recognition of the heroism he demonstrated when he rescued two children who were trapped inside a burning car, Cpl. William Knowles (right), from the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department, was awarded a \$5,000 educational scholarship by S & A Restaurant Corporation, of Dallas, Texas. He is shown receiving congratulations from his boss, Sheriff Walter C. Heinrich. S & A Restaurant Corporation was represented by Terry Spaight (center).



### **Wilderness camp research completed**

**OCALA** — Dr. Bob Grissom (left), a Criminal Justice professor at Central Florida Community College, presents the results of his research project dealing with youth wilderness camps to Marion County Sheriff Don Moreland, who has been actively involved in the progress of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Camp, a wilderness project.

## **NEW ADDRESS?**

Americans are on the move, and keeping up with changes of address is a six-aspirin headache. Some of our subscribers (bless them) send us their new addresses. Others let the U.S. Postal Service notify us, and the Postal Service charges 25 cents for each new address. If you have a new address, please help us keep our budget in balance by clipping out this form, filling it out and mailing it to:

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In this space, please attach your SHERIFF'S STAR mailing label with the old address and fill in the new address above. Also do the same with name changes and corrections.



During a news conference, Mrs. Doris Stone presented \$45,000 to Sheriff C. W. "Jake" Miller. (Orlando Sentinel photo by Eric Hasert)



## MADD Member volunteers to buy BATmobile for Sheriff

TITUSVILLE — Mrs. Doris Stone, a widow who has firsthand knowledge of the tragedy and grief that can be caused by drunken drivers, recently gave Brevard County Sheriff C. W. "Jake" Miller \$45,000 to purchase a BATmobile (a vehicle used for Breath Alcohol Testing at arrest and accident scenes).

Sheriff Miller said Mrs. Stone, who is a member of Mothers Against Drunken Driving (MADD), lost her husband, Robert, in October, 1983, and a close friend's son, killed in December, 1984, as the result of accidents involving drunken drivers.

A few months ago, said Miller, Mrs. Stone attended a MADD meeting and heard Lt. Vernon Weekly, from the Sheriff's Department's Selective Enforcement Unit, say that the Department urgently needed a BATmobile. Shortly thereafter she volunteered to purchase one, and Sheriff Miller accepted her offer. He said the new vehicle will be identified as the Robert C. Stone BATmobile in honor of Mrs. Stone's husband.

"Mrs. Stone's unselfish gift will increase the effectiveness of our efforts to encourage safe and sensible driving on the highways of Brevard County," said Miller, "and I am sincerely grateful."