

THE SHERIFF'S STAR



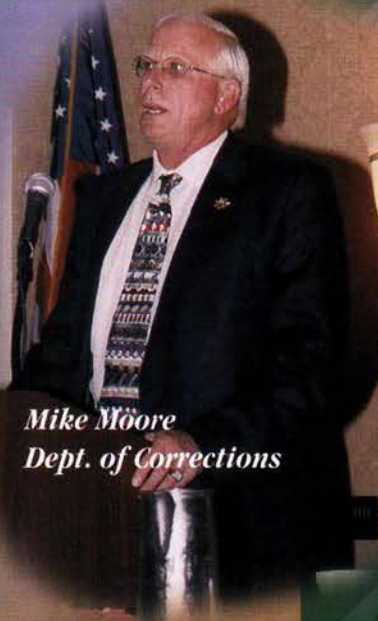
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From the desk of . . .

*J.M. "Buddy" Phillips, Executive Director
Florida Sheriffs Association*

History is in the making. Or, should I say, in the recording.

The Florida Sheriffs History book is in the draft stages, and we will be providing excerpts in the next issue of *The Sheriff's Star*. Many of our members will recall that retired Florida State University professor and historian, William Rogers, and his co-author and Florida Southern College Associate Professor of History, James Denham, have been researching the early Sheriffs for the last two years. FSA plans to help publish the book and will make it available to our members. We hope to have a final draft this summer and have books to distribute as early as the fall.

While we are in the historical mode, it was brought to my attention that we should try to contact all individuals who served as Sheriff and are still living. We could use your help. If you know of a Sheriff not currently in office, please drop us a line and give us the person's name, mailing address, and phone number (if possible) and what county they served along with the approximate dates. Any information you have on these proud law officers is appreciated. Send it to my attention at the address, e-mail or fax number that appears on page 3 (the opposite page from this column).

I'm proud to congratulate Wakulla County Sheriff David Harvey and his agency for achieving statewide accreditation this year. For our readers who may not be familiar with this process, a law-enforcement organization must go through a thorough analysis and review of the entire agency before achieving statewide accreditation. It is not easy for a rural county to reach this status because of the program requirements, and Sheriff Harvey is the first one in a rural county to reach it. Congratulations, Sheriff Harvey, and thank you for setting an example for our other rural Sheriffs to follow.

Other rural Sheriffs are demonstrating innovation, too. I was pleased to be invited as the guest speaker for the first graduation of the joint Suwannee County/Live Oak Police Academy. Unlike any other citizen academies in the state, these two agencies joined forces to create a school for citizens to learn about the law-enforcement process using resources from both the Sheriff's Office and the Police Department. Suwannee County Sheriff Al Williams, Jr., and Live Oak Police Chief Nolan McLeod are to be commended for this unique venture.

On an unrelated note, we were contacted by the Escambia County Sheriff's Office who brought it to our attention that the web site address we gave for them on page 60 of the January/February 2000 issue was incorrect. It should be: www.escambiaso.com. We apologize for our error.

Last, but not least, I wanted to provide an update on our new building. By the time you receive this magazine, we expect to have completed construction and be well into the process of receiving our certificate of occupancy. Our membership department and computer services personnel are anxious for the move and look forward to providing even better service to our members in the near future. Thank you, again, to all who gave of their resources to make this dream a reality for the Florida Sheriffs.

J. M. "Buddy" Phillips
Executive Director

Seat belts save lives

By: Julie S. Bettinger
Editor, *The Sheriff's Star*

If I had a choice, I would never be writing this column. But there's a message that hit home with me recently, and I find myself unable to hold back.

You see, my 18-year-old nephew and godson was involved in an automobile accident recently in Franklin County. He was not wearing a seat belt, and neither were his three friends. Three of the four boys were thrown from the vehicle that Florida Highway Patrol officers say flipped five times. My nephew, Robby Redding, was one of the lucky ones. Though he received a broken neck and is now paralyzed from the chest down – he's alive. His friend,

17-year-old Dale Pullen, lost his life. Two other boys were relatively unharmed physically. Emotionally, we are still not sure.

This was a totally preventable tragedy. Had the four-some been wearing seat belts, they more than likely would have remained in the vehicle and survived the accident – traumatized, perhaps – but without serious injury. But what can you tell teenagers? They feel invincible, unrestrained – and the idea of a tragedy like this happening to them is unfathomable. So, of course, they don't bother to buckle up.

Yes, Florida has seat belt laws. But they have no teeth. Very few people realize that a law-enforcement officer cannot stop a vehicle for this offense alone. The driver must be breaking another law of the road before they can issue a citation for not buckling up.

In the 2000 Legislature, this could change. And the parents of both my



Robby Redding

nephew and Dale Pullen are praying that lawmakers will recognize the insanity of having a law you can't enforce. We hope lawmakers will make it a primary offense, so patrol officers can help get the message out: Seat Belts Save Lives.

Traffic crashes are the No. 1 cause of death among children and young adults. More than 6,300 young people ages 15 – 20 are killed every year in traffic crashes; more than 600,000 are injured. Safety belts are the best form of protection against injury or death. They lower risk by 45 percent. You are four times more likely to be seriously injured or killed if ejected from a vehicle – a common occurrence when a person is unrestrained.

Why am I writing to the Florida Sheriff's Association members, since more than likely, you are already seat belt proponents? Because you can help get the message out. YOU can serve as a role model by not allowing anyone – child or adult – to ride in your vehicle unless they buckle up. You can tell this story and the hundreds more just like it to your teenager or your grandchild. It may be just what makes the difference.

Gary and Debbie Pullen, the parents of Dale, are doing what they can to make a difference. They have joined forces to educate teenagers about the dangers of not wearing a seat belt. They produced 8,000 bumper stickers with the simple message: Buckle Up for Dale. They arranged to have a billboard erected with pictures of their son and the dates 1983 – 2000 with the same message the week before Spring Break.

If you would like to help in a more formal way, contact Terry Henry, Buckle Up Florida, 850-473-7071 or via e-mail: thenry@uwf.edu.



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Winter Conference Highlights

The setting for the Florida Sheriff's Association Mid-Winter 2000 conference was serene. The San Destin Hilton, located within the San Destin Golf and Beach Resort in Northwest Florida, is relatively quiet in January. Rest assured, your Florida Sheriffs livened it up with a crowded business agenda, vital networking and attention to the speakers who traveled from great distances to deliver their messages.

On these pages, we offer a glimpse of the important events during the three-day conference, held January 30 – February 2.



Illegal activity is finally paying off. During the conference, Calhoun County Sheriff Buddy Smith (at left) received \$1.5 million, which represented a percentage of proceeds from forfeiture funds collected due to illegal activity in his county. The case involved a money-laundering scheme. In a similar crime-fighting effort, Jackson County Sheriff John McDaniel received a check in the amount of \$208,000 (pictured at right).



With the 2000 Legislature ahead, the Florida Sheriffs held spirited discussions on issues related to crime-fighting legislation. Many bills are started on the local level. Pictured here, Pasco County Sheriff Lee Cannon was making a point to his fellow Sheriffs about unique circumstances in his part of the state.



Florida Rep. Allan Bense addressed the Sheriffs, since they were visiting one of his district's counties. He said Florida is one of the most liberal states in terms of representation of death row inmates. The legislation passed during the special session will address the problem. "Sometimes we have so much sympathy for the convicts and not enough for the victims and their families," he said.

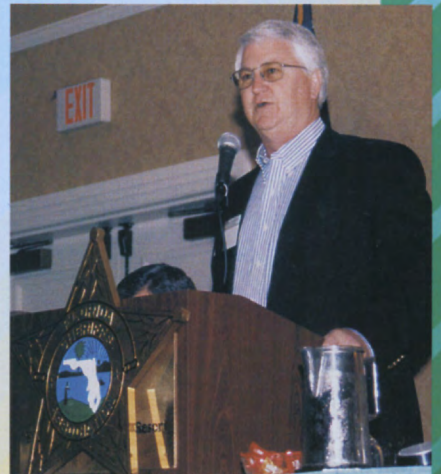


Walton County Sheriff Quinn McMillian served as the host Sheriff for the FSA Mid-Winter conference held at the Sandestin Hilton in Sandestin, Florida. It was a record crowd with 90 exhibitors and 57 Sheriffs in attendance.



Brad Thomas, (standing at right) former Council Director for the House Criminal Justice and Corrections Council, received one of FSA's legislative awards. Usually reserved for Senators and Representatives, the Sheriffs decided to make an exception. Thomas, now policy coordinator for the public safety unit of the Governor's office of Policy and Budget, is credited with working with the Sheriffs over the years to make needed reforms.

Lt. Gov. Bobby Brantley



John Hunt, Jr., president of the Hunt Insurance Group, helps oversee the Florida Sheriffs Self-Insurance Fund. He presented safe driving awards to a number of Sheriffs for their agency's driving record or improvement.



Numerous dignitaries appeared before the Florida Sheriffs during the annual Mid-Winter conference. Former Lt. Gov. Bobby Brantley was among them (at right) as was the current Lt. Governor Frank Brogan (above).

Several state department heads attended the conference to update the Sheriffs on what their agencies are doing to boost efforts in law enforcement. Pictured here is Department of Corrections Secretary Mike Moore. In his remarks, Florida Department of Law Enforcement Commissioner Tim Moore (no relation to the Corrections Secretary) said he was more encouraged by the state of public safety than he's been in a long time. "We've got a governor who takes actions and doesn't just talk about it. We've got a legislature who listens. And we now have a sentencing policy that makes some sense." And yet, he warned, there's still much to be done. Internet crimes are posing new challenges and FDLE is working to address them.



Dotti Burkett, Elder Intervention Specialist for the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, gave a very moving presentation on the plight of Florida's 3.5 million senior citizens. Only 12.7 percent of the U.S. population are seniors, while the Sunshine State's seniors represent about 19 percent of the population. Burkett and her team were appealing to the Sheriffs who don't have a TRIAD program in their communities to start one. TRIAD provides crime prevention programs, victim assistance, emergency preparedness, telephone reassurance and intergenerational activities geared to protect our elderly population. Twenty-four of the 67 counties have TRIAD, Burkett says. She offered assistance in getting the balance on board.



The Sheriffs heard from former Youth Rancher Thaddeus Bullard. He is a former Parade American Senior, and is now an Honors student and top defensive end on the football team at the University of Florida. FSYR president Roger Bouchard recalls when he first met Bullard as a 13-year-old. The boy was six foot one inch and 180 pounds. He was holding a basketball with the tips of his fingers – upside down. Bullard told the Sheriffs that the best thing the Youth Ranch taught him was how to deal with adversity. "I've been blessed with a lot of opportunities in my life," he said. "The greatest opportunity was the financial help, love and care I received at the Boy's Ranch." Bullard said he's planning to go to graduate school after graduation this May.



Sheriff's office turns night into day

By Steve Olson

*Seminole County Sheriff's
Office Public Information
Officer*

Darkness has long been the ally of the wrongdoer. Robbers lurk in it as they wait for victims. Burglars use it as cover to make off with property in the night. Stalkers hide in the shadows. But now, thanks to military technology in the hands of law enforcement, darkness no longer offers refuge for ruffians.

In keeping with Seminole County Sheriff Don Eslinger's efforts to use advanced technology to fight crime, deputies now have night vision goggles at their disposal. The night vision equipment was obtained through a one-year lease from the U.S. Navy. Each of the six district offices, the aviation unit, auto theft and the agency's drug and vice units have them. In all, the Seminole County Sheriff's Office is leasing 22 of the night vision goggles at a cost of \$300 per unit.

The devices convert ambient light — such as starlight — into a greenish hue that allows the user to see objects or people hidden in the darkness. Some deputies report depth perception is a little challenging at first with the goggles, but they quickly get used to it. Overall, the users have favorable reviews. In fact, some deputies report that the darker



the conditions, the better the goggles seem to perform.

"It allows the deputy to turn night into day," says Sgt. Brett Davison. "It turns night-time into a tactical advantage."

Seminole County started using the goggles December 31, 1999. Already, they've helped solve crimes and rescue victims. On January 11, a stalker hiding in bushes in the dark of night was flushed out by Seminole County Sheriff's deputies who could see him as plain as day. January 30, deputies located a suicidal woman hiding in the darkness along a road; she was threatening to throw herself in front of an oncoming vehicle. February 12, two overdue boaters were located in darkness on the Wekiva River by the Seminole County Air Rescue 3 Helicopter. The crew was using the night vision goggles. The goggles have been used to locate tres-



The Seminole County Sheriff's Office has used special-issue Navy night goggles to crack down on crime and improve rescue efforts. They have been used both on the agency's helicopter and on the ground for everything from locating a suicidal woman hiding in the bushes, to catching trespassers and locating boaters stranded on the Wekiva River.

passers as well as secure search perimeters in the darkness.

Leasing the night vision equipment is relatively inexpensive, and the U.S. Navy is more than willing to help.

"You can't go out and buy night vision for \$300 a pair with a warrantee," says Sgt. Davison. "And, the paperwork to get these goggles for the agency was extremely easy."

For more information on how night vision has helped Seminole County deputies, contact Sgt. Brett Davison, Seminole County Sheriff's Office Special Operations, at 407-324-2151. For those interested in helping agencies secure night vision equipment, contact Steve Roberts, U.S. Navy, at 812-854-5847.

Letters to The Editor

Readers:

Our November/December 1999 issue with the cover story "K-9s Take to the Air" brought a lot of mail. Several readers suggested a name for these "officers." Here are some suggestions and comments from two readers:

"Flying for 29 years in the military, I have seen first hand how certain animals really enjoy flying in all sorts of flying vehicles. In this era of acronyms, I thought the Sheriff's Office might use BARK-9 Team (Basic Airborne Ranger K-9s)."

T.N.T.
Jacksonville

"Being our Airborne Paratroopers and Special Airborne Forces have a motto 'Ninth From Above,' how's the motto for the airborne Sheriffs' K-9s - 'K-9s from above?'"

Editor:

Greetings to our Florida Sheriffs Association and members. Your courage and bravery portray the best that is in our state of Florida. The people respect and admire you all.
L.A.P. and family
Ormond Beach

Editor:

I have been a member of the FSA since 1970, although I left Florida in 1984. I didn't join the (law enforcement associations) at my present home, for all they wanted to do was to lobby for increased punishment and more prisons. The Florida Sheriffs Association not only acts to arrest wrongdoers, but also tries to keep potential lawbreakers out of trouble with its Youth Ranches and programs. The association works at law enforcement, but also has a heart.

H.T.
Oro Valley, Arizona

Editor:

Just a line to tell you I have received your magazine for nine years. It is a very helpful magazine for all the information you give. I was in the public safety department in New Jersey and know what those men (and women) have to put up with. Your last magazine was great. We enjoyed the story about the K-9. He is great. Keep up the good work.

WJB, New Port Richey

Editor:

I am a member of the Police Insignia Collectors Association of Great Britain and my main hobby is collecting American Sheriffs and Police memorabilia. I have a number of police helmets from various English Police Forces that I would like to trade or sell. Would it be possible for you to mention this in your magazine to see if any of your readers might be interested in trading with me?

J.W.
England

Editor replies:

Sorry. The Florida Sheriffs Association receives many requests from collectors, but it is not part of our direct mission, so we are unable to provide this service. We also fiercely protect the privacy of our members and sharing such information would not be in our best interest. Judging from the volume of mail we receive from collectors, would probably warrant a full-time job devoted to answering these requests. If there are associations dedicated to collecting, we would be happy to publish the contact information in future editions of the Sheriff's Star and on our web site.

Editor:

Congratulations to you and your staff for the Year 2000 production of the Sheriff's Star Annual Guide to Government. This tabulation is one of the finest I have ever seen; even superior to national level publications - by far!

This informative publication should be in each high school library in the state of Florida.

Again, congratulations!

W.E.
Via e-mail

Editor:

I read, with interest, the letter from Robert G. Burdewick (November/December 1999 letters). I had been looking for information as to how to prevent unwanted and unsolicited calls for some time and decided to take advantage of his suggestion. I appreciate the effort by Mr. Burdewick, but found that it is not entirely accurate.

Upon calling the toll free number and after going through a series of prompts you are instructed to do as follows: If you wish to stop

Front cover of the
November/December
1999 issue



receiving those calls you are to send a check for ten dollars to (a Post Office Box) for each residential or cell phone telephone number for which you want to have calls of this type prevented. Nothing was mentioned about this being an annual charge.

Again, thanks to Mr. Burdewick for bringing this to the forefront and I hope this supplemental information will be helpful to others.

D.H.B.
Via e-mail

Editor replies:

It seems as though this process changes frequently. A recent call to the number 1-800-HELP-FLA stated that you need to get an application on the Web site: www.800helpfla.com, or stay on the line to speak to an operator to have an application mailed to you. The form says the initial fee is \$10 per phone number, with \$5 for annual renewal.

HAVE A COMMENT?

If you would like to send a comment, please write: Editor, The Sheriff's Star Magazine, P.O. Box 12519, Tallahassee, FL 32317-2519, or e-mail them: jbettinger@flsheriffs.org.

While we are not able to publish every letter, or answer them personally, we will to our best to get your comments represented in these pages. Please write legibly.

We reserve the right to edit for space considerations. For privacy reasons, we will only publish the initials and city or county of the writer unless authorization is given.

The 1999 FSA Correctional Officer of the Year

By Tom Berlinger
FSA Director of Operations

The Florida Sheriffs Association is proud to announce that this year's Correctional Officer of the Year is Lt. Susan Sibbald of Hendry County.

Lt. Sibbald first started working for a Sheriff's office 24 years ago in Lee County, where she was hired as a Communications Operator. In 1980, she went through the academy and was certified as a correctional officer.

In 1997, she left employment as a shift commander in the Lee County Jail when she was offered the position of Jail Administrator for Hendry County Sheriff Ronnie Lee, shortly after he won the election.

Today, Lt. Sibbald is not only the Jail Administrator, but she doubles as the commander of Hendry County's Communications Division as well.

Sibbald is responsible for overseeing a jail with nearly 200 beds, and she supervises a staff of 40 correctional officers, along with the 12 dispatchers that work in the communications center.

Sibbald has established several innovative programs that have saved thousands of dollars for the taxpayers of Hendry County. In fact, a deal that she struck with a local Entenmann's Bakery outlet to donate day-old baked goods to their jail resulted in a savings of over \$67,000.

Always looking for ways to improve the overall operations of the Sheriff's office, Sibbald restructured their computerized jail management program, updating the system from only one computer to a total of 10. Under her guiding

hand, the Sheriff's office was able to land a federal grant that enabled them to initiate a Drug Interdiction Program. That resulted in introducing a laser voice telecommunications system and the jail video security system (both inside and outside the facility) that had never existed before, a project that has successfully helped in the reduction of the drug trade in the Hendry County community.

Sibbald has achieved other accomplishments as well. She was able to secure funding for the LiveScan Automated Fingerprinting System that immediately enters every person arrested in Hendry County into the state's database in Tallahassee.

She also started the first class inside a jail facility in Southwest Florida that helps the defendant in domestic violence cases to receive professional counseling on a voluntary basis. The counseling teaches defendants the root causes of domestic violence

and the reasons why a person is likely to commit acts of domestic violence. To date, 142 offenders have attended, and only 16 of them have re-offended.

Despite being in a primarily administrative post, Sibbald is not afraid to get involved in hands-on work when presented with a problem.

In March of 1999, Lt. Sibbald was driving home from work when she overheard the dispatch center trying to get any nearby patrol unit to respond to a serious car crash with life-threatening injuries. The closest deputy was 15 minutes away, but Sibbald was nearby and volunteered to respond. Upon arriving at the scene, Sibbald had her hands full. A pickup truck had overturned, trapping a 17-year-old male in the vehicle and ejecting his 13-year-old sister on to the shoulder of the road.

The girl was unconscious and bleeding profusely from the neck and shoulder



At center, Lt. Susan Sibbald, Hendry County Sheriff's Office Jail Administrator, is congratulated by FSA President Bay County Sheriff Guy Tunnel (left) and Hendry County Sheriff Ronnie Lee. Sibbald has a long track record of suggesting and implementing improvements which have resulted in a significant savings for taxpayers and an improved delivery of services.

area. Sibbald quickly assessed the scene, and with no medical supplies or equipment, she had to improvise as best she could. She fashioned a compress by taking the sock off of the injured female and stuffing the sock with pages that she tore from the victim's schoolbooks. She then applied pressure to the lacerated area. The girl held on to life for a while, but unfortunately, despite everyone's best efforts, she died in the ambulance on the way to the hospital.

It did not escape Sibbald that this horrible tragedy might have been averted had the two youngsters been wearing seat belts. So, in the aftermath of the incident, she contacted the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) and asked what she could do to make children more aware of safe driving habits.

Sibbald aggressively worked with DOT on their "Buckle-Up Florida" campaign. She personally spearheaded a drive that raised over \$2,000 in private contributions to purchase 33 child safety seats that were later distributed to low-income families in Hendry County. She then took it a step further by organizing a class that teaches individuals the proper way to install child restraint seats. Her valiant efforts caused Florida DOT to name her DOT's 1999 Officer of the Year for Southwest Florida.

In her on-duty and off-duty time, Sibbald can be found working in many community service projects that help to improve the quality of life in Hendry County. Among the things she's involved in are: The Hendry County Traffic Safety Team, the local Sexual Violence Task Force, the Hendry County Truancy Prevention Program, the local Domestic Violence Task Force, the Department of Juvenile Justice Council and their local Juvenile Justice Task Force.

After hearing all this, it is easy to see why the screening committee looked upon Sibbald's nomination with great interest, and why they chose her as the 1999 Florida Sheriffs Association Correctional Officer of the Year.

The runners-up: Laura Ann Colston, Leon County; and William Hogan, Broward County

The first of two runners-up is Correctional Officer Laura Ann Colston of Leon County. Colston has been employed with the Leon County (Tallahassee) Jail since 1994. She's assigned to the jail's medical division. Her typical day includes transporting inmates to appointments with medical doctors and psychological screenings.

The event that caught the eye of the award panel occurred on July 30, 1999, at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital. Colston had taken an inmate to the Emergency Room and was waiting for the inmate to receive routine treatment.

At the same time Colston was at the E.R., a Florida State University police officer had brought in a Kentucky fugitive identified as Wallace Ray Bolus. Bolus had apparently been acting strangely during his arrest and was combative. So, officers decided to have him examined by a physician prior to taking him to jail.

Unfortunately, during the medical exam, Bolus successfully wrestled the service revolver away from the FSU police officer and shot him in the arm and torso. Without hesitation, Colston jumped into the middle of the fray when she saw the officer down. Without regard for her own personal safety, Colston and another FSU police officer entered into the potential line of fire and dragged the wounded officer to safety.

Colston and the FSU officer began pursuit of Bolus. The fugitive fled to a nearby bathroom and locked himself inside. Bolus fired a shot through the door, and Colston and the FSU officer returned fire, pinning him in the room until the tactical team arrived from the Tallahassee Police Department. Shortly thereafter, a shot sounded inside the bathroom. Bolus had killed himself rather than surrender.

Deputy William Hogan

The other runner-up was Correctional Deputy William Hogan of Broward County. Hogan has been involved in law enforcement/corrections since 1987, and in 1999, he was involved in a couple of incidents that warranted special attention from the awards panel.

One of those incidents occurred on October 9, 1999, when an inmate attempted suicide. Hogan jumped into the situation and saved the inmate's life, earning him a Sheriff's office in-house award for heroism.

But, about 4:30 in the morning on March 20, 1999, Hogan did something very special and unique that earned him even greater accolades.

On that morning, Hogan was driving a marked prisoner transport vehicle in the neighborhood of the 700 block of North Federal Highway in Fort Lauderdale when he smelled smoke. He tried for several minutes to determine the source of the odor, and finally found a small amount of smoke coming from a second-floor apartment. The fire department was called, but Hogan and Sgt. Kevin Finn of the Broward County Sheriff's Office decided that they needed to gain entry into the apartment before the fire units arrived.

After clearing a resident out of an adjacent apartment, Hogan forced his way through the door, and led the way up through a smoke-filled stairway. Inside the apartment they found some furniture ablaze. In a search through the smoky haze, Hogan found a resident that was disoriented and unable to exit the apartment on his own. Hogan assisted the resident out of the apartment, down the stairs, and outside the building to safety.

Crisis Intervention Training teaches law enforcement how to deal with the mentally ill

*By Donald G. Turnbaugh
National Alliance for the
Mentally Ill of Florida*

"I don't know how I've done my job for the past 12 years without this training," said Cpl. Pete Serchio, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (PCSO). Cpl. Serchio was addressing fellow officers at the second 40-hour course of Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for Law Enforcement Officers in how to handle persons with mental illness in crisis. For the 60 deputies and police officers from four counties and 15 agencies, hearing these words last August gave a great deal of credibility to the course.

In March 1999, Cpl. Serchio was one of 35 officers to complete Florida's first-ever CIT course. Since then, several Sheriffs' offices throughout the state have completed, are planning to complete or have inquired about CIT for their officers. Seminole County Sheriff's office conducted a course; Hillsborough County joined with Tampa Police Department to do likewise, and Polk and Orange County Sheriffs' offices are in the planning stages.

To arrive at this point was no small task. It all started in July 1997, with the Mental Health Coalition — a Community Partnership comprised of advocates, providers, consumers, practitioners, state government officials, politicians, and other interested parties concerned about the treatment and care of individuals with serious mental illnesses. Joining the group at that time were representatives from four law-enforcement organizations: Pinellas County Sheriff's Office and Largo, Clearwater, and St. Petersburg Police Departments. Their participa-



Pinellas County Sheriff Everett Rice is one of the presenters of the Crisis Intervention Training program.

tion was a welcomed addition, for they knew where the "roadblocks" to acceptance would be found and how to avoid them.

The Coalition had learned of a recognized, highly successful, long-term program in the Memphis Police Department called Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT) which ensures that specially trained officers receive all calls relating to "mental disturbances." Lt. Gary Herbein of the Pinellas County Sheriff's office, traveled to Memphis to evaluate their program. Upon his return, he assumed a role of leadership in the Coalition to ensure that a "Florida Model" of CIT became a reality. The Coalition's goals were not only reached, but exceeded, as 95 officers were trained in 1999 and more courses were scheduled for 2000.

The CIT course is comprised of 15 sessions over five consecutive days in field and classroom settings. Initial sessions address, in every day language, the types of mental illnesses — their signs, symptoms, medications, and their devastating side-effects which causes persons to go off prescription medications and turn to street-drugs for "self-medication." Also

stressed is that when a person is delusional or hallucinating, they lack the insight to make a rational decision, follow the most direct command, or answer the simplest questions.

One-third of course-time is spent interacting with persons with mental illness (consumers) or family members in group or individual discussions. These non-threatening "encounters," where neither the individual nor the deputy is in crisis, are the essence of the course. Other components cover involuntary commitment laws (Baker Act), geriatric and adolescent mental health issues, personal experiences, role-playing encounters, and the issues of stigma and discrimination. So far, evaluations by participants after completion of the CIT course have been extremely positive.

Evidence indicates that where CIT is in place, injuries to officers and citizens drop dramatically, and persons with mental illness are taken to places of treatment and not to jail. Because CIT is a time-saving, cost-saving, and life-saving program, it satisfies the needs of both law enforcement and the families of loved ones who have a mental illness.

The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI), which spearheaded this worthy endeavor, plans to take CIT statewide and eventually nationwide. For information about CIT, call Lt. Gary Herbein at: 727-582-6293 or Donald Turnbaugh at: 727-942-8140.

Editor's note: The author, Donald Turnbaugh, served five years with the Baltimore Police Department in the early 1960s, and retired from the U.S. Customs Service in 1995 as Special Agent in Charge. He was President, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) Pinellas County for two terms (1998, 1999). Currently, he is the Chairperson of NAMI Florida's Decriminalization Committee and is an Honorary Member of the Florida Sheriffs Association.

Orange County Swat Team finishes third overall in competition

By: Beverly Thornton
Field Services
Orange County Sheriff's Office

Seventy five teams came to Orlando to determine who was tops in SWAT at the Annual SWAT Round-up. By the time the last round was fired, the last obstacle was scaled and the last gasp was heard from the obstacle course, the Los Angeles Police Department was deemed top dog in the world of SWAT.

Orange County Sheriff's Office Gold Team placed third and Brevard County Sheriff's Office was seventh giving Florida two teams in the "Top Ten." Four other Florida agencies made the list: Orlando Police Department Black Team, Lakeland Police, Cape Kennedy Space Center and Cape Coral Police Department.

Seventy-five teams from across



Teams came to Orange County from all over the U.S. to prove who is tops in SWAT. Orange County SO finished third overall. Orange County Sheriff Kevin Beary is accosted by his SWAT team. A big bear hug for the Sheriff.

the nation and Europe were at the agency's range between November 8 - 12 to compete in a series of physically and mentally demanding events.

While the interagency competition is the focus of the Round-Up, the event also provides participants with state-of-the-art training on SWAT-related issues and a forum for over 80 vendors to showcase the latest equipment available to SWAT teams and law-



enforcement agencies.

The SWAT Round-Up is recognized internationally as the premier competition and training event for Special Operations Teams. The Florida Sheriffs Association congratulates our Sheriffs Offices and police departments for their hard work.

Crossing Guards have their day

Sgt. Rolando Silva, with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, was curious. Was there any day in the year to recognize the work of crossing guards?

After all, they spend countless hours assisting our children across busy intersections and assuring their safety — with hardly any thanks and very little, if any, compensation.

In Silva's research, he found, in fact, there was no such day. With help



from Rep. Howard Futch (R-Indialantic), chairman of the Law Enforcement and Crime Prevention Committee, Silva and the Palm Beach Sheriff's Office was able to get that changed.

This past January, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush proclaimed February 4 "Crossing Guard Appreciation Day."

In his proclamation, Governor Bush stated, "We realize that Crossing Guards often encounter adversarial, dangerous and sometimes hostile attitudes from individuals who are more concerned with their own personal agendas than the safety of school children." Governor Bush offered crossing guards best wishes and urged all communities to join in the annual observation.

Educating parents and children to "Cease Fire"

By: Karen Pesche
Director, More Health in Tampa

Every two hours, a child is killed with a handgun. Have you talked with your child or grandchildren about firearm safety?

Some communities are urging this and more. In 1998, a group of concerned individuals and organizations formed a broad-based community effort in Tampa called "Cease Fire." This group is comprised of representatives from area hospitals, law enforcement, private companies, the Hillsborough County school system and local charitable foundations.

The goal of Cease Fire is to decrease the number of injuries and deaths due to firearm violence, particularly among young children. The group seeks to educate children and adults about firearm safety and remove unwanted guns from the street.

Three successful efforts have taken place since Cease Fire's formation: a gun buy-back program, a firearm safety classroom education program for third graders and an evening community education program for the entire family.

The first buy-back, held in Hillsborough County in 1998, brought in 1,300 firearms. Participants were given \$40 gift certificates from Wal-Mart stores. The following year, the program was extended to Manatee, Pasco and Sarasota counties. A record 1,926 firearms were collected – including AK47s, semi-automatics, sawed-off shotguns and numerous handguns. Gift certificates from Beall's Department Stores or Winn-Dixie Market-



Cease Fire is a program that includes a Firearm Safety component for children and adults. Pictured from left are law-enforcement presenters: Corp. Sankar Montoute, and Deputy Karen DiPaola, both of the Hernando County Sheriff's Office; Lt. George McNamara and Officer Ann Marie DeMesa, both of the Tampa Police Department.

place were the donors' reward.

What motivated everyone's participation? Some people said they were concerned about having a firearm around the house where their children might find the gun and accidentally injure themselves or someone else. Others said they just didn't want to take the chance that their firearm would end up in the hands of a criminal.

Corporations lending a hand

In response to the increase in school violence, Cease Fire took an important next step – providing firearm safety education.

As one of the group's community sponsors, Tampa General Hospital's More Health program created a Firearm Safety curriculum for third graders. It fit in with their already successful health and injury prevention program which reaches 80,000 children annually in the Hillsborough County public and private schools.

Corporate sponsors, such as More Health, make all the difference in

efforts such as Cease Fire. "The More Health organization has done a tremendous job of building a solid, well-structured program," says Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Harold Winsett. "These instructors, along with our deputies, do a great job of grabbing and holding the attention of these kids. In the near future, I believe we will begin to see a dramatic decrease in firearm accidents among the children exposed to this program."

A Hillsborough County deputy or Tampa Police Department officer joins the instructors in classrooms to teach. Students learn to make smart decisions in potentially dangerous situations involving firearms.

Through the use of hands-on materials, including "Mr. Bones" the skeleton, the anatomy apron and real x-rays, students become aware of how important it is to keep their bodies safe from injury or death involving firearms.

continued on next page

Reaching the whole family

Cease Fire's Community Firearm Safety Education evening program for the whole family provides an overview of the in-school curriculum. A school representative discusses safe school policies and procedures and an intensive care pediatrician explains the physical and psychological effects of firearm trauma.

Then law-enforcement officers discuss laws and provide a gun lock demonstration to show how to secure a firearm safely. Each family is offered a free gun lock.

Cease Fire participants believe in a well-rounded approach to reducing violence through firearms. That includes teaching children firearm safety procedures, sponsoring gun buy-backs and community education

for the entire family. Cease Fire hopes to become a model for other communities to prevent further violence, injuries and death due to firearms.

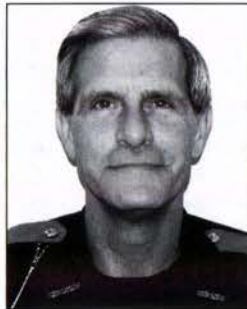
For more information on Cease Fire and the More Health Firearm Safety Curriculum, contact Karen Pesce, director of More Health, 813-258-6366 or call: 813-253-GUN1 (4861).

Sheriff's commitment brings results

*By: Jim Lyle
Public Information Officer,
Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office*

Santa Rosa County Sheriff Jerry Brown made a New Year's resolution last year. He resolved that in 1999, he would make Santa Rosa County a much safer place to live. He committed to reducing Part 1 crimes by 20 percent and to doubling the number of Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrests.

Sheriff Brown adopted a community-based policing program called SMARTCOP, which stands for "Sheriffs Managing Available Resources



Through Community Oriented Policing. SMARTCOP is not a new concept in law enforcement. What set Santa Rosa County's program apart from other similar programs was that it contained a deputy activity rating. Every task that a deputy might perform during a shift is assigned an equal value. That total value is divided by the number of hours worked to achieve an average rating established by the district the deputy works.

SMARTCOP re-energized the entire Sheriff's Office, and deputies stopped traffic violators as never before. Because deputies were stop-

ping so many violators, DUI arrests went up more than 300 percent from 196 in 1998 to 618 in 1999. As of this writing, a third of those cases have gone through the courts and 97 percent either pled guilty to the offense or a lesser offense. Only nine cases went to trial.

One unanticipated benefit resulted from deputies "getting inside" so many vehicles: Part 1 crime decreased by 31 percent by the end of the year. Enough offenders were among those being stopped and word spread, so either the felons were going somewhere else to commit crimes or they were minding their manners while in Santa Rosa County.

Monroe County S.O. receives kudos for protecting domestic violence victims

The Monroe County Sheriff's Office has been recognized by the National Domestic Violence Hotline (NDVH) for its outstanding service to victims of domestic violence. This special recognition was awarded for providing the VINE program (Victim Information and Notification Everyday) for its citizens.

"VINE allows victims of domestic violence to know the whereabouts of their attacker and to obtain – for free – important inmate information by phone, anytime day or night," says Sheryl Cates, executive director for the NDVH. To date, the domestic vio-

lence hotline has responded to over 91,000 calls — most of which required a referral to a program like VINE, she says.

Thanks to Monroe County Sheriff Rick Roth, this potentially life saving program is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Victims of domestic violence and any other type of crime may call the toll-free VINE line to obtain custody information or to register for notification of release, transfer or escape of an offender. For shelter and other information, the hotline is available any time from anywhere, 1-800-799-SAFE.

"VINE is an important program which benefits the victim of any type of crime," says Sheriff Roth. Anyone in the community who wishes to find out the status of an arrested suspect in a criminal case may call the VINE Hotline, he says. "We feel strongly that by putting this program in place, we are saving lives."

This article was originally published the Monroe County S.O. newsletter, "Rap Sheet."

Everyday heroes: SO teams up with BellSouth to avert tragedy

By: Gary Davidson
Public Information Officer
Volusia County Sheriff's Office

"Harley, are you still there. Listen, I need you to stay awake with me."

That was the "urgent plea from Volusia County Sheriff's Telecommunications Supervisor Frank Sclafani, who had just been handed a call involving a suicidal 50-year-old Port Orange man.

The victim had no idea where he was. He had driven deep into the woods near Daytona Beach and gotten stuck in a ditch. Professing his desire to end his life, the victim had consumed alcohol and prescription medications and then connected a hose from his exhaust pipe to pump deadly fumes into his vehicle.

And the situation was about to get considerably more complicated.

Sclafani learned that the suicidal man doused his trailer with gasoline and hooked up a space heater to a timer - rigging the trailer to burst into flames within 40 minutes.

Thanks to the alert actions of Sclafani, patrol deputies, a Sheriff's aviation unit and vital information provided by BellSouth Mobility, the call was resolved without injury. The team managed to cut the power to the man's residence just two minutes before the timer was set to go off.

All involved are deemed heroes for their teamwork, speedy response and cool actions under fire.

At a ceremony recognizing the group's work, Volusia County Sheriff Bob Vogel said, "You all are to be high-



Volusia County Sheriff Bob Vogel (third from right) presented certificates of appreciation to officers and BellSouth Mobility employees who participated in an unusual and highly complicated effort to rescue a suicidal man and divert a tragedy. The man had rigged his mobile home to blow up just two minutes before law enforcement was able to cut the power to the home and disable the booby trap.

ly commended for the way you worked together to bring the call to a peaceful conclusion. Your actions helped save a life and avert a real tragedy."

The incident began shortly after noon on December 30 with a call to BellSouth Mobility. While driving around, the victim picked up his cellular phone and decided to make a call. However, his account had been suspended for non-payment and his outgoing call was automatically routed to BellSouth's Customer Financial Support Center, where Reidaliz Rohena picked up the phone.

Rohena immediately recognized that the caller was despondent and needed help. She gently persuaded him to give enough information to assist authorities. Through the victim's Social Security number, Rohena was able to pull up his account and obtain vital information, including his name and mobile telephone number. Rohena also was alert enough to ask him identifying information that would help deputies locate him, such as the make, model and color of his car and his approximate location.

After obtaining the information, Rohena signaled for a supervisor, Kelly McBride, who quickly contacted technical support to determine what tower the victim was talking from in order to get an approximate fix on his location. Meanwhile, McBride dialed 911 to relay the pertinent information to the Sheriff's Office Communications Center.

In their last critical action, McBride and Rohena worked together to quickly free up the victim's wireless account to enable the victim to receive incoming calls on his cellular phone, thereby allowing law enforcement to make contact with the man.

That's where Sclafani and the Sheriff's Office came in.

Sheriff's telecommunicators quickly relayed the information about the victim's booby-trapped residence to the Port Orange Police Department and Port Orange Fire Department. Air One and Sheriff's patrol units were also dispatched to the vicinity of the Tiger Bay Wildlife Management Area to search for the victim. At the same time, Sheriff's Office personnel maintained contact with the victim to get information about his surroundings.

With Air One's help, Sgt. Derrick Clark and Deputy David Shaw located the victim at 12:46 p.m. and transported him for a mental health evaluation.

Port Orange units at the victim's trailer went door-to-door to evacuate approximately 30 surrounding residences. They located the outside electrical breaker box to shut off the power to the home at 12:58, only two minutes before the timer was set to go off.

Thanks to the team's fast actions, a life was saved and a public safety threat was neutralized.

Parents finding "Saturday Boot Camp" a deterrent for troubled teens

By: Katie Jones, Drill Instructor Program Coordinator Orange County Sheriff's Office

Operation Transformation, the Orange County-based Saturday Boot Camp Program, saw 416 at-risk youth graduate from the program in 1999. Although the six-month Boot Camp closed its doors last November, the Saturday Boot Camp is still in operation and is serving youth from all of Central Florida.

Operation Transformation has more than 22 Saturday Boot Camps scheduled for this year and is serving as a model for weekend boot camps throughout the state of Florida.

The Saturday Boot Camp is an early intervention program that provides an intensive and structured environment for males and females, ages 10 to 15. Operation Transformation provides guidance and direction for first-time offenders and offers an avenue of intervention for parents trying to guide their child away from incorrigible or delinquent behavior. Any Orange County parent who has a child with disciplinary problems can place their child in the Saturday Boot Camp to help get their child back on the right track.

Operation Transformation is a collaborative effort between the Orange County Sheriff's Office and the Orange County Board of County Commissioners. The program utilizes deputy sheriffs who have received specialized drill instructor training. These deputies come from all areas of the agency including Court Services,



Saturday boot camp participants practice teamwork throughout the day, as they clean up Orange County streets and neighborhoods. Pictured here, the boot campers load up a garbage truck.

School Resource Officer, Auto Theft and Field Services.

The program involves two consecutive Saturdays for the juvenile "recruits." The first Saturday includes an orientation, physical training, drill, ceremony, group counseling sessions for juveniles and parents and various classes of instruction. It also includes an in-depth tour of the Orange County Correctional Facility.

The second Saturday involves physical training and a work detail project that allows the recruits to learn the value of "giving back" to the community. The work detail projects in 1999 have focused on all areas of Orange County. Some of these areas include the clean-up of local streets near a new children's park, laying sod, digging drainage ditches, removing trash, painting and cleaning area elementary schools. These 416 juveniles completed 2,496 hours of work for Orange County in 1999 which saved the taxpayers \$13,104.

Surveys to gauge the satisfaction of parents who enroll their children in Operation Transformation have also been positive. Seventy-five percent of parents reported that their child's behavior improved since completing the program and 82 percent of parents reported that



Dep. Ed Kelly welcomes a new recruit to the Orange County Sheriff's Office Saturday Boot Camp.

their child's attitude has improved. Also, 98 percent of parents said they would recommend Operation Transformation to other parents.

Operation Transformation relies on referrals to enroll juveniles into the program. Juveniles are referred by many different sources including Orange County Juvenile Court, Department of Juvenile Justice and area schools. Deputies can also refer children to the program or hand a brochure to a family that has a problem child and is looking for help.

Parents can place their children in the program without an outside referral. The fee for a child to attend with a referral is \$20. The fee for a parent to enroll the child without a referral is \$35.

For additional information about the Boot Camp, contact Katie Jones, Orange County Sheriff's Office: 407-836-8025.



FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION HONOR ROLL

This honor roll gives special recognition to individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to progressive law enforcement by supporting the Florida Sheriffs Association as honorary members for 25 years or more.



PUTNAM COUNTY - Gold Business Member plaque presented by Putnam County Sheriff Taylor Douglas (right) to Kevin Bass of Hi-Way Mart.



OKALOOSA COUNTY - Gold Business Member plaque presented by Okaloosa County Sheriff Charles W. Morris to Jeff Kaplan of Gulf Coast Treatment Center, Inc.



DIXIE COUNTY - Gold Business Member plaque presented by Dixie County Sheriff Dewey Hatcher (right) to Ray Middleton of Cross City Marine.



DIXIE COUNTY - 25-year certificate presented by Dixie County Sheriff Dewey Hatcher to Mrs. James McBain.



BAKER COUNTY - 25-year certificate presented by Baker County Sheriff Joey Dobson to James H. Gamel.

LEVY COUNTY - 30-year certificate presented by Levy County Sheriff Ted Glass to Viola Dart on behalf of she and her late husband, Lester Dart.



PASCO COUNTY - 25-year certificate presented by Pasco County Sheriff Lee Cannon (right) to Walter Cole.



Raymon Scott



Carl Laffert



Jack West



Celeste Long-Lillie



Charles Stewart



Lanny Burdge



Frank Kabase



Ernest Roberson

OKALOOSA COUNTY - 30-year certificate presented by Okaloosa County Sheriff Charles W. Morris to Celeste Long-Lillie, Charles Stewart, Lanny Burdge, Frank Kabase and Ernest Roberson.



FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH RANCHES HONOR ROLL

On these pages we give special recognition to generous supporters of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches who have qualified for Lifetime Honorary Memberships in the Florida Sheriffs Association by giving \$2,500 or more in cash or \$5,000 or more in non-cash gifts to the Youth Ranches. Each Lifetime Honorary Member receives a plaque, a lifetime identification card and lifetime subscriptions to *The Sheriff's Star* and *The Rancher*. Those whose gifts total over \$5,000 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.

New Lifetime Honorary Members

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Adams
Mr. and Mrs. David Ahlgrim
David Attman Foundation
Mr. Phyllis Baker
Mrs. Josette Banks
Barbaron, Inc.
Maj. K. D. Barber
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Baughman
Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Best
Best Western & Pink Shell
Resort – Fort Myers
Beach

Ms. Eva L. Bilbrey
Ms. Lorena Bitetto
Mr. James M. Bittman
Mr. James Bower
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Mr. and Mrs. Oscar B. Kirk
Mr. William M. Korp
Mr. and Mrs. John Kostnik
Dep. William J. Kuchar
Ltc. Albert C. Lang, Jr.
Mr. Paul Langford III



ALACHUA COUNTY – Presented by Alachua County Sheriff Steve Oelrich to Robert Bender.



COLUMBIA COUNTY – Presented by Columbia County Sheriff Frank Owens to Mr. and Mrs. Dale Fournier.



HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY – Presented by Youth Ranches Development Officer Michael Eurich (right) to Acting Commander Helen A. Chaffin on behalf of the American Legion Post 334.



Louise Daniels



Mr. and Mrs. Virgle Goforth



John Holden

CITRUS COUNTY – Presented by Citrus County Sheriff Jeff Dawsey and Youth Ranches Development Officer Frank Kenny to Louise Daniels, Mr. and Mrs. Virgle Goforth, John Holden, Peter Monteleone, Anne Poniatouski, Walter Russell, and Eugene Thompson.



Peter Monteleone



Anne Poniatouski



Walter Russell



Eugene Thompson

continued on page 19

YOUTH RANCHES HONOR ROLL CONTINUED . . .



Grace A. Mirsch

LEE COUNTY – Presented by Youth Ranches staff to Grace A. Mirsch and Jan Bermillion, South West Florida Cable Advertising, who routinely runs the Youth Ranches Public Service Announcements.



Jan Bermillion



MANATEE COUNTY – Presented by Youth Ranches staff to Gary Brethauer.



OKALOOSA COUNTY – Presented by Okaloosa County Sheriff Charles W. Morris to Mr. & Mrs. Franklin Rogers.



Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Luckey

MARTIN COUNTY – Presented by Martin County Sheriff Robert L. Crowder to Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Luckey and Constance Moog Sillman.



Constance Moog Sillman



Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Behnke

MARTIN COUNTY – Presented by Martin County Sheriff's Office Colonel M. F. Mann (left) to Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Behnke and (at center) to Dr. and Mrs. James Simpson.



Dr. and Mrs. James Simpson



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brindle

PINELLAS COUNTY – Presented by Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches President Roger Bouchard (right) and Development Officer Terry Gregg (left) to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brindle, James Miller, and Deputy Mario Williams.



James Miller



Deputy Mario Williams



SARASOTA COUNTY – Presented by Sarasota County Sheriff Geoffrey Monge to Mr. Lyle Murray.



Mario J. DeVit

VOLUSIA COUNTY – Presented by Youth Ranches staff to Mario J. DeVit and Mr. and Mrs. John H. Swope, Jr.



Mr. and Mrs. John H. Swope, Jr.



MARION COUNTY – Presented by Marion County Sheriff Ed Dean to Earl Smith.



HENDRY COUNTY – Presented by Hendry County Sheriff Ronald Lee to Brenda Barnes on behalf of Cargill Citro-America, Inc. The company donated gifts of \$1,300 to the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches.

Attention Members:

Are you moving north for the summer? Please send us . . .

. . . your new address so that you'll continued to receive *The Sheriff's Star*. And please remember to let us know again when moving back to Florida.

We don't want to lose you as a valuable member, but if your address has been changed, you may not be receiving your FSA mailings.

Please take a moment to check the mailing label on the back cover of this magazine. If your

address is different in any way, let us know. Just cut out the current label, paste it on the outline below, then write your new address next to it and return it to:

The Florida Sheriffs Association
P.O. Box 12519
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Or, if you prefer, fax it to: (850) 878-8665

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Foundation, Inc.

The Music Center

Mr. and Mrs. Charles M.

Thompson

Dr. and Mrs. Robert L.

Ticehurst

Mr. John Treanor

Mr. Harry A. Tressa



ST. LUCIE COUNTY - Presented by St. Lucie County Undersheriff Dennis Williams to Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gravius.

Mrs. Evelyn Troost
Tubular Skylight, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Richard H.

Turrell

Twisted Oaks Country Club

United Methodist Temple

Men's Club - Lakeland

Mr. Ferenc Stephen Vargh

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Vedder

Mr. Edward Vollenweider

Wal Mart - Live Oak

Walt Disney World Swan &

Dolphin Resort - Lake

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Women of Kirkwood

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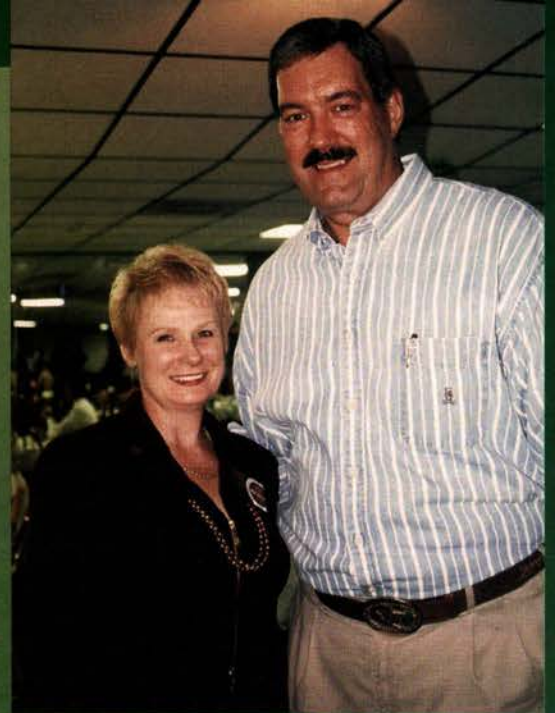
Mr. and Mrs. Alger Zapf, Jr.



LAKE COUNTY - Presented by Lake County Sheriff George Knupp to Mr. & Mrs. D. O'Leary.



The Florida Sheriffs had a record turnout at their annual Legislative Fish Fry held the second week of the session. It was a perfect opportunity to honor the legislators and recognize them for their work in support of public safety in our state. Pictured above (from left), Polk County Sheriff Larry Crow and Hillsborough County Sheriff Cal Henderson (right) congratulate one of FSA's legislative award winners, Sen. Tom Lee (R-Brandon).



Above, Rep. Bev Kilmer (R-Quincy), a freshman legislator who is taking Northwest Florida by storm, is greeted warmly by one of her counties' chief law-enforcement officers, FSA president and Bay County Sheriff Guy Tunnel.

FSA photo clips

Bradford County Sheriff Bob Milner (center), entertains Rep. George Crady (D-Yulee) and his wife, Jennie Crady. The fish fry was an especially significant event for the couple as they used it as an opportunity to bring together their six daughters for a family reunion.

