

THE SHERIFF'S STAR



**Florida Wildfires
are you prepared?**



From the desk of...

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

I'd like to begin this column by thanking all of our FSA members who called and wrote to me following my recent quadruple bypass surgery. I'm happy to report that I am recovering fairly quickly, and am glad to be back in the office for at least a few hours a day. If anything came out of this experience it was the realization that you should never take your health (or your heart) for granted. I have been blessed with good health for most of my life and I really believe that played a role in the success of my operation.

Still, there's nothing like serious surgery to help you determine your priorities. I am most thankful for having such a caring and attentive wife of 36 years, Mary Jo, and for having such a talented team of doctors. Their dedication and compassion amazes me.

Membership update

Now, back to work. We had a very successful membership campaign this last spring and would like to welcome our new members. For those that are new and even for our long time members, I'd like to remind you that we are here to answer your questions and concerns as they relate to law enforcement. We always publish our telephone number and other contact information on the opposite page from this column and we encourage you to use it. The Florida Sheriffs Association is YOUR association and we want to hear from you, so please don't hesitate to contact us.

There is one question we receive frequently about the association, and I thought I might take the time to answer it. Many people ask about their fellow members.

The Florida Sheriffs Association is made up of "Active Members" – Sheriffs – who pay annual dues and may hold office within the organization and vote. The bulk of our mem-

bership, though, comes from Honorary Members – citizens – who pay yearly dues of \$20, and business members who have the option of joining at the Gold (\$500), Silver (\$250), or Bronze (\$50) levels. FSA also has a number of law enforcement members who are eligible for special insurance programs, including Line of Duty and accidental death benefits, which is included in their annual dues.

All members receive copies of the bimonthly *Sheriff's Star Magazine*, which you are reading, and *The Rancher*, which reports on the work of our Youth Ranches. Law Enforcement members also receive a copy of the quarterly *All Points Bulletin*, an inside edition on law enforcement issues of statewide significance.

Besides their identification cards and decals, included in their annual dues, members are also entitled to purchase products which demonstrate their support for law enforcement, including baseball caps, coffee mugs and auto tags.

A word about our building

In this issue, we've included coverage of our building dedication. Once again, I would like to thank all of those who made it possible for us to add on to our FSA headquarters without creating debt. You made it possible for our membership services and information technology departments to run more efficiently, and I can assure you that the men and women that work in those sections will be forever grateful.

Have a happy and healthy summer.

J. M. "Buddy" Phillips
Executive Director



Florida Ranks 3rd in Identity Theft.

Florida law enforcement is facing a growing number of fraud complaints and incidents regarding the theft of personal identities. Identity theft is the act of illegally obtaining personal information, such as name, social security, driver's license or bank/credit account numbers in order to engage in unlawful acts. Citizens who are unfortunate enough to become victims suffer from immediate loss of funds, unfavorable credit reports, loan denials, bad credit and loss of reputation. The repercussions can follow you for a lifetime.

In a recent study, Florida ranked third in the number of victims, falling behind California and New York. Between January and December of last year, 1,888 Floridians were victims of credit card, phone/utility fraud or bank fraud. MasterCard, Visa, Discover

and American Express report losses of \$60 to \$70 million due to counterfeiting and identity theft annually in Florida.

The state has responded by creating the Strikeforce Against Fraudulent Enterprises (SAFE). SAFE is a coalition of state, federal and private agencies working in partnership to combat fraud in Florida. SAFE initiatives include the development of a fraud database for sharing investigative fraud intelligence and a public awareness campaign to prevent citizens from becoming victimized by these "new age" criminals.

Since new techniques in identify theft develop all the time, it's important to review the latest tips to prevent your identify from being stolen.

Try to avoid becoming a victim:

- Order and closely review copies of your credit report from each national

credit reporting agency twice annually.

- Remove your name from marketer's solicitor mailing lists to discourage pre-approved credit lines.
- Only release your personal data (social security number, date of birth, bank account and credit account numbers, etc.) for actions you have initiated. Never give this information to unsolicited telephone callers or over the Internet.
- Contact your creditor or service provider if expected bills are delayed.

If you are a victim:

- Notify the company, creditor or agency that is involved immediately. Follow up in writing.
- Notify local law enforcement and the Federal Trade Commission (1-877-438-4338, or TDD 202-326-2502). If your loss is \$1,000 or greater, you may also contact your local FBI office (www.fbi.gov).
- Immediately contact credit reporting agencies and request that a security alert be placed on your account. Follow up with a written letter. Major credit reporting companies include Equifax (1-800-685-1111 or www.equifax.com), Experian (1-800-397-3742 or www.experian.com) and Trans Union (1-800-916-8800 or www.tuc.com).
- Request and carefully review a copy of your credit report for other false accounts or information.
- Do not pay any bill or charges that result from identity theft.
- Consider contacting an attorney to help ensure that you do not continue to be victimized while attempting to resolve this fraud.

Find other tips at the Federal Trade Commission web site (www.ftc.gov) or through the Florida Department of Law Enforcement: www.fdle.state.fl.us



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Weekend Bandits: Florida law enforcement unites to battle cargo theft

Counties in red indicate highest cargo theft incidents



By: Julie S. Bettinger

On major highways throughout Florida, we see so many tractor-trailers zooming by, we hardly give them notice.

We don't think about the fact that they're moving precious goods – everything from the tissue used to wipe a child's nose, to computers, like the one used to write this article.

Billions and billions of dollars' worth of cargo moves through Florida – some of it destined for our grocery stores and shopping malls, and the rest headed to ports of call beyond our state's borders. Movement of these goods is Florida's lifeblood.

But a menace has begun to threaten this seemingly routine task of transporting products. It strikes the unsuspecting – the weary truck driver, who leaves his vehicle at a truck stop

overnight to catch some shut-eye. When he returns, the truck remains, but the trailer and cargo are gone.

Marion feeling the pinch

The cargo theft problem has been magnified in Marion County, which has numerous highways running through it and countless truck stops. Marion County Sheriff Ed Dean has been pouring resources into the problem and has been successful in reducing the numbers. His deputies worked with truck stops to assure every tractor trailer was secured with a lock. And they stepped up patrols during the high theft hours. Unfortunately, the problem moved to other locations in the county, including hotels, businesses and virtually anywhere else a truck might park overnight.

The Florida Trucking Association

had become increasingly aware of the numbers. They contacted the Florida Highway Patrol and together with Sheriff Dean's office they were able to see the real numbers. The amount of cargo being stolen from Florida's highways was staggering.

Statewide, in 1999, there were 248 thefts at a cost of more than \$32 million. Last year there was an increase – 327 thefts at a loss of over \$35 million. Unfortunately, law enforcement is predicting even further increases this year. In the first four months of 2001, there were 114 thefts valued at approximately \$11 million.

The top counties affected were those with the most highways running through them: Orange (144 thefts), Hillsborough (85), Marion (71), Dade (55) and Broward (52).

Cargo theft is costing individual companies hundreds of thousands of

dollars each year as they seek to transport goods through Florida. The average loss per theft in 2000 was \$126,350.

Destinations known

So where are the goods going? Sheriff Dean suggested that much of it is probably headed to Cuba and is being sold on the black market.

What his agency has found is that cargo stolen in one county doesn't remain there long. It's quickly moved south (usually to Miami or Hialeah) and eventually reaches a warehouse where the goods are transferred to a different trailer before heading to the ports.

Because the thefts cross counties, it was obvious that a multi-county solution would be required to contain them. Sheriff Dean presented results of the Cargo Theft study to his fellow Sheriffs at the FSA Mid-Winter Conference and the Sheriffs enthusiastically agreed to support the formation of a multi law-enforcement agency (Highway Patrol/Sheriff/Police) called the "Florida Commercial Vehicle and Cargo Theft Task Force."

Marion County Sgt. Tommy Bibb and Florida Highway Patrol Lt. Bill Shiver were appointed statewide coordinators. Representatives from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and Florida Department of Transportation are also serving on the Task Force, as are representatives from each Sheriffs' office.

The group was able to arrange a grant to purchase equipment used in undercover operations. The Task Force held a formation meeting in May and the state was divided into regions with one person from each Sheriffs' office designated as the point of contact. They also sent a delegation to the American Trucking Association national conference in Tennessee to assure them something was being done to reduce cargo thefts in Florida.

A five hour window

Critical to stopping these thefts is speed. Sgt. Bibb says the cargo can be stolen and moved to a warehouse for transfer in less than five hours.



Since time is so short, the Task Force will be using a fax alert system to notify law enforcement once a theft is discovered. They hope to eventually have a common telecommunications system specifically for use in Cargo Theft alerts.

While multi-agency efforts have been used in the past to address statewide problems – including special operations initiated by the Florida Sheriffs Statewide Task Force – getting the different agencies to work in sync isn't always guaranteed.

But Lt. Shiver says he has been pleasantly surprised by how well their Task Force is working. "The most impressive thing to me is the participation that has taken place across multiple agencies," he says. "Everywhere I go, I'm amazed at the cooperation. That's an asset to the program."

For more information about the Florida Commercial Vehicle and Cargo Theft Task Force, contact Lt. Bill Shiver, Florida Highway Patrol, 863-499-2308 or e-mail Sgt. Tommy Bibb, tbibb@sheriff.marioncountyfl.org.

Letters to The Editor

Readers:

We established this "Letters to the Editor" column in order to give our members an opportunity to provide feedback on our articles. What we didn't anticipate is the fact that many readers will also occasionally use it to provide feedback on other letters!

In our March/April issue, we published a letter from "ER" about the need for educating pedestrians to walk on the left side of the road – facing traffic – whenever possible. The topic seems to be a hot one, as we received several responses from other readers.

Many writers included brochures including the gentleman below. His "Traffic Safety and Drivers' Information Guide" from the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office, advised: "While walking along a highway, always walk on the shoulder of the left side, facing traffic." The Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Highway Patrol and American Automobile Association echoed this advice in brochures he collected. Boy, did he ever do his homework!

Please read on for more discussions on the topic. . .

EDITOR:

I read in your March/April 2001 edition the letter about "on which side of the road you should walk." Even today, I get annoyed when school buses discharge their students and don't recommend that they cross the road while the bus is stopped to walk on the other side of the road to get home.

I asked a Charlotte County Community Policing Deputy, "When walking on a road with no sidewalks, which side of the road should pedestrians walk on?" He stated that his training taught that pedestrians, like bicycles, mopeds and all other motorized vehicles should be on the RIGHT side of the road (with the flow of traffic). I was brought up and raised in Brooklyn, New York, where all our streets had sidewalks, but even at that time (1930s and 40s), we were instructed that when there were no sidewalks, walk facing traffic.

I am sending you copies from a few brochures stating that you should walk facing traffic. I presented these to the

deputy who still felt I was wrong. Some organizations have tried to get this point across, but nobody followed up.

I agree with the saying that you cannot teach an old dog new tricks. But if you start while in grade school and keep at it through their school years, a relearning process would not be needed. Since most of the school age children here in Florida ride the school buses, this lesson should be repeated by our school bus drivers, as they discharge students. Maybe the bus drivers are the "old dogs" that need to be re-taught.

People have tried to satisfy ER's passion for this practice (and mine), but nobody followed through.

WJK, Rotunda West

EDITOR:

This is in response to the letter from "ER." The letter refers to the problems of pedestrians and runners, and the lack of knowledge of the rules of the road.

We face similar problems on Captiva. Only one narrow, busy roadway serves our island. Traffic is 800 to 1,000 cars daily with bicyclists, runners and pedestrians. Recently, with the help of the Lee County Sheriff's Office, we prepared a one-pager titled, "Getting Around..." It explains all of the rules of the road in plain English. It is widely available on our island. I thought it might be of interest to you as "an avid runner." It would be very easy to tailor this text to any particular location in Florida.

Compliments must go to Deputies Joe Poppalardo and Alan Falde of the Lee County Sheriff's Office for their interest and help in the preparation of this paper.

LR, Captiva

Editor responds:

For our fellow readers, the referenced one-pager stated, "Florida law requires that you walk facing traffic." I checked with our ever-resourceful Director of Operational Services, Tom Berlinger, who found the law. Chapter 316.130(4) reads as follows: Where sidewalks are



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not provided, any pedestrian walking along and upon the highway shall, when practicable, walk only on the shoulder on the left side of the roadway in relation to the pedestrian's direction of travel, facing traffic which may be approaching from the opposite direction."

So, that's the law, folks. Spread the word.

EDITOR:

The special edition Annual Guide to Government (January/February 2001) was a great help. It gives me access to all the government – cabinet, legislators and congress – plus state agencies and sheriffs' addresses. I now have the information I need at my fingertips to

continued on next page

HAVE A COMMENT?

If you would like to send a comment, please write:

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32317-2519, or e-mail:
jbettinger@flsheriffs.org.

While we are not able to publish every letter, or answer them personally, we will do 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.

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send my comments about matters of concern to me that warrant my opinion.

I hope this would be available to everyone – maybe at the Chamber of Commerce – and government agencies.

AB, Naples

Editor responds:

We receive many calls and letters in support of our Annual Guide. And though much of this information is available on the web and through other association's efforts, our readers reaffirm our decision to keep publishing it year after year.

Regarding the suggestion on distributing the Guide, this particular edition receives much wider readership than other issues because it is so popular with legislators. We do our best to get it into the hands of decision-makers and agencies that can use it. In fact, we mail it to just about any individual or agency who requests it, without cost. When someone needs multiple copies, we usually

request only reimbursement for postage.

So if you know of someone who might find it useful, have them contact us at the address, phone or e-mail that appears on page 3.

* * *

Readers:

The following letter is in response to the problem that was brought to light about mental-health facilities closing and causing many families to be burdened with the care of their loved ones. Without special treatment, these mentally ill individuals wind up on the street and in our county jails. Several Sheriffs have designated special sections within their jails to house the mentally ill, as their behavior is often unpredictable, which poses a threat to these inmates as well as the Corrections personnel and other inmates. The writer below offers her view.

EDITOR

My husband and I enjoyed *The Sheriff's Star Magazine*. The information was very interesting.

Our son, a retired New York State Trooper now living in Arizona, apprised us of some of his personal experiences. Since I have had similar experiences dealing with the emotional problems of victims handling and coping with stress, I wanted to respond.

I feel very strongly that the law enforcers – Sheriffs and Police – have enough on their hands to answer so many calls for assistance and should not be burdened with handling mental cases. The community resources should be available to handle and care for the needs of the mentally ill.

I'm a mental health counselor and volunteer for the American Red Cross.

God bless you and your good works.

DB, Ft. Myers

Illegal dogfighting increases in Central Florida

Honorary Member, Barbara Pokusa, from Lake County, contacted the Florida Sheriffs Association about a news report she'd seen on television. It concerned a deputy who had investigated some pit bulldogs, which were being neglected and were suspected of being used for dog fights.

Mrs. Pukusa wanted to commend the Deputy, Angel Laite, who had investigated the case, which resulted in one arrest and the rescue of the dogs in the man's care.

When we looked into the case, we discovered that Deputy Laite's case was only one in a rash of dog-fighting cases that the Orange County Sheriff's Office and other law enforcement officials in Central Florida had been investigating beginning in January.

Laite rescues puppy

According to the Orange County Sheriff's Office report, on January 10 at around 1:30 in the afternoon, Deputy Laite was patrolling the Pine Hills area in Orlando. She heard a loud yelping noise coming from a backyard. She walked to the fence and looked over to see a large tan female pit bull fighting with a small pit bull puppy that was chained to a pole and couldn't get away. The female dog had the smaller puppy by the throat and was tossing it around trying to kill it.

After finding no one at home, Deputy Laite and another deputy used several tactics, including pepper spray, to try to get the adult dog to let go of the puppy and finally succeeded. After rescuing this puppy, they investi-

gated further. They found a dead puppy, who looked like it had been killed by this adult dog and nine other dogs with no food, water or shelter from the heat. All dogs had scars and other injuries that were consistent with dog fighting. The owner was arrested and charged with cruelty to animals.

There were also signs that the yard was used for dogfighting, an illegal, bloody sport that pits two dogs against each other until one dies or is too injured to continue fighting.

The fights involve bets, from \$50 to thousands of dollars, depending on the size. They usually feature drugs and alcohol as well and may be attended by as few as 12 or as many as 200 spectators.

According to an investigative report by *Orlando Sentinel* reporters Kate Santich and Doris Bloodsworth, it's estimated that at least one competitive dogfight takes place weekly in Central Florida, though probably more. If they survive, dogs receive no medical attention. They are "trained" through starvation, extreme exercise and neglect. They may be forced to run on a treadmill to the point of exhaustion and are often given small dogs – such as in the case of the puppy – kittens or rabbits to fight and kill as confidence builders. Some of the bait animals are stolen, while others are acquired through the pet classified "free to good home" advertisements.

Illegal dogfighting has been increasing, largely because of the money involved. And the participants are

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Aerial photos of school grounds, such as the one pictured above, are stored on a CD-ROM for law enforcement to use when responding to reports of school violence. Deputies and SWAT team members use the photos to be able to recognize areas where they are dispatched in an emergency.

“Operation Safe Schools” links deputies with vital information for emergencies

*By Kirk Englehardt and Jim Lejedal
Broward County Sheriff's Office Public Information Officers*

When students returned to their classrooms last fall in Broward County, deputies were equipped with a new tool to deal with school emergencies: a CD-ROM that contains emergency contact numbers, photographs and floor plans for 61 schools in areas patrolled by the Broward County Sheriff's Office (BSO). The arrangement was part of a new initiative called “Operation Safe Schools.”

In any emergency, knowing who to call, where to respond, and how to gain access is critical for law-enforcement officers to do their jobs. Thanks to the availability of these CD-ROMs, more than 1,300 deputies and supervisors will have the information they need at their fingertips – accessible through their laptop computers.

Even if a deputy is not familiar with a given school campus, he or she will be able to access detailed floor plans, aerial photographs and interior photos. Primary and secondary perimeter points and staging areas have also been pre-designated, so that supervisors and dispatchers will instantly know the best places to send responding emergency units. “Operation Safe Schools” has also designated locations for a command post, helicopter landing and parents to gather. A list of all other police agencies and hospitals is included on the CD, as well as information on hazardous materials on the site.

BSO's CD is believed to be the first of its kind nationwide to contain such detail.

Broward County Sheriff Ken Jenne unveiled Operation Safe Schools on August 18, 2000, during a dramatic SWAT Team demonstration at Broward Estates Elementary School – just west of Ft. Lauderdale. Local reporters were invited to witness BSO's new technology in action.

The scenario involved a lone gunman actor who fired upon two student actors in front of the school. Other “injured” actors were inside the building and actor “hostages” were taken. The suspect finally surrendered to armed deputies inside the school cafeteria.

Program sees real-life action

The BSO SWAT Team first “officially” used the program two months after its debut, when a murder suspect was barricaded in an apartment building next to a local high school. The event did not take place on school grounds, but an aerial photo of the nearby school on the CD provided the SWAT Team with important tactical information needed to bring the situation to an end.

BSO's tactical response experts have said that the CD could be invaluable in the event of a violent incident on campus, but it will inevitably be useful in other situations, as well. For example, if a school's security system detects midnight intruders, deputies will know how to best approach and apprehend the burglars. If a young student is missing, deputies will have emergency after-hours contact numbers for school officials. The information may also be valuable to fire rescue personnel during gas leaks or hazardous material incidents.

Nearly two years ago, Sheriff Jenne directed all district chiefs to collect copies of blueprints and prepare a written emergency response plan for every school in BSO's jurisdiction. In cooperation with the Broward County School Board, floor plans were obtained and photos were taken on campus and from the sky, via a BSO helicopter. The information was assembled over a nine-month period and copied to a CD-ROM by BSO's Bureau of Information Resource Management. The cost of purchasing computer supplies was less than \$25,000.

“This is what modern law enforcement is all about – taking technology, combining it with innovation, and applying it to real life” says Sheriff Jenne. “The real beneficiaries are the students and teachers here in Broward County.”

Sheriff Jenne grew up in Lake Worth, Florida, and years

ago attended the same middle school that teacher Barry Grunow was shot and killed by a student on May 26, 2000 – the last day of school. He says he is committed to making sure BSO is ready to respond if a similar tragedy were to occur in Broward County.

BSO is already thinking of other ways to use this new technology. There are plans to add the rest of the public and private schools throughout Broward County. The program will eventually include all government buildings, the airport and seaport, hospitals, and churches and synagogues, if they request it.

Taking Safe Schools on the Road

This past legislative session, Sheriff Jenne was able to demonstrate the software for legislators through a simulated hostage situation at Leon High School in Tallahassee. Florida Education Commissioner Charlie Crist, Leon County School Superintendent Bill Montford, Leon County Sheriff Larry

Campbell and Youth Crime Watch of America Executive Director Terry Modglin also participated.

Leon County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) deputies used a prototype of the CD developed by BSO for the demonstration. During the event, LCSO and BSO personnel were able to show how the school's perimeter is secured and how law enforcement would enter the facility and save lives in a hostage situation.

By demonstrating the program, Sheriff Jenne says he hopes to get funding for similar software packages to assist police agencies throughout Florida and the nation.

Sheriff Jenne says while school violence in Broward and many other Florida counties is rare, Columbine, Lake Worth, and the recent school shootings in California have proven that law enforcement can't afford to take chances – and preparation is the key to reducing the losses.

For more information on Operation Safe Schools, visit BSO's web site for a demonstration: www.sheriff.org.

"Little Emergency" a big part of W.H.A.L.E.

*Jennifer Collins, Public Information
Bay County Sheriff's Office*

A deputy tops a hill and approaches the scene of a two-car accident. He jumps out of his patrol car and makes a quick check of drivers and passengers – not one of them is conscious. Suddenly, over the noise of the sirens and sounds of arriving emergency personnel, he hears the shrill cry of child. Peering into the back seat of one of the crashed vehicles, he sees a baby – probably younger than 2 – still strapped in her car seat, uninjured, but obviously frightened.

With no adults in the car coherent, the deputy will be faced with a number of questions: Are there any relatives who can take care of the child? Does she have any special medical conditions he should be aware of? Any special dietary needs?

Unfortunately, in law enforcement, this is a drama that plays itself out with increasing frequency.

In this case, the deputy is in luck. He recognized a small, neon-green sticker, about 2 inches square, in the rear window. The sticker had the familiar black check mark with the letters "WHALE." He opened the car door, unhooked the child's seat belt, spoke to the little girl in reassuring tones, and pulled her out of the car. After making sure she was safe with another deputy, he returned to the car, unhooked the



A large neon-green sticker is placed on the back of child seats to give responding officers and emergency personnel any information they need on the infant and family following an accident. A matching sticker displayed in the rear window will alert officers of the WHALE sticker inside.

are for the rear window of a vehicle to signal that kids are frequent passengers. The larger ones include space to record personal information about the child, such as medical conditions and names and contact numbers of family members. These are usually stuck to the back of a child safety seat.

The WHALE program has assisted law enforcement and emergency medical personnel in Bay County to respond more effectively to auto accident scenes that involve incapacitated persons and small children. It gives them the information they need when a child is either traumatized or is too young to speak.

In addition to getting a child to safety as soon as possible, Bay County Sheriff Guy Tunnell says, "Information provided by programs like this one is priceless to those who respond to scenes first." The program has been so well accepted in Bay County, he says it has the potential for expansion. "I would like to see every law-enforcement agency in Florida adopt similar programs so children across the state would be protected."

WHALE would be seen as beneficial by parents as well as law-enforcement officers whose job it is to protect them, Sheriff Tunnell says.

For more information about WHALE, visit the Bay County Sheriff's Office web site: <http://www.panamacity.com/government/bayso/>.



Sheriff Tunnell

child seat and turned it over. A matching, but much larger neon-green sticker was there. It gave him all the information he needed for the child, including medical background and emergency contact numbers for family members. He handed the seat to a deputy, pointed to the green sticker, and within minutes was back to working the accident.

When there's a "little emergency" WHALE, an acronym for "We Have a Little Emergency," is a community service safety program sponsored by the Bay County Sheriff's Office. It's intended to provide critical information to first responders at traffic crashes that might involve toddlers or infants in car seats.

Sheets of small and large neon-green stickers are issued to parents of young children. The small, square ones,



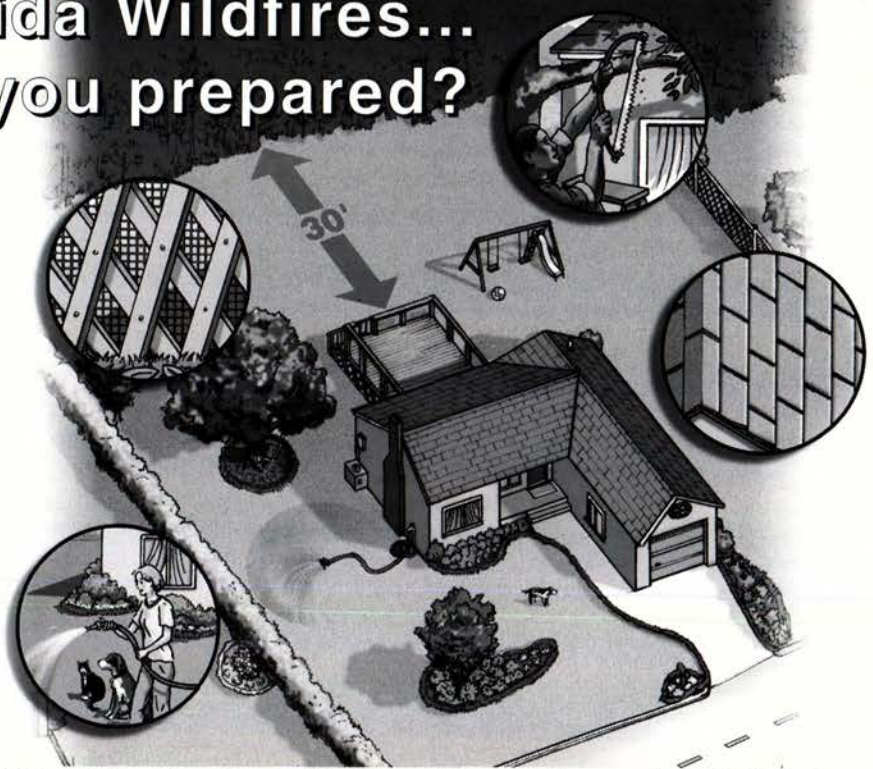
By Lt. Paul Phillips
*Past District 2 Director
Florida Crime Prevention
Association*

In May of last year, Florida was burning so intensely that Gov. Jeb Bush issued an executive order declaring a state of wildfire emergency. Before the year ended, the spring wildfire season resulted in over 5,100 fires consuming in excess of 167,000 acres of real estate. The Department of Agriculture estimated the value of crops lost to fire was more than \$314 million. Is history bound to repeat itself this year?

As of May 2001, the State Division of Emergency Management warned that Florida was experiencing one of the worst droughts in the state's history. The drought was already responsible for increasing water restrictions and creating burn bans, sinkholes, wildfires and agricultural losses. Even worse was the fact that the Climate Prediction Center forecasted the drought to continue into the summer. Already, wildfires have been battled from the Panhandle to central and south Florida.

Florida's population has more than tripled in the past four decades, which – among other things – has resulted in a great strain on the natural water supply. As more people move to the Sunshine State, many decide to make their homes in wooded settings or rural areas to enjoy the beauty of the environment. They

Florida Wildfires... are you prepared?



Cover and above art compliments of Fla. Division of Emergency Management; www.floridadisaster.org

also face the very real danger of wildfire.

Wildfires often begin unnoticed. They spread quickly, igniting brush, trees and homes. All Floridians should reduce their risk by preparing now – *before* wildfire strikes. Start by meeting with your family to decide what to do and where to go if wildfires threaten your area. The American Red Cross and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) suggest practicing wildfire safety and utilize a proactive approach.

Prevention and preparation are key:

- Contact your local fire department, health department or forestry office for information on fire laws. Make sure that all emergency vehicles can get to your home. Clearly mark all driveway entrances and conspicuously display your address.
- Report hazardous conditions that could cause a wildfire.
- Teach children about fire safety.

Keep matches out of their reach.

- Post fire emergency telephone numbers.
- Plan several escape routes away from your home – by car and by foot.
- Talk to your neighbors about wildfire safety. Plan how the neighborhood could work together both before and after a wildfire. Make a list of your neighbors' skills such as medical or technical training. Consider how you could help neighbors who have special needs, such as being elderly or disabled. Make plans to take care of children who may be on their own if parents can't get home.

Secure your home

The Red Cross and FEMA suggest you create a 30- to 50-foot safety zone around your home. Within this area, you can take steps to reduce potential exposure to flames and radiant heat. Homes built in pine forests should have a minimum safety zone of 100 feet.

To build a safety zone:

- Rake leaves, dead limbs and twigs. Clear all flammable vegetation.
- Remove leaves and rubbish from under structures.
- Thin a 15-foot space between tree crowns, and remove limbs within 15 feet of the ground.
- Remove dead branches that extend over the roof.
- Prune tree branches and shrubs within 15 feet of a stovepipe or chimney outlet.
- Ask the power company to clear branches from power lines.
- Remove vines from the walls of the home.
- Mow grass regularly.
- Clear a 10-foot area around propane tanks and the barbecue.
- Regularly dispose of newspapers and rubbish at an approved site.

Follow local burning regulations. Place stove, fireplace and grill ashes in a metal bucket. Store gasoline, oily rags and other flammable materials in approved safety cans. Place cans in a safe location away from the base of buildings.

Stack firewood at least 100 feet away and uphill from your home.

Other important tips:

PLAN YOUR WATER NEEDS:

Install additional outlets at least 50 feet from the home. Consider obtaining a portable gasoline powered pump and/or electric generator in case commercial electrical power is cut off. Identify and maintain an adequate outside water source such as a small pond, cistern, well, swimming pool or hydrant. Have a garden hose that is long enough to reach any area of the home and other structures on the property.

PROTECT YOUR HOME: Install a smoke detector on each level of your home, especially near bedrooms; test monthly and change the batteries two times each year. Teach each family member how to use the fire

extinguisher (ABC type) and show them where it's kept.

FAMILY PLANNING: Include family members in your wildfire disaster preparation and planning. Discuss where to go and what to bring if advised to evacuate. Pick two meeting places a safe distance from home. One should be outside your neighborhood in case you can't return home. Post emergency phone numbers by the telephone.

Taking preparation a step further

By following these suggestions, you greatly enhance your family fire safety factor. But, there is one more chore to include in the family plan.

When wildfire threatens, you won't have time to shop or search for supplies. FEMA suggests you assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit with items you may need if advised to evacuate. Store these supplies in sturdy, easy-to-carry containers such as backpacks, duffle bags or trash containers. Include:

- A three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day) and food that won't spoil.
- One change of clothing and footwear per person and one blanket or sleeping bag per person.
- A first-aid kit that includes your family's prescription medications.
- Emergency tools including a battery-powered radio, flashlight and plenty of extra batteries.
- An extra set of car keys and a credit card, cash or traveler's checks.
- Sanitation supplies.
- Special items for infant, elderly or disabled family members.
- An extra pair of eyeglasses.
- Important family documents in a waterproof container.

If you are warned that a wildfire is threatening your area, listen to your radio for reports and evacuation information. **Most important: Follow the instructions of local officials!**

• Confine pets to one room. Make plans to care for your pets in case you must evacuate.

• Arrange temporary housing at a friend or relative's home outside the threatened area.

• Back your car into the garage or park it in an open space facing the direction of escape. Shut doors and roll up windows. Leave the key in the ignition. Close garage windows and doors, but leave them unlocked. Disconnect automatic garage door openers.

If advised to evacuate, do so immediately. Wear protective clothing, sturdy shoes, cotton or woolen clothing, long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, gloves and a handkerchief to protect your face. Don't forget to take your Disaster Supplies Kit and to lock your home. Choose a route away from fire hazards. Watch for changes in the speed and direction of fire and smoke.

All Floridians should be aware of the danger posed by wildfire and other disasters such as hurricanes, floods and hazardous materials spills that can strike quickly and without warning. Awareness includes advanced preparation, planning and practice. For further information, or to schedule neighborhood disaster preparedness training, contact your local chapter of the American Red Cross, Office of Emergency Management or local law enforcement. Or, visit the Florida Division of Emergency Management online at <http://www.dca.state.fl.us/fdem/>.

Lt. Paul Phillips is a Florida Crime Prevention Practitioner with the Leon County Sheriff's Office in Tallahassee, Florida. Visit the LCSO web site at: <http://lcs.leon-fl.org> and the Florida Crime Prevention Association site at: <http://www.floridacrimeprevention.org>

FSA's new Membership Services building dedicated

The Florida Sheriffs honor two men, the late Sheriff Ed Blackburn and John Hunt, Sr., during the building's dedication.



By: Julie S. Bettinger

On April 4, before a crowd of about 150 supporters, the Florida Sheriffs Association held a dedication ceremony for its new Blackburn-Hunt Building, which houses the Membership Services department. Thanks to the generosity of the FSA members who made donations during FSA's Capital Campaign 1999-2000, the building is debt-free.

In dedicating the building, the FSA Board of Directors chose the names "Blackburn" and "Hunt" to honor two men who have made a difference in the office of Sheriff in Florida.

Blackburn, a visionary lawman

Ed Blackburn "helped bring law enforcement into the modern age," said FSA president and Seminole County Sheriff Don Eslinger. Now deceased, Blackburn was represented at the ceremony by his daughter, Barbara Cook, and other family members.

A lawman for life, Blackburn first served as a Florida Highway Patrolman, then deputy in Volusia County before being elected Hillsborough County Sheriff. He ran a clean campaign at a time when the county was suffering from corruption by gamblers and mobsters. After driving out organized crime in his county, Blackburn focused on cleaning up the law-enforcement profession of the state.

At the time, Florida Sheriffs were financed by collecting fees on every person arrested. There wasn't anything to keep them from rounding up drunks and avoiding the bigger crimes, such as murder, that were much more time-intensive to investigate. Working through the Florida Sheriffs Association, Sheriff Blackburn ran a campaign to abolish the fee system. The new approach to



FSA Executive Director Buddy Phillips stood before the new Blackburn-Hunt building and thanked supporters at the ribbon cutting ceremony. The building, which houses FSA's membership services and Information Technology departments, was named in honor of two men who have made a significant difference in the office of Sheriff in Florida.

funding started with Hillsborough, then adjacent counties, and eventually all Sheriffs' offices abolished the fee-based system.

In 1957, Sheriff Blackburn heard of a Texas project that housed boys and kept them from a life of crime. It turned into the seed of an idea to launch the Florida Sheriffs Boys Ranch, the forerunner to today's Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. Sheriff Blackburn was the organization's first executive director, a volunteer position he carried out while still serving as Sheriff of Hillsborough County.

Recognizing a need to have a central point of contact for all law enforcement in the state, Sheriff Blackburn helped establish the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, which evolved into the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. He ran for the Florida House of Representatives in 1968 and won,



Bradford County Sheriff Bob Milner addressed the crowd of about 100 supporters and thanked the two gentlemen that left a lasting legacy in law enforcement. The late Sheriff Ed Blackburn, featured in the framed portrait, not only restored respect in the Office of Sheriff in Hillsborough County, he increased the professionalism of Sheriffs statewide. He is credited with helping to start the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches and the Florida Sheriffs Bureau, which evolved into the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

then used his position to establish a statewide crime laboratory – which is still in operation today through FDLE.

"In 85 years, Sheriff Blackburn built a legacy of goodwill and service," Sheriff Eslinger told the crowd. "We can only hope to follow his example."

Hunt makes a difference behind the scenes

At the dedication, Wakulla County Sheriff Don Harvey offered background on his friend, John Hunt, Sr.

Mr. Hunt established his Hunt Insurance Group in 1945. He became friends with a small group of Sheriffs and started meeting their insurance needs. When the liability of Sheriffs' offices started becoming such a high risk, many were losing their coverage. Mr. Hunt started carrying a "Professional Liability Plan," which would meet their needs and was able to win the endorsement of the Florida Sheriffs Association to offer it statewide.

In an effort to build enrollment, Mr. Hunt personally drove to each of the 67 counties and met directly with the Sheriffs to recruit them into the plan. They recognized that Mr. Hunt's plan not only provided needed coverage – the combined enrollment would make the coverage more affordable for all.

Word of Mr. Hunt's insurance product quickly spread to the National Sheriffs Association, and he was invited to handle insurance nationwide for other Sheriffs' offices. In 1977, the insurance carrier decided to stop writing police liability. To prevent his clients from losing coverage, Mr. Hunt developed a proprietary Self Insurance Fund, which is still in operation today.

Mr. Hunt, who by now had been joined in the business by his sons, John, Jr., Scott and Dick, developed an automobile liability policy in 1980. Several other visionary insurance products followed, including a multiple employer trust and worker's comp trust. The difference in these programs is that they are managed by Sheriffs for Sheriffs. Because of this, Hunt Insurance Group has been credited with saving the Sheriffs and their counties mil-



Sheriff Blackburn's daughter, Barbara Cook, (in foreground) accepted the honor on behalf of her late father.



John E. Hunt, Sr., said he was humbled to be honored to serve as the building's namesake. Hunt, who founded the Hunt Insurance Group, has been meeting the insurance needs of Sheriffs for more than 50 years. He has helped counties save millions of dollars in liability claims through proprietary products, including the Florida Sheriffs Self Insurance Fund.



John E. Hunt, Sr., was joined by his wife, Leona (left) at the ceremony to honor him for his contributions to the Office of Sheriff.

lions of dollars annually.

In addition to his professional association with the Florida Sheriffs, Mr. Hunt has been a loyal supporter of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches since its establishment in 1957.

John Hunt Sr.'s "character, integrity and leadership have strengthened the office of Sheriff," Sheriff Harvey told the crowd at the dedication. He has left a lasting legacy – not only in law enforcement for our state, but for our nation.

Real victims are helping juvenile offenders recognize the consequences of their crimes

By: W.G. "Bill" Bankhead
Secretary, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice

Juvenile offenders in Florida are getting new teachers in their rehabilitation programs. They aren't social workers, law-enforcement officials or corrections personnel. Instead, they are the victims of crime.

This past spring, the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice initiated a pilot project in which victims of crime teach juvenile offenders what it feels like to have their homes violated, their loved ones hurt, their possessions stolen and their sense of peace and security shattered. DJJ is putting a face on crime, so it won't be as easy for kids to make excuses for what they did.

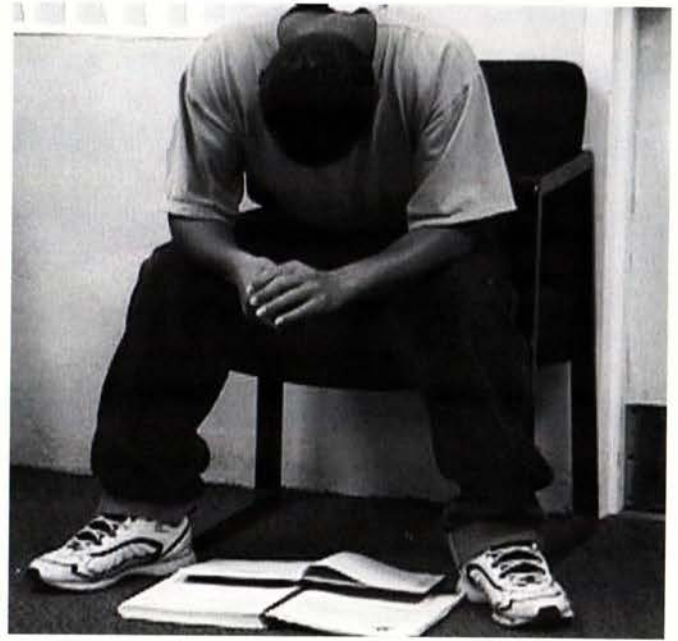
For Pat Tuthill, whose 23-year-old daughter, Peyton, was murdered in 1999, talking with juvenile offenders is a way to create something positive out of her overwhelming grief. "If I can just somehow connect with one person, if one person will stop and think about his actions and his choices, it will be worth it," she says. "I think it's important that we don't give up hope with these juveniles. And, if I can save just one person — one family — from this pain, it will be worth it."

Tuthill told the group of young men: "I wrote my daughter a letter last night and said I want to let you know you're in my thoughts 24 hours a day, and in my heart. We had a special bond. My life as it existed once is no longer. . . . I feel that I have been empowered to speak out. This is part of my surviving."

Juveniles take a walk in a victim's shoes

The new curriculum develops a greater awareness of the victim by taking juvenile offenders through a 12-week course that helps illustrate the consequences victims suffer. The crimes include: property offenses (such as auto theft), drugs, assault, violent crime, domestic violence, crimes against the elderly, child abuse, sexual assault, robbery, drunk driving deaths (and injuries), homicide and violent gang activity. In the future, when possible, victims from a juvenile's actual crime will address their offender face-to-face.

Following presentations, the offenders are encouraged



Presentations by crime victims and survivors of victims during the Department of Juvenile Justice's recent "Victim Awareness" program was emotionally difficult for some juvenile offenders. Many bowed their head as they listened to presenters such as Pat Tuthill — whose daughter was murdered — talk about the effects crime can have on a family.



W.G. "Bill" Bankhead

to think about, write about and maybe even sketch or paint to portray how they would feel if they or their families were victims of such crimes.

After listening to Sharron Blais, the young people will likely think twice before committing a crime such as home-invasion robbery. "Our lives will never be the same," she told the young men. "They took away our security. They said, 'I'll kill you.' Later we put in alarms. We did not let our kids go anywhere. Our kids became prisoners. We all became the prisoners. For months and months, my child slept under his bed in the corner."

Through the project, juvenile offenders also read about and discuss real-life examples of the crushing blows that crime deals its victims — not only the physical harm but also the financial and emotional damage. A stolen car, for example, may trigger a parade of consequences. Damage to the car may not be completely covered by insurance because of a deductible. Loss of transportation may cause the person to lose a job. If theft-related expenses are high, the victim may have to forfeit paying the remainder of his car payments, thus losing the car and his good credit record. Or, in the case of a stabbing or gunshot wound, the victim will not only suffer tremendous physical pain in recovery, but suffer huge emotional pain, potentially affecting their career, their family relationships and their long-term health.

Victims are the best people to remind juvenile offenders how innocent lives can be affected by their

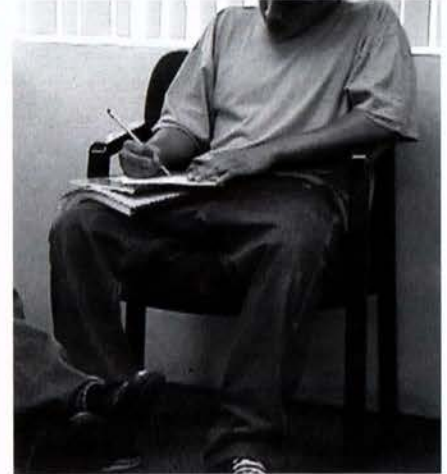
crimes. The volunteer speakers who are helping DJJ with the classes for juvenile offenders are extremely brave and should be commended for their willingness to relive their personal tragedies in hopes to deter young people from a continued life of crime.

Testing prior to expansion

The victim awareness program is being introduced in four residential delinquency treatment programs – two for boys: Dozier School for Boys in Marianna and Duval Halfway House in Jacksonville, and two for girls: Timberline Halfway House in Daytona Beach and Vernon Place in Vernon. DJJ eventually plans to offer the program to all its residential facilities. So far, Victim Awareness is being carried out at minimal cost because curriculum materials are borrowed from other similar programs. DJJ hopes to obtain a grant in the future to fund training of facilitators.

Many people wonder if the Victim's Awareness program will work. Will it reduce juvenile crime? Based on the experience of similar programs, I think the answer is "yes." The DJJ program resembles the approach pioneered by Mothers Against Drunk Driving, which recruited the mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters of drunk-driving victims to tell their stories and ask others not to repeat the mistakes of drunk drivers. MADD's personal confrontational approach has been credited with bringing down the incidence of drunk driving deaths.

Purdue University recently analyzed six methods of treatment of drunk drivers and concluded MADD's use of victim impact panels was the most successful means of reducing repeat offenses. Because DJJ's curriculum is similar, we expect the same results. The value of promot-



The Victims of Crime pilot project is designed to develop a greater awareness of the victim by taking juvenile offenders through a 12-week course that illustrates the consequences victims suffer. Following the presentations, the offenders are encouraged to think about, write about and maybe even sketch or paint to portray how they would feel if they or their families were victims of the same types of crimes they committed.

ing empathy with victims as a deterrent to future criminal behavior has already proven successful through recent studies of juvenile offenders who underwent mediation with victims. Only 19 percent recidivism occurred within this group, compared to 28 percent recidivism in a control group.

While DJJ's Victim Awareness program isn't the only answer, we think it has the potential to play an increasingly valuable role in reducing juvenile crime in the future, and ultimately, reducing the number of their victims.

Bill Bankhead is the secretary of the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice. For more information, see <http://www.djj.state.fl.us>, or call 850-921-5900.

Martin County Sheriff's Deputy recognized as "Crisis Communicator of the Year"

Martin County Sheriff's Deputy Jenell Atlas, who authored our cover story in the November/December 2000 *Sheriff's Star*, was recognized as "Crisis Communicator of the Year" by the Florida Public Relations Society Treasure Coast Chapter.

Deputy Atlas was recognized for her communication skills and media relations during the June 2000 helicopter crash and subsequent escape of a convicted child molester in Martin County. This event was covered internationally and nationally by hundreds of media outlets including BBC, Reuters, CNN, *The Today Show*, *The Evening News* with Tom Brokaw, *USA Today*, *LA Times* and *Time* magazine.



Deputy Jenell Atlas

FPRA also honored Atlas with a Gold Image Award for the positive national media coverage surrounding that event and she was recognized by the Florida Law Enforcement Public Information Officers Association at their annual conference.

"If someone would have told me 12 years ago on that first midnight shift that I would be where I am today, I would have called them crazy," said Deputy Atlas, Martin County Sheriff's Office public information officer. "Sheriff Crowder has given me so many opportunities. I am grateful to him for whatever he saw in me and recognize the trust he has in me."

FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION

HONOR ROLL



PASCO COUNTY – 25-year certificate presented by Pasco County Sheriff Bob White (left) to Merlin S. Klein.

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. Many progressive business leaders are supporting the Florida Sheriffs Association and its anti-crime activities by enrolling as Business Members of the Association and becoming "partners against crime." The Florida Sheriffs recognizes those businesses that are making a difference in their communities. Gold members commit \$500 annually, Silver members \$250 and Bronze members \$50 annually.



WASHINGTON COUNTY – 25-year certificate presented by Washington County Sheriff Fred Peel to Lenzy Corbin (left).



BRADFORD COUNTY – 25-year certificate presented by Bradford County Sheriff Bob Milner to R.O. Dansby (right).



COLLIER COUNTY – 30-year certificate presented by Collier County Sheriff Don Hunter to Jack C. Breeden (left).



COLLIER COUNTY – Lifetime Honorary Member plaque presented by Collier County Sheriff Don Hunter to Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Dimopoulos.



ORANGE – 25-year certificate presented by Orange County Sheriff Kevin Beary to Mr. & Mrs. Harian B. Ferril and James O. Driscoll.



VOLUSIA COUNTY – 25-year certificate presented by Volusia County Sheriff Ben Johnson to Albert Flowers.



VOLUSIA COUNTY – 30-year certificate presented by Volusia County Sheriff Ben Johnson to Raymond Daugherty.



BAY COUNTY – 30-year certificate presented by Bay County Sheriff Guy Tunnell to Joe Padgett, Jr.



BAY COUNTY – 25-year certificate presented by Bay County Sheriff Guy Tunnell to John Adams (left photo) and Walter Campbell.



Illegal dogfighting increases in Central Florida

continued from page 7

serious about their sport. After Osceola County Sheriff's Office broke up a dogfight in Kissimmee last summer, they confiscated eight dogs. An hour later they received a report that several of the spectators had followed the animal control officer's truck and offered him \$2,000 to release one of the dogs.

We join FSA member Barbara Pukusa in commending Deputy Laite and her fellow law enforcement officers for their diligence in investigating this cruel and sick sport.

If you suspect dogfighting, or discover animals being neglected, please notify your Sheriff's Office as soon as possible.

HONOR ROLL



ALACHUA COUNTY – Presented by Alachua County Sheriff Steve Oelrich to G.W. Robinson (left).



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

Ms. Nancy Adams
Mr. James A. Adkinson
Mr. Joseph R. Bailey
Mr. Fred Bartholomew
Mr. Richard Bennett
Mr. and Mrs. Darrell L. Black
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Blass
Mr. Elliot Blond
Ms. Lynne Brush
Mr. Samuel B. Burkhalter
Mr. Tom Cady
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Camp
Community Church of Keystone Heights
Mr. and Mrs. Leslie K. Cook
Mr. Douglas Coulter
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Crocker
Crowley & Company Advertising, Inc.
Mrs. Arlene S. Doyer
Mr. F. S. Duda
Mr. and Mrs. Darryl Ellis
Mrs. Rose G. Encke
Mr. Harold Everingham
Federal Bureau of Investigations Golf Tournament
Mr. and Mrs. Martin C. Flynn
Mr. and Mrs. Frank E. Gallagher
Mr. Robert C. Gerholz
Mr. and Mrs. James W. Gill, Jr.
Mrs. Lynne Grecian
Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Grusz
Mrs. Elizabeth Harich
Mrs. Lula Harper
Mr. and Mrs. Roby Harrington, III
Ms. Hilda D. Harrold
Mr. and Mrs. William R. Hemby
Mr. and Mrs. Leon E. Horseman
Mrs. Christine K. Kahn
Mr. Richard I. Keeler
Mr. Howard Kinney
Mrs. Mary Ellen Kolinski
Mrs. Eileen Krenzer
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas R. Lamoureux, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Rene Laramée
Mrs. Ilene Lartitegui
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Lasho
Loyal Order of Moose #655
Four Townes Lodge
Mrs. Phyllis Lynch
Mrs. Ray W. MacDonald
Dr. Jonathan MacKay
Mr. and Mrs. Les Magyar
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Malone
Mrs. Mary Marler
Ms. Anna C. Marticorena
Mr. Laurence L. Meinerth
Mr. Patrick Misco
Nassau County Board of County Commissioners
Mr. Joseph E. Newell
Mr. John W. Pennington, III
Ms. Blanche Rose Perez
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert F. Pfeifer
Women of Presbyterian Church - Port Saint Joe
Mrs. Allen N. Reeves
Mrs. Kathryn F. Reynolds
Mrs. Eugenia S. Rogers
Mr. Ronald Rogers
Ms. Lillian T. Runnerstrom
Mr. and Mrs. John G. Russell, Jr.
Sam's Club Foundation - Bentonville, AR
Ms. Barbara C. Sang
Mr. Zoltan Seles
Mr. and Mrs. Bert Shrine, Jr.
Mrs. Ethel H. Sottile
Ms. Donna Stevens
Mrs. Elizabeth M. Taylor
Texaco Express Lube - Crystal River
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Thyssen
Ms. Theresa Umpierre
Mr. Paul H. Weber
Mr. James S. White
Mr. and Mrs. William T. White, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Whitfield
Mr. and Mrs. Warren A. Wilson, III
Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Wirt



ALACHUA COUNTY – Presented by Alachua County Sheriff Steve Oelrich (right) to Mr. & Mrs. William Woodard.



SUWANNEE COUNTY – Presented by Suwannee County Sheriff Al Williams (far right) and Wesley Goff, vice president of the Youth Ranches, to Marjorie Carmichael.



SEMINOLE COUNTY – Presented by Seminole County Sheriff Don Eslinger to Jack Bond (left photo) and to Leonard Williams, CEO of Wayne Densch Charities, Inc.



SUMTER COUNTY – Presented by Sumter County Sheriff Bill Farmer (left) to Dr. & Mrs. Robert L. Ticehurst.



COLLIER COUNTY – Presented by Collier County Sheriff Don Hunter to Clifford L. Saby (left).



BAKER COUNTY – Presented by Baker County Sheriff Joey Dobson to Ernest R. Bolduc (left).



PINELLAS COUNTY – Presented by Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Jim Coats (left) and Youth Ranches Development Officer Terry Gregg to Dick Bell, Great Bay Distributors (center).



Ruth Law



Albert Johnson



Mike Chandler



Sylvia Lovett

SUWANNEE COUNTY - Presented by Suwannee County Sheriff Al Williams to Ruth Law, Albert Johnson, Mike Chandler, Sylvia Lovett, James W. Andrews, and Amanda, Rhonda Hall and to Suwannee County Sheriff's Office employees, Corporal Mary Maxwell and Lt. Billy Maxwell..



James W. Andrews



Amanda (center) and Rhonda Hall



Corporal Mary Maxwell and Lt. Billy Maxwell.



Dennis Smith



Kenneth Jensen



Robin Neely



Edna Daniels



Pat Harvey

HAMILTON COUNTY - Presented by Youth Ranches Development Officer Linda Crews (right) to Dennis Smith, Joy Koscher, Kenneth Jensen, Edna Daniels, Robin Neely, Hamilton Printing & Office Supply; and Pat Harvey, Suburban Propane.



ORANGE COUNTY - Presented by Youth Ranches Development Officer Sandy Phillips to Dave Adamson, president, Central Florida Hoo Hoo Club.



GADSDEN COUNTY - Presented by Gadsden County Sheriff's Office Major Ed Spooner and Youth Ranches Development Officer Linda Crews to Julia Woodward (center).



SARASOTA - Presented by Youth Ranches staff to William Salsbury, Jr., (left photo) and Rosalie Silver (right).



HAMILTON COUNTY - Presented by Youth Ranches' staff to Richard E. Brasington.



BAY - Presented by Bay County Sheriff Guy Tunnell's Executive Secretary, Barbara Bell, to Bay County Sheriff's Deputy Tom Hedges.



JASPER - Presented by Youth Ranches Development Officer Linda Crews to Joy Koscher (left).



CHARLOTTE - Presented by Youth Ranches' staff to Mr. & Mrs. J. David Newell.

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
Tallahassee, FL 32317-2519

Or, if you prefer, fax it to: (850) 878-8665

Or call us at (800) 877-2168

Web site: <http://www.membership@flsheriffs.org/>

OLD ADDRESS:

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OF MAGAZINE GOES HERE

NEW ADDRESS:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Area code/phone _____



Mr. & Mrs. James Mulford



Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Kowalczyk



Mr. & Mrs. Paul Allaire

CITRUS – Presented by Citrus County Sheriff Jeff Dawsey, far right, and Youth Ranches Development Officer Frank Kenny to Mr. & Mrs. John Tucker, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Royal, Mr. & Mrs. James Mulford, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Kowalczyk, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Allaire, and Mr. & Mrs. Larry Huxley.



Mr. & Mrs. Larry Huxley



Mr. & Mrs. John Tucker



Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Royal



SARASOTA – Presented by retired Sarasota County Sheriff Geoffrey Monge to Anna Ruggiero.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY – Presented by Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch Development officer Susan Carlson to Walter Dixon.



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY – Presented by Youth Ranch staff to Mr. & Mrs. John Thompson.



FSA photo clips

The Florida Sheriffs Association held its 2001 Annual Administrative Management Training Seminar May 1-3 at the Hilton Jacksonville Riverfront. Many Sheriffs attended, along with their command staff, administrative, human resources and other management-level personnel.

One of the most important services FSA provides is quality, affordable training to the Sheriffs' offices of Florida. What happens behind the front lines in crime-fighting organizations can often dictate the success of a county's public safety program. That's why FSA recruits quality speakers, presenters and exhibitors to assure Sheriffs and their management personnel receive up-to-date information and have the opportunity to learn state-of-the-art techniques for running their departments more effectively.

Photos on this page represent the range of topics.

*Photos by Alison
Evans, Florida
Sheriffs Youth
Ranches.*



Keynote speaker for the event was Steven Oniki – one of America's most dynamic and sought-after speakers. His topic, presented to all attendees during a general session, was "Success is a Do-It-Yourself Job."



Patricia Johnson, president, Life Scan Health Concepts, was a speaker during the "Wellness Programs for the Office of Sheriff," which was presented to Personnel and Human Resource staff. Jacksonville Sheriff Nat Glover (photo above) was moderator.



Michael Johnson, a Licensed Clinical Social Worker from Gainesville, participated in the Critical Incident Stress Management panel for Command Staff. Alachua County Sheriff's Office Major Jim Eckert served as moderator for this and other presentations.

