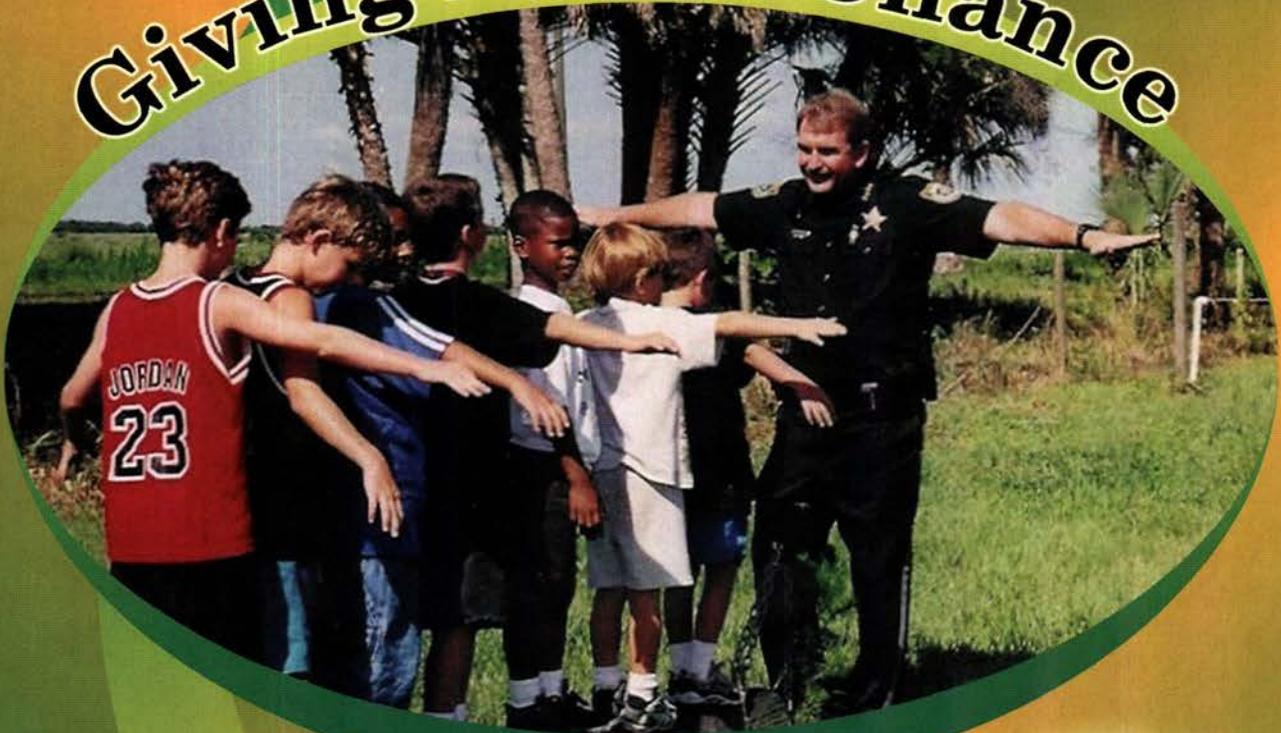


# THE SHERIFF'S STAR

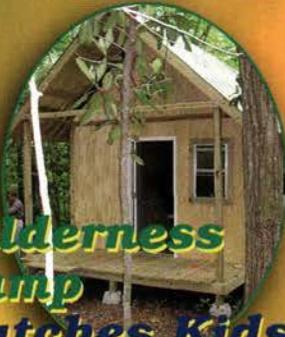
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## Giving Kids a Chance



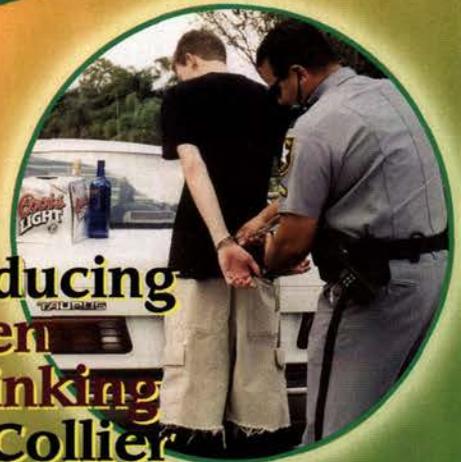
### High-Speed Pursuit in Florida

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### Reducing Teen Drinking in Collier County

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## From the desk of...

Gary Perkins, Executive Director  
Florida Sheriffs Association



It may come as a surprise to some of our readers to see a different face at the top of this column. For those of you who may have missed our last issue, Buddy Phillips has retired.

I wish I could say that he is riding off into the sunset, but frankly, retirement came at a good time, as he needs to focus on his health. Buddy had quadruple bypass surgery late last year and more recently had his gall bladder removed and miscellaneous other surgeries. He is stabilized now and his wife, Mary Jo, is nursing him back to health. Please keep him in your prayers.

In case you're wondering, "So what qualifies you to fill the huge shoes of Buddy Phillips?" I'm kind of wondering that myself. But I'll tell you a little about myself, and maybe we can both be reassured.

I've been with the Florida Sheriffs Association since 1981, starting as director of administrative services and running the business side of the office. When our deputy executive director left and that position stayed vacant, I inherited some of those responsibilities. When Buddy came on board as executive director 14 years ago, he reorganized the staff and appointed me to the position of deputy executive director.

Since that time, I have handled fundraising and membership activities and overseen the finance and accounting departments. I have also been responsible for miscellaneous special projects.

### **Not a law-enforcement veteran**

One way I'm different from Buddy – a law enforcement veteran of 40 years – is that everything I've learned about law enforcement has been through FSA.

I can honestly say that I felt prepared to run the association as a business when I arrived, but

I feel the association has helped me develop many other skills along the way – and the appreciation for law enforcement has been the real reward. There is nothing more rewarding than to work for people who have taken an oath to serve and protect – and who are willing to pay the ultimate price in order to maintain balance in our society.

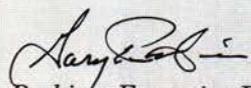
I have also been privileged to know a number of Sheriffs in my career. If you do the math – we lose one third of the Sheriffs every four years – after 21 years, I've come to know a lot of Sheriffs in the state of Florida, current and past. And, I still maintain a relationship with them to this day.

On a personal note, I am a fifth-generation Floridian – an endangered species, as you know. I have a 14-year-old daughter named Lindsey and have lived in Tallahassee since 1979.

### **Expectations**

It's not unusual to expect someone who has assumed a position like mine to outline an agenda, or to let members know what to expect. What I can assure you is that Buddy left this association in the best financial health in its 100-plus year history. You have my commitment of continuing those efforts and to further strengthen and expand the scope of services that we, as an association, provide to Sheriffs, their staff and the citizens of this state.

If you have ideas on how we can help, please send them along. I look forward to continuing to serve you, the members of this association, and our Florida Sheriffs.

  
Gary Perkins, Executive Director

## Beware of New Fraud Schemes

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office has been warning residents of several fraudulent schemes that target the elderly. Similar scams are reported all over Florida. They drive home two points: 1) Senior citizens need to take special care to protect themselves from fraud by not allowing strangers, no matter how official sounding, into their homes, and 2) There's no such thing as easy money – if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

### Fraudulent lottery scam

Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Financial Crimes Unit is investigating a case in which an elderly Palm Springs man lost \$17,000 in a fraudulent lotto scam.

Two Hispanic males are involved. One suspect approaches the victim in a public place — usually a supermarket — requesting assistance cashing a



winning lottery ticket. The other Hispanic male becomes involved in the conversation as a third party. The Hispanic male with the lottery ticket tells the victim that he is an illegal alien and is unable to cash in the ticket. The suspect proposes to the victim that he/she put up a good faith deposit (usually several thousand dollars) until the ticket is cashed. The victim is promised their deposit back, plus a bonus. The suspects ride to the bank in the victim's car to withdraw the money. One suspect stays in the vehicle as the other enters the bank

with the victim. After obtaining the money, the suspects request a ride to a Post Office to get stamps. They convince the victim to enter the Post Office to purchase the stamps. While the victim is in the Post Office the suspects take the money and leave the area.

### "Distraction thief" targeting elderly

Two elderly residents were recently robbed by a distraction thief allegedly working for a medical equipment company.

One victim reported money stolen when a salesperson had come to her residence, telling her he was working for a medical equipment company selling wheelchairs.

The victim said she reluctantly let the salesperson into her home, and he began questioning her about her insurance provider. The victim said the salesperson then went into her purse looking for an insurance card and allegedly took between \$200 and \$250.

After the salesman left, she noticed the money missing and immediately notified the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, informing them that the salesperson was still in the neighborhood. Deputies located the salesperson, who gave the deputies permission to search him. They found money, but could not determine whether or not this was the victim's money. He was not arrested.

Deputies canvassed the area and located another elderly resident who had been visited by the same salesperson. In this case, the victim was robbed of medication.

Employees from the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office learned about the first incident and collected money to replace that which had been stolen. Both crimes are still under investigation. ♦



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# Wilderness Camp Matches Kids and Cops

By: Emily Balazs  
Public Affairs Specialist  
Bay County Sheriff's Office

Lush, green foliage. The pristine waters of the Econfina Creek. Nothing but the sounds of the birds chirping, kids laughing and water trickling down the stream. Plus, brand new cabins.

Welcome to the Bay County Sheriff's Office Wilderness Camp.

The Bay County Sheriff's Office Wilderness Camp was established in the summer of 2000 to reach at-risk kids (aged 11 to 17) who are identified in the local schools by School Resource Deputies (SRDs). Staffed entirely by SRDs, the camp offers a strong dose of self-esteem, confidence, teamwork, encouragement and — perhaps most importantly — camaraderie between kids and law enforcement.

"We're in the middle of the woods," says Lt. Chuck Polk, SRD supervisor. "There's no TV, no radio, no cell phones — there's just woods. We spend a lot of time canoeing and tubing down Econfina Creek. We keep the kids busy from 5:30 in the morning till 10:00 at night."

There are a number of character-building activities included in the week long camp. The kids have to rely on teamwork to complete the confidence course — which includes climbing over walls, walking on a



**Hands on work:** Deputies from the Bay County Sheriffs Office helped construct cabins to house at-risk kids (ages 11-17) during their weeklong stay at the Wilderness Camp. School Resource Deputies have noted a reduction in incidents because of the rapport that has been made on a personal level — outside of the school setting — through the camp.

40-foot high wire and a "catch your own food day," in which kids eat whatever they can catch, trap or dig-up. For those who turn up nothing, there's always a stash of MRE's (meals ready-to-eat).

At first, the activities seem overwhelming, but they learn that with persistence and help from others they can be successful.

"It's just fantastic," says Polk. "We've found that the rapport between the kids and their SRDs continues on into the following school year. That's a major benefit that has really impacted our schools. We've seen a reduction in incidents

because of the rapport that has been made on a personal level — outside of the school setting."

The last night of the weeklong camp is a special treat for both the kids and the Command Staff. While the kids get into groups and perform skits — most of the time humorously imitating the staff — the SRDs grill steaks for everyone. "For a lot of kids, this is the first time they have had a steak," Polk says.

The majority of crimes are committed by youth, he says. "We perceive crimes as being committed by adults but that's not true. In most any community, better than 60



Since the summer of 2000, 75 Bay County children have attended the Wilderness Camp. Says Bay County Sheriff Guy Tunnell: "By taking the children and the School Resource Deputies out of the everyday school setting, both tend to view each other in a more positive light."

to 65 percent of crimes are committed by kids. So the more we can work with the kids, the better off we're going to be."

The kids who come to the BCSO Wilderness Camp are disruptive kids, Polk says. These are kids who are teetering on the brink of the criminal justice system.

"The camp is a wonderful opportunity to impact the youth in a positive way," says Bay County

Sheriff Guy Tunnell. "Typically, these kids have had a negative view of law enforcement. The BCSO Wilderness Camp is a tool that bridges that relationship. By taking the children and the SRDs out of the everyday school setting, both tend to view each other in a more positive light."

This summer, kids will move from tents into new cabins. The SRDs are in the process of building seven

cabins that will sleep up to 10 people each. The cabins will be equipped with electricity and ceiling fans and cost approximately \$2,000 a piece. Money for the cabins comes from forfeiture funds.

Through the years, a total of 75 Bay County children have benefited from the BCSO Wilderness Camp. This year, the Sheriff's Office will welcome 65 children over a two-week period — the largest group to date. The first week of camp will be attended by 20 girls and the second week by 45 boys, beginning in June.

More construction, including a permanent bathhouse, board walk and rope bridge are planned for the future. With such expansions in the works, there is talk of turning the camp into a summer-long program.

"It does make a difference," Polk says. "We have made a noticeable impact." ♦



## Finishing Touches

The Florida Sheriffs Association Law Enforcement Memorial is about to be a reality. Contractors have installed the memorial wall and our artist, Sandy Proctor, is positioning the figures. Pictured here, a worker from Broward Monument uses an air-blasting gun to etch the designs and more than 250 names of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty from the 67 Sheriffs' Offices of Florida.

The memorial is expected to be complete by mid summer and the Florida Sheriffs Association is planning a dedication, which will likely take place in the fall.

**REPORT METH**  
Dealers, Users & Labs  
UP TO **\$2000 REWARD**  
Remain Anonymous  
**1-800-226-TIPS** 



Polk County Sheriff Lawrence W. Crow, Jr. holds up evidence of drugs at a press conference. Because of the rash of arrests and reports of drug activity, Polk has been labeled "The Meth Capital of Florida."



## Polk County Battles Meth Crisis With Public Awareness Campaign

By: Aaron Flint  
Public Information Officer  
Polk County Sheriff's Office

During a 1989 interview with the CBS show 48 Hours, a longtime meth trafficker stated, "If you thought the cocaine wars were bad, brother, you ain't seen anything yet, 'cause the amphetamine wars are going to be 10 times worse." Little did the Polk County Sheriff's Office know how close to home these words would hit. A decade later, law-enforcement officials throughout the state have labeled Polk County the "meth capital of Florida."

Since the late 1980s, the Polk County Sheriff's Office has battled a methamphetamine crisis. Due to its size, location, and rural areas, Polk has become a haven for the meth trade. In 1996, the largest meth bust in the state's history occurred when agents seized over \$1 million worth of methamphetamine and \$750,000 in cash from a run-down trailer in the Eloise area of Polk County, just outside of Winter Haven. In 2000, Polk County had more methamphetamine seizures than any other county in the state of Florida.

In response to the ongoing problem, the Polk County Sheriff's Office has taken a proactive approach to stop Polk's "need for speed." Although increased enforcement efforts, better-trained personnel and increased communication between local, state, and federal agencies have all played a major role in combating meth, one of the most effective weapons in the Sheriff's Office's arsenal is public awareness.

The meth public-awareness campaign is possible because of a \$250,000 "Hot Spots" meth grant the Polk County Sheriff's Office received from the Bureau of Justice Assistance in 2001. Without this grant, the Sheriff's Office would be hard pressed financially to promote awareness and combat this lethal drug.

On the surface, public awareness may appear to be nothing more than conducting a few presentations here and there, occasionally speaking with some community members about drugs, and handing out a few stickers that read "Just Say No." However, the Polk County Sheriff's Office has used public awareness as a tool to successfully spread the message regarding the dangers of meth.

"Polk County is currently experiencing a significant increase in methamphetamine manufacturing and trafficking," says Polk County Sheriff Lawrence W. Crow, Jr. "Law enforcement continues to combat the effects this drug has on the community, but we can no longer fight this problem without community support."

In order to educate the community about meth, the Polk County Sheriff's Office Community Services Unit and Bureau of Special Investigations regularly show a Microsoft Power-Point presentation concerning Polk's methamphetamine crisis. The presentation itself represents an in-depth look at what meth is, the signs of use, signs of a lab, the violence associated with meth use and who to call if a meth lab or dealer is in someone's neighborhood. Narcotics deputies with extensive knowledge about meth also conduct the presentations that are held throughout the county. Groups who have viewed the meth presentation include local public safety organizations (Polk County Fire Department/HAZMAT), zoning departments, code enforcement groups, Realtors and civic groups from various parts of the county.

"It's important for our agency to educate our citizens," says Polk County Sheriff's Office Colonel Grady Judd. "These folks live, work or drive through the neighborhoods where meth exists on a daily basis. After all — citizens (who are) educated about the dangers of meth know what to look for, are more likely to contact law enforcement to report meth activity and

understand that they play a major role in assisting the Sheriff's Office in its efforts to combat meth."

During the developmental stages of the meth awareness campaign, the Polk County Sheriff's Office decided that visual reminders of Polk's meth problem would enhance community awareness and involvement. As a result, billboards were designed and placed in various locations throughout the county. These billboards are not boring text messages that lull drivers to sleep. Instead, the Polk County Sheriff's Office designed a "to the point" graphic example of a man "shooting up." The current billboards displayed throughout the county show a man preparing a meth-filled needle accompanied by the message, "Methamphetamine; A Recipe For Disaster In Your Neighborhood!" The billboards also display the Polk County Sheriff's Office 533-DRUG and 676-DRUG Hotlines. Recently, the billboards have been redesigned to incorporate the Polk County Crime Stoppers Hotline (1-800-226-TIPS). The message is simple, "Fight Meth; Report Dealers, Users and Labs, be eligible for up to a \$2,000 reward and remain anonymous."

Another aspect of the visual awareness portion of the meth awareness campaign is utilizing local movie theaters to remind citizens of the meth problem in Polk County. Now when residents visit local movie theaters, not only do they see the "silence is golden" reminder, but they also see a reminder that meth is "a recipe for disaster in your neighborhood."

Polk County Sheriff's Office Web site ([www.polksheriff.org](http://www.polksheriff.org)) features a meth image, too. Now when someone logs on to the Sheriff's Office Web site, one of the first images visible is a report meth billboard. By clicking on the billboard, users are linked to a recent Polk County Crime Stoppers bulletin that specifically targets methamphetamine activity.



**One of the reasons methamphetamine use has multiplied is because it can be manufactured using mostly household products that are easily purchased. During a recent lab seizure, the suspected admitted that he had purchased chemicals and other items used in his lab at the local Wal-Mart.**

So, does the use of the Sheriff's Office Web site promote meth awareness? Consider this: The Polk County Sheriff's Office Web site receives an average of 1.5 million hits every month.

Other tactics to promote awareness also are being used. For example, the PCSO Community Services Unit has contacted local home improvement retailers and pharmacies in an effort to familiarize retail employees of suspicious purchases that may be related to methamphetamine production. This is crucial because most, if not all, of the products and chemicals used to manufacture meth can be purchased at local stores. In fact, Polk County Sheriff's Office Bureau of Special Investigations Captain Tim Holleyman states, "During one of the most recent lab seizures, the suspect admitted to us that he purchased his entire lab and all of the chemicals at the local Walmart store."

The posters inform retailers of what to look for regarding suspicious purchases. These purchases include large amounts of chemicals and products that are used to manufacture meth.

Although the Polk County Sheriff's



Office has utilized several different avenues to promote meth awareness, there are plans to expand this campaign. Currently, the Sheriff's Office Bureau of Investigations, Community Services Unit, and Public Information Office are working together to produce radio public-service announcements, ads concerning meth activity in local news papers, targeted mass mailings of meth related literature to specific areas of the county, and phone messages that will be sent out by the Sheriff's Office's county-wide alert system. While the Sheriff's office continues to enhance enforcement tactics, intelligence pertaining to meth activity, and training, one of its most productive weapons to battle meth may simply be increasing citizen awareness about the dangers of this lethal drug. After all, law-abiding Polk residents have a good reason to join the Sheriff's Office in this battle – to ensure the safety and well being of future generations. ♦

By: Leslie Redding

I had seen people in wheelchairs all of my life and never thought about what it took for them to function each day. All of the things that we take for granted, such as: getting dressed in the morning, getting out of bed, or going to the bathroom. And how do you brush your teeth, wash your hair or eat when your fingers can't move?

I never thought about how difficult it might be to cuddle up to somebody when you need a hug and are encumbered by a metal frame. Or how do they get in and out of their house or go into a friend's house.

The answer to all of those questions was thrown at me in one awful moment, but has taken me two years to really absorb.

In the year 2000, our oldest of three children, Robby, was 18 years old and straining for independence. He was intelligent, a super baseball player, popular and so full of life and promise. God had blessed him with so many gifts that he felt invincible, and his behavior became reckless.

On February 20, 2000, his dad and I were talking to him about being more responsible. His response to us was, "I'm 18 years old — let me make my own decisions and suffer my own consequences!"

I told him the problem with that was that we always had to suffer those consequences, too. Little did I know how true those words would be by the end of the day and for the rest of our lives.

That night, Robby was driving an SUV filled with three of his good friends in Franklin County when he lost control and rolled it four or five times. None of the boys had chosen to wear a seatbelt. His friend, Dale, slipped part of the way out of the backseat window and was crushed as the car rolled. He died in the arms of his friend, Jessie, a few minutes later.

Chris, who had been in the front

# The Difference A Few Seconds Can Make



Tragedy could have been avoided for two families by one simple action: Buckling seatbelts. In this photo, taken the week of his accident in February 2000, Robby struggles for survival.

passenger seat, was ejected and broke his arm. Robby was ejected through the sunroof and broke his neck. He was paralyzed from the chest down.

Jessie, the only one who by some miracle was not ejected, did not have a physical scratch on him. But the emotional injury will be with him forever.

## Consequences

A lifetime of pain and suffering for so many of us could have been avoided if each one of those boys had taken the few seconds needed to buckle up their seat belt.

The phone call came at about 1:00 in the morning, and our lives changed forever. We arrived at the accident scene to find Dale — whose parents we had promised earlier we would care for — lying dead on the side of the road. I cannot explain to you the horror of that kind of reality. My life will never ever be the same.

The hours, days and weeks ahead were a blur of one painful nightmare after another. The 45-minute ambulance ride to the hospital in Panama City (because our local hospital was too crowded to take him). And watching the Emergency

Medical Technician desperately working to keep Robby breathing as his body was rapidly shutting down.

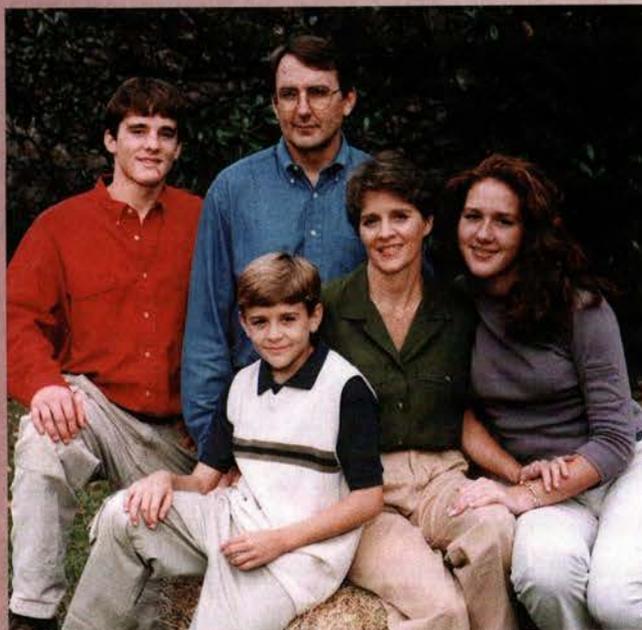
Then watching them drill holes in my son's skull to attach the tongs that would keep him in traction; seeing the anguish in the eyes of his little sister and brother; his grandparents, cousins and friends; the nightmare of having to make that first phone call to Dale's parents to tell them how sorry we were for the awful reality that our son was responsible for the death of their child; the fear that shot through my body each time an alarm went off on one of the many machines attached to my son to keep him alive. And the devastation we felt the first time a doctor explained to us that Robby's injury was permanent and there was no real hope that he would regain any of the abilities he had lost.

The consequences were too numerous and awful to imagine, and at times we weren't sure we'd survive.

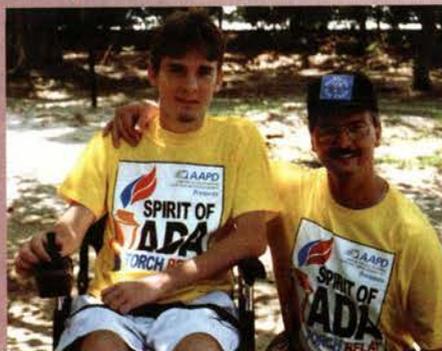
### The cost of survival

We moved Robby to a rehabilitation hospital in Atlanta after two weeks in intensive care at Bay Memorial Hospital (Panama City). I left my two younger children in Tallahassee and moved into an apartment nearby for the next four months. My family and I had to take classes at the hospital to learn how to care for Robby.

Back home, my husband, Charley, worked frantically to adapt our home and life to accommodate Robby's return. All of our bedrooms and baths were upstairs and there were steps that had to be climbed to even enter the house. We had to make an addition to our house with an accessible bedroom and bath with a roll-in shower and a ramped entrance. This cost about \$100,000. We purchased a wheelchair-accessible van to transport Robby



The Redding family pictured three months before the accident: Robby (far left), his parents, Charley and Leslie, and siblings, Alex and Sarah Jordan. Nearly a year after his accident, Robby Redding carried the torch for the American With Disabilities Torch Relay. He's pictured with Dale Pullen's uncle, Robert Pullen. Dale was 17-years-old when killed in the accident that also left Robby paralyzed.



that was about \$38,000. We had to purchase wheelchairs and other medical equipment for him to use when he returned home. The cost of the surgeries, hospital and rehabilitation programs ran well over \$1 million.

Leon High School, where Robby attended, had no elevator. The school board spent hundreds of thousands of dollars to install one for Robby and another boy who was in a wheelchair because of another automobile accident.

Thankfully, we had insurance, government assistance and friends who were willing to fundraise in

order to help us out — but all of that took countless hours of research, phone calls and negotiating to get the help we needed.

Not all of the other patients we met in rehab were so fortunate. Many of them did not even have family members who were willing or able to take them home and care for them, so they would have to live in some type of nursing home for the rest of their lives.

The reality for Robby, whose main goal in life was to be independent from his parents, is now complete and total dependence on us. He relies on us to dress, bathe and feed

him and to help him with all his personal hygiene. There are only a few family members who have been trained to give his specialty care, and one of us always has to be available to assist him.

Robby uses an adaptive computer to help him take classes at Tallahassee Community College. And the van that we purchased to transport him has now been adapted with hand controls, so Robby can drive again. But when the van or Robby's power chair breaks down, he is stuck. His life is put on hold until repairs are made, because he is dependent on his equipment, too.

The reality for Robby's dad and me is that the child we knew died that night. We will never see him run out onto the baseball field again. We will always have a child to care for. We will probably never reach that time in our life when our children are gone and we can enjoy our independence.

But we are the lucky ones. Our son is still alive.

I am here to tell you that bad things do happen and not just to other people. We all have to be responsible for ourselves and realize how our actions affect all of the people who love us. For us it could have all been changed by one simple action: Buckle Up. ♦

# Going, Going, Gone : High-Speed Pursuit in Florida

By: Ronald A.  
Mowrey  
General Counsel  
Florida Sheriffs  
Self-Insurance  
Fund



**High-speed chases are often the subject of public scrutiny and media attention, but they play a critical role in law enforcement's protection of citizens. Recent cases prove the need for the Florida Legislature to take action regarding liability when accidents result.**

Law-enforcement officers are constantly faced with making split-second decisions affecting the safety of many. One such decision is whether or not to pursue a suspect in a high-speed chase. When faced with this decision, officers must quickly make decisions that weigh the potential danger and risk of injury in pursuing the suspect with that of letting the suspect go.

Litigation resulting from high-speed pursuits is not a recent phenomenon. Historically, persons injured as a result of a high speed or "hot pursuit" filed suit under Title 42 United States Code Chapter 1983 for the deprivation of an individual's civil rights. However, the law has evolved and now state court negligence actions have become the preferred method of recovery. The shift from federal to state law actions occurred following the United States Supreme Court's *County of Sacramento v. Lewis* decision. In this decision, the Court stated that the Fourth Amendment 'reasonableness' standard no longer applies to high speed pursuit cases and that the

more stringent 'shocks the conscious' standard now applies. While suits for high-speed pursuits are still capable of being considered under Federal Law, it must now be shown that a law-enforcement officer *intended* to harm the plaintiff. This increased burden in Chapter 1983 actions will

increase state court tort actions. Therefore, it is more important than ever that pursuit liability be addressed by state Legislature.

### The Florida perspective

In Florida, law-enforcement officers are not per se liable for a high-speed pursuit because the decision alone to pursue a suspect cannot give rise to liability. However, in 1967, the Florida Supreme Court stated in *City of Miami v. Horne*, that a law-enforcement officer could be liable if he or she drives in a reckless and wanton manner. The pursuit in this case began when a suspect was pulled over for speeding and got out of his car, but then jumped back in his car and fled at a high rate of speed. Two law-enforcement vehicles pursued the suspect through a populated area at 95 miles per hour in a 30 m.p.h. zone. The pursuit ran through several stop signs and red lights before the suspect collided with an innocent driver. At the time the suspect fled, the deputies had no idea why he was doing so. The suspect could have been wanted for a serious crime, just left the scene of a murder, had a kidnapped victim in



his trunk, been trafficking drugs, etc. When pursuits begin, the law-enforcement officers are responding to suspicious behavior or violations of law as they are trained to do.

In 1992, the Florida Supreme Court further addressed the duty of care owed by law-enforcement officers to innocent bystanders injured as a result of high-speed pursuits in *City of Pinellas Park v. Brown*. The Court expanded pursuit liability by finding that a duty to innocent bystanders existed even if an accident was not directly caused by a law-enforcement officer, because often the number of vehicles involved in high-speed pursuit create a foreseeable risk of injury. The underlying facts involved 14 to 20 law-enforcement officers traveling at speeds of 80 to 120 m.p.h. through 25 miles of congested areas. In addition, the pursuit traveled through 34 stop signs and traffic lights. During the chase, the Pinellas County Sheriff's Department advised its deputies to abandon the pursuit, however, the deputies continued anyway. Near the conclusion of the pursuit, an officer in close proximity to the

Plaintiff's car failed to warn innocent bystanders of the chase heading their way which ultimately resulted in the accident.

The court found that the deputy had exceeded proper and rational bounds causing the accident, but noted that law-enforcement officers are not required to let every lawbreaker escape merely because a hot pursuit occurs. Further, the court held that the doctrine of sovereign immunity did not shield the Sheriff's Office from liability. As a result of the city of Pinellas Park decision, pursuit liability was expanded by allowing the Judiciary to usurp the sovereign immunity limits established by the Florida Legislature.

In Florida, the state, its agencies and subdivisions have waived sovereign immunity for tort suits, but limited damages to \$100,000 per person and \$200,000 per occurrence absent a legislative act. While a governmental entity may settle within its insurance coverage without legislative approval, absent an act of the Legislature there is no affirmative duty for a governmental entity to pay damages over the sovereign immunity limits. Thus, when plaintiffs are awarded judgments in excess of the sovereign immunity limits they must go through the claim bill process, unless the governmental entity is willing to settle within its insurance coverage limits.

To start the legislative claim process, a senator or representative must file a local bill requesting a claim. Once a claim bill has been filed, the House and Senate each appoint a Special Master to conduct a *de novo* (new) hearing to determine liability, proximate cause, and damages. Since this hearing is *de novo*, it is the Special Master's responsibility to reweigh or take a fresh look at the facts and substantive issues. After the hearing, the Special Master issues a formal recommendation stating whether the claim bill should be reported FAVORABLE or UNFAVORABLE. Following the

Special Masters' recommendation, a claim bill will either proceed through legislative process or be withdrawn.

### New legislation

This year, as a result of an alleged high-speed pursuit by a St. Lucie County Deputy Sheriff, Senate Bill 76 and House Bill 563 were filed by Sen. Bill Posey (R-Rockledge) and Rep. Chris Smith (D-Ft. Lauderdale), respectively. In the underlying case, the plaintiffs were seriously injured when a vehicle a Sheriff's Deputy was attempting to catch ran a red light and hit the van they were traveling in. As a result of the collision, a jury awarded the plaintiffs \$4.8 million of which the Sheriff's Office was found to be partially (50 percent) negligent.

The St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office and the Florida Sheriffs' Self-Insurance Fund contested liability on the basis that the Deputy Sheriff did not act in a negligent manner or exceed the rational bounds of conduct. Interestingly, the Senate Special Master recommended SB 76 be reported as FAVORABLE, but the House Special Master recommended that the HB 563 be reported UNFAVORABLE. In reaching their decisions, the Senate Special Master gave great deference to the jury verdict; whereas the House Special Master found that there was no evidence the Deputy had operated his vehicle negligently or caused the accident.

During the committee process and after much discussion regarding pursuit liability, the excess judgment was reduced to \$1.25 million. On March 22, 2002, Senate Bill 76 was ordered enrolled.

### What does the future hold?

If claim bills for high-speed pursuits become a regular occurrence in Florida, it is the individual citizens who will ultimately suffer because it will soon be too costly for law-enforcement officers to pursue individuals acting in violation of the law for fear of runaway jury verdicts and meaningless sovereign immunity limits. Therefore, suspects will be more likely to flee based upon the



belief that law-enforcement officers cannot give chase, which will increase risks to innocent bystanders.

Where will the limit be drawn as to pursuit liability? Should law enforcement also be liable for injuries to innocent bystanders hurt by suspects being pursued on foot, by a dog, or a helicopter?

Sheriffs' Offices and other law-enforcement agencies are already taking steps to minimize high-speed pursuits. Devices, such as spike strips, are being used by law enforcement to disable fleeing vehicles and minimize the risks to innocent bystanders. In addition, law enforcement may soon have access to high-tech devices, such as high-powered electromagnetic charge systems, which disable modern car engines.

While current and future technologies will reduce the risks created by fleeing suspects, even the most high-tech devices will not prevent some persons from fleeing. For this reason, if it is still public policy in Florida to pursue individuals acting in violation of the law, then it is time for the Florida Legislature to provide statutory guidance and protections for those individuals whose duty it is to preserve law and order and protect the sanctity of human life. Simply, the Legislature needs to enact or amend the law to eliminate law enforcement's liability for injuries caused by individuals who are attempting to avoid apprehension after refusing to comply with a lawful order or direction.

**Ronald A. Mowrey** practices law in Tallahassee, Florida. He serves as General Counsel to the Florida Sheriffs' Self-Insurance Funds and is the managing shareholder of Mowrey & Biggins, P.A. (D. Tyler Van Leuven and Ellen C. Pappas contributed to this article.) ♦

# Reducing Teen Drinking in Collier County



By: *Damian Housman*  
Publications Coordinator  
Collier County Sheriff's Office

Teen drinking is a serious problem nationwide, and Collier County, Florida, is not exempt from this problem. Four years ago, Collier County Sheriff Don Hunter decided on a multifaceted approach to address the dangers teen drinking represents to the community.

Sheriff Hunter initiated meetings with community leaders, school officials and student leaders, as well as local, county, and state law-enforcement agencies to address the issue of teen drinking in the county. The result was that the entire community adopted a policy of strict enforcement of existing liquor laws, along with pro-active alcohol education.

While drinking might seem like a right of passage for teens, they are in for a rude awakening when busted. Depending on the age, the kids can be jailed and run the risk of losing their license and earning a criminal record.

The Collier County Sheriff's Office has long held a commitment to educate young people in important safety subjects. Deputies are assigned to schools throughout the county and regularly teach drug awareness. It was a natural extension of their duties for the School Resource Officers (Youth Relations Deputies) to become involved in teaching about the dangers of alcohol, especially in high school drivers education classes.

It was in these classes that they introduced a helpful tool. It's hard for someone who has legally consumed alcohol to explain the effects to someone who hasn't. You can show videos, but unless one has a way to personally see what it does to your perceptions behind the wheel — some of the points may not sink in. In fact, even those who have consumed alcohol are often unaware of its

effects on perceptions and capabilities.

## Through a drunk's eyes

In the past, Youth Relations Deputies have used videos, displays and other means to demonstrate the effects of alcohol on the human body. One of the most effective tools they have discovered are Fatal Vision Goggles. These specially designed goggles simulate different levels of intoxication and allow students to gauge how their perceptions and reaction times become impaired by alcohol.

High school driver's education students are invited to try out the goggles, which distort vision so the wearer sees the world as though he or she is intoxicated. The students get to walk a "straight" line, play catch with a ball, throw a ball at a target, and take part in other demonstrations. They get to experience first hand

how difficult it is to function after drinking. Youth Relations Deputies give their anti-alcohol presentations throughout the school year, with special emphasis around the times of homecoming, prom and graduation.

A major effort in which the Collier County Sheriff's Office participates is Project Graduation. This is an alcohol and drug-free celebration for graduating high school seniors. It has proven highly popular with the students and has the full support of the community, with food and door prizes and an all-night party for graduating seniors.

Along with the pro-active education component, there must be a strong law-enforcement component. The law in Florida prohibits those under 21 years of age from possessing alcohol. The Collier County Sheriff's Office's policy is to strictly enforce these statutes. If probable cause exists for an arrest for possession of alcohol, the Deputy may either make a physical arrest or issue a notice to appear.

When deputies come across a party — or simply some young people drinking on the beach — all of those under 21 are checked for consumption of alcohol. All who have been drinking and all that are in possession are charged. Parents of all juveniles — drinking or not — are contacted. The Sheriff's Office is also working closely with the State Attorney's Office to make juvenile drinking charges a priority.

### **Parental guidance is critical**

The involvement of parents is an important element in the effort against teen alcohol abuse. In many cases the parent is

completely unaware that their child has been drinking. While some parents have known their children drink — some even allowing it — most are grateful to find out what their children have been doing in secret. It's a real eye opener and a clue to responsible parents that they need to find ways to exert control. Parents may not like the embarrassment of having to pick up their child at the jail, but they would like it a lot less if they were identifying their child's body after a tragic crash caused by drunken driving.

In conjunction with efforts aimed directly at teen drinking, the Collier County Sheriff's Office teamed up with the Florida Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco office to put together an operation directed at those who sell alcohol to underage buyers. Sting operations were arranged at several locations and were very successful. Some businesses were chosen at random, while others were chosen because underage drinkers identified their sources for alcohol. Underage buyers used in the sting operations have been student employees of the Sheriff's Office or Explorers. Store clerks who sold alcohol to these underage buyers were issued notices to appear. Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco further reviewed the liquor license of each store found to have been in violation.

Enforcement efforts are at their strongest during the summer when young people are out of school and have more time to abuse alcohol. Youth Relations Deputies spend their summer months seeking out juvenile parties and other areas where



**Loading up the cooler and taking mom and dad's car for a joy ride might seem innocent to teenagers, but when the handcuffs are snapped, they learn what it means to be a common criminal.**

young people are likely to be misusing alcohol.

Over the last four years, Collier County deputies have encountered hundreds of alcohol-imbibing juveniles who ultimately made it home safely because they were stopped and then turned over to a parent or to another responsible adult. They may not have realized it at the time, but their safety and even their lives may well have hinged on the diligence of our Deputy, and his or her insistence that a parent become involved.

The focus of the Collier County Sheriff's Office is well balanced between law enforcement, education and prevention. Youth Relations Deputies are active throughout the school year, driving home the point that drinking is a dangerous proposition for young people. It takes a combination of education, proactive enforcement and parental notification to save lives.

For more information on this and other programs by the Collier County Sheriff's Office, visit their Web site at: [www.colliersheriff.org](http://www.colliersheriff.org).



# Sheriff's Charter School to Fight Crime Among Troubled Kids

By: Kevin Beary  
Sheriff of  
Orange County

To be completely effective in today's world, law enforcement must continuously seek out new and innovative programs to stop crime before it starts. The value of comprehensive, pro-active crime prevention programs is self-evident. Identifying specific target audiences for a law-enforcement agency's crime prevention endeavors can only serve to enhance effectiveness. I, for one, cannot think of a better target audience for any crime prevention program than our youngsters.

In Orange County, we have long maintained that children are one of our most precious resources. Our DARE, GREAT, JAM, and Explorers are but a few of the programs we already

have in place that cater to the county's juvenile population. Despite the successes of each of these programs, serious crimes — including crimes of violence involving juveniles — were becoming too commonplace in our county.

After a careful review of crimes being committed by young men in Orange County — youngsters primarily in their early teens, most of them of middle school age

— we found some clear-cut common denominators among them. The youngsters were mostly African American or Hispanic, they readily admitted to never being taught what is morally right or wrong by any role model or trusted authority figure in their lives, and,

perhaps most alarming, they simply could not read.

## Tapping staff expertise

Malone Stewart, my Undersheriff, grew up in a tough, African American neighborhood. He had seen, up-close and personal, the problems law enforcement regularly responds to and cleans up long before he became a cop. He's seen, over and over again, good kids go bad. He started to look for reasons and solutions.

During one of our many conversations about the tragedy of juvenile crime, he noted that we

have kids in this county arrested for stealing cars that earnestly believed they had done nothing wrong because the owners of the cars had insurance. He took a "snap shot" of 20 young men who had died violently and discovered they could not read or make appropriate "what's right and what's wrong" decisions. He saw that they simply lacked the family structure, role models or positive influences in their lives that would give them any hope for a bright future outside the quagmire of "the hood."

It was time to think outside the box and come up with a program to turn these youngsters around. Undersheriff Stewart and I agreed that an innovative and aggressive educational opportunity specifically targeting the young men who were responsible for the lion's share of the serious criminal activity we were experiencing might go a long way in helping to solve our juvenile crime problem.

As we explored our options for creating an educational opportunity for troubled teens, we knew immediately that securing funds for any new venture could be, in a word, problematic. As it turned out, it was not. The Florida Legislature had already passed a law that gave corporations a tax credit for diverting tax dollars to scholarship funding organizations. The beauty of the bill is that it allows parents with



children on free or reduced lunch programs to choose a school that is best for their child. The foundation was already in place and we were able to move forward with our idea.

Last summer, Undersheriff Stewart discussed our idea with his pastor, the Rev. Willie Barnes, of the Macedonia Baptist Church in Eatonville, Florida. Together, they launched a plan that promises to provide the basic tools a young man needs to escape the endless cycle of illiteracy, poverty and crime that we in law enforcement know all too well.

The Nehemiah Sheriff's Faith Based Academy was born.

### **Structure**

By all accounts, the academy will mark the first time a Sheriff's Office has taken on the task of running a school. We know there's nothing like it in Florida and believe it to be the first of its kind in the country. It will be a private middle school open to troubled young men from low-income homes. We elected to make this venture a middle school because the histories of the young men we looked at clearly showed that their anti-social, criminal behavior began at that juncture in their lives. We hope this program will change that alarming fact.

We are particularly proud because the program is

community policing in the purest sense of the term. It brings law enforcement, corporate America, state and local government, and our community together in an attempt to reverse an alarming crime trend that impacts all of us. The program also has the support of the Orange County School Board.

A private foundation has contributed up a \$250,000 grant for the construction of the school. The Florida Power Corporation stepped up to the plate and committed an additional \$25,000 to get the academy up and running. The Sheriff's Office will staff the school with two deputies from the Juvenile Arrest and Monitor (JAM) unit. The JAM deputies will team up with youth ministers. They will be tasked with making after-hours visits to the homes of students who do not make satisfactory progress in school or continue to give their parents problems at home.

Two things will be made very clear to students who participate in the program that takes kids with two strikes against them and tries to turn them around with a mega dose of tough love, faith and male mentoring. There will be no "social promotions." Students will be expected to succeed. Some kids can expect to spend more than three years in the program to achieve the success level we expect. They will be proficient and at grade level before they leave this school. The ultimate goal of this program is to return the students to a public high school where they can be

successful and move on to productive, non-criminal lives.

Academy students will be tested a minimum of three times a year to monitor their progress. Visits to the homes of students who do not show satisfactory progress will be made to determine if there are domestic issues affecting their performance. We will demand a lot from the students. But in return, we will be doing everything we can to help them succeed during their 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. school day. Two hours of remedial reading will be a part of the students' highly regimented and structured curriculum.

As of this writing, everything is on schedule for the Nehemiah Sheriff's Faith Based Academy to be ready to accept 300 students during the fall of 2002. Plans are being finalized for another 300-student program on the county's south side to open its doors at the same time.

I am very excited about the potential impact this unique educational opportunity will have on our local juvenile crime rate and the fact that this program just might help a number of youngsters turn their lives around and be productive members of our community. Time will tell. I am equally excited that so many facets of the community came together to make this dream a reality. We all stand to benefit from this coordinated and most worthy effort. ♦

# Giving Kids a Chance

By: Joan Heller  
Public Information Officer  
Brevard County Sheriff's Office

**The Brevard County Sheriff's Office wanted to do more for kids. Through Camp Chance, they've found a way.**

Since 1998, Camp Chance has been providing opportunity to kids who haven't had much of it in their lives. The summer day camp program, founded by the Brevard County Sheriff's Office, gives them a chance to have lunch aboard a Coast Guard cutter, a chance to ride a jet ski and even a chance to go fishing with a new friend in a Sheriff's uniform.

Brevard County Sheriff Phil Williams says Camp Chance provides at-risk kids, ranging in age from six to 14, access to activities they might not otherwise have an opportunity to experience. The underlying goal is to build self-esteem and strengthen decision-making skills among youth.

It also offers kids the chance to meet law enforcement officers as friends and role models, says Sheriff Williams.

"It's been a remarkable success," said Brevard County Deputy Pam Hibbs, who coordinates the program. When the program started it had three weeklong sessions with about 100 kids attending each session, she says. A year later, it was expanded to five weeks and in 2000 to seven weeks.

"We never lack for kids who want to come to camp, volunteers to work with them or donors to supply their lunches, pay for their field trips or provide them with sports equipment and craft supplies," says Sheriff Williams.

Each camper is provided bus transportation from his or her community and spends much of his or her week at camp fishing, canoeing and riding on paddle boats, jet boats and jet skis. Equally popular are the



**Building children's self esteem and strengthening their decision-making skills at an early age can make a difference in them becoming healthy, productive adults. The Brevard County Sheriff's Office created Camp Chance to expose them to interactive, challenging activities. Pictured at top, Brevard County Sheriff Phil Williams works with the children. In the lower photos, kids are seen with camp volunteers – which include deputies and other Sheriff's Office personnel.**

field trips, which have included:

- Excursions to a nearby nature preserve to learn from BCSO SWAT team how to use a compass and mark a trail
- No-cost trips to the Brevard Zoo and the Space Coast Ice Plex,
- "Working tours" of a Florida Power & Light plant with hands-on participation in the generation of electricity
- Visits to the U.S. Coast Guard station at Port Canaveral with a guided tour and lunch aboard a cutter.

Volunteering their time, BCSO deputies, corrections officers and civilian employees serve as camp counselors along with officers from police departments throughout Brevard County.

Camp alumni are reunited at

Christmas time each year for a party featuring a turkey dinner with all the trimmings, live entertainment, individually selected and wrapped gifts, and, of course, Santa Claus.

Funding for the camping program and Christmas party comes from a series of fundraisers—including motorcycle "poker" runs led by BCSO motor deputies and memorial golf tournaments—as well as donations made by individuals, civic organizations and businesses. Because Camp Chance recently received 501c3 tax status as a Not for Profit corporation, future donations will be tax deductible.

For more information, contact Joan Heller by writing, Brevard County Sheriff's Office, 700 Park Avenue, Titusville FL 32780, e-mailing: joan.heller@sheriff.co.brevard.fl.us, or calling: 321-264-5203. ♦

# FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION

## HONOR ROLL



**PINELLAS COUNTY** – Gold Business Member plaque presented by Pinellas County Sheriff Everett Rice (right) to John Wier, SRT Supply, Inc.



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.



**BAY COUNTY** – 30-year certificate presented by Bay County Sheriff Guy Tunnell to H. Hiton Green, Jr.



**BAY COUNTY** – 25-year certificate presented by Bay County Sheriff Guy Tunnell to W. Vickers.



Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Francis



Mr. and Mrs. Washburn Wear

**MARION COUNTY** – 30-year certificate presented by Marion County Sheriff Ed Dean to Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Francis and a 25-year certificate to Mr. and Mrs. Washburn Wear.



Mr. Thomas H. Atkinson



Mr. and Mrs. I.R. Teagle

**SUWANNEE COUNTY** – 25-year certificate presented by Suwannee County Sheriff Al Williams to Mr. and Mrs. I.R. Teagle and a 40-year certificate to Mr. Thomas H. Atkinson.



**BAKER COUNTY** – 40-year certificate presented by Baker County Sheriff Joey B. Dobson to L.C. Shave, who joined the Association April 30, 1959.



**WAKULLA COUNTY** – 40-year certificate presented by Wakulla County Sheriff David Harvey to Normand H. Bergeron.



Virginia Parvin



Theodore V. Salute

**HERNANDO COUNTY** – 25-year certificate presented by Hernando County Sheriff Richard Nugent to Virginia Parvin and a 40-year certificate presented to Theodore V. Salute.



Felipe Bulness

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY** – 25-year certificate presented by Hillsborough County Sheriff Cal Henderson to Felipe Bulness, Paul Alvarez and Norman Thompson.



Paul Alvarez



Norman Thompson

# FLORIDA SHERIFFS YOUTH RANCHES

## HONOR ROLL



**JACKSON COUNTY** – Presented by Jackson County Sheriff Johnny McDaniel to Victor Scheultheis.



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

Dr. Kamran Ajami  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert N. Alday  
Mr. Charles I. Allen, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Ricky Allen  
Ms. Sue Allerdyc  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Alman, Jr.  
Mrs. Avanelle Althar  
AMJ, Inc.  
Aripeka Ladies of the Elks #2520 - Hudson  
Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd B. Baldwin  
Mr. Arthur T. Ball  
Ms. Karen Beghly  
Mr. Steve Benefield  
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry M. Blair  
Ms. Ann Bost  
Mr. Reese Bourgeois  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bowen  
Mr. Ben Boynton  
Mr. Keith J. Bradshaw  
Brink's Incorporated  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Bunn  
Mr. Ralph Clay Burdeshaw  
Mr. Haldon Busby  
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Catron  
Mr. and Mrs. Morris Clark  
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Clevenger  
Mr. and Mrs. Jake Coates  
Mr. John L. Collins  
Mrs. Martha T. Collins  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Cook  
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Cook  
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cooper  
Mr. Jack E. Crow  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold R. Cuning, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. David Dibble  
Mrs. Myra S. Doudney  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Ellis  
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Epstein  
Dep. Myron K. Evans  
Farmers Furniture - Live Oak  
FDLE - Orlando  
Mrs. Carolyn H. Fender  
Mr. Walter V. Ferris, Jr.  
Mr. David Flaim  
Fowler Groves Limited  
Partnership  
Free Family Foundation Corp.  
Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Gammon, Jr.  
Mrs. Sara A. Goin  
Golden Ponds Neighborhood Watch  
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Gonce  
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin L. Gooding  
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Graham  
Dep. Herbert T. Green  
Mr. Bill Greenstein  
Mrs. Gloria Hancock  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Harrell  
Dr. John C. Harris  
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Harter  
Mrs. Merlyn Henson

Mr. Howard Hlina  
Mr. Bartlett L. Johnson  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward R. Judy  
Mr. Gilbert Koehler  
Mr. and Mrs. Walter H. Koehler  
Mr. Roy Kraemer  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph V. Kricek  
Larson Dairy, Inc.  
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Leonard  
Life Scan - Amelia Island  
Miss Betty S. MacColl  
Mr. and Mrs. Ken Manuel  
Mr. Thomas E. Marler  
Mrs. Megan Mathews  
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert W. McRae  
Mentor Films Inc. - Daytona Beach  
Mr. and Mrs. Angelo D. Mercado  
Mr. and Mrs. Mathew Miceli  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mistretta  
Mrs. Joanna R. Moore  
Mr. Gary Nohe  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Nystrom  
Mrs. Nancy W. Oliver  
Poole Roofing & Sheet Metal Co.  
Mr. Mario Posillico  
Mr. E. G. Potter  
Ms. Katherine Ramers  
Ms. Marianne S. Rantala  
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Reisseig  
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Reisz  
Mr. John E. Rhame  
Mr. David Rolle, Jr.  
Dr. and Mrs. Eric J. Ross  
Sam's Sod  
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Sandstrom  
Mr. Dempsey R. Sapp, Sr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Schroeder  
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rou Seims  
Shands Hospital AGH - Gainesville  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold J. Shellington  
Mr. Michael L. Smoak  
Mr. Randy Stefanelli  
Mr. Cyrus Q. Stewart, Jr.  
Mrs. Mary E. Tannenbaum  
Mr. and Mrs. G. Brooks Thompson, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Tietjen  
Dr. Bruce I. Timins  
Mr. Michael Vascimini  
Mr. Henry T. Watkinson  
Miss Gayle Weaver  
Mr. and Mrs. Alton J. Weigley  
Miss Meta L. White  
Mr. and Mrs. Sammy Willingham  
Mr. Wilfred H. Yoos



**ALACHUA COUNTY** - Lifetime membership plaque presented to Louise Courtelis by Sheriff Johnny Smith (left), Sheriff Ed Dean and Roger Bouchard, Youth Ranches President. Also Mr. and Mrs. Cedrick Smith (right photo) received their membership plaque.



Craig Carver



Daryl & Sue Cooperrider

**PINELLAS COUNTY** – Lifetime membership plaques presented by Pinellas County Sheriff Everett Rice to PCSO Detention Sgt. Craig Carver, PCSO Sgt. Daryl & Sue Cooperrider and Don Meek.



Don Meek



**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY** – Presented by Hillsborough County Sheriff Cal Henderson (far right) and Youth Ranches' Mike Eurich (far left) to Deputies David Stofflet and Arthur Lepine.



Art Monroe



Judy Willard



Fred Bartholomew



Edward Bruns

**SUWANNEE COUNTY** – Lifetime membership plaques presented by Suwannee County Sheriff Al Williams to Art Monroe, Judy Willard (of Twice Nice), Edward Bruns, Fred Bartholomew, Janie Philpot, Mike & Lisa Guenther, Judy Moly (of Good Stuff), J.W. Yulee, Ronald Copenhaver, Sam Skierski (of Hometown Jewelry & Loan) and Myra Regan (Publisher, Suwannee Democrat), Silas and Brenda Steele for Lola Steele (deceased), and Dr. B. S. Hegde.



Mike & Lisa Guenther



Janie Philpot



Judy Moly



J.W. Yulee



Ronald Copenhaver



Sam Skierski



Myra Regan



Silas and Brenda Steele for Lola Steele



Dr. B. S. Hegde



**UNION COUNTY**- Presented by Union County Sheriff Jerry Whitehead (left) to Mr. & Mrs. Wallace C. Cooley.



**ORANGE COUNTY** – Presented by Youth Ranches staff to Loring M. Bates, Jr.



Detective Tony Drzewiecki



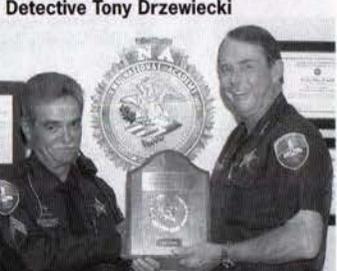
Capt. John and Diane Schmidt



Mr. & Mrs. Marion H. Riley



Mr. & Mrs. Andrew B. Keel



Sgt. James Strom

**LEON COUNTY** – Presented by Leon County Sheriff to LCSO Detective Tony Drzewiecki, Mr. & Mrs. Marion H. Riley, Mr. & Mrs. Andrew B. Keel and LCSO Capt. John and Diane Schmidt, and Sgt. James Strom.



Style # 4500  
MEN'S GOLD BAND  
Face No. 1

Style # 4200  
WOMEN'S GOLD BAND  
Face No. 1

Style # 4502  
MEN'S TWO-TONE BAND  
Face No. 2

Style # 4202  
WOMEN'S TWO-TONE BAND  
Face No. 2

Style # 4500  
MEN'S GOLD BAND  
Face No. 3

Style # 4200  
WOMEN'S GOLD BAND  
Face No. 3

NOTE: These water resistant, ETA Swiss quartz analog timepieces featuring beautifully engraved "Sheriff's Star" dials in an all gold dress medallion, or a multi-colored sports style are available in both all gold or gold/steel two-tone as depicted above. All watches carry a 6-year limited warranty from the date of purchase against failures due to defective materials or workmanship. Gold or two-tone bands can be purchased with either of the three available faces.

## MEMBERSHIP ITEMS ORDER FORM

Public safety is a concern to all citizens, and one way you can support public safety in your community is to show your pride in local law enforcement. To help you demonstrate your pride in crime-fighting efforts, the Florida Sheriffs Association has designed several items displaying the Sheriff's Star logo, and made them available to the general public. These quality items make great gifts too. Just fill in the order form above and return it with your payment.

Mrs.  Ms.  Mr.  Miss

Please return this entire back cover page with your order.

Name (Please print)

Shipping Address

City State Zip Code

Contact phone number

Please make check or money order payable to  
**FLORIDA SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION**  
 P.O. BOX 12519, TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32317-2519

### I wish to purchase :

No. \_\_\_\_\_ \*Golf shirts at \$28.00 each. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Quantity \_\_\_ White ( size S  M  L  XL  XXL  )  
 Quantity \_\_\_ Green ( size S  M  L  XL  XXL  )  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \*Honorary Member Lapel pin(s) at \$8.00 each. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \*Belt buckle(s) at \$ 18.00 each. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \*Watches at \$165.00 ea. Style No. \_\_\_\_\_ Face No. \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \*Hats (  white or  green ) at \$12 ea. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \*Coffee Mugs at \$13 ea. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ( postage & handling cost included in prices ) Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \* Please add 6% Sales Tax for membership items \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 ( Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for shipping ) **Total enclosed** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \* Add .5%, .75%, 1% or 1.5% discretionary sales surtax, if applicable.

For credit card use

VISA.  MC.

Card number

Name on card (please print)

Expiration date

Contact phone number

Total amount



GOLF SHIRTS - green or white with multi-colored embroidered logo



BELT BUCKLE 3 1/4 x 2 1/2" solid brass



CAPS - WHITE OR GREEN - with multi-colored embroidery including metallic gold thread, adjustable band



Honorary Member LAPEL PIN  
 7/8" die cast metal with 5 color enameled finish



11oz. COFFEE MUGS - white color, with multi colored logo and green bands listing all 67 counties