It's a New Season...
Wishing Retiring Sheriffs Well,
Welcoming New Leadership
Summer Conference 2008

See page 4
I'm happy to say that our administrative operation is back up and running, at full speed, for the first time since the fire destroyed our building April 15. We have settled into new offices and gotten through some of our busiest seasons, including the legislative session and summer conference. It's amazing to see how the staff has pulled together in the face of such stressful circumstances. I believe it says a lot about the dedicated men and women who carry out the work of the Florida Sheriffs. We may not be on the frontline with the deputies and other emergency personnel, but we definitely relate to the personal sacrifice required after our loss. Believe me, we have great role models in the 67 Sheriffs' Offices around this state.

Innovation and change

We've just returned from our summer conference in Orlando, hosted by retiring Orange County Sheriff Kevin Beary. The three days of meetings and events carried some somber moments, including recognition of the number of retiring Sheriffs. What a distinguished list.

Stepping away from the office of Sheriff in January are Bradford County Sheriff Bob Milner, Charlotte County Sheriff John Davenport, Collier County Sheriff Don Hunter, Gilchrist County Sheriff David Turner, Hardee County Sheriff Loran Cogburn, Indian River County Sheriff Roy Raymond, Jackson County Sheriff John P. "Johnny Mac" McDaniels, Liberty County Sheriff Harrell Revell, Madison County Sheriff Pete Bucher, Monroe County Sheriff Rick Roth, Orange County Sheriff Kevin Beary and Sarasota County Sheriff Bill Balkwill.

We did a quick search of their biographies and learned that all 12 of these gentlemen started their law-enforcement careers in the mid-1960s and 1970s. Between them, they have averaged 33 years of law-enforcement experience. With this group, we also are losing some real seniority: seven of the 12 served three terms as Sheriff (12 years or more), with the record being Jackson County Sheriff McDaniels (28 years), followed by Liberty County Sheriff Revell (24 years) and Monroe County Sheriff Roth (18 years).

Still, Sheriff Roth has all the others beat with his record of 43 years in law enforcement — all of it with the Monroe County Sheriff's Office (starting as a dispatcher in 1965).

We want to thank all of you men for the sacrifice you have made over the years. It is a retirement well earned, though we must say we will miss you.

At the July conference, we welcomed our new Board Members, including the Association's first female Chairman of the Board. Highlands County Sheriff Susan Benton is one of only two poplarly elected female Sheriffs in the history of the state. Elected just four years ago, Sheriff Benton quickly earned the respect of her fellow Sheriffs with her innovative ideas, and they in turn chose her for this prestigious position. Congratulations, Sheriff Benton; we look forward to your leadership.

Okaloosa County Sheriff Charlie Morris has taken over as President. That loud sigh of relief you hear is from our Immediate Past President, Baker County Sheriff Joey Dobson, who by now has happily settled back into a more normal pace since passing the baton in July.

On a more somber note, we lost an extended member of our Sheriffs' family recently. Lorraine Fleming, wife of Flagler County Sheriff Don Fleming, died in April after a fierce battle with cancer. The Deputy Sheriff of the Year article in this issue also recalls the tragic murder of Jackson County Sheriff McDaniels' wife, Mellie, in 2007. Please continue to pray for the family members and friends they left behind.

We hope to bring a progress report on our new building in the next issue. Until then, stay safe.

Gary Perkins, Executive Director Florida Sheriffs Association

P.S. Although most of us are feeling election fatigue, please make sure you exercise your right to vote. Law enforcement in your county depends on it!
One of the first lessons parents teach children is to beware of strangers. They give them the do's and don'ts about who to trust and not trust outside of the home. But when it comes to protecting their children inside the home—from predators who might be approaching kids through the Internet—parents often are clueless.

Some have invested in Web site blocking software, e-mail filters and other means to prevent access. A recent product that has received attention from some Sheriffs is a system that allows parents to view any images that have been viewed by their children, check correspondence that includes keywords, and monitor other activities that might make them vulnerable.

ComputerCOP, a parental Internet monitoring program, allows parents to monitor the Web sites, photos and conversations their children are having online. Because the software operates from a CD and doesn’t install on the computer, kids are less likely to know their activity is being monitored.

To date, nine Sheriffs’ Offices in Florida are distributing the software in their counties: Polk, Citrus, Palm Beach, Martin, Highlands, Flagler, Lake, Hamilton and Walton.

The Sheriffs purchase the CDs, customize them with a video message, and then distribute them to parents.

Highlands Sheriff Susan Benton heard about the software from several of her fellow Sheriffs. “I gave a copy to my IT guy to test,” she says. “He told me it’s the most useful, user-friendly tool he’s ever seen.”

Sheriff Benton purchased 10,000 copies and is distributing them free through the school system, PTOs and community events—anywhere she can get them into the hands of parents.

Like many law-enforcement agencies, she was able to use forfeiture funds—monies seized from drug suspects under asset forfeiture laws—to purchase the CDs. Some have used Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) grants to bring the program to their counties as well.

After reviewing ComputerCOP to determine if it could be purchased with forfeiture monies, the Director of the U.S. Treasury Department Forfeiture Fund, Ray Dineen, said it was a “valid crime-prevention tool as well as a law-enforcement aid in a broad array of cases.” He added, “The software provides direct support to law enforcement and has already proven to be an effective law-enforcement aid in actual cases.”
It's a New Season...  
Wishing Retiring Sheriffs Well, Welcoming New Leadership  
Summer Conference 2008

With elections right around the corner that have 47 Sheriffs with opposition and another 12 open seats from retiring Sheriffs, and coming on the heels of major budget cuts, the Sheriffs had a lot to talk about at the 2008 Summer Conference held July 27-29. The central location, at the Rosen Shingle Creek Resort in Orlando, added to the numbers—as 51 Sheriffs and 143 sponsors participated.

At the Tuesday night banquet, the Florida Sheriffs Association honored the retiring Sheriffs for their sacrifice. Collectively, they have served 224 years as Sheriff and 697 years in law enforcement. Their wives also were recognized for their part, each receiving roses. As we know the Sheriff’s job is 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and requires much sacrifice by the family.

The Florida Sheriffs learned of another “retirement” of sorts—actually the move to a different position for John Hunt Jr. He is helping to launch the “Star & Shield Insurance Exchange,” a membership-based insurance company that will focus on serving deputies, corrections officers and all law enforcement employees—sworn and unsworn—and other first responders. Our partnership with HRH/Hunt Insurance Group has been and will continue to be beneficial to the Florida Sheriffs and we are optimistic about working with John Hunt on his new venture.

John handed over the reins of HRH/Hunt to his brother, Scott Hunt, who will now be the primary contact for Sheriffs on the Florida Sheriffs Self Insurance Fund and other proprietary products catering to the Sheriffs’ Office needs.

Tallying resources
Several of the demonstrations and presentations assured Sheriffs of the resources at hand, in spite of budget cuts.

Major Alan Lamarche, president of the Florida Association of Security Companies, was there to thank the Sheriffs for their past partnership and encourage them to
take advantage of the “thousands of trained eyes and ears” offered through private security, at no cost. He expressed an interest in furthering networking for the good of the communities they serve.

Patti Broderick demonstrated Florida Interoperable Radio Network, which allows all 9-1-1 Operators/Dispatch from around the state to be connected on one network in about 10 minutes.

The Sheriffs also received an introduction to the Narcotic Overdose Prevention & Education (NOPE) Task Force, a nonprofit supported by parents of children who died from drug-related incidents. Capt. Jeff Lindskoog, Palm Beach County Sheriff’s Office, and Karen Perry, Executive Director of NOPE, showed how their dramatic personal presentations about the deadly consequences of drug abuse are affecting young people. With real-life images of a dead body contrasted with personal photos of the same young person, they are helping to put a face on the tragedy and convince young people to avoid drugs.

Citrus County Sheriff Jeff Dawsy gave an update on the Child Safety Resource effort among Sheriffs, which ended in a commitment to providing Internet Safety for educating all elementary-age children and a link on the FSA Web site with resources for parents.

Senator Dave Aronberg (D-Greenacres) explained his effort to re-work released sex offender laws. The current restrictions only apply to where they reside, “not where they hang out,” and are also causing widespread homelessness. He is crafting legislation that will create 24-hour-a-day “child protection zones” that prevent offenders from loitering 300 feet from schools, parks, libraries, bus stops and other places where children congregate.

Overall, it was an active conference and the Sheriffs seemed to appreciate coming together to share resources and get better armed for the challenges ahead.
Their Bravery Saved the Sheriff

Incident involving Deputy Sheriff of the Year winners hits close to home

At center, holding plaques, Capt Joey Rabon (left) and Corporal Billy Dozier were named co-winners of the Deputy Sheriff of the Year 2007. Pictured with them (from left) Jackson County Sheriff John "Johnny Mac" McDaniels, daughter Machelle Campbell and FSA Outgoing President Baker County Sheriff Joey Dobson.

The Florida Sheriffs Association Deputy Sheriff of the Year award is often based on a story where good wins over evil. Many times the award spotlights heroic acts in which lives are saved and the bad guy goes to jail.

This year's award was more difficult, even though it was based on an act of bravery. Because the incident resulted in the loss of the Sheriff's wife and a fellow deputy, it is difficult to recall the incident without experiencing a sense of sadness for what was lost.

In fact, the Florida Sheriffs were gathered at their annual winter conference in 2007, many of them accompanied by their spouses, when details began unfolding related to the tragic event, which struck just a little too close to home.

The story reminds us all of the dangers that our law-enforcement officers – including the Sheriff and family members – face every day. They deserve to be recognized for their courage.

A related example of courage came when Jackson County Sheriff Johnny McDaniel, known as "Johnny Mac," addressed the nearly 500 people gathered for the FSA 2008 Summer banquet this past July to tell his story. He told it as a soldier somberly tells stories of the frontline, leaving few dry eyes in the room at the end. What follows here is an account of the day Sheriff McDaniel lost his wife and a deputy at the hands of two men bent on revenge.

A quiet day in a quiet town

On the afternoon of January 30, 2007, the Jackson County Sheriff's Office Victim's Advocate, Mellie McDaniel, was running errands for her husband, Jackson County Sheriff Johnny McDaniel. Mellie called Sheriff McDaniel on their Nextel direct connect to let him know she was going to stop by their home, located in a rural part of the county. While they were talking, she told him a car was following her into their driveway. Sheriff McDaniel suggested it was maybe a door-to-door salesperson, and told her to tell whoever it was that they didn't want any. But Mellie acted a little frightened and asked him to stay on the line, so they kept talking. A second later, Mellie keyed the Nextel and Sheriff McDaniel heard her scream.

What happened next occurred in just four minutes.

Sheriff McDaniel immediately radioed dispatch for back-up and advised them that he was enroute. Captain Joey Rabon and Corporal Billy Dozier were just two minutes away and raced to the scene. Deputy Mike Altman was just north of the Sheriff's home and was the first to arrive.
As Sheriff McDaniel drove, he searched for the guns he had secured to protect his grandchildren. Not finding them, he then dug for the spare he kept in his front seat console. No success. Stopping his SUV in the driveway, he jumped out of the vehicle unarmed. When he looked, he saw a man in camouflage clothing step out of the bushes, leveling a .38-caliber Taurus handgun at him. He fired. The bullet lodged in Sheriff McDaniel’s car, as he hit the ground, taking cover behind his open front door. Later, Sheriff McDaniel marveled at how his assailant had missed hitting him. “God put up a shield,” he told his fellow Sheriffs, “because he was about 10 feet away from me when he fired.”

Corporal Dozier responded to the gunfire, opening up his .40-caliber Glock, while Captain Rabon fired an AR-15, similar to the military’s M16 semiautomatic rifle. The camouflage man went down.

Then a second man appeared, dressed in a suit, tie, hat and ponytail. He was pointing a .22-caliber semiautomatic pistol toward the Sheriff. Corporal Dozier fired, taking him out, too.

After assuring there were no other immediate threats, Sheriff McDaniel went around to the back of the house and found his wife and Deputy Altman, side by side, by the back door. The killers apparently had dragged them there to hide them from view, in case anyone drove by. It was determined later that Mellie McDaniel had been shot in the back of the head with a .38, while kneeling down. Deputy Altman had been shot once in the face twice more while lying on his back.

As he dealt with the tragedy that day, Sheriff McDaniel says he balanced his law-enforcement side, which had him asking what case might have prompted such a level of grave revenge. That’s when his Undersheriff, Major John Dennis, recognized the man in camouflage as being Lionel Sands, the suspect in a six-year-old murder case.

The body of Sands’ wife was found in the shallow end of their swimming pool. The autopsy showed she died from a blow to the head, most likely by a hammer or other tool.

Though suspected of murder, Sands was never charged. Still, the life insurance companies prevented him from collecting more than $500,000 in benefits.

The day before the shootout, Sands received the news that he was going to be liable for about $32,000 in legal expenses related to a federal court fight with his dead wife’s family over the death benefit.

Investigators believed the two men had been planning the attack on Sheriff McDaniel and his wife for some time. The other gunman, 54-year-old handyman Daniel Brown, and Sands had been monitoring their target victims for at least a month. A friend of Mellie McDaniel told investigators that someone had stopped by the McDaniel’s home looking for someone named “McDonald.” Mellie McDaniel told the friend that one of them had a ponytail and said he was dressed in a suit and tie.

Sheriff McDaniel said he barely knew Sands, though he had been cordial when running into him at the local Wal-Mart or McDonald’s. He was unaware of the insurance lawsuit, too, until after the shooting.

Sad but courageous end

The full story of Sands and Brown died with them that day, and while we join Sheriff McDaniel and the entire Jackson County Sheriff’s Office in their mourning, the Florida Sheriffs wanted to express thanks to the two deputies who helped prevent further tragedy. Because of the heroic actions by Captain Joey Rabon and Corporal Billy Dozier, Sheriff McDaniel’s life was spared. And because of their bravery, the Florida Sheriffs Association awards committee has chosen them as co-winners of the 2007 Deputy of the Year. Congratulations, gentlemen.

Brevard’s Harvey Named Runner-Up

At approximately 9:30 p.m. on August 13, 2007, the Brevard County Sheriff’s Office received a call of a burglary involving theft of firearms at a mobile-home park. Residents had witnessed two men visiting an elderly homeowner and reported them removing firearms without the homeowner’s knowledge. Witnesses also had seen a rifle taken by one of the subjects placed on the bed of a truck.

Deputy Tabbitha Harvey and CPL. Tim Goodwin responded and confronted the two male subjects near the residence. They were initially cooperative, but one became agitated when deputies located the stolen firearm in a nearby truck. As he showed more agitation, Deputy Harvey conducted a frisk and discovered he had a firearm concealed behind his back in the waistband of his pants.

He ignored the commands of the deputies, pulling away from Deputy Harvey, and reached for the firearm. CPL. Goodwin struggled with the subject and forced him to the ground. As the subject continued to resist, he pointed the loaded gun at CPL. Goodwin at close range. Deputy Harvey quickly drew her firearm, and in a split second fired multiple accurate rounds at the subject, killing him.

In nominating Deputy Harvey for the award, the Brevard County Sheriff’s Office noted that her actions not only saved the life of a fellow deputy, but prevented further loss of life and injury. They credited the two officers’ superior training, tactical readiness and teamwork, which enabled Deputy Harvey and CPL. Goodwin to survive a challenge similar to what law enforcement faces every day.

For her exceptional actions in this high-risk situation, Deputy Harvey received both the Medal of Valor and Deputy Sheriff of the Year from her Sheriff’s Office. And the 67 Sheriffs of Florida have chosen to join in recognizing Deputy Harvey by naming her Runner-Up for FSA’s 2007 Deputy Sheriff of the Year. Congratulations.
Sheriff's Office Gets State-wide Award, Citizens Are the Real Winners

By Julie S. Bettinger

When the Marion County Sheriff's Office was named among the winners of the 2008 Governor's Sterling Awards in May, it became the first law-enforcement agency to achieve the designation in the statewide program's 16-year history.

The Governor's Sterling Awards recognizes organizations and businesses in Florida that have successfully achieved performance superiority within their management and operations. It is considered the highest award an organization can receive for performance excellence in the state.

The Sterling Management System, the basis for measure, is a long-time commitment to improve the way a company or organization does business. Not every participant qualifies for the awards process, as it is comprehensive and rigorous. But for those that do, it's more than achievement - it's a strong affirmation of employee and leadership effectiveness.

A different standard of measure

People generally don't think of government as performance driven because there are no competitors. But that doesn't mean they can't apply the same models used in business to their agencies. That's what Sterling did for MCSO.

"Post Amendment One, doing more with less is going to be important," says Marion County Sheriff Ed Dean. "You're going to have to decide where to focus your limited resources - to get the most bang for the buck." The citizens will expect high performance, even if the money is not there, he says. With the Sterling Management System principles now firmly in place, he feels better prepared for that challenge.

"It is the future of law enforcement, to be able to demonstrate to those who control our funds that we're doing an excellent job," he says.

Employees, too, become better motivated when they realize the agency is being prepared for long-term sustainability in terms of leadership. "The agency really understands leadership at every level now," he says. "They know we are building for the future."

It was Marion County's Sheriff's Advisory Committee, made up of leading business men and women in the community, that encouraged the Sheriff's Office to pursue the Sterling journey. "Too often agencies get separated from the citizens they serve," Sheriff Dean says. The committee believed that the Sterling approach would be a good way to assure the agency didn't fall into that trap.

Accepting the challenge

In 2005, Sheriff Dean challenged all employees and volunteers of MCSO to join him in the journey of being the first Sheriff's Office to ever achieve the Florida Governor's Sterling Award. Prior to this, the MCSO measured performance by reviewing "stat" processes of each bureau; now it was time to compare the agency to the business world.

The process was launched when a key group of 60 representatives from MCSO attended a three-day intensive training session on the seven categories of "Sterling Criteria." These are based on the Malcolm Baldridge criteria, which are nationally recognized as the world-class standard for organizational excellence. They are: leadership, strategic planning, customer and market focus; measurement, analysis and knowledge management; workforce focus; process
management; and results.

The agency then began refining its business practices to include systematic evaluation of its “customers” (citizens), employees and results of operations. Next, they compared statistical data against four other Florida county Sheriffs’ Offices of comparable size and population, calling them “Florida best peers.” These provided benchmarks to plug into the model.

MCSO began streamlining its strategic planning process to focus toward key customer requirements. Four guiding strategies they identified were: quality of life, stewardship, safe and motivated workforce and excellence of service.

Getting results

The Sheriff’s Office credits the Sterling Management System with helping identify issues the citizens saw as a priority – such as response time, communications, problem solving and visibility in the community. They were able to get a better idea of the expectations of those they serve by following this process.

Next came implementation, which was done at every level. For example, when the citizen surveys identified response time among the highest priorities, the challenge was taken on by the Communications Center. After benchmarking, identifying and then implementing best practices, response time dropped 25 percent. “That’s Sterling,” Sheriff Dean says.

In addition, MCSO achieved the best crime clearance rate of the 28 highest-populated counties in Florida. And their Jail to Work Program has shown favorable increases as the value of inmate labor significantly improved from more than $4.3 million in 2004 to more than $8.6 million in 2007, demonstrating a greater than $4 million increase in cost savings.

By following the Sterling model, each division now has a scorecard that indicates whether employees are meeting the division’s goal, which is updated monthly. The result has been a significant increase in employee morale. By setting the goal and assuring employees have the tools they need to reach it, employees are better focused and feel better about their contribution to the big picture. At all times, they know where they stand. “It’s now benchmarked,” the Sheriff says. “It’s about helping everyone to get better.”

Award proves implementation

Once MCSO leadership had seen the system working, they felt ready to put themselves to the test. The Sheriff’s Office submitted a 50-page application that was scored against the seven criteria categories. Sterling examiners independently reviewed the application, then conducted a five-day site visit. Examiners interviewed employees at all levels and analyzed every aspect of the organization and its performance. The team then prepared a detailed feedback report highlighting key strengths and opportunities for improvement.

This information was given to the Sterling Panel of Judges, which then selected organizations that had successfully implemented the Sterling Criteria and were considered “role model” organizations.

Earlier this year, Marion County Sheriff’s Office learned they were among the winners. Three of the five were government entities. Other award winners were the Ritz-Carlton, Sarasota; Shands HealthCare, Gainesville; the Orange County Clerk’s Office, Orlando; and the Hillsborough County Tax Collector. A large delegation from MCSO attended a banquet in Orlando May 30 to receive their award.

To be among the winners of the Governor’s Award is gratifying, Sheriff Dean says, but more rewarding is seeing the enthusiasm the employees have using the Sterling Management System over the last three years. “They’re empowered to examine every process and make suggested changes — and empowered to implement those suggested changes,” he says. Even better, it’s all done without using outside consultants; everything is employee driven.

For more information, visit the Governor’s Sterling Award Web site: www.floridasterling.com, or the corresponding national site, http://www.baldrige.nist.gov/.
The Birth of the "Terry Stop"

By Sgt. Rick Hord
Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office

The 40th anniversary of an incredibly important day for law enforcement in America has passed without fanfare.

It was on June 10, 1968, that the United States Supreme Court recognized "Stop and Frisk" as constitutionally reasonable under certain circumstances.

"Stop and Frisk" had been used by cops for many years before a Cleveland, Ohio, plain-clothed officer named Martin J. McFadden, working foot patrol, stopped three suspicious persons and found concealed guns on two of them.

McFadden had seen two men alternately take turns walking down a street, peer into a store, walk farther down the street, turn around and return to their starting point. The men would confer with each other, and sometimes with a third man, before repeating the ritual. Officer McFadden concluded the men were about to rob the store, identified himself, and found two revolvers when he conducted a "Stop and Frisk" on the afternoon of October 31, 1963.

The would-be robbers, John Terry and Richard Chilton, appealed their convictions. By the time the case reached the U.S. Supreme Court, Terry had served his sentence, and Chilton had died. The legal question, however, remained: When Officer McFadden detained and searched the two men, was he violating the Fourth Amendment?

By 1968, the law-enforcement community was awaiting Supreme Court decisions with trepidation. Many feared the court was stripping them of the tools they needed.

Two years earlier, the famous Miranda decision tossed out a rape conviction because the police believed the suspect when he said he knew his rights before he confessed to the crime. From then on, cops would also have to teach a mini-civics lesson before initiating interrogations.

In 1963, the Court told the states they'd have to get their taxpayers to hire lawyers for every criminal defendant who could not afford one.

In 1961, the Supreme Court imposed the "Exclusionary Rule" on every court in the land, meaning no matter how guilty the criminal, he goes free if the police hadn't followed the rules when they found the evidence.

Justice William O. Douglas strongly believed this case was another example of an officer going too far. "There have been powerful hydraulic pressures," wrote Justice Douglas, "...to water down constitutional guarantees and give the police the upper hand... Yet if the individual is no longer to be sovereign, if the police can... 'search' and 'seize' him in their discretion, we enter a new regime."

The other Justices conceded Officer McFadden did not have probable cause for an arrest when he stopped Chilton and Terry, but ruled the temporary detentions reasonable, and therefore constitutional, given the circumstances. Thus was born the concept of "reasonable suspicion," a legal standard for police to temporarily detain individuals to determine if probable cause for an arrest is present.

Ironically, temporary detention is now known as a "Terry Stop," after a convicted criminal who lost his appeal, and not as a "McFadden Stop," in honor of an officer whose excellent work secured that tool for all police officers in the United States.

Send your crime prevention and personal safety questions to Rick Hord, c/o Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office, 1250 Eglin Parkway, Shalimar, FL 32579-1234 or via e-mail: rhord@sheriff-okaloosa.org.
The Chinese say it's lucky to live in interesting times. If so, the 2008 legislative session made us lucky, lucky, lucky – because the session was most definitely interesting!

Facing an election year with the entire House and half of the Senate on the ballot, along with a hotly contested presidential election, the tenor of the session was interesting to say the least.

Looking at the legislative process itself, senators filed 1,507 bills, passing 326 bills to the House, while House members filed 996 bills and passed 352 to the Senate for a total of 2,503 bills filed and 313 bills actually passing both chambers and sent to the Governor.

The budget for the new year is $66.2 billion, over $4 billion less than the last budget passed. Lack of available funding resulted in fewer bills being heard, hotly contested political rhetoric regarding how to spend what was available, and an exercise in budget reductions by state agencies.

The Florida Sheriffs Association was involved in a number of budget issues on behalf of Sheriffs and the criminal-justice system. Unfortunately, funding for prosecutors and correctional probation officers was cut in the final budget.

Regarding individual issues of more direct interest to Sheriffs, we were tracking hundreds of bills in addition to those of priority interest.

Impasse Issue
First and foremost, our priority issue was to kill the union effort to shift the authority to declare impasse in union negotiations to the Board of County Commissioners and away from the Sheriffs. The good news is that the union-proposed bills, HB 493 by Rep. Michael Grant and SB 1306 by Sen. Burt Saunders, were not heard in any committee and died in both Chambers.

The bad news is that the second part of our effort, to “fix” the language of the “Legislative Body” empowered to declare impasse, floundered in the House because the House bill, drafted by Rep. Sandy Adams, did not get filed. Sen. Steve Oelrich filed the Senate version (SB 368) and was ready to proceed.

Second-Hand Dealers—Metals
Regarding the FSA priority involving second-hand dealers and metals, we got more than we expected, as we supported three bills that passed. Our two proposals for tracking metals sold at second-hand dealers, and for tracking vehicles taken to vehicle recycling operations, passed. Rep. Baxter Troutman passed HB 105, companion SB 748 by Sen. Victor Crist. Effective Date: October 1, 2008

HB 105/SB 1306 Summary
General Secondary Metals Recyclers: Revises definitions; deletes exclusion of transactions under specified amount from definition of “purchase transaction” for specified purposes; revises recordkeeping requirements for purchase transactions; provides for additional information to be obtained concerning sellers; requires image of regulated metals being sold; provides exemption from specified recordkeeping provision if same information is maintained in electronic database meeting specified requirements; provides substitute recordkeeping requirement for certain transactions between registered secondary metals recyclers; provides for enhanced penalties for third or subsequent violations of specified provision; provides enhanced penalties for violations of specified provisions relating to false verification of ownership or false or altered identification of seller of regulated metals; prohibits secondary metals recyclers from entering into cash transactions in certain circumstances; requires DOR to provide law enforcement official with specified information regarding certain secondary metals recyclers; prohibits purchase of regulated metals property when presented at property of secondary metals recycler and not transported in motor vehicle. Effective Date: October 1, 2008


Additionally, a third metals bill passed dealing with theft of copper wire, HB 799 by Rep. Sandy Adams, companion SB 1138 by Sen. Charlie Dean. Effective Date: October 1, 2008

Other bills tracked
Apart from our priority interests, we have included a comprehensive listing of bills we tracked on behalf of the Sheriffs, sorted by those that we supported, opposed or monitored during the session, on the FSA Web site: www.fisheriffs.org. Please refer to the “Legislation” link.
By Julie S. Bettinger

Ocala Magazine recently trumpeted the work of Thurgaland Marketing & Consulting, with their frontline, in-the-face-of-danger photography that helps spotlight the real world of Florida Sheriffs.

"What's it like to be on the receiving end of a SWAT team assault? Make an amphibious landing? Track down a criminal with just a dusty fingerprint?"

These are some of the situations that father-and-son team Bob and Todd Thurgaland bring to real life through their professional, high-end photos and videography. It's been helping to tell the story of more than 15 different Sheriffs' Offices around the state, assisting them in everything from personnel recruiting to crime prevention.

Because of the nature of law enforcement, education and training are central. There's no better way to do this than video in this made-for-TV world, which has led to a little niche for the Thurgalands.

Launch

Bob and Todd caught the law-enforcement bug about 10 years ago, after shooting a freebie video for the Lake County Sheriff's Office. The intention was to profile the agency to help residents of a retirement village better understand what the agency did.

"Many of the residents are retirees from up north, and the Sheriff is a different process up there," says Todd Thurgaland. "They can't quite understand why you need a $60-million budget to patrol the roads." After snooping around the agency with their TV cameras and learning how in-depth the work of the Florida Sheriffs really is, they became quick converts.

At the time, Bob Thurgaland was managing The Villages television station and Todd handled marketing. They were encouraged by then-Lake County Sheriff George Knupp to attend a
Florida Sheriffs Association conference and meet other Sheriffs. More freebies followed, as Thurgaland produced a vendor recruiting video for FSA, which helped grow the exhibitors. Word spread rapidly among Sheriffs' Offices about their work, and the calls have been coming in ever since.

Besides FSA and the Sheriffs' Offices, the Thurgalands adopted the cause of the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches. It was a natural fit, and they have since produced six different videos for the nonprofit, including handling the Youth Ranches' 50th anniversary video project.

Not gun shy

The Ocala Magazine article was right on in spotlighting the Thurgalands' high-adventure approach to Sheriffs' Offices.

"What sets us apart is that most of our pictures are not staged," Todd says. "We get that officer on their motorcycle; we get the SWAT team while they're doing water assault training; we get them during their regular day."

The catch-them-in-action approach seems to increase the effectiveness of recruiting videos, too, which is important considering the competitive labor market between local, state and federal agencies.

"The really neat thing about our approach is we allow the deputies to tell the story and sell the agency," Todd says. This requires hours and hours of field interviews in the deputies' natural environment. For example, Todd says, "I'll have a deputy on a horse and I'll be in the back of a flatbed truck with the camera, interviewing him while he's riding."

continued on page 14
They're Shootin' the SHERIFFS!

continued from page 13

Following the frontline around is not without its dangers, the Thurgalands have learned. In fact, their crew started wearing official "Sheriff Video" T-shirts a few years ago, after Todd was accosted by a media-shy firefighter. The fireman thought he was part of an overzealous TV crew, and the encounter was not pleasant.

While much of their work is action-packed, the Thurgalands and crew sometimes have to provide "talent" for certain shots. Todd often uses Shayne Mills, his production assistant, as his bad guy.

"He's been attacked by a K-9 while sitting in the front seat of a car and he's always my dead guy," Todd says. "We were shooting a crime-scene unit and we threw him in a ditch. I shot while they swabbed his hands."

Todd says he blur's Mills' face in the editing, so he can be a bad guy in a number of different scenes.

"And I always get a kick out of using my father for the sexual predator," he adds. "I mean, that's a sensitive issue, who do you use?"

That's the on-camera part, but Bob Thurgaland is usually the off-camera voice that narrates the action for many of the videos they produce.

"He was a disc jockey in the

1960s," Todd says. Better known as "Bob Todd," the elder Thurgaland was featured on the cover of Teen magazine in 1967 promoting the "most handsome DJ in the world" contest. He also was one of the pioneers of music videos, one of two DJ hosts on an Atlanta TV show called "Now Explosion," launched in 1970 – 11 years before MTV's first broadcast.

Going still

While video was how the Thurgalands were introduced to Sheriffs, a few years ago they decided to bring along their own photojournalists to capture still images of the same action. Freelancer Richard Rossetto's work was featured prominently in the Ocala magazine piece.

The still shots are used in Sheriffs' videos, on their Web sites and to spotlight their work in the media. There are numerous overlaps between agencies and projects, too. For example, while riding on patrol with one Sheriff's Office, Todd and his profile deputy arrived at the scene of a car wreck. Todd followed him as he ran to help a young girl trapped underneath a car. As the deputy held the teenager's hand, she was pleading for her life, saying she knew something bad was going to happen, but couldn't get her seatbelt on in time. Hooked up with a wireless microphone, the deputy's response and the girl's voice were captured by Thurgaland. The video and audio have since been used in training videos produced for FSA's Teen Driver Challenge.

Where the action is

When on a shoot, the Thurgaland's home away from home is a 35-foot RV. A typical agency shoot takes about 16 days of on-location shooting, documenting every part
You Can Own A Part of Law Enforcement History

A book about the history of law enforcement in Florida is a rare find. And that makes, "Florida Sheriffs: A History 1821-1945" a real gem.

This book carefully documents the history of early law enforcement in the Sunshine State. In fact, shortly after it was published it received acclaim from the state's Historical Society as one of their "Outstanding Books on Florida History."

Co-authors William Warren Rogers and James M. Denham are not only accomplished historians, but talented storytellers. Don't miss their printed documentary of the chief law enforcers in our state.

ORDER FORM

Mrs.  Ms.  Mr.  Miss  Sorry, no overseas orders
Name (please print):
Shipping address:
City  State  Zip Code
Phone number (area code):

books @ $29.50/each =
Shipping and Handling $3 per book =
total: $
* Please add 6% sales tax =
TOTAL: $

For credit card use:
VISA  MC  Card number

Name on card (please print)  Expiration date
Contact phone number  Total amount

Please make check or money order payable to:
Florida Sheriffs Association
P.O. Box 12519
Tallahassee, FL 32317-2519

continued from page 14

of the Sheriffs' Office. This is usually followed by about six weeks of "living in our boxers" editing, Todd says. Once they have a library of raw footage, they can quickly crank out a number of other videos for various uses for the agency.

The smallest Sheriffs' Office they've done is Gilchrist County, which has an operating budget of about $3 million a year. The largest is Palm Beach with a $385-million budget and 4,000 employees. "It took us 33 days to finish documenting Palm Beach," Todd says.

Non law-enforcement assignments they've done include the Florida Department of Health, the Board of Massage Therapy and plenty of weddings. In fact, they recently launched a Web site, www.edited-weddings.com, which features work from several celebrity nuptials.

"We serve a wide variety of clients and categories, and law enforcement is just a niche that we stumbled into," Todd says. It continues to be one of his favorites.

"I really want to tell their story to the public," he says. "To think what all these Sheriffs' Offices do to keep me and my family safe; to think someone would answer this calling and be willing to take a bullet for me and my family. That's tremendous."

He adds, "It's not something I knew or understood when I started."

For more information on this article, visit the Thurgaland Web site: www.thurgaland.com, or their new site, www.SheriffPhoto.com/.
Nearly 300 different law enforcement agencies — virtually every branch of federal, state, county and municipal — participated in the 25th Anniversary Law Enforcement Torch Run, the kickoff to the statewide Special Olympic Games, May 16.

Over 2,100 athletes vied for state titles during the 36th Annual State Summer Games, the largest Special Olympics event held in Florida each year, with over 3,500 coaches, volunteers and spectators in attendance. This year's games were held at Disney's Wide World of Sports Complex and Orlando's Champions Sports Complex.

Following a grand entrance into the complex — motorcycle units and an array of cruisers and vehicles with sirens blaring and lights flashing — came The "Final Leg" team — runners escorting in the "Flame of Hope."

Leading the runners were six of the original 12 from the 1984 event, when a handful of FDLE officers ran the "Flame of Hope" throughout the state in an exhausting, non-stop trek. Taking part, in his "final, Final Leg," was Torch Run Regional Director Bill Pakonis of the Martin County Sheriff's Office, who was retiring after over 20 years of service to Special Olympics Florida. Osceola County Sheriff Robert Hansell was the final law enforcement official to pass the torch to the four Special Olympics athletes who would run the torch to the cauldron.

Congratulations to all those law enforcement officers and agencies who have participated in the last 25 years, and helping to make these events such a grand success.
New Lifetime Members from 6/26/08 to 8/11/08

Mr. Byron B. Block
Mrs. Helen D. Calabro
Mrs. Grace J. Casper
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas M. Cowley
Mr. Jeffrey M. De Crespie
Mr. and Mrs. Julius E. Dengler
Ms. Paula J. Dorzuk
Mr. David A. Downing
Ms. Gilda Sue Ellis
Equine Medical Center of Ocala
Ms. Mary J. Ertel
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander A. Fitzpatrick
Florida Association of Physicians of Indian Origin, Inc.
Mr. Pedro Garcia
Mr. John G. Giedt
Chief Deputy and Mrs. Robert A. Gualtieri
Mr. David L. Huber Kelli Wireless Communications
Mr. and Mrs. George S. Kramer
Lee County Sheriffs Office Golf Tournament
Mr. Lewis C. Milliken
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Morrissey
Mr. and Mrs. Harold C. Parisen
Mr. Jonathan M. Parker
Polk Sheriffs Charities, Inc.
Mr. Jack L. Reddick
Mrs. Marjorie S. Roberson
Mr. Mark F. Schack
Ms. Elizabeth F. Slack
Mr. and Mrs. John J. Stor, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. John D. Wisdom
Mr. and Mrs. Seymore L. Ziv

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 through their 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. Lifetime Honorary Membership with the Florida Sheriffs Association is reserved for those individuals who give $5,000 or more to the Florida Sheriffs Association or the Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches.

CLAY COUNTY — Presented by Clay County Sheriff Rick Beeler to Clyde Bankston.

VOLUSIA COUNTY — Presented by Volusia County Sheriff Ben Johnson (left) and FSYR Donor Relations Officer Debi Girard to Mr. & Mrs. Albert Harrison.

LEE COUNTY — Presented by Lee County Sheriff Mike Scott to Jim Lewis and members of the Cape Coral Bass Club.

MARION COUNTY — Presented by Marion County Sheriff's Office Lt. Tim O' Hara to Sylvia Rose.

BAY COUNTY — Presented by Bay County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Marty Williams (left) and FSYR Donor Relations Officer Lana Pate to Barbara Bell, Executive Assistant to Bay County Sheriff Frank McKeithen, and Lana Pate's mother.

SUWANNEE COUNTY — Presented by Suwannee County Sheriff Tony Cameron (left) to Suwannee County Comptroller Kenneth Dasher.

PASCO COUNTY — Presented by Pasco County Sheriff Bob White to Michael A.S. Bachmann (left) and Major John Molitaris.

BROWARD COUNTY — Presented by Broward County Sheriff Al Lamberti and FSYR Donor Relations Officer Joe McLeod to L. Clark Ellis, Stephen P. Barlow and Capt. James Bystrom of Gulfstream International Airlines.

MADISON COUNTY — Presented by Madison County Sheriff Pete Boucher to Mr. and Mrs. John Renard.

Continued on page 19
BATTLE of the BADGES
& INSHORE FISHING TOURNAMENT

Sept. 19-21
Riverside Park
New Smyrna Beach

A Full Weekend of Family Fun for Everyone!

Saturday, Sept 20, 2008

REDFISH & TROUT
FISHING TOURNAMENT
Open to the Public from Boat or Shore
(Must be registered in the Tournament)
Adult Angler Division - $60 per entry
$$$ Cash prizes for first place $$$
Junior Angler Division - $30 per entry
Public Safety Division - $60 per entry
(current or retired law enforcement, firefighters,
corrections or EMS)
HUGE PRIZES!!!
Costa Rica Fishing Charter for TWO Plus Resort Lodging
Raffles - 50/50 - Team & Individual Mini-Tournaments
Anglers who pre-register through the official tournament
website www.BadgeBattle.com or by mail before
August 1, 2008 receive $10 off the tournament entry fee

Featuring
Live Entertainment
featuring Curb Records
Recording Artist
LEE BRICE

Join us for
Sheriff Johnson’s
Olympic Challenge
11AM Sunday

Sheriff’s Office Demonstrations

Vendors & More

Also Featuring
Country Artist &
Fox 35 Weatherman
JIM VAN FLEET

Friday, Sept. 19
5:00PM - Vendors, Food Court, Rides
Boat, Truck & Car Shows
5:00PM - Fishing Tournament Registration
6:00PM - Anglers’ Reception/Dinner
6:30PM - Live Music Starts
8:00PM - Concert: The A+Team

Saturday Sept. 20
6:00AM - Fishing Tournament Begins
10:00AM - Vendors, Food Court, Rides
Boat, Truck & Car Shows, Demos
12:00PM - Live Music Begins
6:00PM - Fishing Tournament Awards
7:00PM - Feature Concert & Fireworks
Schedule Subject to Change

Sunday, Sept. 21
9:00AM - 5K Family Fun Run/Walk
10:00AM - Vendors, Food Court, Rides
Boat, Truck & Car Shows, Demos
10:00AM - Olympic Challenge Registration
11:00AM - Sheriff Johnson’s Olympic Challenge
5:00 PM - Closing Ceremonies

For complete details and event schedule, visit www.BadgeBattle.com
Attention Members:

Are you moving for the season? Please send us . . .

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

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.

OLD ADDRESS:

RETURN TO:

The Florida Sheriffs Association
PO. Box 12519
Tallahassee, FL 32317-2519

Or, if you prefer, fax it to: (850) 878-8665
E-mail: ktramel@flsheriffs.org
Or call us at (800) 877-2168
Web site: http://www.flsheriffs.org

NEW ADDRESS: □ Permanent or □ Temporary

Name
Address
City/State/Zip

Area code/phone

THE SHERIFF'S STAR • JULY/AUGUST 2008 19
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.

**MEMBERSHIP ITEMS ORDER FORM**

I wish to purchase:

No.________  *Golf shirts at $30.00 each.  Quantity — White (size $ Q, M Q, L Q, LQ, ______*)

Quantity — Green (size $ Q, M Q, L Q, LQ, ______*)

*Honorary Member Lapel pin(s) at $8.00 each.

*Belt buckle(s) at $28.00 each.

*Watches at $165.00 ea. Style No.________  Face Style Watches Face: *Gold-1 Silver

*Hats ( Q white or Q green ) at $17 ea.

(postage & handling cost included in prices)

*Please add 6% Sales Tax for members (Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for shipping)

Total amount enclosed________

For credit card use

Q VISA, Q MC. Card number

Name on card (please print)

Contact phone number

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

NOTE: These water resistant, ETA Swiss quartz analog timepieces featuring a beautifully engraved "Sheriff's Star" 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. In addition to the gold and two-tone bands, we also offer all silver. Also displayed are the patriotic Flag watches. These are available in three background faces: Face 1 - Gold; Face 2 - Silver and Face 3 - Black. 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 four available faces. Style 4500 denotes men’s gold band; 4502 denotes men’s two-tone band; 4503 denotes men’s all silver band. Style 4200, 4202 and 4203 are the women's gold, two-tone and silver respectively.