



South Carolina Fraternal Order of Police  
 Tri-County Lodge # 3  
 "Serving the Lawmen of the Lowcountry"

# The Informer

## Carrabba's Lodge Fundraiser



Tri-County Lodge #3 will be hosting an Italian Lunch fundraiser at Carrabba's Italian Grill on Friday September 19th from 11:30am—1:00 pm.

Come join your family and friends for a special Italian lunch.

The proceeds from the lunch will benefit the lodge

The restaurant will be open just for our group.

Lunch will be \$12 per person and tickets are available from any Executive Board Member or at the meeting on Monday September 8th.

For \$12 you will get an excellent lunch including beverage. The menu is listed to the right.

- Chicken Marsalla
- Garlic Mashed Potatoes
- Caesar Salad
- Tea or Soda
- Alcoholic Beverages will be available for an additional charge.

## Presidential Ballots are "In the Mail"

You should have already received a mailing from the State FOP Lodge with a pre-paid postcard asking you to indicate who you would like the Fraternal Order of Police to support in the 2008 Presidential Election.

It is very important that you indicate the candidate of your choice and return the card as soon as possible.

Once the cards have been returned and counted the Grand



Lodge will indicate which candidate the FOP will support.

Both candidates were sent a questionnaire regarding issues important to the FOP. Their responses and the answers to the personal interview by National President Chuck Canterbury are available at [www.fop.net](http://www.fop.net).

### NEXT MEETING

Monday  
 September 8, 2008

### Upcoming Events

- > Summerville PD K9 Unit Pancake Breakfast 8/31
- > Law Enforcement Day at Citadel Mall Sept 13th
- > Carrabba's Lunch Fundraiser Sept 19th
- > SC FOP State Conference September 25-28 in Myrtle Beach, SC

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## YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT

*By Vic Nico Sergeant At Arms*

You have the right to remain silent and refuse to answer questions. Anything you say may be used against you in a court of law. You have the right to consult an attorney before speaking to the police and to have an attorney present during any questioning now or in the future. If you cannot afford an attorney, one will be provided for you without cost. If you do not have an attorney available, you have the right to remain silent until you have had the opportunity to consult with one. Now that I have advised you of your rights, are you willing to answer questions?

How many times have we said these words? We know them by heart by now. They are what have come to be known as the “Miranda” warnings. We all know the case, Miranda v. Arizona. The US Supreme Court said that whenever we detain a person and wish to question them we must issue these warnings. They apply to US Citizens and are even extended to those we arrest who are not US Citizens! Are Law Enforcement Officers entitled to these same rights? The answer is ABSOLUTELY YES! Do we avail ourselves to these rights? Well it seems that we always do not. Recently, I was talking to an attorney who has represented many police officers after they have had an incident that has required an investigation by LE...whether in the line of duty or not. He was telling me that it seemed that cops would make statements and say things that he may have advised they not say at that time. Not that they did anything wrong, but that perhaps with the advise of counsel they may have said it in a different way. Also you must take into account that if a cop is involved in a heavy situation, whether a foot or car chase, a shooting, a stabbing or anything else of a serious nature, chances are that he may be in shock and not even know it. He may say things that he really doesn't remember. It should be the responsibility of the cops partner and or first other officer on the scene to take the officer straight to the closest hospital for treatment. In the meantime... remember you have the right to remain silent.

Gather your thoughts and compose yourself. It seems that cops do not think that we have the same rights we are required to give criminals. Think about it, are we not entitled to the same rights and laws we enforce? Remember that you have the same rights as every other person in this Nation... use them.

Make a good decision and get your ducks in a row before you talk or make a statement, and it is up to the rest of us to try and protect our fellow brothers and sisters. We have a tough job and when we are called on to make a life and death decision in a matter of nanoseconds, we should at least take some time to make sure we can articulate that decision to others. This attorney friend had further asked that I pass along the following so that we could be reminded of these common pitfalls & remember to be careful of these *Danger* areas:

1. Making a statement when still under the emotion of the trauma;
2. Making a statement when undergoing medical treatment;
3. Making multiple statements i.e. Command Staff, IA and SLED.

*Until next time Pallies... stay safe and wear your VESTS!*

### **FOP Legal Defense Coverage**

*For the law enforcement professional, duty related legal defense protection is a necessity as the frequency and cost of allegations against peace officers continue to rise. The F.O.P. Legal Plan offers you a very affordable and comprehensive coverage plan. For less than \$11 per month or about 35 cents a day you can have a greater peace of mind for you and your family. Contact a member of the Legal Defense Committee (Johnny Wilson-Charleston County, Jimmy Bateman-Summerville, Mike Fowler-Hanahan or Poncho Villa-Dorchester County.*

## SC State FOP To Hold Conference in Myrtle Beach

Our lodge will be sending 19 delegates and 1 trustee to the SC State FOP Conference in Myrtle Beach September 25-28.

### The delegates are listed below:

John Blackmon  
Jimmy Bateman  
Tom Botchie  
Frank Nigro  
Vic Nico  
Harold Phillips  
Buddy Isgett  
Matt Woodall  
CJ Thompson

Alice Lang  
Travis Dodd  
Ayman Abaza  
Joyce Kephart  
Poncho Villa  
Harry Long  
Pat Gunnels  
George Winkle  
Ed Simlitch  
Johnny Wilson  
Lee Girard

Tri-County Lodge #3 will be selling the 2009 SC State FOP Conference T-Shirts. If you would

like one or more, complete the order form on page 4 of this newsletter and return it with your payment.

Any member can attend the daily meetings that start at 9am on the 26th and 27th.

Delegates are reminded to bring their FOP Membership Cards.

## Gun & Knife Show

At the August meeting the members discussed and voted to discontinue participation at the Gun & Knife Show.

While it was good to get our name and the name of the FOP Distressed Officer Fund out there in the public, it seemed as though the same 3 or 4 volunteers worked each one.

Berkeley County Lodge # 19 will be manning a booth out there each quarter.

The membership did vote to keep our options open in case we decide in the future that participation is in our best interest.



## Law Enforcement Day At The Mall

Come join us for the "2009 Law Enforcement Day At The Mall".

This year's event will be held from 10am to 9pm on September 13th at the Citadel Mall.

We are looking for members who would like to volunteer at our table during the day. We like to keep at least two people at the table.

If you would like to volunteer contact Dan Isgett.

For those who have never attended this event: the mall will be stocked with police displays from a host of different police agencies. Most will have the latest and greatest tools of the trade for public viewing.

It's allot of fun for kids of all

ages 5-95. Come check out what our local law enforcement has to offer.

Many will have free "goodies" for the kids and some have "hands on" displays for kids as well.

**This is always a fun event!**



# ISGETT

## TREASURER

Dan Isgett currently serves the membership of the South Carolina Fraternal Order of Police as the State Lodge Treasurer and as the President of Tri-County Lodge #3.

The position of treasurer is one of the most important positions on the executive board. Dan has proven that his is the man for the job!

Dan's experience and leadership has delivered the most bang for the buck.

As a token of Dan's gratitude to the membership for its support each delegate will receive a beautifully screened FOP T-Shirt displaying the design to the right.

Anyone else who would like a shirt (or two) can order them using the form below. Shirts are only available for pick-up at the conference. No shirts will be mailed. By ordering in advance, you ensure you size will be available.



## "Experience Matters"

### ORDER FORM

Name

_____	_____	_____	_____
First	Middle	Last	Suffix

Address

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Street	Apt #	City	State	Zip

Phone

_____	_____
Day	Evening

Small	Medium	Large	Quantity per size				Total Quantity	x Unit Price	Total Enclosed
			XL	2XL	3XL	4XL			
							\$15		

Please make checks payable to Tri-County FOP Lodge #3 Mail completed order forms with payment to:

Conference T-Shirts  
SCFOP3.  
PO Box 60036  
North Charleston, SC 29419

## Dan Isgett for State Lodge Treasurer