



The Informer



Volume 6, Issue 3

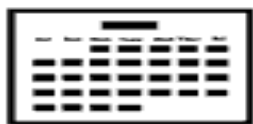
March 2007

MONDAY

March 12, 2007

7:30 PM

date



Special Points

- **NEXT MEETING**
- **Lodge Use Agreement**
- **Last Meeting Highlights**
- **Calendar of Events**
- **Awards Night**
- **Hero Spotlight**
- **Gun and Knife Show**
- **COPS and Lobsters**
- **Frequently Asked Questions**

SUPPORT



NEW CHAPLAIN APPOINTED

At our February meeting, Summerville Lt, James Bateman was installed as the new Chaplain of Tri-County Lodge 3. Jimmy was appointed after David Lee stepped down from the position. Jimmy has been a member of the lodge since 2002 and has been active assisting the lodge with many events. Jimmy has been employed with the Summerville Police Department since 1991. He is currently is the commander of Training, communications and E911. His wife Dee is an associate member. He and his wife have supervised the Summerville Explorer post for the last 15 years.



Cops and Lobsters March 23rd

Our lodge will be participating with our annual Cops and Lobsters Special Olympics fundraiser on March 23, 2007. This is our annual fund raiser for the South Carolina Special Olympics. Last year , our lodge raised \$3,300.00. All of the money raised during the Cops and Lobsters fundraiser goes directly to the South Carolina Special Olympics. The event will be held at the Mall Dr. location in North Charleston. Members of the lodge wear their duty uniform and help the wait staff with drinks and biscuits. Customers are advised of the fund raiser and are asked to provide a donation to the Special Olympics. We need your help. Please contact Harold Phillips at hphillips@scfop3.org if you can assist with the fundraiser. Please tell your friends, family and co-workers about this event and ask them to visit this Red Lobster for lunch or dinner.



Special Olympics



New Applications 8 active 2 Associate

56 members present.

Sick and Distressed - Steve McEvers passed away. Coleman Knight passed away. Moose Remington passed away. Ryan Creech is ill with congestive heart failure. Buck Gossett is in hospital with cancer. Will Summersell is sick.

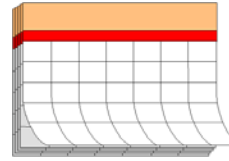
Legislative - Working on changes to the retire and return law. Attempting to raise the subsistence allowance to \$9 a day.

Donations - Bishop England requested \$250. CCSO Golf Tournament requested \$100 hole sponsor. National Motorcycle Competition requested \$500. Ptak Golf Tournament requested \$100. Sgt. David Meritt requested \$125.00 for Tour to Cure Diabetes. All but diabetes was approved. **Motion made** for \$1,200.00 for total donations made. **Motion seconded. Motion passed.**

Unfinished Business - Dishwasher replaced. Working on a new lock for the door. Thanked Rob Christy for assistance with L/E appreciation night. John racy for his assistance. There were lots of door prizes. Raised over \$200.00 in silent auction. Lt. Patterson from Hanahan won \$200.00 Awards night cut-off by March meeting. Golf tournament does not have enough volunteers to assist and is in danger of not happening. We spent over \$3,700.00 for 8 families last year from distressed fund. Need to build it up.

New Business - Gun and Knife show Feb 17th and 18th. Need assistance. Law Riders Oyster Roast March 3rd at Noon. David Lee had to step down as Chaplain.

Calendar of Events



2007

The following is an overview of upcoming events that are sponsored by our lodge directly or those we regularly participate in. Almost always we ask for volunteers with the various events and projects.

Awards Night - April 9

Cops and Lobsters - (March 23)

Tri-County Police Memorial - (first week in May)

Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Wash., D.C.— May 13-16

Distressed Officer Fund Golf Tournament - (To be determined)

Law Enforcement Day at The Mall - (Early September)

Christmas Party (December 8)

Lodge Use Agreement Online

As a benefit to the membership, active members are allowed to use the lodge for free. We now have the lodge use agreement online. Members can go to our website and request a date to use the lodge. Your FOP ID number is required. Once you agree to the terms of the agreement the request is sent to our Sgt. At Arms, Vic Nico. He will confirm if the lodge is available that date. Please read the agreement carefully. Some important issues of the agreement are: The member must be present at all times that the lodge is being requested. The member is responsible for activities at the lodge. Members will be required to bring there plates, utensils, napkins, ect. The lodge must be cleaned at the conclusion of the event and all tables, chairs and furniture returned to their original places.



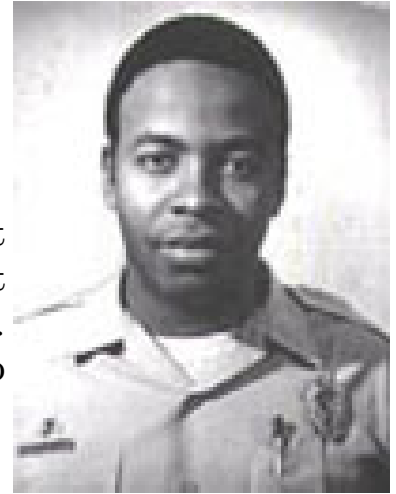
Lowcountry Hero Spotlight

Willie Edward Peebles

South Carolina Highway Patrol

End of Watch: June 8, 1979

Patrolman Peebles of Walterboro was shot in the chest and twice in the stomach when he stopped a motorcyclist for speeding near State Highway 61 and US Highway 15. After an extensive manhunt, the suspect was taken into custody.



AWARDS SUBMISSIONS DUE MARCH 12



The Tri-County Lodge 3 Annual Awards night is April 9th at the lodge. The awards are developed from submissions by members of the lodge. This is a special honor to be nominated and recognized by your peers. The awards will be documented on the lodge website at www.scfop3.org/awards. The following awards are given out by the lodge: Member of the Year, Award of Valor, Certificate of Appreciation, Special Recognitions Award, Lifetime Achievement Award, Margie F. Cannon Award of

Judicial Excellence. Please visit the lodge website for a description of these awards. The recipient does not have to be a member of the FOP. Awards can be submitted to awards@scfop3.org.

GUN AND KNIFE SHOW A SUCCESS

The Promoters of the Gun and Knife show donate space for the lodge to raise money for Distressed Officers Fund. Members of our lodge volunteer over the weekend and sell "Support your local police" T-shirts and other merchandise. This weekend of February 17th, members raised \$527.00 from the sales of merchandise and donations. We are thankful for the members who volunteered their time to assist the lodge. Thanks to Tom and Carolyn Botchie, Gary Clear, Naomi Morris, Bill Kofron, Scooter Emmons, Aaron Reed, John Tract, Aymen Abaza, Rob Christy, and CJ Thompson.

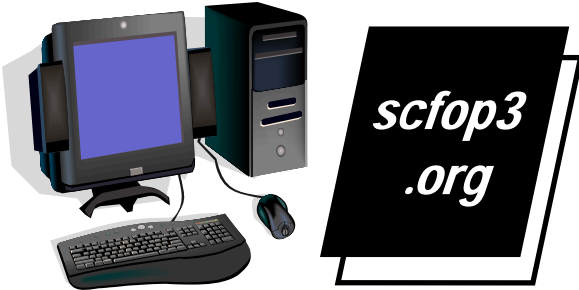


S.C. FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE TRI-COUNTY LODGE # 3

President - Dan Isgett disgett@scfop3.org
Vice President - John Blackmon jblackmon@scfop3.org
Treasurer - Tom Botchie tbotchie@scfop3.org
Secretary - Shawn Laffey slaffey@scfop3.org
2nd Vice President - Frank Nigro, Jr fnigro@scfop3.org
Sergeant at Arms - Vic Nico vnico@scfop3.org
Chaplain - Jimmy Bateman jbateman@scfop3.org

The Tri-County Lodge (founded in 1976) is chartered to serve those law enforcement officers working in Charleston, Dorchester and Colleton Counties. Currently we have 719 active members and we are steadily growing. Our mission - both local as well as national, is to better our profession through fraternalism and legally by way of legislation. We work from the bottom to the top and value the ideas and opinions of all our members.

The Informer is an evolving lodge endeavor. Any comments, criticisms, ideas for improvement or member submissions are welcomed. ****Disclaimer**** This publication does not necessarily represent the views of any or all of our members or affiliated lodges. Editorial comment solely that of the editor.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – LEGAL DEFENSE



What is the Legal Defense Plan? A plan funded by the FOP for its members. The plan provides defense coverage for Administrative, Civil and Criminal actions that might arise out of your law enforcement duties.

How much will it cost me to join? The cost is \$131.00 per year. This is in addition to your \$25.00 FOP membership dues. This can be paid in several ways depending on where you work. If you are employed by Summerville Police or Hanahan Police you have the option of a bi-weekly payroll deduction of \$6.00. This covers your Legal Defense and your FOP membership dues. All other members must either pay on a yearly basis, which is prorated depending on when you join, or by a quarterly bank draft of \$32.75.

Can I use my own attorney? You can use any attorney, however if you use a non-plan attorney there is a \$250.00 deductible and there is a limit on the amount the plan will cover. Your attorney can become a plan attorney simply by contacting Cara Webb at Keenan & Associates (866-920-6600) at the time of enrollment or when a claim is first reported.

Is there a limit on legal fees if I use a plan attorney? There is no limit if you use a plan attorney.

What are my options if I get suspended without pay? You may elect to receive salary reimbursement of up to three days actual salary loss or \$500.00, whichever is less. This option is in lieu of all other benefits. This means you may not use an attorney if you elect to use the salary reimbursement option. Your claim must be filed within 30 days of the suspension.

Is there coverage for HR-218 (Off-duty carry)? Yes, this is included in your Legal Defense Plan. If you are retired and don't have Legal Defense you can get the HR-218 coverage only for \$50.00 dollars per year.

Am I covered for incidents occurring off-duty? You are covered "in the scope of employment", meaning all activities of a participant while on duty in connection with employment, and all law enforcement activities authorized or required by the participants employment, whether on duty or technically off duty.