



S.C. Fraternal Order of Police
 Tri-County Lodge # 3
 "Serving the Lawmen of the Lowcountry"



The Informer

Volume 7, Issue 4

April 2008

MONDAY
April 14, 2008 7:00
PM

date

Special Points

- **NEXT MEETING**
- **Cops and Lobsters**
- **Distressed Officer Fund Golf Tournament**
- **Stingrays Game**
- **Calendar of Events**
- **By-Law changes**



Lodge members raise \$5065 for South Carolina Special Olympics

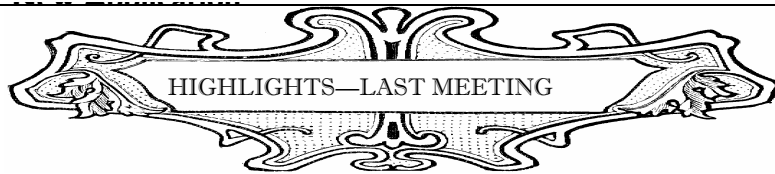
Members of the Fraternal Order of Police, Tri-County Lodge participated in our Annual Cops and Lobsters Fundraiser for the South Carolina Special Olympics. Last year our lodge raised \$5000. Our goal this year was to break last years total. 27 members volunteered to assist with this event. At the conclusion of the event, our members had broken to lodge record for this fundraiser with \$5065 raised. Our lodge is very grateful for the hard work of Chairman Harold Phillips, Naomi Morris, CJ Thompson, Alice Lang for volunteering for the entire day and all the members who volunteered their time. We are also appreciative of all the assistance from Red Lobster.



Distressed Officer Fund Golf Tournament

The Summerville Police Department and our lodge members raised \$10,000 at their Annual "Fallen Officers Memorial" Golf Tournament held on March 17, 2008 at Pine Forest Country Club in Summerville, SC The proceeds are being shared equally between the Summerville Police Cadets and The Tri-County FOP #3 Distressed Officer Fund. \$5,000 will be added to our Distressed Officers Fund to assist our local law enforcement officers and their family members in a time of crisis.





38 members present

New Applications: 13 Active Member application accepted. 2 Associate Member application accepted.

Sick and Distressed - Vic Nico's mother has taken a turn for the worse. Ask all members to pray for Vic's family.

Donations:

Request for a donation of \$250 to sponsor Shawn Laffey's son's T-Ball team. They will put the FOP logo on all their shirts. Committee recommended for and lodge affirmed.

Request for a donation of \$300 to sponsor hole 3 at the Fallen Officers Golf Tournament. The motion was amended the motion to sponsor a team rather than sponsoring a hole. Lodge voted to approve change. Team was sponsored and Travis Dodd, Matt Woodall, Mike Kornahrens and Doug Delong will be on the team.

50 / 50 Drawing: \$38 won by Naomi Morris.

Legislative: Check on the State website for updates, we will let you know if it looks like something is going to be voted. The biggest issue at hand now is the employee/employer cooperation act. This will pass eventually. We have a great deal of support from congress on this issue. The Law Enforcement Sustenance Allowance was established by the FOP the law is actually \$5.00 per day, but we were able to get it upgraded to \$8.00 per day on a year by year basis.

Unfinished Business : Law Riders Oyster Roast will be on March 14th this supports the Distressed Officer Fund.

We have 100 Stingrays tickets at \$10 each for the March 29th game. 100% of the proceeds will go to the FOP Lodge. Tickets normally sell for \$14.

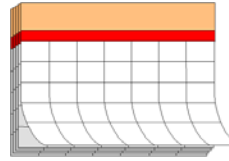
The Law Enforcement Memorial Ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday May 6, 2008 at 1800 hours. Right now it is tentatively going to be held at Alhambra Hall in Mt. Pleasant if we can get the fee waived. We will have a sunset ceremony near the water. We are still accepting members of the committee and will meet Thursday March 12th at 3:00 pm at the FOP Lodge.

New Business: We have 100 Stingrays tickets at \$10 each for the March 29th game. 100% of the proceeds will go to the FOP Lodge. Tickets normally sell for \$14.

Merchandise Committee –DUI Advisement / Miranda Cards are in, we will be giving them to the agency liaisons... You can use the credit card machine to pay your dues and to buy everything including new long sleeve shirts, sweatshirts etc. **Calendars will be going out in next news letter**

Good to the Order. NA

Calendar of Events



2008

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 14

Tri-County Police Memorial— May

Palmetto Police Motorcycle Skills Competition

June 18-21

State Conference - August

Christmas Party— December 13

Christmas with a Cop—December

By-Laws changes proposed at the March Meeting.

By-Law changes proposed at the March meeting have been included with this newsletter. These changes are to change the wording in reference to affiliation with PACs, dues for retired members and the definition of Auxiliary members.

The State and National lodges have PAC accounts to assist with legislative matters.

The Grand Lodge is increasing the Per Capita (Dues) from \$6 to \$9. Some retired members only pay per capita. Our lodge is losing money for each of there retired members due to the money spent on each members.

There will also be a proposal to increase the member dues also. Our income has decreased due to the loss of our telephone solicitation and the change in the Bingo laws.

Our finances will need to be restructured to meet our obligations. We will discuss other financial issues not included in the By-Laws to address out financial stability.

Auxiliaries now include any family member.



SOUTH CAROLINA STINGRAYS

LAW ENFORCEMENT NIGHT

On March 29th, The South Carolina Stingrays honored local law enforcement officers at their final home game of the season. The Stingrays provided the lodge with tickets to sell and also assisted with a jersey raffle to raise money. The Stingrays honored the Tri-County four, the four officers who lost their lives in the line of duty in 2007. Officers from Dorchester County, Monks Corner and State Constables represented the departments and families of these officers who were honor. Sandra Cooner with the Dorchester County Sheriff's Office sang God Bless America between periods as the Dorchester County Cadet Color Guard presented the colors. The Charleston County Sheriff's Office honor guard also assisted. We are very grateful for all the volunteers who assisted with this event. Our lodge was able to raise more than \$3,500 at this event. This event could not have been successful without the assistance of our volunteers and supporters. Our lodge would like to thank: The Dorchester County Sheriff's Office Cadets, The honor guards representing the Tri-County 4, Lee Mandrell and Joe Bistromowitz of the Dorchester County Sheriff's Office, Mike Roach, Monks Corner Police Department, State Constables Rob Forsythe and Jeremy Reed, Thomas Booth and Randall Smith with the Charleston County Sheriff's Office Honor Guard, our lodge members, Vic Nico, Janice Nico, Bill Lang, Alice Lang, CJ Thompson, Dan Isgett, Wendy Isgett, Tom Botchie, Carolyn Botchie, Naomi Morris, Martin Villa and Teisha Connor. Thanks also to those members who sold tickets, Frank Nigro, Jimmy Bateman, Pat Carter, Travis Dodd, Matt Woodall and Johnny Wilson. We are also very grateful to the South Carolina Stingrays organization, Darren Abbott-SC Stingrays, President, Ashley Hoffman-SC Stingrays, Comm. Affairs Dir., Jared Bednar, Head Coach SC Stingrays, The Team Members, Coaches and Staff of the South Carolina Stingrays. And lastly, we would like to thank Kirkman Broadcasting Inc., Gil Kirkman and Ted Byrne.

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS! THE SUMMERVILLE MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Our golf tournament was very successful due to the hard work of our volunteers. Special thanks to: Jimmy Bateman, Jon Rogers, Doris Asbell, Harold Phillips, Bill Lang, Cathy Bowers, Alice Lang, Sherry Harmon, Laura Gibbons, Rob Christie, Denise Bateman, Karen Failla, and Pam Stonier.

COPS AND LOBSTERS

Once again, our Cops and Lobsters fundraiser raised over \$5000 for the South Carolina Special Olympics. We would not be able to be so successful without the hard work of all our volunteers. Special thanks to Harold Phillips, CJ Thompson, Alice Lang, Naomi Morris, Dan Isgett, Buddy Isgett, Joyce Kephart, Diane Parr, Victoria Smith, Carrol Brown, Doug Delong, Pat Carter, Bridgett Bice, Johnny Wilson, Mary Wilson, David Owen, Shawn James, Travis Dodd, Mike Rohause, Teisha Connor, Don Mathews, Bill Lang, Rae Wooten, Tim Hutchinson, Brittney Butler, Vincent Johnson, Michael Riccio and George Shorter.

BOOK SIGNING

Member Reggie Sharpe will be available at the lodge from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM for a book signing of his newly published "True Stories of a Low-Country Cop". Reggie is a long time member of our lodge and is the previous editor of The Informer. The book include photos and stories from the lowcountry.

