

The Informer

Volume 1, Issue 5

January 2002

Special Points

- Congratulations to our new lodge Officers.
- Important insurance issues.
- American flag donated to assisted living home
- Lodge distributes Christmas presents to needy children.
- **NEXT MEETING—
MONDAY JAN 14th**

New North Charleston Police Chief to speak at January meeting

Mr. Jon J. Zumalt was sworn in on Dec. 10th, 2001 as the Chief of the North Charleston Police Department.

Chief Zumalt is a 21 year veteran of law enforcement. He retired as a Captain from the Wichita, Kansas Police Department (a 624 man Dept.) Currently he is married and has one daughter.

Chief Zumalt will be speaking at our next meeting. It will be an excellent opportunity to meet him on a personal level and we encourage your attendance.

He is a longstanding FOP member.

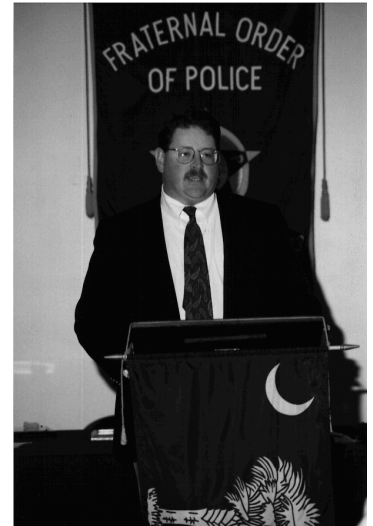
New President takes the helm

Brothers and Sisters,

It is indeed an honor to have the opportunity to serve you. During the past few years we have grown immensely. We have come together and accomplished many things for the local law enforcement community. I believe that in the upcoming months and years, we will continue to build traditions and create a strong organization that will benefit all of law enforcement. It is my hope to see this lodge represented by members of each department in the tri-county at the local, state and federal level. Law enforcement officers will be able to make many important contacts at the meetings and as-

sist with cooperation with area departments.

I believe that our primary goal is to be in a position to assist local officers in time of need. We are laying the groundwork to have greater finances and improved communications within the departments to be able to help when called upon. I will also plan on working in coordination with our other local area lodges, along with the state lodge, to push important legislative issues that will effect our members. Lastly, our lodge will continue to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. I, nor the executive board of this lodge, can accomplish our goals alone. Each



member is important to the success of our lodge. As one, we can accomplish little, but together we can accomplish much. Remember "together we can!"

Fraternally,

Dan Isgett - *President*

3rd Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Night

On February 3rd, 2002 the lodge will host its Third Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Night. It has been our tradition to have this celebration on Superbowl Sunday each year. Any area law enforcement officer in the area is invited, as well as a guest. The

lodge will be providing food, beverages and many great door prizes as has become our standard. It is of course free of charge, however, we respectfully request that you RSVP at the lodge answering machine 744-7255 so we can gauge our needed supplies and provide accord-

ingly. If any of you have a contact that could assist with door prizes, please contact us at the same number and leave message. This event has grown better each year. We hope to see you there!

Highlight - President

In an effort to familiarize our members with its elected leaders, the informer will highlight each officer through the next several issues. Our new President Dan Isgett has provided the following information about himself.

He was reared in Sumter, S.C. and is a graduate of Sumter County High School. His police career began with the North Charleston Police Dept. in 1985 where he spent two years. In 1987 he was hired by the Charleston County Police Dept. and continued there as a patrolman until the merger with the Sheriff's Office in 1991. Shortly thereafter he was assigned to the detective division where he spent five years as a persons crimes investigator. 1996 saw a promotion to Sgt., where he served as a patrol supervisor West. Until his promotion to Lt. In October 2001, he saw served in the Sgt. capacity patrol North, CID and Judgments. His current assignment is with the Planning and Organizational Development Unit.

Dan holds an Associate of Business from Trident Technical College. He currently owns his own successful business venture *Low-country Music*. He is in his 11th year of marriage to his wife Paula and has two small children, Michael and Danielle.

He has been a member of the Tri-County lodge since 1995 and served as Vice President from 2000-2002.

Dan is the son of the late Berkeley County Sheriff Ray Isgett, brother of Buddy Isgett (11 year veteran Charleston Co. Sheriff) and nephew to Harold Isgett (18 veteran Hanahan Police.)

Mt. Pleasant moms donate X-mas gifts.

On Dec. 8th, three Mt. Pleasant mothers, Amy Westmoreland, Leah Surles and Debbie O'Neal, held a "birthday party for Jesus" to give gifts to needy children. Pres. Isgett attended in uniform and received approx. 75 gifts for needy children in the tri-county area. Children of the church took turns bringing gifts and meeting the Deputy. These gifts were then distributed by the lodge to several groups. The Tri-County Victim's Council - who identified children who were unable to be provided for due to a recent crime, The Charleston Co. Sheriff's Office - who identified employees with personal crisis in their lives and unable to provide and several families identified by individual lodge members. We are very grateful to these ladies and to the unselfish children for assisting us in helping our communities.

"these gifts were distributed by the lodge to several groups"

Important discussion on lodge insurance benefits

Our lodge is currently one of the few, if not the only lodge in the state, that provides insurance above and beyond that of what is given through the state lodge for basic membership (which is \$5,000 line of duty death). Our current insurance that we carry is \$15,000 line of duty death with \$5,000 natural death for active police and \$2500 natural for retired. While these benefits are great, they are also quite expensive.

Our current monthly premium rates for our lodge exceeds \$1400 dollars and increases with every new member. I will propose that we drop our additional insurance coverage and opt instead for self-insurance. That is to say that instead of \$1400 going for premiums, that same amount (or slightly less), go into a savings account specifically for member death benefits. I would suggest that the first year give an across the board death benefit of \$2500. God willing, the first year would see few (hopefully none) deaths and would allow us to increase benefits as years go by and time with interest increasing our account. You may not be aware that the Fireman's Insurance Company started much the same way. Please give it some thought.- *Secretary Sharpe*

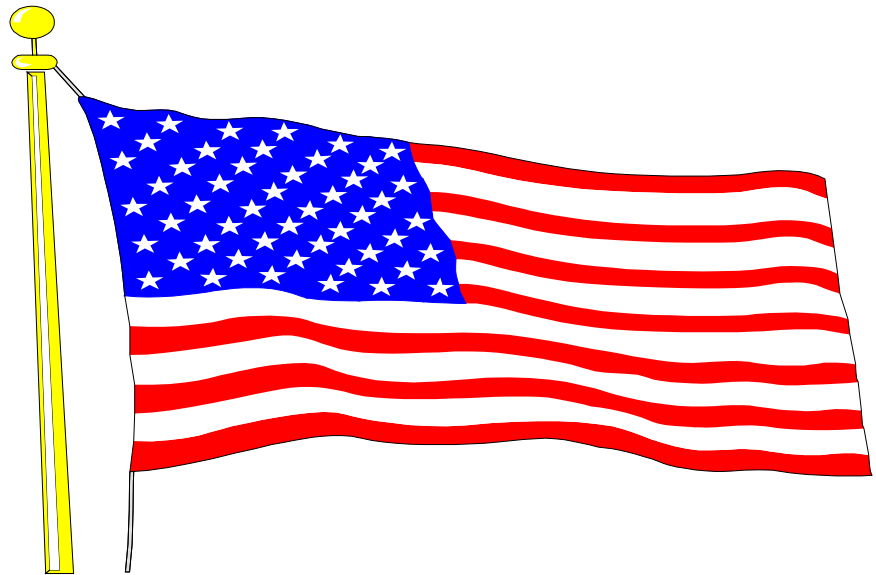


Lodge donates American flag to assisted living facility

In December, President Dan Isgett, Past President Ric Piersol and Brothers Bob Tague and Mike Ringley, attended a Christmas party held at the "Bridge" assisted living home for the elderly.

The home houses many of whom are honorable veterans who have proudly served our nation in the past. With many common citizens recently having found a sense of patriotism, few could compare with the presentation and welcomed reception of an American flag ensemble. The flag will be posted in their common area.

It is with much pride we find something so small to mean something so great.



2001 - A record year for police officer deaths, 231

The year 2001 saw the greatest number of law enforcement deaths since 1974, when we had 270. The closest other years were 1973 having 260, 1930 having 246 and 1971 having 239.

According to the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial, last year saw the passing of 231 of our brethren.

Of the 231 killed this past year, they met their ends in the following ways:

71 - (official revised total) from the Sept. 11th terrorists attacks.

66 - shot to death

43 - automobile accidents

23 - killed by being struck by another automobile while outside of their own vehicle.

13 - died from job related illnesses.

7 - motorcycle accidents

5 - aircraft accidents

2 - boating accidents

1 - drowned

1 - died in a fall

1 - struck by a train



S.C. FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE TRI-COUNTY LODGE # 3
"SERVING THE LAWMEN OF THE LOWCOUNTRY"

The Informer
Editor - R.E. Sharpe Lodge Secretary
P.O. Box 62469
N. Charleston, S.C. 29419

Phone: 843-744-7255
Email: scfop3@awod.com



Tri - County Lodge # 3

"Serving the Lawmen of the Lowcountry"

We are on the web!
www.scfop3.org

The Tri-County Lodge is chartered to serve those law enforcement officers working in Charleston, Dorchester and Colleton Counties. Currently we have 215 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 a new lodge endeavor and we welcome any comments, criticisms, contributions or ideas for its improvement.

- Ed

New Lodge Officers

State FOP President Jerry Wright was present in December to swear in the new lodge officers. Pictured from left to right is Dan Isgett - *President*, Donald Dulin - *Vice President*, Cathy Bowers - *Treasurer*, and Russell Fickett - *Chaplain*. Not present in photo, the other officers who are: R.E. Sharpe - *Secretary*, Robert Grimley - *Sgt. At Arms* and Tim Glover as our *2nd Vice President*.

We will highlight each officer in the coming months. They will be in their respective positions for the next two years. Please encourage them and offer assistance, advice or constructive criticisms. They have their heart in their positions and are here to serve the membership.

