



The Informer

Volume 3, Issue 3

November 2003

Special Points

- **NEXT MEETING**
MONDAY November 10th
7:00 p.m.
- **Family Thanksgiving Meal**
- Hanahan P.D. 100%
- Statue Dedication
- Last meeting highlights
- Payroll deduction for dues
- Christmas gifts for Airborne Rangers
- Nominations for Lodge Officers
- "Seahawk" Taskforce
- Habitat for Bell
- Editorial



Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving !

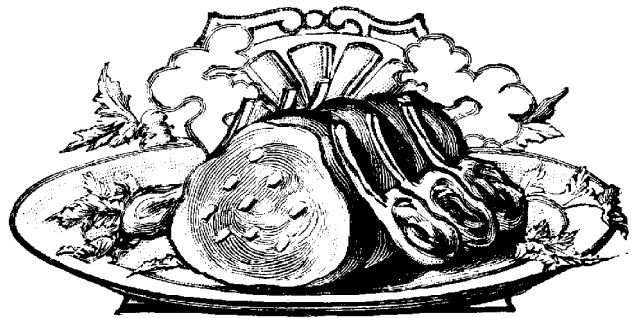
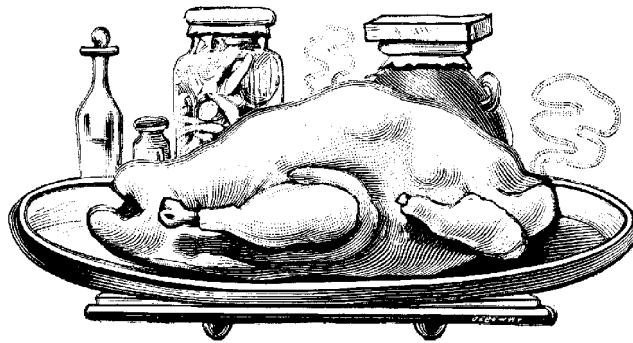
Christmas Party

Sgt. John Blackmon of the Hanahan PD. has agreed to Chair the Christmas party. We will have it at our lodge on December 20th. If you want to assist, please contact him at:

jblackmon@comcast.net

or the lodge at 744-7255 and leave a message. Your input is needed.

Annual "Family" Thanksgiving meal at November meeting



As is lodge tradition, we will have a "family" meal night at our November 10th lodge meeting. The lodge will provide the meats for the dinner and request that all attending bring a covered dish to compliment the meal. Feel free to bring your spouse and children, as this night will focus on fraternity more so than business.

In the past we have had feasts to challenge that of royalty, with many members showing their hidden talents with wonderful dishes. We expect this meal to be a great one!

Please contact the lodge to advise what type of dish you may be bringing (744-7255 leave message) so we may coordinate quantity of specific dishes. If time, finances or lack of ability prevents you from cooking, worry not and come anyway! As always, come as you are, this is informal.

Hanahan Police Department now 100% FOP Membership

It has been a goal of the tri-county lodge under the current leadership, to not only increase our number of active members, but to do so with entire departments. We are proud to announce, that as of this writing, the Hanahan Police Department stands as our first 100% membership department.

Many members of the department have been diligent in recruiting fellow officers and are worthy of recognition: John Blackmon, Dennis Turner and Matthew Woodall have all been instrumental. The lodge president will soon present a plaque to this department in appreciation of their support.

We are thankful to have their support and will stand proud to represent them to the best of our ability. Congratulations to Hanahan!

* sidenote* we are currently the largest lodge in S.C. where all members pay individual dues out-of-pocket



Highlights - Last Meeting

The meeting's meal was again provided by our "Iron Chef" Brother Phil Cahoon. He provided a "mexican" culinary delight with tacos, burritos, red rice, salsas and cheeses. *Ecellente' Senior Cahoon.*

6 names read for new membership.

Reggie Sharpe and John Blackmon won the prizes in the recruitment drawing.

A lodge license plate and a few pens were given to each member who attended. They will now be offered for sale. A different (mystery) item will be given away at the next meeting.

Motion made/passed to sponsor food baskets for needy families \$500 from our lodge (in collaboration with Corbett Processing and the other low-country lodges to match.)

Motion made/passed to sponsor Brother Tony Rahaim in the *Susan J. Korman Breast Cancer* run.

Motion made/passed to provide assistance to Berkeley Bandits AA traveling baseball team.

Prayers out to Sgt. Simmons (situation unknown) and Chris Martin with ailing child. *Keep them in your prayers.

The Sept. "Glock giveaway" on the State Lodge e-mail registry was won by a member from Lowcountry lodge # 16.

Public Safety Statue Dedication



On Nov. 19 2:00 pm a Memorial service for William Bell will be held with a reception following. A statue dedication will follow that with another reception. The memorial will be at St. Lukes Church in Summerville with a reception following in the fellowship hall. After that memorial service, everyone will be walking to town hall for the statue dedication. The statue depicts a fireman dedicated to all public safety workers.

After the dedication, everyone will be driving to the First Citizens bank on North Main street for the second reception.

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Payroll deduction for legal defense/dues

Our lodge legal defense committee is working hard on getting payroll deduction for the legal defense plan. It is a tedious process and we thank all those involved for their hard work. We will keep you posted on their progress and as well on which departments will be willing to participate and the rates that would apply for each deduction. Hopefully, we can arrange a nominal amount for all members to join both our lodge and legal defense concurrently.

Christmas gifts for Airborne Soldiers



As a lodge function, we have adopted the 101st Airborne division of the U.S. Army for recipients of our benevolence. With the aid and guidance of Trooper David Lee, we have sent many care packages to the unit, who in turn have sent many letters of appreciation to our lodge. We are proud to assist our brothers serving abroad and feel it is our patriotic duty.

We are now in the process of compiling Christmas gifts for the soldiers serving in Iraq. If you can assist by giving any articles (preferably 72 in number, as it is the total battery number) please contact the lodge, now or anytime before the December meeting. These soldiers are extremely grateful and this would re-enforce that their efforts are appreciated.

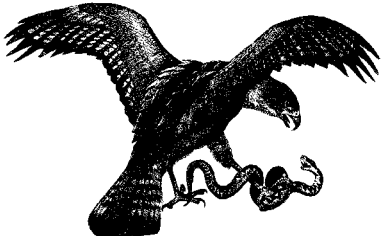
Lodge Officer Nominations

Nominations will be accepted for all offices at the November meeting. *President* Dan Isgett, *Treasurer* Cathy Bowers and *Secretary* Reggie Sharpe have all indicated they are seeking re-election. *Vice President* Donald Dulin, *Sgt. at Arms* Robert Grimsley, *2nd Vice President* Timmy Glover and *Chaplain* Russell Fickett have indicated they will most likely not seek re-election.

John Blackmon has announced his intention of seeking the office of *Vice President*, Doug Wright is seeking the *2nd Vice President*, Matt Woodall is seeking the *Sgt. at Arms* position and Micheal Fowler for *Chaplain*. To be involved in the December election, you must be nominated at the November meeting.

All lodge officer positions are up for election. To participate, you need only to be an active member in good standing and likewise be nominated for office by a member in good standing.

Elections will be held at the December meeting. All members are encouraged to participate. This is your chance to help direct the lodge in the way you see fit. Good luck to all candidates!



“Seahawk” Taskforce begins in Charleston

The terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001 had far reaching impacts on American life. Among the many things that occurred were the roles and responsibilities of state and local governments across the U.S. Over the past year, local officials have been called upon to play a new and expanded leadership role in ensuring the security of their hometowns and seaports, thus, restoring the confidence of its citizens.

One consequence of the terrorist attacks on 9/11 was the passing of the Maritime Security Act. With funding allocated by the U.S. Congress, the Intermodal and Port Security Task Force or *Seahawk* was born and Charleston was selected as the model for future seaport projects. The *Seahawk* Task Force is a combined multi-jurisdictional task force operating under the umbrella of the Department of Justice; it consists of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. *Seahawk* is an Intermodal Transportation and Port Security Anti-terrorism Task Force that will operate in Charleston. Also, it will encompass the Port of Georgetown and Port Royal in Beaufort. The Task Force will focus on cases relating to Intermodal and port security. In addition, *Seahawk* will investigate any related offenses that may assist in protecting the Charleston community from terrorist activity.

Along with the investigative responsibilities, *Seahawk* provides analysis on intelligence gathered from many sources, including human intelligence. This is information that you observe, but you feel is not significant enough to initiate a written report or a field interrogation card. It is the information you gather through your contacts, sources, dispatch calls, etc. that you feel may involve homeland security issues and would require additional follow-up. In these circumstances, I urge you to call my office and relay your specific concern or information. Even the smallest bit of information may be the missing piece of a bigger puzzle.

Information contributes to every aspect of homeland security and is a vital foundation for the homeland security effort. I believe that one of the goals of all lowcountry law enforcement agencies is to make their residents feel secure and confident that local officials are ready, willing and able to assume the front line of hometown protection. Together we can keep the lowcountry safe. I look forward to hearing from you. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

Main tip-line # 843-576-3800

** Article submitted by Brother Todd Smoak, Deputy Sheriff Charleston County, currently assigned to *Seahawk*.

Habitat for Humanity House in memory of William Bell

Dear Co-workers and Friends,

Hi all. This is Doug's wife, Valarie, and I am writing this letter to request the assistance of my dad's friends and co-workers in completing a community service project in his memory.

As you all know, dad was a very giving person and often gave of his time and skill to help others with home repair projects. But what many of you may not know is that he also gave himself by using his carpentry skills to build churches overseas. These "missions" were very close to his heart, and he enjoyed being able to "give" to those who needed his help the most.

I wanted to do something special for my dad in his memory to show him my appreciation for all he's done for me in my life. Especially with the "anniversary" approaching, I wanted to do something to remember him. So, I contacted the Habitat for Humanity organization to sponsor two workdays on the building of this Habitat Home in his memory. We will be helping to build a home for the holidays for a local Summerville family. The program that we are going to be involved with is Habitat for Humanity's "Police Days" Program, in which different police agencies chose a workday in which their police officers will work towards the completion of this home. Our days are Thursday, November 13th and Saturday, November 15th.

Dad was always so willing to give of his time to help his friends, and I'm requesting that his friends give of their time and talents to remember him. The workdays which have been sponsored are Thursday, November 13th and Saturday, November 15th. Please donate an hour, a half day or a whole day on one (or both) of these days as we help build a home in his memory.

Sign up sheets will be posted around the department starting on Monday, November 3rd. Other information will be included on the sign up sheet--work hours, address, and any tools needed for the job. All of those who donate of their time will receive a T-shirt that says "**William's Team**" on it with his number 48 on the back. Lunch is being donated by my dad's widow, Debra, on Saturday, November 15th. I am still in the process of looking for a donor for the T-shirts and for Thursday's lunch, but I promise that all have a T-shirt and that all will be fed. If there are any wives interested in helping me by making sandwiches or something, please let me know. I'm open to any suggestion.

Please come out to help on this project in my dad's memory. This is a great way for us all to show him that he is NOT forgotten. We will do this to remember him!

Any amount of time and/or effort will be greatly appreciated. If you know of someone at the department who is not on this e-mail chain, please forward it to them. If anyone would like to RSVP to me directly, please e-mail me at BellWright48@aol.com. In your e-mail, please include which of the two days you will work and hours you can work. I'd also appreciate your T-shirt size.

Thanks so much!

Sincerely,

Valarie Bell Wright

** e-mail publication reprinted here without request of the author, this endeavor is wholly supported by our lodge**

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

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Tri - County Lodge # 3

"Serving the Lawmen of the Lowcountry"

We are on the web!
www.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 343 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 or ideas for improvement 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.

Editorial - Happy Thanksgiving & Merry Christmas

It's getting close to the time when American families will get together for their "annual holiday meal." Followed shortly by celebration of "the holiday season" in December by erecting a "holiday tree" festooned with "holiday ornaments." Other bland named celebrations will take place afterward and in the spring there will be "spring break." It really sickens me... In the name of "tolerance" and "diversity" we are being de-Americanized and de-Christianized. I for one, do not like it.

When we forget our history, we lose the rudder that allows us to steer our lives. Consider this quote from one of the great American patriots: "It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ! For this very reason peoples of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity and freedom of worship here." - **Patrick Henry**

The word "holiday" is English and Christian in origin, it is the combination of two separate words "holy" and "day." The holy day of "Thanksgiving" is defined in the dictionary as **n 1**. The act of giving thanks, as to God, an expression of gratitude. **2**. A public celebration in recognition of divine favor; also a day set apart for such celebration.

"Christmas" with it also being comprised of two words "Christ" and "mass" is defined as **n 1**. December 25th, held as the anniversary of the birth of Jesus Christ and widely observed as a holy day or holiday. **2**. A church festival observed annually at this date in memory of the birth of Jesus Christ. The season of Christmas extends from Christmas eve (Dec.24th) to Epiphany (Jan 6th.)

"Easter" is defined as **n 1**. A Christian festival commemorating the resurrection of Christ. **2**. The day on which this festival is celebrated, the Sunday immediately after the first full moon that occurs on or after March 21st.: Also Easter Sunday.

This year, celebrate **Thanksgiving** (and not annual holiday meal,) celebrate **Christmas** (not holiday season) with Christmas songs, Christmas music, Christmas trees and Christmas ornaments. Celebrate **Easter** (not spring break) as true Americans.

I am tired of folks trying to change my homeland into something I do not recognize. I am unashamed to proclaim myself as an American and hold to the principle that "when we give up the ideals that produced this great nation, we give up the nation those ideals produced."
- R.E. Sharpe