



# The Informer

Volume 4, Issue 12

September 2005

## Special Points

- **NEXT MEETING**  
**MONDAY September**  
**12th at 7:00 p.m.**



- **Lodge sign complete**
- Your lodge Officers
- Last meeting highlights
- Sex Offender Website
- Gunshow
- Corner of History
- Hero Appreciation Night
- Police Day Citadel Mall
- Hero Spotlight
- Local Training
- Historical Quotes
- Editorial

Welcome aboard To our new members!

Members are encouraged to use the forum through the State website [www.scfop.org](http://www.scfop.org). It can only be accessed by FOP members and is an excellent resource to network securely with officers around the state.

## Lodge Sign - Finally Complete

Through various design submissions, permit applications, a couple of odd hurdles and a span of a year - our lodge sign is complete. It was produced by *Mr. Sign* of Summerville and sits on the corner of our lot at Campbell and McNew streets.

It is made of Old Charleston brick and has two solid

columns. It has a planter beneath for flowers. The actual sign is sandblasted wood painted in intricate detail. Special thanks to Frank Nigro, Bill Lang & Chris Nuss for their work on this project



## Know Your Lodge Officers



**Doug Wright**  
**2nd Vice President**

Doug Wright serves as the Second Vice President of the Fraternal Order of Police Tri-County Lodge #3, as well as a Sergeant with the Summerville Police Department where he is the department's K-9 Unit Supervisor.

Doug has been assigned to the Dorchester / Charleston / Summerville, Interstate Criminal Enforcement Team since 2002, where his duties include aggressive patrols of Interstates 95 and 26 in pursuit of illicit criminal activity. Doug and his K-9 partner "CORA" have racked up over \$2.7M in illegal narcotics, currency and seized assets since 1997 - along with being credited with over 40 suspect apprehensions.

Doug is a certified instructor in many disciplines and frequently travels throughout the country for the NCEA and DESERT SNOW teaching Advanced Criminal Patrol and Interdiction Tactics and Procedures to law enforcement at the Federal, State and Local levels. Doug also performs collateral duties with the Summerville Police Traffic Fatality Investigation Team and is also an Adjutant Instructor for the Summerville Police Reserve Officer Program. Doug currently serves in the capacity of the Executive Director of the National Criminal Enforcement Association which currently has over 2000 members of law enforcement in the United States and Canada.



Our retired Yankee Brothers from New York (Bill Lang & Vic Nico) provided the lodge with their hallmark Italian cuisine. Pastas of all varieties, Italian sausages, linguini with clam sauce, parmesan chicken and salad. No one left hungry.

5 names read for new active membership, 1 associate application.  
Guest speaker - Ted Byrne 1430 AM Radio, Kirkland Broadcasting.

Building committee - roof leak is fixed and sign complete.

V. Pres. Blackmon reports that our lodge website had 15,426 "hits" the previous month. Gives report on the National conference in New Orleans.

Brothers David Crumpler and John Wilson win prizes in the recruitment drawing.

Recruitment Committee - Frank Nigro reports recruitment going well.

Merchandise Committee - *Thin Blue Line* wristbands almost sold out.

Memorial Committee - President Isgett gives report.

Legislative Committee - Brother Botchie gives report of current legislative topics.

Legal Defense - John Wilson announces that program has 18,000 members nationally. Also new benefit to pay salary of 3 days of on-duty suspension or maximum of \$500.

Christmas Party - Brother Harold Phillips to chair. Solicits volunteers.

Report on Congressman Tancredo's speech.

Lodge Pool party to be held August 26th 7:00 p.m. Tall Pines subdivision.

Motion passed to sponsor hole for Coastal Carolina Lodge Golf tournament.

Ron Maugans (Charleston Co. Sheriff) injured in wreck- back on duty. J.T. Thomas (Chas. Co. Aviation Authority) heart attack, C.J. Thompson (Charleston Co. Sheriff) out with stomach surgery, Don Kjellman (Charleston Co. Sheriff) on light duty following hip replacement, Eddie Bush (associate member) father passed away.

*Please keep these officers, associates and their families in your prayers.*

## Ladson Gun & Knife Show



The weekend of September 17th, We will have a booth at the Gun and Knife show at the Ladson Fair Grounds. (Special thanks to Brother C.J. Thompson).

We will have many fundraising items for sale to benefit the Distressed Officer Fund. This event has been very productive every time we have participated and we anticipate a success this instance as well.

We will be there from 10 am till 6 pm both days. If you can assist, please contact President Dan Isgett - [disgett@scfop3.org](mailto:disgett@scfop3.org) to coordinate a time. Come on out and enjoy yourself!

## Who Are The People In Your Neighborhood?

With the ongoing improvements in technology, information exchange has quickened in pace and quality. For several years, South Carolina has made available to the public - a sexual offender registry database accessible by anyone with a computer. There you can type in a particular zip code and obtain a list of current sex offenders registered in that area.

A new website [www.mapsexoffenders.com](http://www.mapsexoffenders.com) has upped the ante by leaps and bounds. This website is extremely user friendly. It links the data of 37 states and can display a graphic map or can display an actual satellite photo of a particular area.

To access the information: go to the website [www.mapsexoffenders.com](http://www.mapsexoffenders.com). You have to read a legal disclaimer and check a box indicating you have read it. From there you can enter an address and initiate a search. The results will be displayed as a map (or satellite image if you choose) and show the chosen address as a blue balloon. Red balloons indicate a current registered sex offender. Clicking on the red balloon of the sex offender will reveal the address of the offender as well as a photograph. You can click again and it will take you to the database that supplied the information (SLED in S.C.) and you can see what offenses landed the offender on the registry. You can also zoom in and out on the map, and drag the cursor around the map to search different areas. It is quite an interesting website.

The website is only as good as the information the various states supply it. But, do give it a try. You might be relieved - or like myself you may be shocked to discover that "Chester the Molester" lives just around the corner. - Ed.

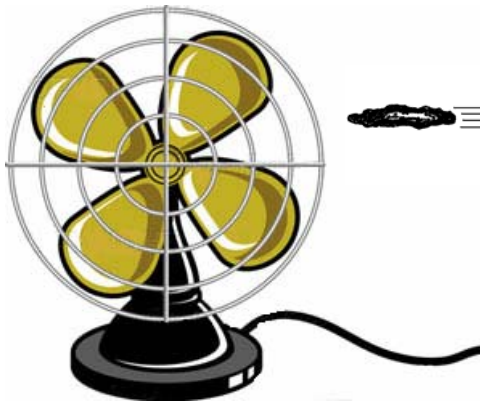


**What Would You Do?**

**BILL VANHORN'S**



**Corner  
Of  
T-0-0-1**



By now we have all seen the death and destruction from Hurricane Katrina. We have seen flooding, looting, dehydration, and a whole host of other human suffering. Personally I have never been through a hurricane and I do not know how I would react. I do understand people do unusual things in unusual circumstances.

Speaking as a peace officer - I saw something on the footage that disturbed me more than some of the other human degradation. Caught on video tape were two uniformed police officers looting along with other "criminals" helping themselves to merchandise. Maybe I am making too much out of the situation? But, I have heard others around the country calling for their badges. Also, when asked by a reporter to the two cops on what they were doing, the one responded, "we gotta eat too." Once again I was not there, but I hope that I would have done things differently. As peace officers we all took an oath to uphold the law. It does not say "uphold the law only when things are not in chaos." I do not know if my perception about the two officers in that situation is too unrealistic. If you were in that same situation, what would you do? Even though things look very bleak for our brothers and sisters in the Gulf Coast - the positive side of human nature will prevail.

**Hero Appreciation Night at The Plex**

**The Plex**

2390 W. Aviation Ave.  
N. Charleston, S.C. 29406  
www.theplexonline.com  
226-7539

Thursday, September 8th, The Plex is having a night to honor all public safety workers and the military. We have been given permission to sell merchandise to raise money for the Distressed Officer's Fund.



If you can assist, we need people there from 8 PM till 11PM. If you can assist, please contact President Dan Isgett: [disgett@scfop3.org](mailto:disgett@scfop3.org).

**Law Enforcement Day at the Mall Sept. 17**

Law Enforcement Day at the Mall 2005 will be held September 17th at the Citadel Mall. Our lodge will have giveaway items and items to sell for fundraisers. We understand that many of our members are already committed by their agencies to participate. If you can assist, please contact President Dan Isgett [disgett@scfop3.org](mailto:disgett@scfop3.org). We will be having three shifts for four hours each. 10-2, 1-5 and 5-9.



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. Many will have free "goodies" for the kids and some have "hands on" displays for kids as well. This is always a fun event!



## William Patrick Messer

## Lowcountry Hero Spotlight

**Charleston County Police Dept. *End of Watch*: Friday March 12th, 1976**

Detective Messer was killed after being dragged to death underneath a vehicle. He and other detectives were making a traffic stop on a suspected drug dealer at the time. When Detective Messer ran to the passenger side of the vehicle the suspect sped away, dragging Detective Messer several hundred feet. Detective Messer was transported to a local hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. The suspect turned himself in the next day and was sentenced to 27 years, but was paroled after only nine years. \* He was survived by his wife.  
*May his sacrifice never be forgotten!*

### Local Training Opportunities



The Mount Pleasant Police Department is hosting a **Child Abuse Interview Course** taught by the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy September 13<sup>th</sup>. There is no fee for this class. Interested officers should contact Academy Regional Registration LETS.

The Mount Pleasant Police Department is hosting two 8 hour **Drugs that Impair Driving Courses** taught by Trooper Scott Crawford of the South Carolina Highway Patrol. He is the only DRE instructor in South Carolina. The courses will be held Sept. 16 and 17. This is a Friday and Saturday due to working with his schedule. There is no fee for this class but there is a prerequisite of having completed the DUI Detection and SFST state course (formerly Advanced DUI). Any officers requesting attendance should contact Cpl. Pat Carter, Mount Pleasant Police Department Training Unit, at 843-856-3048 or [wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com](mailto:wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com) or [pcarter@scfop3.org](mailto:pcarter@scfop3.org). Officers should advise which day they would like to attend and must provide the date of their attendance to the prior SFST training.

The Mount Pleasant Police Department is hosting an **At-Scene Collision Investigation Course** taught by the South Carolina Highway Patrol MAIT unit October 10<sup>th</sup> thru 21<sup>st</sup>. Interested officers should contact Academy Regional Registration LETS.

The Mount Pleasant Police Department is hosting a **Rave Investigation Course** taught by the Multi-jurisdictional Counterdrug Task Force Training group October 14<sup>th</sup>. There is no fee for this class. Interested officers should contact Cpl. Pat Carter, Mount Pleasant Police Department Training Unit, at 843-856-3048 or [wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com](mailto:wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com) or [pcarter@scfop3.org](mailto:pcarter@scfop3.org).

The Mount Pleasant Police Department is hosting a **Money Laundering Investigation Course** taught by the Multi-jurisdictional Counterdrug Task Force Training group October 19<sup>th</sup>. There is no fee for this class. Interested officers should contact Cpl. Pat Carter, Mount Pleasant Police Department Training Unit, at 843-856-3048 or [wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com](mailto:wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com) or [pcarter@scfop3.org](mailto:pcarter@scfop3.org).

The Mount Pleasant Police Department is hosting a **Clandestine Lab Investigation Course** taught by the Multi-jurisdictional Counterdrug Task Force Training group October 24<sup>th</sup>. There is no fee for this class. Interested officers should contact Cpl. Pat Carter, Mount Pleasant Police Department Training Unit, at 843-856-3048 or [wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com](mailto:wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com) or [pcarter@scfop3.org](mailto:pcarter@scfop3.org).

The Mount Pleasant Police Department is hosting a **Domestic Interdiction Investigation Course** taught by the Multi-jurisdictional Counterdrug Task Force Training group November 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 4<sup>th</sup>. There is no fee for this class. Interested officers should contact Cpl. Pat Carter, Mount Pleasant Police Department Training Unit, at 843-856-3048 or [wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com](mailto:wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com) or [pcarter@scfop3.org](mailto:pcarter@scfop3.org).

The Mount Pleasant Police Department is hosting a **Firearms Instructor School** taught by the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy November 14<sup>th</sup> thru 18<sup>th</sup>. There is no fee for this class but there is a list of ammunition required for the class. Interested officers should contact Cpl. Pat Carter, Mount Pleasant Police Department Training Unit, at 843-856-3048 or [wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com](mailto:wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com) or [pcarter@scfop3.org](mailto:pcarter@scfop3.org).

The Mount Pleasant Police Department is hosting an **Interview and Interrogation Course** taught by the Multi-jurisdictional Counterdrug Task Force Training group November 21<sup>st</sup> thru 23<sup>rd</sup>. There is no fee for this class. Interested officers should contact Cpl. Pat Carter, Mount Pleasant Police Department Training Unit, at 843-856-3048 or [wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com](mailto:wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com) or [pcarter@scfop3.org](mailto:pcarter@scfop3.org).

The Mount Pleasant Police Department is hosting an **Undercover Tech Course** taught by the Multi-jurisdictional Counterdrug Task Force Training group November 28<sup>th</sup> thru 29<sup>th</sup>. There is no fee for this class. Interested officers should contact Cpl. Pat Carter, Mount Pleasant Police Department Training Unit, at 843-856-3048 or [wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com](mailto:wpcarter@townofmountpleasant.com) or [pcarter@scfop3.org](mailto:pcarter@scfop3.org).

*Respectfully submitted - Pat Carter M.P.P.D.*

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

*The Informer*

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**We are on the web!**  
[www.scfop3.org](http://www.scfop3.org)

Tri - County Lodge # 3

*"Serving The Lawmen of the Lowcountry"*

**Interesting Quotes**

"Chemists employed by the police can do remarkable things with blood. They can weave it into a rope to hang a man." - Margery Allingham

"Policemen so cherish their status as keepers of the peace and protectors of the public that they have occasionally been known to beat to death those citizens or groups who question that status." - David Mamet



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 553 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.

**The Frenzy**

The following is an article I wrote in 1999 (never published) after a hurricane scare in Charleston. I was inspired after witnessing two old ladies about to fight over a pack of D cell batteries in a drug store. It seems a good time now to print it.



It is unlawful in most places to yell "fire" in a movie theater. The reason behind this - it causes panic. Panic causes ordinary people to do things they wouldn't ordinarily do. There becomes a look about a person's eyes. A look that is difficult to describe, but once seen, not easily forgotten. A look that is as deep as the primal instincts of mankind itself, one of survival. A friend you have known for years, suddenly becomes a frightened claw-bearing animal, showing fangs on a face never before witnessed. Once panic overcomes, the "frenzy" sets in.

Some have actually witnessed the frenzy, while others have only caught small glimpses. Such as the Christmas parents in the toy store, fighting over the last "Tickle Me Elmo." Or perhaps the antics of our hurricane scare; the hurried grabbing of bottled water and batteries, the rush for the gas pumps, the one-fingered gestures and hostile lane changes during the exodus. This is the frenzy. The human actions that accompany a frightened or threatened person.

Some have analyzed these actions and given them various labels such as "mob mentality." The frenzy is different in that it may be experienced by many at the same time, but on a solo basis. The individual unit bent on a specific agenda. Honestly, have you ever succumbed to the frenzy? Mentally, have you ever thought "the hell with them, it's me and mine, they have to fend for themselves?" If you left the area to avoid the hurricane, did you stop to help someone stranded roadside? Perhaps you experienced the frenzy on a small scale, the "every man for himself."

The frenzy when exhibited by only one person, but viewed by others, leads the onlookers to declare the person to be crazy. When many are experiencing it at the same time, you have "mass hysteria." As the numbers of people experiencing the frenzy increases, so does the danger. The frenzied if so affected long enough, will horde together to form the mobs of plunder, pillage and homicide.

In many cases you can avoid the frenzy by preparation, mentally (play the "what if?" game) and by keeping emergency items on hand. Have a plan for yourself and family in the event of a disaster. Pay close attention to the symptoms of the frenzy and you will recognize the need to prepare and avoid it. Humans, though mostly caring and compassionate, are capable of many things when they feel their lives are in danger. The perceived threats could be real or imagined, either way the results are the same. Be prepared, for if you were to see a mirror during your time of frenzy, it is likely you would not recognize the face.

- R.E. Sharpe

(special thanks to *Iron Maiden* for graphic)