



The Informer

Volume 5, Issue 1

October 2005

Special Points

- **NEXT MEETING**
MONDAY October
10th at 7:00 p.m.



- **State Memorial**
- **Your lodge Officers**
- **Last meeting highlights**
- **LEO Day at the mall**
- **Helping Gulf Cops**
- **Corner of History**
- **Lodge Elections**
- **Volunteering**
- **2nd Annual Golf Tournament**
- **Incumbents speak**
- **Historical Quotes**
- **Editorial**

Welcome aboard To our new members!

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

State Law Enforcement Memorial - nearly done



Decades in the making, the permanent law enforcement memorial at the Statehouse is nearly complete. Should all go as planned, the construction work will be complete by the end of October.

(Space allotment for this photo does not do justice for the actual sight.) The entrance (in the foreground) contains a "thin blue line" that leads to the center of the memorial.

The center of the memorial contains a column with a carved eagle perched atop. Inscribed are the words "lest we forget." Around the memorial are stone walls with all the names of South Carolina's fallen officers etched thereon.

We are proud to have accomplished the task of providing a permanent tribute to our heroes. Pray the stone cutter will not need to add many new names after the memorial opens.



Frank Nigro
Sgt. At Arms

Know Your Lodge Officers

I started my career with the Summerville Police Department on June 9, 1986 at the age of 21, after graduating from Summerville High in 1985. During this period I have had the opportunity to work my way up the ladder as well as working within every division with the exception of narcotics. In 1987 I became the first K-9 handler for the department, handling a narcotics/tracking chocolate Labrador named "King". I remained with this until I was promoted and had to make the decision to remain a handler or begin my career of supervision.

During this period I also became the department's first FBI trained crisis negotiator, attending courses ranging from the FBI to Frank Bolz's course (the founder of the NYPD negotiation team.) On October 10th I will assume my new position as Major/Assistant Chief of Police.

I am married to the former Marsalette Killion, and have two daughters - Caroline 10, and Kayla 12.



Our retired Yankee Brothers from New York (Bill Lang & Vic Nico) provided the lodge yet another treat with roasted pork loin, meatloaf, stuffed mushrooms, mashed potatoes & gravy, trimmed out with salad. These guys can cook!

29 names read for new active membership, 4 associate applications.

Guest speakers - Dr. John Montesano *Chiropractic USA* offering discount services to police. Craig Brown gives information on The National FOP Retirement Health Savings Plan.

Motion passed to adopt health savings plan as an elective member benefit.

Building committee - roof still not leaking.

V. Pres. Blackmon reports that our lodge website had over 16,000 "hits" the previous month.

Brother Shawn Laffey and Sister Madeline Finlay win the recruitment drawing.

Recruitment Committee - Frank Nigro reports recruitment going well.

Legal Defense - John Wilson gives report.

Communications - received thank you card for member use of the lodge.

Training Committee - all twelve members chosen for the *Street Survival* course have been properly registered. Thanks to Mt. Pleasant Police for hosting many "free" training courses for Lowcountry officers.

Motion passed to sponsor a hole as well as a 4-man team for the Sheriff's Golf tournament.

Motion passed to send \$500 (via Grand Lodge) to help with Katrina police victims.

Motion passed to assist local officer taking in a Katrina family now homeless.

Chief Eddie Driggers (Chas. Co. Sheriff) out with back problems. Dennis Turner's (Hanahan PD) still in hospital with postpartum difficulties.

Please keep these officers and their families in your prayers.

Law Enforcement Day at The Mall

Our lodge participated again at the *Law Enforcement Day at The Mall* held at the Citadel Mall. The lodge had two tables. One for pens, rulers and bags to give away and another table for fund-raising items such as t-shirts, bracelets and magnetic ribbons. We raised over \$400. The proceeds from these sales will be sent to the National FOP Disaster Relief Fund - with 100% of it going directly to the officers in the gulf that were affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Thirteen volunteers assisted throughout the day. The lodge banner was displayed, along with the table cover insignia. Members took time to speak with all the officers who worked the event. Our lodge gave "I support local police" bracelets to all the officers who worked the event. Special thanks to Harold Phillips who chaired the committee, Tom Botchie and Carolyn Ruckert who stayed the entire 12 hours, and our shift volunteers:

Dan Isgett, Jim Riley, Doug Wright, Harry Long, Charles O'Shinsky, Bob Tague, Joyce Kephart, Naomi Morris, Debbie Wietz and Tina Nichols.

(This event affords us great positive exposure to our brethren and the public.)

Helping Out "Katrina" ~~victims~~ Heroes

The Grand Lodge has now begun the Herculean effort of assisting law enforcement officers in financial need. It is estimated that more than 3,500 officers and their families have been displaced and are possibly homeless in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

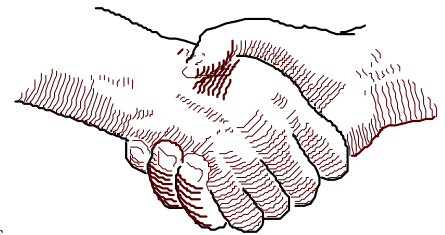
Your donations are still needed to assist these officers and their families. Please send donations to the FOP Foundation--a 501(c)(3) charitable entity--which will be responsible for distributing funds on a needs assessment basis.

All monies should be sent to:
National Fraternal Order of Police
1410 Donelson Pike, Suite A-17
Nashville TN 37217

Make checks payable to the Fraternal Order of Police Foundation. In the memo section please write "Hurricane Relief." Donations to the FOP Foundation are tax-deductible.

Note: All money collected will go directly to aid police officers affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Our lodge sent \$500 (as voted by members at our last meeting) to this fund as well as the \$400 raised through member efforts at the law Enforcement Day at the Mall. We have also provided \$500 to a local officer who took in a family. We are one of 2,100 lodges who will be sending whatever support within their means. This is the crux of our organization - "cops helping cops."



Merits of Profiling



= 88%



= .09 %



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BILL VANHORN'S

We have two types of profiling: wrong and right. Wrong profiling is when we target a certain individual or group based solely on their race, gender, or ethnic background. Right profiling is when you consider the previous factors - plus other considerations such as environment, clothing, appearance, and ones actions.

One of the first profilers was Doctor Thomas Bond. He conducted the autopsy on the last victim of Jack the Ripper. Dr. Bond attempted to find clues about the suspect through reconstructing the crime scene and interpreting the methods of the suspect. In the 1940's psychiatrists were utilized to profile the worst of the worst such as Adolf Hitler. Dr. Walter Langer developed a profile on Hitler that showed he needed to prove his manhood to his mother and that he would later commit suicide.

Starting in the early 1970's the FBI began their Behavioral Sciences Unit, with some emphasis on profiling criminals. The FBI had taken the history of profiling and has culminated it into the organized/disorganized method that is still in use today. Studies have shown that the FBI profiling is of some assistance in 77% of the cases.

Many people believe that we should ignore obvious things like race, gender or clothing descriptions. Here is a simple example of not using all your resources to solve a crime. If you are dispatched to a Hispanic neighborhood on a prowler call and the suspect is a Hispanic male wearing a red t-shirt, are you going to stop all males that fit that description or are you going to stop a black male wearing a white t-shirt? In other words, done correctly - profiling is an integral part of police work to solve crime. Like most things in society, if the populace is not fully educated on an issue, they only hear one side of the argument and draw their own conclusions. Done properly and ethically, profiling is one of the best methods to assist law enforcement.

Elections for 2006-2008 Lodge Officers

This year is an election year for our lodge. Nominations will be held at the November meeting with Elections at the December meeting. Our lodge has more than 500 members (making us the largest in S.C.) and we are very active. Serving on the Executive Board will require much time and dedication. It is a very rewarding experience to be able to assist your fellow officers by serving. Absentee ballots will be sent out following the November meeting. The qualifications for office as per our by-laws:

Article X - ELECTIONS

B. Potential candidates must meet each of the following qualifications to be eligible for nomination:

- a) Active member in good standing for a period of twelve (12) consecutive months or more immediately preceding the holding of any election
- b) All dues current with no monies in arrears
- c) Attend at least 50% of the previous year's meetings
- d) Assist with at least one lodge sponsored event

C. Nominations



1. Nominations for officers shall be made from the floor by a member in good standing during the regular meeting in November of each odd numbered year;
2. The names of all nominees shall appear on a printed ballot. The order in which the names appear within each office shall be determined by the order of nomination;

All offices are up for election. Every member is encouraged to participate in the election process. The Fraternal Order of Police operates from the bottom to the top. Your voice and vote are vital in ensuring our lodge operates in accordance to your wishes. You decide the direction our organization proceeds.

Volunteering “for the benefit of all”

- *President Dan Isgett*

Through the assistance of many dedicated Law Enforcement Officers, we have established an organization unlike any that has been available to officers in our area. Your lodge provides assistance in so many ways: through the Distressed Offices Fund, training, insurance, legal defense, use of the lodge building, memorials and fellowship among many others. But, what makes this possible, is dedicated people volunteering a small amount of their time. This is what makes the FOP special. There are no paid employees to do the work or make the decisions. All decisions and work are conducted by active and retired Law Enforcement Officers. Through the years, our lodge has established many events for the benefit of the membership or Law Enforcement Officers in general. To be able to continue to with these events, it is vital for our membership to be involved. Please let us know if you can assist with any activity. A good way to start is attend your next lodge meeting and see all the activity that the lodge is involved in. If you would like to become more involved, please email me at disgett@scfop3.org or call the lodge at 744-7255.

Second Annual Distressed Officer Fund Golf Tournament

Let me start this with a whole bunch of “thank yous.” First, our sponsors, most of which supported us last year, came through for us again this year. If you have the opportunity or the need for any of these services, please consider these businesses:



EMS (Electronic Merchant Services)

Key West Boats

Lexus of Charleston

Gerald's Tire and Brakes

Carolina Federal Savings Bank

Andolini's Pizza

American Home Mortgage

Discover Card

Michael S. O'Neal and Johnny Driggers (Attorney)

Savage and Savage (Attorney)

Gedney M. Howe, III (Attorney)

John Drennan (Attorney)

The Plex

Bill's Fine Italian Food

Craig Brown Ins. Company

Summerville Police Department

Coastal Carolina Lodge 12

I would be remiss if I didn't give a special recognition to Charles Koci and EMS. Between the two, approximately \$1200.00 was donated and a lot of the raffle prizes for the tournament. Also, the people at the Harbor Course at Dunes West went out of their way to make a great day for us all the way around. We filled the course with 72 golfers or 18 foursomes. With donations and players we were able to raise over \$2900.00 for our Distressed Officers' Fund. With all these things taken into consideration I feel confident in saying that once again our golf tournament was a success. Lastly, our members volunteered to give up their time to make this the success it was. I would think about a good idea at the course and they were already doing it. They kept the whole thing running and running well. When you see these people tell them thanks for all they did:

Jim Ward, Charles Koci, Bill Lang, Frank Nigro, Maria Leahy, Danny Isgett, Chris Nuss, Rick Piersol, and Emmy Loyd. I know there are some I am leaving out and please excuse me if I missed your name here. Keep this in mind for next year as a way of helping serve in the lodge and serve your fellow officer in their time of need.

Chaplain - David Lee

**Special thanks to David Lee. This annual event idea is entirely to his credit and many officers and their families around the state will benefit as a result. Everyone involved can have the satisfaction of knowing that when calamity strikes a Carolina Cop, their actions helped to ease the burden.

Dan Isgett

After careful consideration, I have decided to seek a third term as the president of this lodge. I have served this lodge as Vice President from 1999-2001 and President from 2002 until present. I served the State Lodge as 2nd Vice President from 2002-2004 and I currently serve as the State Lodge Treasure. I feel it is a great honor to represent so many dedicated and professional law enforcement officers in the Tri- County area. It has been a pleasure working with the Executive Boards, Committees and members to establish our lodge as the largest and busiest lodge in the state. The financial status of our lodge has never been better. Our lodge building is paid off, we are self-insured for member life insurance benefit and we have separate accounts for Distressed Officer Fund, Legal Defense and our General Account. Many staples of this lodge such as our website, the newsletter, LE Appreciation Night, LE day at the Mall, the Distressed Officer Fund, Christmas with a Cop, The Tri-County Police Officers Memorial, the Distressed Officers Fund Golf Tournament, and Cops and Lobsters were all established in the past five years.

So many of our members have worked so hard to assist with all our functions. I applaud all those who have served as Executive Board members, served on committees and assisted the lodge to make these events successful every year. If re-elected, I will continue to serve the membership of this lodge to the best of my ability.

Frank Nigro

I would like to announce that I am running for the position of Second Vice President for F.O.P. Tri County Lodge #3. I am with the Summerville Police Department and have been for the past 19 1/2 years. I have had the opportunity to work within the department through each rank, as well as working each division from patrol, traffic, detective, and I was the first K-9 handler for the town back in 1987.

I am currently the second senior ranking officer in the department and hold the rank of Major and serve as the Assistant Chief of Police.

Since being with our lodge I have had the opportunity to work with other members on projects such as Christmas with a cop, the Christmas party, and the 2004 & 2005 golf tournament. I was instrumental in getting our lodge sign designed and installed, and while the chairman of the recruitment and retention committee I was instrumental in developing our pamphlet with our lodge insert that we have at our meetings as well as at the local uniform shops and we have them available at law enforcement day in the mall I along with other members of my department have increased membership from my department, as well as recruited key personnel from the Dorchester County Sheriff's that have in turn brought their department membership up as well. I have researched and written articles for our monthly newsletter and plan to do more as time permits. I also serve as the F.O.P. liaison for the NFOP Retirement health savings plan that our lodge recently voted to be a part of. If given the opportunity to be the Second Vice President I will carry out my duties as directed and in accordance with the by laws, and as directed by our lodge officers. I appreciate the nomination and I hope to be your next Second Vice President.

Cathy Bowers

During the past few weeks I have given much thought as to whether I would be seeking the office of Treasurer again for 2006-2008. When I assumed this office the bank account was very small and operational costs were the major concern of the position. Over the last four years the lodge has grown beyond any of our expectations and the income and outflow of funds have multiplied many times over. We started with a basic checking and savings account. We now have a checking account, three savings accounts, a *paypal* account, a credit card operation, two debit cards (one issued to The President, and one to The Treasurer.) online banking, and several persons bringing in monies from merchandise sales, golf matches, etc. A separate bank account is also in place for Legal Defense.

It is a rare week that I am not at the lodge at least twice paying bills, picking up money for deposit, readying items for accounting, filing, or shopping for supplies you all use at the lodge - toilet paper, sodas, soap, napkins, dish towels, etc. Last year for the first time, a budget was presented to the membership for approval and was accepted. The responsibilities of Treasurer continued to grow.

During the last four years the mortgage has been paid off, the building has undergone partial renovation, the roof fixed (we think), a sign built out front, tables and chairs procured, new lounging furniture, computers and palm pilots purchased, and a sound system installed - I believe we have much more to do. We desperately need kitchen renovations if we hope to continue food service at the quality to which we have grown accustomed. We need to save money to accomplish this venture. We should plan for growth. With the membership over 500 strong chances are we could outgrow our current facility. Planning for the future is essential. Savings once again should be considered a priority.

I believe the lodge needs new blood running through its veins. Perhaps someone with a strong accounting and business background would step forward to seek the office of Treasurer. I will not pursue the office again for next term. Instead, I will ask for your support as I seek the office of Sgt. At Arms for 2006-2008.

Serving the lodge during the past four years as Treasurer has provided me the opportunity to work with and get to know many of our members as well as members of the FOP from all areas of the country. Being the Treasurer has been both an honor and a privilege and I thank you for your trust and support.

R.E. Sharpe

After much consideration, I will again seek the office of Secretary. If elected, this will be my fourth term.

As our lodge has grown to be the largest in the state, the workload for the position has grown equally. Success for the lodge is bittersweet for the secretary. Without reservation, I say it is no easy task. I currently spend many hours to ensure that the minutes are prepared, as well as keeping up with membership status/dues, tracking member moves and changes of address. For me it has become a second job, where lodge success is a quiet, but personal compensation.

Since beginning my office, I have implemented a filing system that brought us from index cards to computer file. Likewise, a modern mailing system. This newsletter is arguably my greatest contribution, where all members are informed of lodge activity, upcoming events and police related stories.

If nominated and elected for this office, I will continue to try and uphold the confidence my brethren have bestowed me. Should I be defeated, I will offer full support to my successor.

I take pride in knowing that our lodge ranks among the best in many respects. I am honored to have played a part. It has indeed been a long and hard journey, but I've no regrets. It has been a privilege "serving the lawmen of the Lowcountry."

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

Tri - County Lodge # 3

"Serving The Lawmen of the Lowcountry"

Interesting Quotes "Every kind of peaceful cooperation among men is primarily based on mutual trust and only secondarily on institutions such as courts of justice and police."

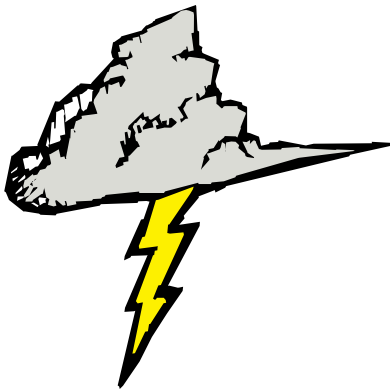
- Albert Einstein



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 585 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.

Every Cloud Has a Thin Blue Lining



The recent tragedies in the Gulf States, brought to light many things. Some were uncomfortable; some were shocking and some actually heartwarming. Much can be said about those sorry individuals who left their jurisdictions, abandoning their posts to the dogs of pillage and mayhem. Much more can be said about those brave souls who stood fast, facing the elements and upholding their sworn oaths. They proved their mettle and then some....

I wasn't a cop during our local deal with Mother Nature called "Hugo," so I can't claim firsthand experience with such a calamity. I can however, try and put myself in the place of an officer, knowing that whatever comes down the pike, I would have to deal with it. What an incredible test of character - to face the usual "unknowns" as well as the fury of a hurricane. Daily we all face "unknowns." The

only certainty in this job is that the pay is low and the chance of death or injury higher. Standing in the face of a hurricane multiplies the unknowns ten-fold.

Once the storm had settled, the call went out for police volunteers. The call was answered promptly. Throngs of officers from the lowcountry (as well as across the state) left the comforts of their homes and families. Offering their assistance to those trapped in a tragic aftermath. I fill with pride knowing that I work alongside officers of such noble unselfishness.

While people will point fingers of blame at local, state and federal officials for their shortcomings, the media will feed in frenzy, I instead will offer my hand in gratitude and a salute to those brothers and sisters who give cops a good name. I am proud to be a member of such a brotherhood.

- R.E. Sharpe